

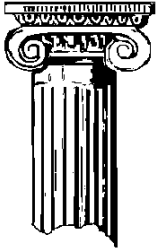
The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union & Crown No.307



Issue No. 382

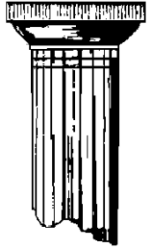
March 2015



Issue No. 382

The Mallet

Editorial 



March 2015



I think it is fair to broach the subject of attendance at meetings. This clearly has three immediate and obvious effects on the Lodge:-

1. The atmosphere within the Temple.
2. Depressing for the candidate.
3. Revenue

Like any event or occasion be it a music concert, a show or a sporting occasion the presence of a full or near full house always adds to the occasion not only for the candidate but also the brethren who have studied hard to prepare for their part in the ritual.

One of the many things which bind us together as brethren is that, those of us in the Craft, have all been through the same process when joining freemasonry. How would you have felt on entering the Lodge room for the first, second and third times and only a dozen or so of your own Lodge membership are there to see you join their ranks. Each individual has to look at themselves and I do not hesitate to say that within Lodge Union & Crown this year there will not be many past masters pointing fingers.

As has been said on many occasions in the past, not all elements of masonry are free and predominant in that respect is the upkeep of our premises. How much the recent changes to the law surrounding drinking and driving has had is a moot point, it is not going to change back. So reduced crowds drinking soft drinks will, in the long term have a major effect on a Lodge which in recent years has seen us no longer open the bar on Monday's (yes I do know it is sometimes open dependant on who attends instruction class) or Saturday afternoons. The absence of the necessary funds can be disastrous in even the most successful of Lodges. Bills, fees, rent and rates all have to be met and paid promptly if a Lodge is to survive.

Finally, Bro. Grumpy from a sister lodge magazine was telling me of an Almoner who felt somewhat disappointed, if not aggrieved, when a brother berated him for not informing him about the condition of another brother who had to undergo some medical treatment. The first brother did not wait to hear the almoners defence, if such was necessary, in that he was only respecting the unwell brother's wishes by keeping his condition confidential.

Remember brethren, an almoner does an important job **for** the sick of the Lodge, and discretion is often an important part of that job, he is not a gossip.



Hugh Cattigan P.M. Editor.



Brethren,

The Right Worshipful Master Bro. Alan Bernard cordially requests your attendance at the forthcoming meetings of the Lodge: -

Tuesday 7th April 2015

7:30pm

Business meeting
followed by a

MM Degree

by the

OFFICE BEARERS & BRETHREN OF THE LODGE



Monday 13th April 2015

7:30pm

Official visit
to

Lodge St John Royal Arch No. 320

Masonic Temple, 1 Harbour Street, Ardrossan, KA22 8BS

Where the Office Bearers and Brethren of Lodge Union & Crown will confer an

MM DEGREE



Tuesday 21st April 2015

7:30pm

Business meeting
and

EA DEGREE

Conferred by the Office Bearers and Brethren of

LODGE PAISLEY ST MIRRIN'S No. 129



Tuesday 28th April 2015

7:30pm

Official visit
to

Lodge Prince of Wales No. 426

17-19 Queen Street, Renfrew, PA4 8TR

Where the Office Bearers and Brethren of Lodge Union & Crown will confer an

EA DEGREE





100 CLUB

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

Tuesday 3rd March

£10:

£5:

There were no 100 club draws this month due to unforeseen circumstances...

Tuesday 17th March

£10:

£5:

Multiple draws will take place at the first suitable meeting.



There are a number of unofficial visits taking place in the near future so brethren are advised to keep up to date with the R.W.M. for details.

It's always good to turn up unannounced and in good numbers as it is always a lift for any lodge to see a group of brethren from a sister lodge boost their attendance.

Rockmount R.A.C. No. 367



At the regular meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday 10th March 2015 the following brother:-

Ronnie Maclsaac of Lodge Union & Crown No.307

Was exalted in a fine Royal Arch Degree by the Office-bearers and Companions of Rockmount RAC. All who participated are to be congratulated on their efforts.

At the close of the meeting, the Office-bearers and Companions of Rockmount Royal Arch Chapter along with their visitors enjoyed a fine harmony.

The next Rockmount RAC Meeting will be on **Tuesday 14th April 2015** and will be a Mark Affiliation and Excellent Master's degree conferred by the Companions of Rockmount RAC.

MEC George Paul A/MEZ and his Office-bearers extended a cordial invitation to all Companions to attend on that evening.

Rockmount Cryptic Council

A similar invitation is also extended by the T.I.M. David Bannerman and his Office Bearers to attend the next regular meeting of Rockmount Cryptic Council No. 367.

Tuesday 28th April 2015 at 07:30pm

Regular Meetings

A regular meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday 3rd March 2015 and following the opening, a deputation from Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East (PGLRE) was admitted. The Deputation was headed by the Substitute Provincial Grand Master, Bro Iain McPhee who was supported by brethren of the PGLRE.

The lodge received a very good report with Bro Iain running through some highlights of the previous year. Like all Immediate Past Masters Bro. David McArthur IPM would have been relieved to be given a clear minute for his year in the chair of Lodge Union & Crown.

The IPM. Bro Alan Bernard made suitable reply and was given a warm ovation by the brethren in attendance.

Following the meeting the brethren gathered downstairs for an informal lodge harmony

Lodge Opened - 07:30pm Lodge Closed – 08:30pm Attendance – 46

At the regular meeting of 17th March 2015 and following the business of the evening a large deputation from Lodge Thistle and Crown no 1167, headed by their own RWM Bro. Robert Rankin was admitted in order to carry out a F.C. Degree on our candidate:

JAMES M SCOTT

Following the recess, the office bearers and brethren of 1167 gave a fine rendition of the second degree with every member of their team giving their all to an appreciative audience.

Following the meeting the brethren gathered in the function suite to enjoy some Lodge hospitality.

Lodge Opened - 07:30pm Lodge Closed – 09:33pm Attendance – 61

Visitation

On Thursday 12th March a deputation of 23 brethren travelled south to Lodge Dunlop Caledonia No. 1408 where the brethren teamed up with two of their own, Bro's Johnny Gauld PM and Jimmy Laing, who both hold office in Lodge Dunlop Caledonia No. 1408.

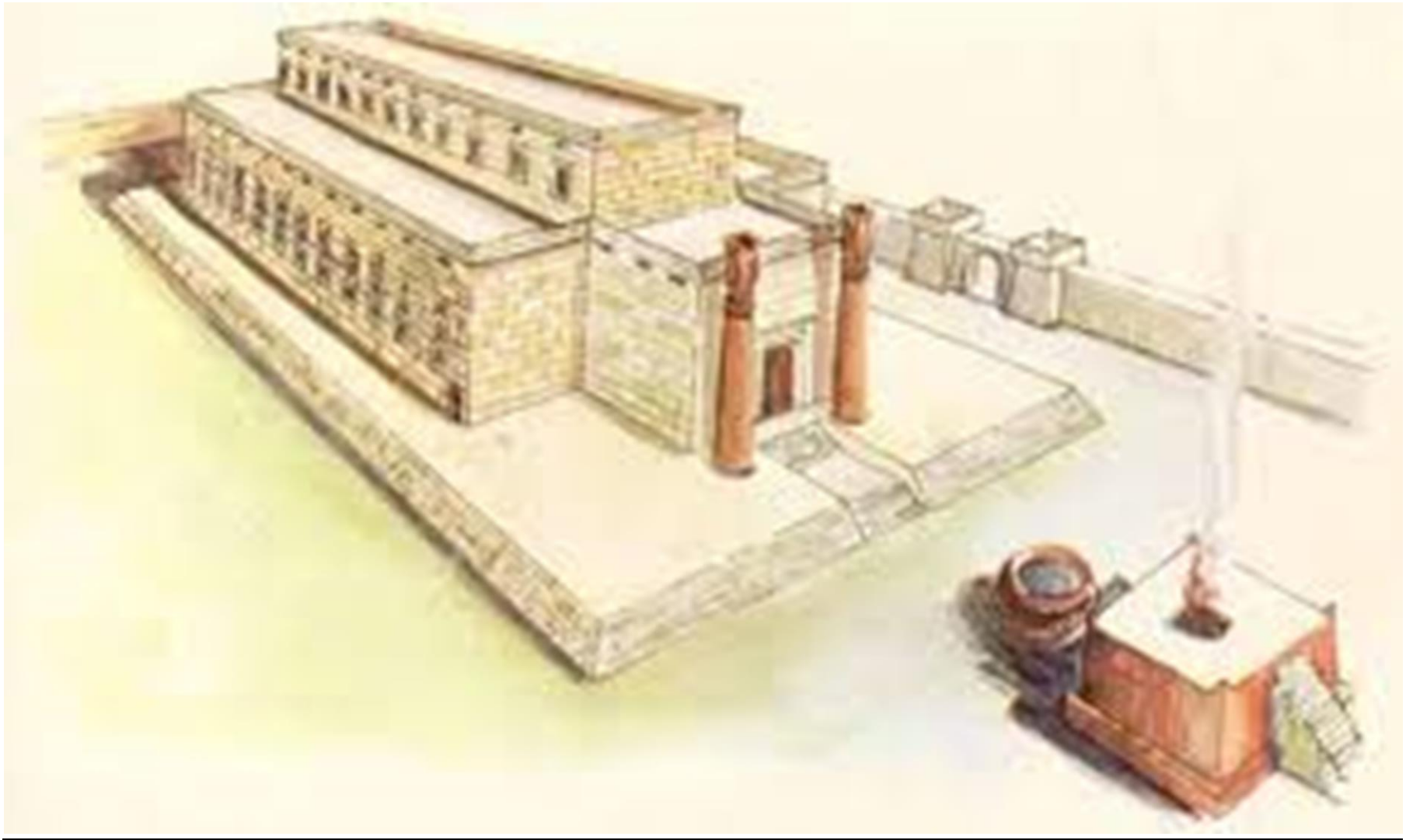
The brethren of Lodge Union and Crown delivered a fine exemplification of a FC degree on a *Bring your own Candidate night* upon our own Bro. Ronnie Maclsaac.

A well filled Lodge and an enjoyable harmony was reward enough for all in attendance.

On Tuesday 24th March 2015 The RWM Bro. Alan Bernard led a deputation to Lodge St Columba No.729 where Lodge Union & Crown would confer a FC degree upon Bro. Alan's own brother.

While I hear this visit went well I am unable to give any details as I was attending Rockmount Cryptic Council on this occasion and have not yet caught up on any news. On the plus side there were no arrests reported.





In last month's edition I tried to give some background about what is known, or surmised about the life of King Solomon. This Month I thought I'd share a picture of what I would consider the most plausible appearance of the famous structure that was 'King Solomon's Temple'. There are many more glamorous and adorned representations but even this, when built, in King David's time and part of the world would have been an iconic structure.

Well I didn't know that!!!!

There is an old Hotel/Pub in Marble Arch, London, which used to have a gallows adjacent to it. Prisoners were taken to the gallows (after a fair trial of course) to be hanged. The horse-drawn dray, carting the prisoner, was accompanied by an armed guard, who would stop the dray outside the pub and ask the prisoner if he would like "one last drink". If he said yes, it was referred to as ONE FOR THE ROAD. If he declined, that prisoner was ON THE WAGON. So there you go...

They used to use urine to tan animal skins, so families used to all pee in a pot and then once a day it was taken and sold to the tannery. If you had to do this to survive you were "PISS POOR", but worse than that were the really poor folk, who couldn't even afford to buy a pot, they "DIDN'T HAVE A POT TO PISS IN" and were the lowest of the low.

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s:

Most people got married in June, because they took their yearly bath in May and they still smelled pretty good by June. However, since they were starting to smell, brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "DON'T THROW THE BABY OUT WITH THE BATH WATER!"

Houses had thatched roofs, thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying "IT'S RAINING CATS AND DOGS."

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom, where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, "DIRT POOR." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance. Hence: a THRESH HOLD.

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight, then start over the next day. Sometimes stew

had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme: "Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot, nine days old".

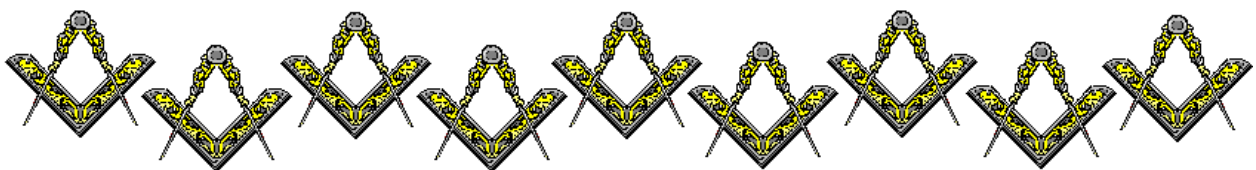
Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over they would hang up their bacon, to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could, "BRING HOME THE BACON." They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around talking and "CHEW THE FAT".

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning and death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or "THE UPPER CRUST".

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of "HOLDING A WAKE".

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people, so they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, thread it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night, THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT, to listen for the bell; thus someone could be, "SAVED BY THE BELL "or was considered a "dead ringer" And that's the truth. Now, whoever said history was boring!!!



Bro. Adam G. Watson continues to take names for "bricks" and the first few boards are now up in the lower passage leading from the Temple to the downstairs facilities and are drawing admiring glances.

Each panel 'Brick' costs £20 so if you are interested in getting your name up on the wall or perhaps you would like one as a gift or perhaps in memory of a dear departed Brother then just contact Bro. Adam, give him the details you want displayed on the 'brick' (e.g. "name and Lodge number") along with your £20 and that's it.



CORNUCOPIA

Originally depicted as a Goat's horn filled with flowers and fruit.

In modern depictions, the cornucopia is typically a hollow, horn-shaped wicker basket filled with various kinds of festive fruit and vegetables.

Therefore it is a symbol of abundance, and as such has been adopted as the jewel of the Stewards of a Lodge, to remind them that it is their duty to see that the tables are properly furnished at refreshment, and that every Brother is suitably served.



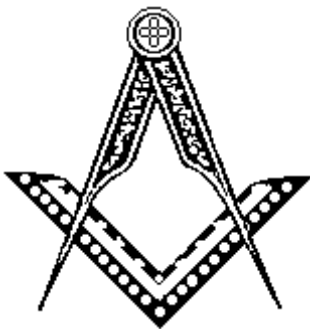
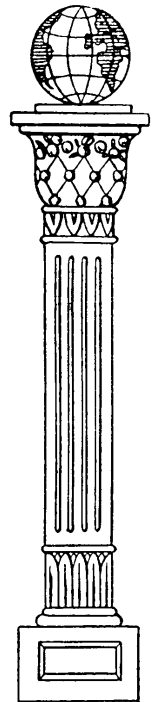
WHAT'S IN A NAME

Tales from Texas - Hiram Abiff Boaz was born in Kentucky on 1866.

He moved to Texas at an early age and in 1891 he was ordained a Methodist minister. In 1922 he was elected a Bishop.

He was initiated into Granger Lodge No. 677 of Texas. When he received his third degree there was a large attendance because of the unusual name of the new member.

He served as Grand Chaplain of Texas. This brother had many interesting experiences connected with his name. He never tired of telling of the time he was traveling in the Holy Land and arrived at a Mosque in Hebron on the wrong day for visitors. When he told then his name, it seemed as if he had given a magic password. Others were not admitted that day, but they opened the gates for him.



Did you know?

Masonic emblems on the Giuseppe Garibaldi Monument in Rome were restored after they were removed by Mussolini who substituted Fascist symbols for them.

Garibaldi (1807 – 1888) great Italian liberator, was also Grand Master of Italy.

2B1  ASK1



Since I last submitted an Almoner report to our Lodge magazine a number of Lodge Union & Crown No. 307 have, unfortunately, had the experience of a hospital admission.

Bro. Jim Kerr PM, our Lodge treasurer, was admitted to The Royal Alexandra Hospital (RAH), Paisley and underwent major surgery. Whilst there, I visited Bro. Jim on more than one occasion and I'm glad to report that at this time he is now at home recovering. I was accompanied, and transported, on one of my visits by our own RWM, Bro. Alan Bernard and I thank him sincerely for that.

Bro. Graham Manson PM was admitted to the Inverclyde Hospital, Greenock where he also underwent surgery. Bro. Graham, at time of writing this report, is also now back home and recovering. Although I was unable to visit Bro. Graham at Inverclyde Hospital I did keep in contact with him by way of mobile phone and text messages each day.

Bro. Gary Crawford was admitted to the RAH as an outpatient, I met Bro. Gary there and we had a chat.

Mrs Ellen Dempsey and Mrs Margaret McIntyre both had outpatient visits of late and are now home recovering.

Apart from the aforementioned hospital visits I have also visited the following brethren at their homes.

Bro. Jim Kerr PM (Home)	Bro. Graham Manson PM (Home)
Bro. Wilson Davidson (Home)	Bro. Bobby Kennedy (home)
Bro. John Osborne (home)	Bro. Ian McPhie (Home)
Bro. Jim Heron & Isabel (home)	Bro. Jim Phillips
Mrs Margaret McIntyre (Home)	Bro. Donald Ferguson & Mary (home)
Mrs Margaret McLellan (Home)	Mrs Marion Osborne (Home)
Mrs Ida Manson (Home)	

I also spoke on the telephone to Mrs Ellen Dempsey and Mrs Isabel Paton.

As I conclude this Almoners report, sadly I have just been informed at the passing of Bro. Samuel Hay. Bro. Sam passed away at his home in Barrhead where he resided with his beloved wife, Netta. Sam had suffered from poor health for some time and in consequence of that he was hospitalised on a number of occasions. I have visited Netta at home and conveyed sincere sympathy to her and her family on behalf of the Lodge. Bro. Sam always expressed his gratitude to the Lodge, and me personally, for taking time to visit. Conversations between Bro. Sam and myself were always of a wholesome and interesting content, we spoke of the Lodge, the bowling club and of course family. Bro Sam had recently celebrated his 85th birthday on March 8th.

Brethren, Ladies of our Lodge, another month has passed and my journey as your Lodge Almoner still continues.

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



WORLD AT WAR 1914 – 1918

(March 1915)



A little background into what constituted the 'Theatres of War' during 1914-1918

Western Front comprises the Franco-German-Belgian front and any military action in Great Britain, Switzerland, Scandinavia and Holland. **Eastern Front** comprises the German-Russian, Austro-Russian and Austro-Romanian fronts. **Southern Front** comprises the Austro-Italian and Balkan (including Bulgaro-Romanian) fronts, and Dardanelles. **Asiatic and Egyptian Theatres** comprises Egypt, Tripoli, the Sudan, Asia Minor (including Transcaucasia), Arabia, Mesopotamia, Syria, Persia, Afghanistan, Turkestan, China, India, etc. **Naval and Overseas Operations** comprises operations on the seas.

- 1st British begin a blockade of East Africa
- 4th French government decides to send an Expeditionary Force to the Dardanelles
Russian government sends message to Allies, laying claim to Constantinople
- 5th Greek government offers naval and military forces for operations at the Dardanelles
- 7th Greek government requests explanation of British marine landing at Lemnos:
Britain explains military necessity (9 March)

The **Battle of Neuve Chapelle** (10th - 13th March 1915) was launched with the aim of capturing the high ground of the Aubers Ridge and in so doing, to create a threat to the German Army in occupation of the city of Lille. Although the British broke through the German Front Line and captured the village of Neuve Chapelle, the German Sixth Army carried out counter-attacks and the British attack was halted from advancing any further.

- 12th British government accepts Russian claims on Constantinople
General Sir Ian Hamilton appointed to command military force for operations at Gallipoli: actually takes command on 17 March
- 14th German cruiser SMS "Dresden", the last left at sea, sunk by British warships off coast of Chile
Turkish shore batteries and sea mine defences repel Allied naval attack in the
- 18th Dardanelles. British battleships HMS "Irresistible" and HMS "Ocean" and French battleship "Bouvet" are all sunk.
British government guarantee that Greece will have Lemnos after the war (it is currently Turkish)
- 21st First German airship raid on Paris
- 28th German submarine sinks first British passenger ship, "Falaba"
- 29th British and United States governments agree that USA will only export rubber to Britain



FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from the Mallet of 36 Years Ago



Issue No. 23

March 1979

RWM Bro. William McCartney

The annual visitation of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East took place on the 6th March, headed by Bro James Corbett, Depute Master.

The minute book and financial statement were examined and found to be in first class order.

Bro Corbett complimented Bro James Law IPM on a most successful year in office and was fulsome in his praise of the executive officers of the Lodge, Secretary - Bro Robert Carrey PM, Treasurer - Bro John Gray PM and Bro Len Matthews, Almoner, for the devotion to duty which they display in their service to the Lodge.

In a short speech of thanks, Bro Jim Law made suitable reply. The attendance being 81

On the 20th March only two candidates:-

IAN BUTTAR and ROBERT PATON

were presented instead of the expected three. They received a most efficient and purposeful Master Mason degree from the younger members of the Instruction Class, supervised by Bro Archie Grant PM. William Reid, the missing candidate was abroad in Kuwait on business The attendance was 121.

For the past two years the bar prices have remained unchanged. But now, very reluctantly, the Bar Committee have been forced to increase the charges. The new prices will be - Whisky, Vodka, Gin – 26p (an increase of 1p) Rum will also go up by 1p to 27p with all beers going up by 2p, Light to 25p, Heavy to 26p and lager to 28p. (*Sigh! Ed. (2015)*).

We hope that the patrons of the bar realise that the reason for prices being kept so low is principally because of the untiring efforts of the voluntary Bar Staff.

100 CLUB :The lucky winners for March are :-

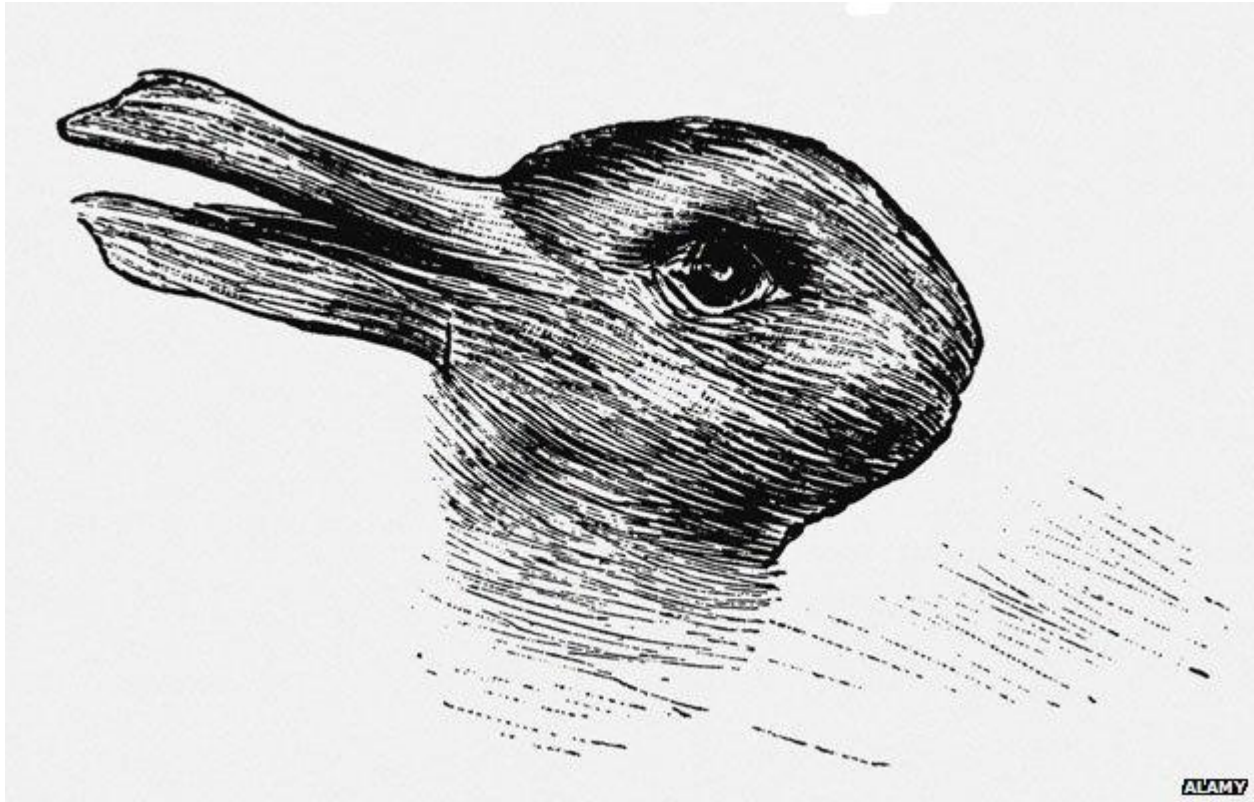
£10 D Junner & W Shaw **£3** R Niven & A Nichol **£1** A Nichol & F Brown

On Friday 2nd March the lodge headed by the R.W.M. Bro Wm McCartney visited Lodge St Conval No 1359 and conferred a really outstanding F.C. Degree. Again on Monday 12th March another large deputation visited Lodge Craigielea No 1218 and once again the F.C. Degree was performed with great dignity.

The R.W.M. would like to thank all the brethren who supported him on both of these occasions.

Bro Brian Morton, our Junior Warden, tells us that his father-in-law, Bro Ian Gilmour, was instrumental in acquiring the very unusual chairs which are used in the Masonic Temple in Maxwellton Road in Paisley. Apparently, they used to belong to the Mitchell Library in Glasgow.

Optical Humour



When you first look at this picture you'll probably see a rabbit facing to the right. However, if you continue to look at the picture it'll flip to become a duck looking to the left. This is known as a 'bistable' image. You won't be able to see both pictures at the same time and will instead flip between seeing the duck and then the rabbit. This illusion was originally popularised in 1899 by American psychologist Joseph Jastrow, who used it to make the point that we 'see' with our brains as well as our eyes.

The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by:

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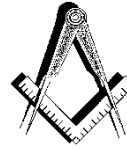
Lodge Website: www.unionandcrown307.com

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



Syllabus 2014-2015

* - Denotes an Official visit



April 2015

Tuesday	07 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	By the Lodge Instruction Class
*Monday	13 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	At Lodge St John RA No. 320
Tuesday	21 st	07:30pm	EA Degree	By Lodge Paisley St Mirren No. 129
*Tuesday	28 th	07:30pm	EA Degree	At Lodge Prince of Wales No. 426

May 2015

Tuesday	05 th	07:30pm	Dramatisation	<i>Prisoners of War</i>
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September 2015

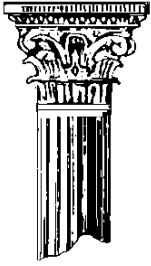
Tuesday	01 st	07:30pm	FC Degree	By Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426
Tuesday	15 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	By the Lodge Instruction Class

October 2015

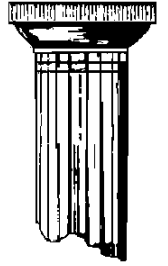
*Monday	05 th	07:30pm	FC Degree	At Lodge Paisley St Mirren No. 129
Friday	09 th	07:30pm	Open night dramatisation,	The Table of Scottish Freemasons
Tuesday	20 th	07:30pm	Annual General Meeting	

November 2015

Tuesday	03 rd	07:30pm	MM Degree	Dramatisation
Tuesday	17 th	07:30pm	MMM Degree	By Bro. David McArthur IPM
Saturday	28 th	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

