

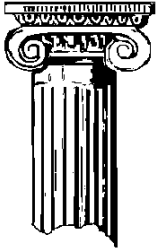
The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union & Crown No.307



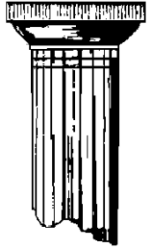
Issue No. 390

January 2016



Issue No. 390

The Mallet



January 2016

“Attendances are falling and there's trouble looming”... The opening lines of an article in the Guardian newspaper, Not about Freemasonry, but about the state of football and specifically the English Premiership. “A league that has become ridiculously uncompetitive and for many fans, terminally over-priced”. However, as I read the article, my brain easily transposed football clubs into Lodges, the Football Association (FA) into Provincial Grand Lodge and UEFA into Grand Lodge! Let the finger pointing commence...

“A league that has become ridiculously uncompetitive” Often boasting of being the best in the world, it is now widely accepted that the champions will come from a small elite group of two or three teams and while Lodges do not have to compete with one another, what we do have in common is that both are dependent on having bums on seats. The exact same Degree is so much more enhanced by a large turnout than when in a near empty Temple. For many years now Lodge Union and Crown has banged the drum on having variety in meetings and with its range of dramatised ceremonials it has had some success but this is only damage limitation and does not address our inability to turn our meetings into a “must go to” for individual brethren.

“Terminally over-priced” The Premiership charges between £16 and £48 with the average being at the high end of the twenties and this does not include travel and extras. We in Lodges do not have an entry fee and it must be admitted that any Brother can attend and spend nothing to attend his meeting however I believe we should not deny a certain pressure on him to make a financial contribution whether it be through a direct-debit or a collection, a raffle ticket, even a ticket for a future function. These pressures and prices are also increased when visiting an “away game”.

Many football fans still talk of their love for the game and some even move to a smaller club in a different division (*I didn't want to leave other orders out of the analogy Ed.*) leaving their first love/Mother Lodge behind, but, many also will just stop coming and cite the different opportunities available to them and their time. The football fan will claim that Sky Sports offers him a better view of football. The Mason will claim that TV offers him a better night in.

Football is perhaps just waking up to the fact that without the bums on seats their game (and their sponsors) will fade away, Freemasonry has seen for decades the aging of its membership and reduction in attendances and yet we still shy away from any serious discussions about Lodges merging, not only their premises, but their identities and Charters. When will we next sit wringing our hands and shaking our heads as a Lodge, Chapter or Council goes into darkness.

Bro. Hugh Cattigan PM Ed.



Brethren,

The Right Worshipful Master Bro. Ian Blair cordially requests your attendance at the forthcoming meetings and official visits of the Lodge: -

Friday 5th February 2016

7:30pm

Business meeting

followed

by

192nd ANNIVERSARY DINNER



Monday 8th February 2016

7:30pm

Official visit to Lodge Nitshill No. 1478

M.T. 11 Dove Street, Nitshill, Glasgow G53 7BS

When the Brethren of Lodge Union & Crown will confer an:

FC DEGREE



Tuesday 16th February 2016

7:30pm

Business meeting

&

DRAMATISATION: BURNS v KIPLING

by

the Brethren of the Lodge



100 CLUB

The lucky winners of our cash prizes for the month of January were:

Tuesday 5th January

£10: **Bro. Ian Blair RWM**

£5: **Bro. David Watson PM**

Tuesday 19th January

£10: **Bro. Wilson Davidson PM**

£5: **Bro. Stevie Ross**



If you are interested in joining the 100 club for 2016, the annual fee is still very good value. Just contact Bro Jim Kerr PM Treasurer.

Regular Meetings

At the regular meeting of the Lodge, held on Tuesday 5th January 2016. A meeting of the lodge took place with the Right Worshipful Master, Bro. Ian Blair wishing all the brethren present the best for the forthcoming year.

Following the business and recess a deputation consisting of the Installing Masters and Past Masters of the lodge, Headed by Bro. William Gauld PM, and introduced by Bro. Alex White was admitted.

Brethren of this deputation then raised the following three candidates to the high and sublime degree of Master Masons:

WILLIAM BEATTS, GRANT MAYBERRY and JOHN CONNOR

with the brethren assembled affording the degree workers the best of attention.

Following the meeting a harmony took place with the brethren and visitors having a chance to catch up after the festive break.

Lodge Opened - 07:30pm Lodge Closed – 09:35pm Attendance – 60

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge, held on Tuesday 19th January 2016 and following the business our good friends from Lodge Nitshill No. 1478 entered the Lodge room and conferred what was a first-rate EA Degree on two candidates:-

WILLIAM MURRAY and PAUL DEVLIN

The brethren of Lodge Nitshill can be well pleased with their work in what was a fine ceremony which was appreciated by all in attendance.

Following the meeting a harmony took place downstairs with old friendships being renewed.

Lodge Opened - 07:30pm Lodge Closed – 09:35pm Attendance –75

Visitations

Having hosted our near neighbours to the North of us on Tuesday 19th. On Thursday 21st January 2015 we travelled South and "Up the hill" to visit our other near neighbours and good friends at Lodge Thistle and Crown 1167 in Neilston.

The RWM Bro. Ian Blair was supported by a deputation of 28 Brethren and he presented the acting RWM of 1167, Bro. Robert Rankin with a bottle of whisky as we were their *first foot* .

The brethren of Union And Crown could be rightly proud with the entire performance of the EA degree with every brother involved playing his part to the letter.

Our efforts were greatly appreciated by all in attendance and it was nice to relax afterwards at the harmony.

Rockmount R.A.C. No. 367



At the regular meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday the 12th January 2016, the following Brother:

Bro. Alan Bernard PM

A MM and Past Master of Lodge Union & Crown No. 307 received a Mark Affiliate and Excellent Masters Degree from the Companions of

Rockmount RAC. The Companions taking part in the degree are to be congratulated on their work.

There then followed a harmony downstairs in the function suite.

The next Meeting of the Chapter is scheduled for:

Tuesday 9th February 2016 at 8:15pm

(Please Note the change of Time) when the Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Renfrewshire will be making its annual visitation to Rockmount Royal Arch Chapter No. 367. MEZ Graham Manson extends a cordial invitation to all Companions to attend.

Rockmount Cryptic Council

At the regular meeting of the Council held on Tuesday the 27th January 2015 the Council conducted a 'partial' exemplification of an Exaltation from the Companions of Rockmount Cryptic Council..

There then followed a Burns themed harmony with MEC Alex White entertaining the assembled crowd with his address to the Haggis

The next Meeting of the Chapter is scheduled for:

Tuesday 9th February 2016 at 7:30pm

This will be our Provincial visitation and the TIM Robert McCulloch looks forward to a good attendance and a shared harmony with the Companions of Rockmount RAC and visitors.

It was further agreed that on:

Wednesday 24th February 2016

Rockmount CC would visit **Greenock Cryptic Council No. 17**, 18 John Street, Gourock, Renfrewshire, PA19 1PS there to confer a degree.

The TIM Robert McCulloch hopes that Companions will support him and the Chapter on this first 'official' visit for many years and looks forward to a good attendance.

TEN MASTER MASONS

Ten Master Masons, happy, doing fine;
One listened to a rumor, then there were nine.

Nine Master Masons, faithful, never late;
One didn't like the "Master", then there were eight.

Eight Master Masons, on their way to heaven;
One joined to many clubs, then there were seven.

Seven Master Masons, life dealt some hard licks;
One grew discouraged, then there were six.

Six Master Masons, all very much alive;
One lost his interest, then there were five.

Five Master Masons, wishing there were more;
Got into a great dispute, then there were four.

Four Master Masons, busy as could be;
One didn't like the programs, then there were three.

Three Master Masons, was one of them you?
One grew tired of all the work, then there were two.

Two Master Masons with so much to be done;
One said "What's the use", then there was one.

One Master Mason, found a brother - true!
Brought him to the Lodge, then there were two.

Two Master Masons didn't find work a bore;
Each brought another, then there were four.

Four Master Masons saved their Lodges fate;
By showing others kindness, then there were eight.

Eight Master Masons, loving their Lodges bright sheen;
Talked so much about it, they soon counted sixteen.

Sixteen Master Masons, to their obligations true;
Were pleased when their number went to thirty-two.

So we can't put our troubles at the Lodges door;
It's our fault for harming the Lodge we adore.

Don't fuss about the programs or the "Master" in the East;
Keep your obligation by serving even the very least.

(Thanks to Bro Steven K. Robison, PM Jackson Lodge #146 Seymour, Indiana)

Lodge Union & Crown No. 307

BURNS SUPPER

FRIDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2016

6:30 for 7:00pm

Ticket £15.00

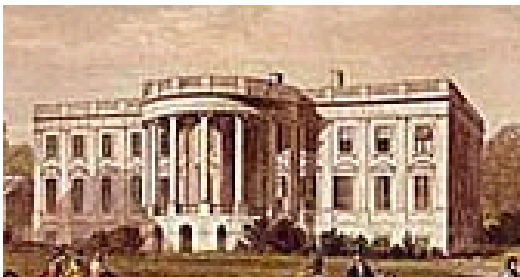
Tickets are available from:
Sub. RWM, Bro. George McGrandles
Mob: 07766247489



Summer Dance

Bro Lawrence Webb, our Social Convenor has arranged a dance at the beginning of the summer recess to mark the holidays and a break from the lodge meetings. Taking place on Saturday 7th May and Bro Lawrence is hoping for good support from as many brethren, wives, partners and their friends as possible.

Freemasonry in the White House



James Hoban was the architect who designed and supervised the construction of the White House. When the British destroyed this building during the War of 1812, he designed the one replacing it. James Hoban was a Mason. He was probably present when the cornerstone was laid by Maryland Lodge No. 9 of Georgetown on October 13, 1792, with Masonic ceremony. He was also a devout Roman Catholic.

During President Bro Harry S Truman's term of office it was necessary to rebuild the White House. In 1952, while the work was in progress, Brother Truman discovered that some of the original stones contained traditional "Mason's marks". He directed that these stones be preserved and delegated the duty to Major General Harry H. Vaughan, Brother Renah F. Camalier, and the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. These stones were distributed to the Grand Lodges of the United States and to certain territories and foreign governments. On February 22, 1966, the last stone was presented to the George Washington National Masonic Memorial Association for display in the Temple on Shooter's Hill.



Robert Burns

Freemason

The very mention of the name "Robert Burns" brings to mind images of red roses, starry-eyed lovers, Tam-O'-Shanter and the glens of bonnie Scotland. And while these images describe Scotland's "ploughman poet" to some extent, There is another side that is not as well known: Burns the radical, Burns, the supporter of the French Revolution, Burns, the critic of Religious hypocrisy and Puritanism and Burns - **the Freemason.**

Burns echoed the sentiments of many of his day, calling for "liberty, fraternity and equality", and speaking out against the excesses of the secular, as well as religious establishment. Most certainly, Burns's commitment to the ideals of the Enlightenment came from his membership in his Masonic Lodge, much praised and damned for its equality, both in political and religious matters, among its members. But besides these lofty ideals, the lodge also appealed to Burns for other reasons; the camaraderie and spirit of brotherhood that prevailed in the lodge room and the charity towards the widow and orphan. According to William L. Fox in "The Near Miss of Robert Burns", "He found in the experience [of being a Freemason] something unlike the political and religious institutions that had kept his father in a state of perpetual frustration". For Burns, Freemasonry was one of the cures for his society's numerous social ills.

And while Burns may have been inspired by the French Revolution, his involvement in Freemasonry certainly played a large part in his opinions in favour of both secular and religious equity.

Freemasonry was very popular in Protestant Europe during Burns's time, especially in the British Isles, where the first Grand Lodge was formed in 1717. Scotland's connections with Freemasonry go even farther back

Robert Burns was initiated an Entered Apprentice in Lodge St. David, Tarbolton on 4 July 1781, at the age of 23. His initiation fee was 12s 6d, and paid on the same date. Burns was passed to the degree of fellowcraft, and raised to the degree of Master Mason on 1st October 1781. The Lodge record book, according to James Mackay's "Burns" reads as follows:

"Robert Burness in Lochly was passed and raised, Henry Cowan being Master, James Humphrey Senr. Warden, and Alexr. Smith Junr. Do., Robt. Wodrow Secy. and James Manson Treasurer, and John Tannock Taylor and others of the brethren being present".

Happy Birthday Rabbie



Bro. John Raeburn, aged 76, peacefully passed away at the Royal Alexandra Hospital (RAH), Paisley around 12:15am on Saturday 2nd January 2016. Bro. John had suffered poor health for a number of years and with a strong measure of dignity and personal resolve. During my remit as Lodge Almoner I visited Bro. John at his home in Barrhead and I always found him to be in reasonably good cheer even though at times he was clearly experiencing discomfort. I found him to be a good man and Mason, and, while he had been unable to attend a regular meeting for some years he constantly displayed a Lodge interest while in conversation with me. He always enjoyed receiving monthly editions of the Lodge Journal, *The Mallet*, and had a goodly number of friends within our Lodge, one in particular was the late Bro. Thomas Smith. Bro John Raeburn affiliated to Lodge Union & Crown in 1981. His mother Lodge was Lodge Thorntree No. 512, Thornliebank. The funeral service took place at Woodside Crematorium, Paisley on Monday 11th January. I attended that service and expressed condolences, on behalf of the Lodge, when I visited family members including John's beloved wife Margaret at the family home in Barrhead. Bro. John will be sadly missed.

It is with further sorrow and much regret that I intimate the passing of Bro. William Bonthron McGinlay, aged 79 years, at the RAH, Paisley on Thursday, January 7th 2016. Bro. William, better known as Billy, had suffered a major health upset only a few days earlier and although admitted to the hospital, he sadly did not recover. I have expressed condolences to the family, including Billy's much loved wife, Ellen when I visited the family home in Barrhead. Bro. Billy McGinlay was a member of Lodge Union and Crown No. 307 for almost 33 years. He served his Mother Lodge during that time with zeal and sincere commitment. Although Bro. Billy never aspired to the 'Chair' of the Lodge or ever held any Lodge office, but he was, without any doubt a "major" Lodge player. His constant readiness to assist (and he cheerfully did) his Lodge when circumstances developed that required a bit of refurbishment or structural alteration never wavered. Most recently at the landscaping of the "garden area", Bro. Billy used his employment skill of bricklayer to great effect, cheerfully and eagerly working alongside a body of other 'senior' brethren of 307, successfully and to their great credit, completed this most worthwhile project. I am proud to have numbered Bro. Billy among my circle of friends. He was a perfect gentleman and a good example of what Freemasonry stands for. He did without doubt on many occasions make his mark and his presence, warmly felt. He was a greatly respected stalwart of Lodge Union and Crown and will be sadly missed. The funeral Service took place at Woodside Crematorium, Paisley on Wednesday 20th January. I attended that service and once again condolences were given by me to members of the family who responded most kindly.

During January I have visited in hospital Bro. Billy McGinlay, the day prior to his sad passing and also Bro. Robert Grant who is still quite unwell at this time.

During the past month I have also visited the following Brethren and Ladies of the Lodge at their respective homes:-

Bro. Robert Kennedy

Bro. Robert Grant

Mrs Helen Young

Bro. Jim and Isabel Heron

Mrs Margaret Raeburn

Bro. Donald Ferguson and Mary

Mrs Dora Pattison

Mrs Margaret McIntyre

Mrs Ellen McGinlay

I have also spoken on the telephone with Bro. Jim M. Scott who tells me his son, Adam, "Is recovering well and has been attending physio. Overall it's very positive for him and hopefully this will continue". "Bro. Jim, this is indeed good news".

Mrs Mary Martin is "feeling much better now" and thanked me appreciatively for the call.

On the afternoon of Thursday 14th January I attended the Lodge Senior Members (and guest) Dinner, arranged by 'The Sausage Club' and held in the Lodge function suite. The event went by superbly, due in particular to the initiative, organisation and co-ordinating skills of two stalwarts of our Lodge, Bro William 'Bud' Gauld PM and Bro. James Miller PM, Lodge Secretary.

It would be remiss of me not to also mention the following brethren who ably assisted the above two brethren, namely Bro. Ewan Martin, Bro. Jimmy Laing, our worthy Tyler, Bro. Nicol Hynd, Junior Deacon and Bro Ronnie McIsaac our Senior Deacon. Members of the *Sausage Club* should also take a bow for contributing much to the success of this joyfull event.

The caterers provided a first class meal and I congratulate them on their professionalism in every respect.

The entertainment provided by our Lodge members was second to none, Bro. Adam Watson (wee Adam) and Bro. George Buist giving personal renditions of old 1950's material with great dignity and gusto.

All 307 members and their guests expressed, and some mentioned to me, their joy and delight at having attended this dinner. My dear Mother Lodge has once again excelled, I, your Lodge Almoner at the conclusion of this event was greatly encouraged by the fellowship which ensued... "Another wonderful day"

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



Brethren are reminded that our first regular meeting of February 2016 has been moved to Friday the 5th at 07:30pm. This will be a short business meeting followed by a 'dinner' to commemorate our:

192nd Anniversary

Tickets for the dinner are £12.50 and are available from the Worshipful Junior Warden Bro. Kenny Beatts



**WORLD AT WAR
1914 – 1918**
(January 1916)



6th H.M.S. "King Edward VII" sunk by mine off North of Scotland.

HMS King Edward VII was the lead ship of her class of Royal Navy pre-dreadnought battleships. She was commissioned in 1905, and entered service with the Atlantic Fleet as Flagship, by request of the King, she was always to serve as a Flagship. Rendered obsolete in 1906 with the commissioning of the revolutionary *Dreadnought*, she underwent a refit in 1907, following which she was assigned to the Channel Fleet and then to the Home Fleet. In 1912, she, together with her sister ships, formed the 3rd Battle Squadron. During the early phase of the War, the 3rd Battle Squadron was attached to the Grand Fleet and served on the Northern Patrol. In January 1916 she struck a mine while in transit to a scheduled refit at Belfast and sank. All but one of her crew were safely evacuated.

8th Evacuation of the Gallipoli Peninsula completed.

21st First British Attack on Hanna (Mesopotamia): First Attempt to relieve Kut fails

26th United States Government make 'informal' protest to British Government regarding their "Black List"* policy

**Blacklist, by an act passed December 23, 1915, Parliament enabled the King to prohibit by proclamation all person's resident in the United Kingdom from trading with any persons or firms outside the kingdom "wherever by reason of the enemy nationality or enemy association of such persons" or firms ". A little later the British Government published a list of American firms with which British firms, especially steamship companies, were forbidden to do business. The US Government's protest against this Act, rather than the Illegality of this measure, was vigorous (see Acting Secretary of State Polk's note of July 26, 1916), and It was followed by time passage by Congress of an act (approved Sept. 18) enabling the President to "refuse clearances to belligerent vessels observing it." The blacklist rests upon essentially the same principle as the USA's own embargo upon trade with certain neutrals. This is the principle that a nation at war has the right to prevent its citizens from engaging in commercial activities which are of benefit to its enemies.*

27th Great Britain: The Military Service Act is passed by Parliament, imposing conscription on all single men aged 18 to 41 in Great Britain. Exemptions were made for men in essential war work, those declared medically unfit, religious ministers, and conscientious objectors. (The period of conscription was in force until 1919).

29th Last German airship raid on Paris

31st Airship raid on England; furthest penetration westwards; casualties 183



FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from the Mallet of 13 Years Ago



Issue No. 260

January 2003

RWM Bro. Johnny Gauld

On Tuesday 7th January, the following two Candidates, **Stewart Renfrew** and **Brian Wilkie**, were raised to the high & sublime degree of a M.M. by the Installing Masters, ably assisted by a large deputation of Past Masters of the Lodge in what is always an eagerly anticipated occasion by the Brethren. All who took part are to be congratulated on their performance in what was an excellent rendition of the 3rd degree, greatly appreciated by all in attendance.

Lodge Opened: 7:30pm Lodge Closed: 9:49pm Attendance: 76

At our Regular Meeting on Tuesday 21st January, the following Candidates, **William Blair** and **Steven Bain**, were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of our order by a large deputation of Office-bearers and Brethren from our near neighbours, Lodge Nitshill, No.1478. Our good friends from the far side of The Hurler carried out their duties well and Bro Alex Farquharson RWM of 1478 is to be congratulated for a fine E.A. Degree.

Lodge Opened: 7-30 pm Lodge Closed: 9:50pm Attendance: 116

It is good to see that a small organising committee, under Bro Donald Cook PM, has been put in place to oversee the arrangements for the Lodge's 180th Anniversary in 2004. Can it really be 4 years since the week of celebrations for our 175th?

Our Worthy Treasurer, Bro Jim Kerr PM has asked us to intimate that Social Club fees are now due. All should be reminded that you must pay this £5 fee to be able to use the facilities of the Social Club.

Congratulations to Bro Tom Forde who hit the 60 mark on Boxing Day. Also to Bro Adam Watson who is now a very youthful looking 65 !

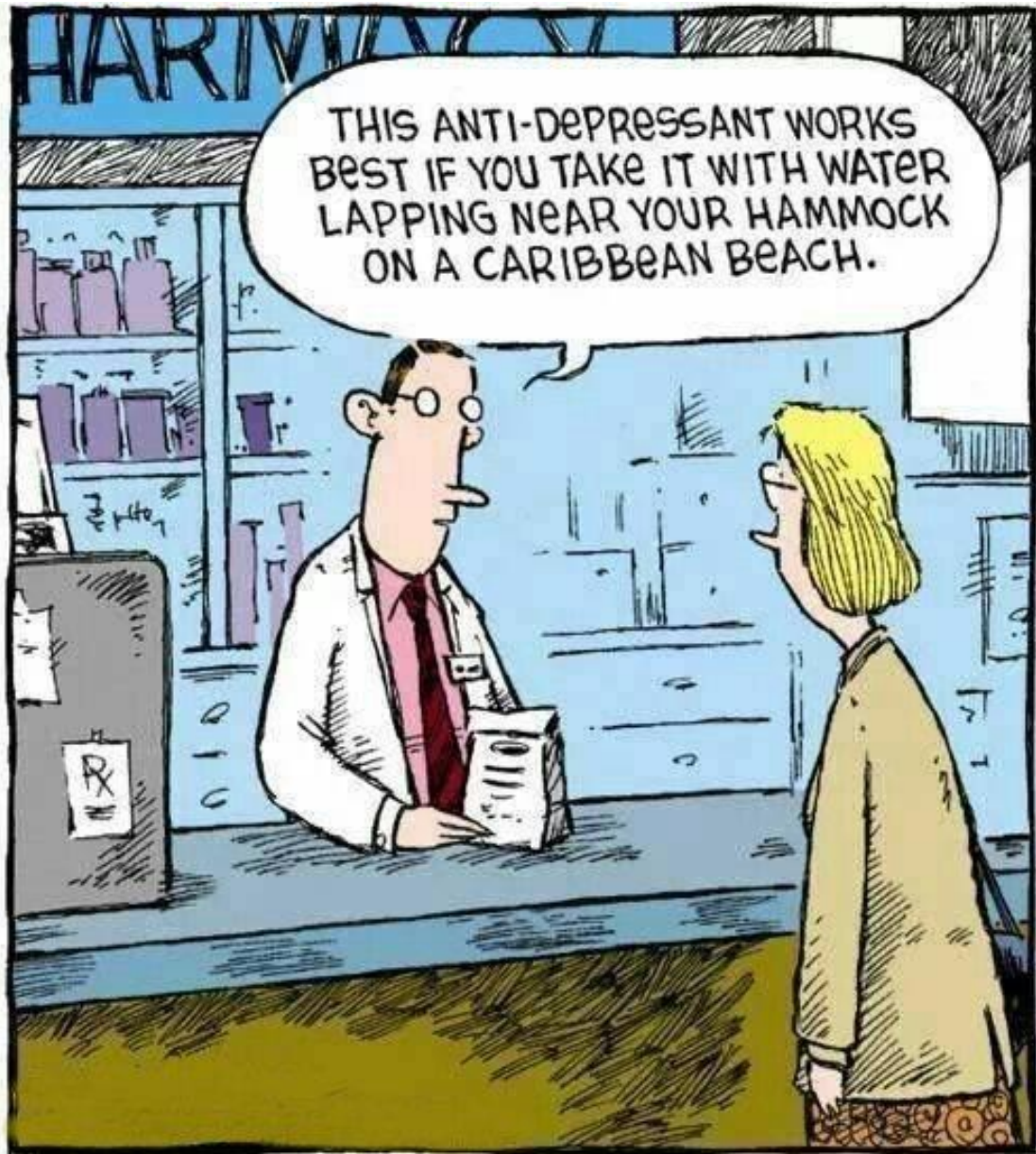
Bro Bud Gauld PM has been invited by Bro Arthur Blakes R.W.M. to confer one of his "Special Lectures" within Lodge Salfire. No.1505 at a meeting on Thursday 8th May within the Masonic Hall, Whitehill Street, Denniston. It is hoped that as many of the Brethren as possible will support Bro Bud.

On a similar note. Arrangements are being finalised for the Lodge to confer a degree within Lodge Dunblane, No. 9. It will probably be on Friday 18th April.

Finally, in another late addition to our Syllabus, we have been invited (at short notice) to confer the Mark Ceremonial within Lodge Eaglesham, No.1265 on Wednesday 26th February. We are sure that the Brethren will support our R.W.M. Bro Johnny Gauld on these occasions.

We gather that The Grand Lodge of Scotland are considering publishing a Journal on a regular basis. We will keep you posted on developments.

Humour



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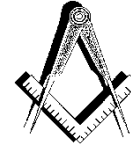
Lodge Website: www.unionandcrown307.com

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



Syllabus 2015-2016

* - Denotes an Official visit



February 2016

Friday	05 th	07:30pm	Business meeting followed by 192nd Anniversary Dinner	
<i>*Monday</i>	<i>08th</i>	<i>07:30pm</i>	<i>FC Degree</i>	<i>At Lodge Nitshill, No. 1478</i>
Tuesday	16 th	07:30pm	Dramatisation	Burns v Kipling

March 2016

Tuesday	01 st	07:30pm	Business meeting including P.G.L.R.E. Visitation	
<i>*Thursday</i>	<i>10th</i>	<i>07:30pm</i>	<i>FC Degree</i>	<i>At Lodge Dunlop Caledonia, No. 1408</i>
Tuesday	15 th	07:30pm	FC Degree	By Lodge Ardrossan St John, No. 320
<i>*Tuesday</i>	<i>29th</i>	<i>07:30pm</i>	<i>FC Degree</i>	<i>At Lodge Pollokshaws RA, No. 153</i>

April 2016

Tuesday	05 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	By the Lodge Instruction Class
Tuesday	19 th	07:30pm	EA Degree	By Lodge Thistle & Crown No. 1167
<i>*Tuesday</i>	<i>26th</i>	<i>07:30pm</i>	<i>EA</i>	<i>At Lodge Prince of Wales No. 426</i>

May 2016

Tuesday	03 rd	07:30pm	Dramatisation	Prisoners of War
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September 2016

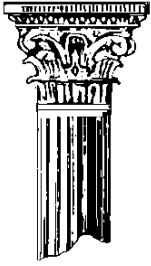
Tuesday	06 th	07:30pm	FC Degree	By Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426
Tuesday	20 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	By the Lodge Instruction Class

October 2016

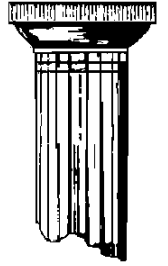
Friday	07 th	07:30pm	Open night dramatisation, The Table of Scottish Freemasons	
Tuesday	18 th	07:30pm	Annual General Meeting	

November 2016

Tuesday	01 st	07:30pm	MM Degree	Dramatisation
Tuesday	15 th	07:30pm	MMM Degree	By Bro. Alan Bernard IPM
Saturday	26 th	04:00pm	Installation	2016-2017



OFFICE BEARERS 2015 - 2016



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

