

# The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



April 2022

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No. 453



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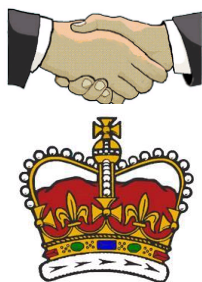
No sooner are we back in harness again after the greatly extended break due to the Pandemic, than the Summer Recess is almost upon us! Although it has been a slightly reduced syllabus, it has been a busy session for the Lodge and its Brethren with a whole host of regular meetings both formal and otherwise.

We purposely set out the running order for our degrees in a more relaxed fashion, to allow us to get back in to the groove after a long lay-off and give our Candidates more time to enjoy their Masonic journey better. It wasn't sheer luck that the current candidates managed to take in a Dramatised degree, appropriate to their status, after each of their degrees and this seems to have worked well.

Early in the Summer break, we will have our first official visitations as we travel to Lodge Nitshill, No.1478 and Lodge Darvel, No.971 to confer a MM and Dramatised PoW respectively. It has been a long time in coming, and the Brethren are keenly looking forward to being back on the road again. So let's get behind our RWM and show him the support he thoroughly deserves.

This time of year normally see us gearing up for a succession of different fund raising ventures in the Lodge, with Coffee Mornings, Big Breakfasts and even Summer Fayres planned for May & June. Unfortunately, we are still restricted a little by the after effects of Coronavirus and have had to hold back. Hopefully we will be able to have something in the Autumn, but if you have any good ideas for an event, please have a word with Bro Ronnie Maclsaac RWM, or any Office-bearer. We still need to keep our eye on the Lodge finances, and the support of the Brethren and their families is crucial.

There's only one edition left of our journal before the break, and its due out around the last weekend in May. Our meetings may be over by then, but hopefully as many as possible will be able to get down to the Temple and pick-up a copy. It is going to be a little different from the usual, and hopefully a bit special. You have been warned, don't leave it too late and miss out.



# Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

*Dear Sir & Brother,*

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

*Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022*

*Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

*Dramatised*

*Master Mason Degree*

*By the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class*

*Harmony*



*Yours faithfully & fraternally*

*David McArthur P.M. , Lodge Secretary*

# Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class carried out our popular 'Dramatised Fellowcraft Degree'. Short of a couple of the regular 'players' due to work commitments and holidays, those taking part nonetheless did a fine job of this period piece, set in a tavern in 1824.

Thereafter the Brethren retired to the Function Suite, where they enjoyed a relaxed atmosphere at the Lodge Harmony.

**Opened : 7.30pm**

**Lodge Closed : 9.20pm**

**Attendance : 51**

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April, a fine Master Mason's Degree was conferred upon the following Candidates :

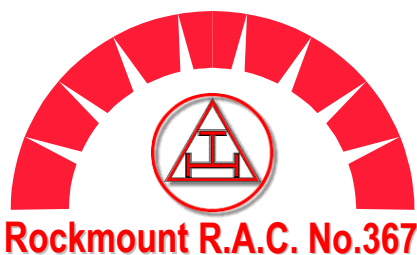
**Christopher McCaig & James McShane**

By the Installing Masters, aided and supported by the Past Masters of the Lodge. All in attendance appreciated the fine standard of the degree, and afterwards retired downstairs for a spot of Lodge harmony.

**Opened : 7.30pm**

**Lodge Closed : 9.37pm**

**Attendance : 43**



**Rockmount R.A.C. No.367**

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April, the Chapter continued its return to normal working, and conferred an excellent Royal Arch degree on :

**Bro David Peters  
& Bro Derek Cameron**

in what was a particularly competent and enjoyable performance by those who took part, considering the late changes to the team due to covid and other unfortunate reasons

It was pleasing to see two Brethren from Lodge Nitshill joining the Chapter, and hopefully these will be the first of many in the years ahead.

The next regular meeting of the Chapter will be on Tuesday on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.30pm. where Royal Arch Degree will be conferred.

## BITS & PIECES

- Hearty congratulations to Bro Evens Reid and his lovely wife June, who recently celebrated their Golden Wedding.
- Any brother wishing to try their hand at degree work is more than welcome to come along to the lodge instruction class on a Monday evening at 7.30 pm, where the Lodge will be rehearsing for the new Masonic year
- Congratulations to Bro Jim Cherry on becoming a Great Grandfather for the 7<sup>th</sup> Time.
- On a similar note, Bro Ken Hill is also a Great Grandfather !
- It looks like the Widows' Lunch will be returning this year on the 9<sup>th</sup> June. Bro Jim Miller PM is again organizing this popular event, and is seeking Brethren to 'Sponsor a Widow'.
- We hear from Bro Ronnie Maclsaac RWM that the Golf Outing in June is now full, with a short reserve list in place in case of any call-offs.
- We gather that Bro Ian Blair's wife Mary is taking early retirement from her job.
- It was most heartening to see a small deputation from Lodge Randolph at our last meeting. They'd come to hand over a cheque for £500 towards the new LED Projector being installed over the forthcoming Summer Recess. A generous gift from our near neighbours, greatly appreciated.
- Best Wishes to Bro Alex Morrison who reaches the grand old age of 90 in May.
- We gather that Bro Iain Nicol will be the latest to affiliate to Lodge Dunlop Caledonia.
- We're sorry to have lost our hard-working Treasurer, Bro George McGrandles PM, over the last month or so, due to him having to work away from home. Needless to say, he's spend time each night in his lonely hotel room working away on his computer dealing with the Lodge finances. We're also most grateful to Bro Nicol Hynd PM for filling in for him at Lodge meetings.
- Congratulations to Bro Tom Mulholland who quietly celebrated his 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday earlier this month (doesn't look his age does he ?)
- Bro Johnny Gauld PM attended a Lodge Meeting whilst out in Turkey.
- With the Annual Lodge Test Fee rising to £50 by September this year, it is pleasing to see some of our younger Brethren taking out monthly Standing Orders to spread the cost over the year. £5 a month pays your Test Fee and also leaves £10 which could go towards an entry in the 100 Club, where you have a good chance of winning up to £20 at every Lodge Meeting.
- Best wishes to PM Jim Renfrew's daughter Leanne and her Fiancé David who are to be married in Neilston Parish Church in May. Best Man is our own Bro Steven Blair, with a few from 307 in attendance.
- Good to see Bro Michael McBride, who's suffered a lot of ill-health recently, making it along to the Social Club for a couple of drinks recently.

# Dates for your Diary



**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May**

Visitation to Lodge Nitshill, No.1478 where we have been invited confer a MM Degree.

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

Management Committee Meeting at 7-30pm.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May**

Visitation to Lodge Darvel, No.971 where we have been invited confer a Dramatised Prisoner of War Degree. Postponed previously due to COVID, hopefully it should go ahead this time.

Transport is being arranged (Leaving the MT at 6pm), and anyone looking for a lift should contact Bro Bobby Clark, Substitute Master ☎ 07952 996 597

*In addition to the above the R.W.M. is involved in casual visits to Sister Lodges over the Summer Recess, details of which can be obtained by contacting any senior Office-bearer who will be only too pleased to take you along with them)*



## 100 CLUB

The fortunate winners of our cash prizes this month were :

**5<sup>th</sup> April**

£20 : **Bro Ian Nicol**

£10 : **Douglas Junner PM**

**19<sup>th</sup> April**

£20 : **Bro Alan Davidson**

£10 : **Bro Stewart Gray PM**

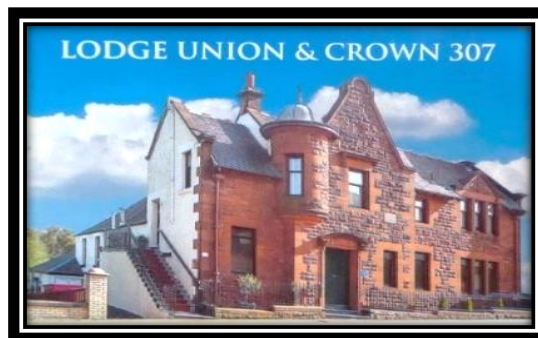
Bro George McGrandles P.M., our Treasurer is still taking names for this year.

The annual fee is still very good value at £10, & anyone interested should see Bro George as soon as possible.

## Lodge Postcards

Unique colour postcards of our Temple are still available for sale at the bargain price of £1-00 each from Bro Jim Miller PM (☎ 0141 881 4006) [jimmiller307@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jimmiller307@hotmail.co.uk)

All proceeds will go to The Lodge Charity Fund, with an annual donation being made to a local charity each year at our Anniversary Dinner in February. As it stand, a magnificent total of over £800 has been raised so far.



# Antients vs Moderns

That following the formation of the Grand Lodge of England in 1723, some prominent Scottish and Irish Freemasons based in London, formed a rival Grand Lodge in 1751, labelling the original Grand Lodge 'Moderns' and calling themselves 'Antients'.

The 'Antients' didn't hold to the beliefs and practices of the 'Moderns' and published their own constitution – 'Ahiman Rezon' in 1756. The name is thought to have been derived from Hebrew, but the meaning was unclear. They believed themselves to be part of an older masonic tradition and criticised their rivals for their modern innovations. This is unsurprising, as many were Scots who knew of a tradition of Freemasonry in their homeland predating the four Lodges who came together in 1723 to form the Grand Lodge by many years.

The image shown on the right is the frontispiece of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of 'Ahiman Rezon' and depicts the Coat of Arms of the new Grand Lodge.

The two rivals existed side by side – both at home and abroad – for nearly 63 years, neither recognising each other as regular.

The intense rivalry came to an end in 1813 when the two rival Grand Lodges came together to form the United Grand Lodge (of England) and a new chapter had begun

This union led to a great deal of standardisation of ritual, procedures and regalia, and Freemasonry as we now know it south of the border came in to being..



## Did You Know ???

- That Freemasons' Hall in Molesworth Street in Dublin was completely illuminated in **GREEN** on St Patrick's Day in mid-March ?
- That in 2000 the Grand Lodge of Ireland counted more than 700 centres and 33,000 members, including 150 lodges distributed overseas ?
- That there are two active masonic lodges of the British Army under the Grand Lodge of Ireland; No 322 Lodge Glittering Star (Mercian Regiment) and No 295 St Patrick's (Royal Dragoon Guards) This practice dates back to the 1730's when the GL of England refused to issue 'travelling warrants' to military Lodges, deeming them unsuitable for the Craft ?

# Famous Freemasons

*(This month we read of one of the most popular singers of the post-war era)*

## Bro Nat "King" Cole (1919-1965)

Nathaniel Adams Coles was born in Montgomery, Alabama, on March 17, 1919.[1] He had three brothers: Eddie, Ike and Freddy, and a half-sister, Joyce Coles. Each of the Cole brothers pursued careers in music. When he was four years old, the family moved to Chicago, Illinois, where his father, Edward Coles, became a Baptist minister.

Known for his smooth and well-articulated vocal style, Cole actually started out as a piano man. He first learned to play around the age of four with help from his mother, a church choir director.

In his early teens, Cole had formal classical piano training. He eventually abandoned classical for his other musical passion - jazz. Earl Hines, a leader of modern jazz, was one of Cole's biggest inspirations. At 15, he dropped out of school to become a jazz pianist, and joined forces with his brother Eddie for a time, which led to his first professional recordings in 1936. He later joined a national tour performing as a pianist.

Brother Nat King Cole was a member of Thomas Waller Lodge No. 49 in Los Angeles, California. Where he was initiated in 1938. The lodge was founded by a group of African-American musicians who were members of Musicians Local 767, and Cole joined with his friend and drummer Lee Young. Nat King Cole remained faithful to Masonic principles his whole life. He was also a 33° Scottish rite Mason.

One of the first African Americans to have his own television show. Since his death, he has remained enormously popular worldwide, adding five posthumous Grammys to the single one he received during his lifetime. In 1991, Cole's daughter, Natalie, released a duet with videos of her father singing one of his great hits, Unforgettable, winning the 1992 Grammy for Record of the Year. He has two stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, one for his work in television and one for his music.



Cole was an active participant in the Civil Rights movement, often lamenting the fact that entertainers such as himself were accepted in many situations where African Americans in other professions were not. Recognizing his activism, Both presidents Kennedy and Johnson invited him to the White House during their terms. His television show, which aired in 1956 and 1957 had high ratings and enjoyed critical praise; however, in spite of the fact that he was accepted in some entertainment circles, the show was dropped after two seasons because national advertisers would not support a black man.

At a young age, Brother Nat struggled to get his career off the ground. He went broke and, in his words, "was forced to play in every joint from San Diego to Bakersfield." It was in one of those dives that an inebriated customer stuck a hat on his head, called it a crown, and, in a play on his last name, dubbed him "Old King Cole." The nickname stuck and Cole, truly a king in the world of music, forever became Nat King Cole.

Brother Cole owed his success to a soft baritone voice. He was convinced smoking enhanced his rich singing tone and maintained a three-pack-a-day habit during his adult years. Prior to each recording session, he would smoke several cigarettes in quick succession to enhance the effect. Regrettably, the practice took his life in 1965, when he died of lung cancer at the young age of 45.

*(We continue our series of articles which trace the history of local Lodges. This month we move across South East of the county to the conservation village of Eaglesham)*

## Lodge Saint Conval, No.1359

The history of the first 50 Years of Lodge Saint Conval, Giffnock, No. 1359 on the roll of The Grand Lodge of Scotland, relates that the “The Lodge was consecrated in the Court House, Giffnock, on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1927 when a Special Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East was held therein. Bro. The Right Honourable Lord Blythswood KCVO, DL, JP, supported by reigning RW Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire East, supported by Brother John Pattison, Immediate Provincial Grand Master, and Bro. Archibald Gardner, Provincial Grand Depute Master, and Provincial Office-Bearers, presided over the ceremony.” It continues “Much credit must go to all the Founder members, none of whom survive, and in particular the first two Masters, Bro. Colonel James G Robertson and Bro. David M Goudielock, who set the Lodge off on a proper course.”



15 October 1977 saw the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of Lodge Saint Conval, Giffnock. The Rededication and Consecration Ceremony was carried out by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East, headed by the Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Ralph Denholm. After the ceremony, a dinner was held in the Redhurst Hotel, Giffnock.

The subsequent years has seen the Lodge go from strength to strength and has seen a variety of venues including the Crookfur Pavilion, Capelrig House, Rhuallan House, and Woodfarm Pavilion. Thereafter, for the first Regular Meeting of the Millennium year, the Brethren returned to Rhuallan House for meetings.

Throughout the years the Lodge has busied itself in many charitable events, which are never enough in number to satisfy all the Brethrens' benevolent desires. Examples of recipients including Grand Lodge of Scotland Masonic Homes Fund, Overbridge Quarriers Homes, Grand Lodge of Scotland Masonic Homes Fund, Arthritis & Rheumatism Council For Research (Scotland), Victoria Geriatric Unit, Cancer Research, BBC 'Children in Need' appeal, the children's fund 'Make-A-Wish' Foundation, Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Erskine Hospital, Grand Lodge of Scotland Benevolent Fund, Marcus Humphrey House, Benevolent Fund of Provincial Grand Lodge, Beatson Oncology Unit, a Paisley nurse working in Romanian Children's homes, and the Dunblane Fund all benefited.

The Lodge also takes its education seriously, giving a lecture in September 1981, on 'Masonic History' to Lodge Clydesdale No. 556 and a short talk to the Brethren on a feature in the 1989 year book entitled 'The Lodge and The New Mason'. Also, a Brother attended Lodge Pioneer, Linlithgow No.1305 for a lecture on 'English Freemasonry'. Over the years it has always been the nature of the Brethren of Lodge Saint Conval, Giffnock to 'spread the word' of the Lodge, with links to lodges

in the English Constitution, United Grand Lodge of Germany and in lodges as far away as USA, Bermuda and Auckland.

Nearer home, many lodges have heard the name of Saint Conval, Giffnock throughout the province due to the visits by Masters, Office-Bearers and Brethren, resulting in very close friendships having been built and preserved over the years.

The Brethren of 1359 involve themselves in many social activities, the favourites being Golf, Bowling and Five-A-Side football. A Silver Cup was donated to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East, to perpetuate the memory of our Past Master Bro. Robert MacMenemy, Past Provincial Grand Master, to be competed for each year by the Lodges in the Province. Other trophies keenly contested include the Saint Conval, Giffnock Founders' Golf Trophy, Major Allan Golf Trophy, Past Masters' Putter Competition, as well as the Founders' Bowling Trophy and Lord Blythswood Bowling Trophy.

General fund raising has benefited over the years from most successful events such as monthly Dance and Race Nights, Car Rallies, the annual Ladies' Festival, and the ubiquitous Burns Night, all requiring time and organisational dedication, but resulting in occasions raising the profile of Saint Conval, Giffnock in a most positive 'light'.

Lodge Saint Conval, Giffnock Harmonies have been most successful events with much camaraderie, excellent speeches and ribald humour flowing along with the beer and whisky. Indeed, speeches have always been a feature of the evening, with many a Master and senior Brother being the subject of good-humoured banter.

A number of years ago the Lodge found itself being 'evicted' from its then home in Rhuallan House in Giffnock, which was being sold by the council. Luckily, the Lodge soon found a new home in The Duff Memorial Hall in Main



Street, Busby, where it is now very comfortably settled.

In conclusion, Lodge Saint Conval, Giffnock is looking forward to the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2027 and to its 1000<sup>th</sup> candidate, expected at present joining rates, around the time of our Centenary.

# The Age of Reason

## 'For or Against Freemasonry'

Freemasonry since its conception in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, has always had its critics with various sections of society and the press being either for or against The Craft. Indeed several large donations (£500,000+) to worthy causes have barely even merited a single line in our tabloid press in recent years. Perhaps the press barons are simply fearful of being associated with Freemasonry, just in case it impacts negatively on their already decreasing circulation figures.

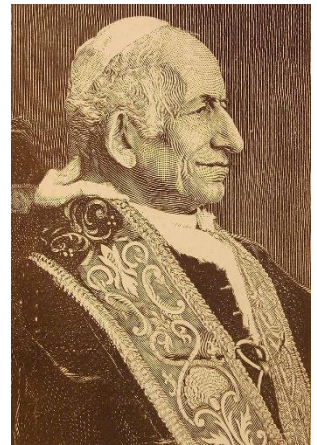
Below we quote two differing statements from extremely influential characters of over 100 years ago. It illustrates just how much the opposing side differed during what was to many an age of enlightenment for society.

### AGAINST :

Masonic principles brought in to conflict with the Catholic Church during the Age of Reason.

Pope Leo XIII (1878-1903) called Freemasonry "***the kingdom of Satan***" and, "Their chief dogmas are so completely and manifestly opposed to sane reason that it is difficult to imagine deeper perversion.

In reality is it not the peak of madness and of the most audacious impiety to be so presumptuous as to want to destroy the religion and the Church created by God Himself".



### FOR :

Freemasons played a great part in the Age of Reason and period of Enlightenment in the late 1700s where they helped reform society.

Freemasonry has ever valued human consciousness and reason, and these values were transmitted to the Enlightenment, when people were fighting for freedom of worship and speech, public education and a democratic government. Freemasons were also the first advocates of equality.



The fraternity has always disregarded social distinctions and was one of the first organisations in the world to believe all men are equal.

**What's your opinion ?**

(Let us know what you think.)

# FLASHBACK

## Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 11 Years Ago

No. 343

April 2011

### Regular Meetings

On Tuesday 5th April 2011 a regular meeting of the lodge took place and after the business the following candidates were raised to the high and sublime degree of a Master Mason:-

**Alan Elliot and Stephen Ross**

In what was a very good performance from all involved, the degree was conferred by a team from Lodge Union and Crown's own Instruction class under the watchful gaze of the Instruction Master, Bro. Thomas Mulholland PM.

**Lodge Opened - 7:30pm      Lodge Closed - 9:54pm      Attendance - 81**

A Regular Meeting of the Lodge was held on Tuesday 19th April 2011.

After the administrative and other business of the Lodge was completed the Lodge was adjourned and the 'Dramatised' FC Degree was performed by the "Guid Brethren 'o' the Ludge". The performers were given the best of attention and their efforts were greatly appreciated by all in attendance.

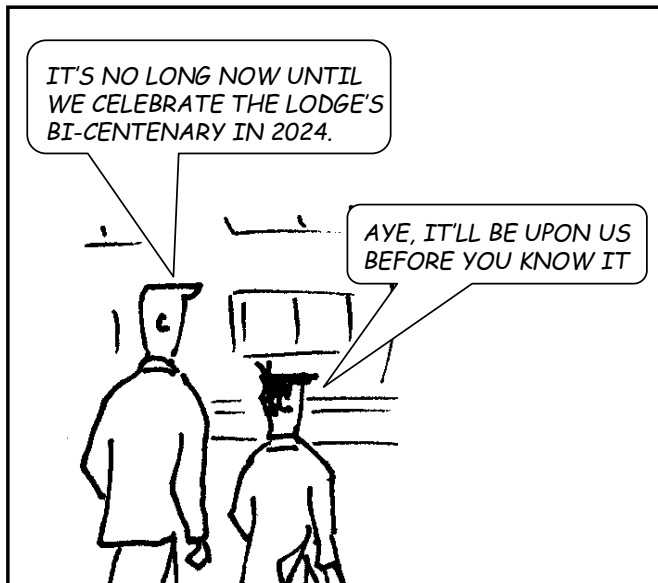
A harmony followed with the companionship enjoyed by all present

**Lodge Opened - 7:30pm      Lodge Closed - 9:22pm      Attendance - 77**

### Bits & Pieces

- Best wishes to Bro. Raymond Smith PM and his Lovely wife Janice who are moving house to Victoria Place after 23 years at their old address on Main Street.
- Our joint Annual Divine Service with Lodge Thistle and Crown No. 1167 will take place on Sunday 29th May 2011 at 06:30pm in Neilston Parish Church.
- What a Joy to see Past Master Bro. John Gray D.F.M. back at our meetings.
- £500,000 - What a magnificent gift made by the Grand Lodge of Scotland to the Children's Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS) at Murrayfield on Saturday 9th April 2011.
- The Big Breakfast - This year's event will be in the very capable hands of Bro. Colin McLardy PM and will be on Saturday 14th May 2011
- The Lodge received a very nice letter from Bro. Alistair Henderson, Provincial Grand Master of Glasgow, thanking us for performing our dramatised F.C. Degree at the PGL of Glasgow's recent charity night at Lodge Cadder Freestone's premises. This particular evening raised £1843.00. Truly a splendid effort.
- The Annual Golf outing to Torwoodlea Golf Club, Galashiels on Saturday the 11th June 2011 is now fully booked. Our Golf convenor Bro. Lawrence Webb will still take names, but only for a reserve status.

# MARK N' ARCHIE



J Renfrew April 2022

*The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by :*

**Brother Jim Renfrew P.M.**

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

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