

The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



January 2018

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No. 410



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It is becoming extremely common to find that many Lodges are finding it hard to attract people who are willing to become initiates, and as such many degrees within these Lodges are exemplifications using substitute candidates.

This can itself have a detrimental effect upon the standard of degree work, as those on the floor, whose focus upon the ritual can be affected by the lack of a 'Real' candidate.

We in Union & Crown are fortunate that we have never been without a candidate for our degrees, but even we are still finding the flow of persons wishing to embrace our craft is slowing down as the years progress. We fully realise that it is hard work to maintain the standards we set ourselves, and the process of attracting prospective candidates is difficult.

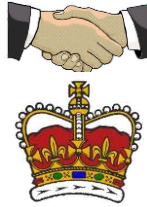
We ask ourselves, 'Why is this so? and why do gentlemen from outside our Craft, no longer flock to Freemasonry in such numbers. Indeed, in these difficult times for Freemasonry, some Lodges have not had a Candidate for several years.

We all know that lifestyles have altered dramatically over the last fifty years, and continue to do so even now. There are a myriad of counter attractions for young men now, and the demands of jobs and family are increasing. Men have little free time to themselves in today's modern world, and often find other pastimes and hobbies which have a greater call upon them than Freemasonry. We must ask ourselves, what do we actually have to offer someone that they cannot get elsewhere.

Does our Craft seem archaic and old fashioned to today's modern society, and is this a strong reason for the lack of people willing to commit to our rituals and ideals? We firmly believe that the tenets of Freemasonry are still as relevant today, as they were 100 years ago, and with the decline in recognised religion, perhaps even more so.

As we have said many times on these pages, we all need to adapt to meet the demands of our changing world. And Freemasonry is now different. We have streamlined many of our practices and introduced newer, fresher items to make our meetings shorter and more interesting, and similar ideas are being adopted elsewhere in attempts to stave off decline, and maintain attendances and interest.

Another thing that we must prevent is the loss of Brethren, especially recent Initiates. It must be difficult for someone joining our fraternity, where almost everything is strange. We must befriend them and assist them to settle, for the consequences of leaving them on their own too often, are far too dangerous to contemplate. Having gone to so much trouble to attract them, surely we can go the 'extra mile' to ensure that they enjoy the experience, and remain amongst us.



Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

Dear Sir & Brother,

The Right Worshipful Master, Bro Thomas Nicol Hynd cordially requests your attendance at the forthcoming Meetings of the Lodge to be held within the Masonic Temple, Cochrane Street, Barrhead on :

Friday 2nd February 2018

Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.

194th Anniversary Dinner



Friday 6th February 2018

(Meeting moved to accommodate the Anniversary Dinner)



Tuesday 20th February 2018

Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.

Entered Apprentice Degree

conferred by Lodge Nitshill, No. 1478

Harmony



Yours faithfully & fraternally

David McArthur P.M., Secretary

Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 16th January, the Installing Masters, assisted by the Past Masters of the Lodge, conferred an excellent Master Mason Degree upon the following Candidates :

PAUL GEORGE HIGGINS

ALAN IZATT

The evening was badly affected by the atrocious weather conditions as a blizzard hit the town just a couple of hours before. Needless to say '*The show went on*' and all those who managed to attend are to be congratulated.

Opened : 7.30pm

Lodge Closed : 9.36pm

Attendance : 39



100 CLUB

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

Tuesday 16th January £20 : **Bro Ian Blair PM**

£10 : **Bro Iain Nicol**

Names are still being taken for the current year. The annual fee is still very good

Masonic Snippets

- The Masonic Temple at the corner of Randolph and State Streets in Chicago, was the world's tallest building when it was built in 1892
- English 18th Century Masonic "Firing Glasses" are priceless collector's items. Used for toasts, their thick bases were a protection when rapped upon the table in unison to accentuate applause, causing a sound similar to firing.
- As commanding General at the fall of Savannah during the American Civil War, Brother John W. Geary placed federal troops around Solomon's Lodge No.1 to save it from looting and damage.
- From the 1740's until the re-unification of the two English Grand Lodges in 1813, the Royal Arch or 4th degree was a regular part of the 'Antients' system of Masonry.
- At one time, Golden Lodge No.5, in Stanstead, Canada occupied a lodge room which straddled the US and Canada border. There were entrances on both the Quebec and Vermont sides of the border.
- Masonic dates are written "A.L." for "Anno Lucis" or "In the year of Light" which is 4000 years plus the current year. i.e. the year 2018 written Masonically would be 6018. This is because the practice has followed the ancient belief that the world was created when God said "Let there be light", 4000 years before Christ.



Dates for you Diary

Friday 2nd February

A Rescheduled Regular Meeting of the Lodge where a short Business Meeting will be followed by the 194th Anniversary Dinner.

(Brethren are allowed to bring guests to the dinner, with Tickets available from Bro Ronnie MacIlsac WSW - ☎ 07718 828 061)

Tuesday 6th February

Meeting Rescheduled to Friday 2nd February.

Friday 16th February

Annual Burns Supper (6.30 for 7pm) *(Brethren are allowed to bring guests to the Burns Supper, with tickets available from Bro Robert Scott WSD - ☎ 07824 597 090)*

Monday 19th February

Management Committee Meeting at 7-30pm.

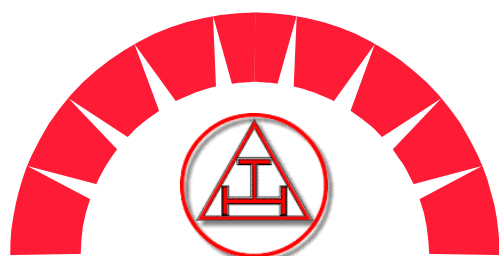
Tuesday 20th February

Regular Meeting where a EA Degree will be conferred by Lodge Nitshill, No.1478

Saturday 24th February

Visitation to Provincial Grand Lodge of Perthshire East where the Lodge have been invited to confer the 'Table of Scottish Freemasons'

(In addition to the above, the R.W.M. is constantly involved in unofficial visits to Sister Lodges, details of which can be obtained by contacting any senior Office-bearer who will be only too pleased to take you along with them as they represent the Lodge throughout the Province.



Rockmount R.A.C. No.367

At the Regular Meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday 9th February, the Chapter welcomed the Companions of Port Glasgow RAC No.900 who conferred an excellent Excellent Masters' Degree upon a 'substitute candidate'

The next Regular Meeting of the Chapter will be on : **Tuesday 13th March** at 7.30pm and the Companions of Rockmount, extend a warm invitation to all to attend on that evening, where a degree will be conferred by the Companions of Rockmount RAC.

As you may be aware, the Chapter is experiencing a shortage in Candidates at the moment, and would welcome any Brother (who's been through his MMM degree) and would like to join the RA to contact MEC Hugh Cattigan ☎ 07981 566 901

Famous Scottish Freemasons

(Continuing our series of the Brethren portrayed in the Mural in our Function Suite, we turn this month to one of Scotland's most famous architects.)

Brother Robert Adam (1728-1792)

Probably the most famous of Scotland's architects, Robert Adam was born at Gladney House in Kirkcaldy in 1728. The son of William Adam, a celebrated Architect and Builder, he was educated at The Royal High School in Edinburgh, and Edinburgh University, where he mixed with many of those who would become leading lights in the 'Scottish Enlightenment'.

In 1745 he joined his father in the family firm, before embarking upon the 'Grand Tour' where he spent considerable time studying in Rome.

On the 29th November 1752 he was initiated into Lodge Canongate Kilwinning No.2.



He set up practice as an architect in London in 1758, utilising his web of Scottish connections, as well as some of the people he had met during his time in Italy. A fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and of the Society of Antiquaries he was appointed as 'Architect of the King's Works', a post he held for eight years. During this time he became the most fashionable architect in Great Britain, introducing new and elegant styles of architecture based upon a wide variety of classical sources.

He also became extremely popular as an interior designer and designer of furniture, remodelling many of the country's great houses, using elaborate plasterwork of neo-classical and renaissance patterns.

He also served as the member of Parliament for Kinross-shire from 1768 to 1774.

Between 1758 – 1762 he embarked upon his most ambitious project which involved the design and construction of 24 grand houses on the north bank of the Thames, adjacent to The Strand, known as 'The Adelphi'. Unfortunately, this became a financial disaster for Adam and his brother John and greatly damaged his reputation.

As a result of this, he returned to his homeland where he spent most of the remainder of his working life. During this period he still produced many excellent designs which have to this day stood the test of time, namely Charlotte Square and Register House in Edinburgh, and the magnificent Culzean Castle in South Ayrshire.

Adam had long suffered from stomach and bowel problems, probably caused by a peptic ulcer and irritable bowel syndrome. While at his home 11 Albermarle Street, London on 1 March 1792, one of the ulcers burst, and two days later he died.

He was buried in the south aisle of Westminster Abbey. The pall-bearers at his funeral were several of his clients: Henry Scott, Duke of Buccleuch; George Coventry, Earl of Coventry; James Maitland, Earl of Lauderdale; David Murray, Earl of Mansfield; Lord Frederick Campbell and Sir William Pulteney.

As we enter the month of February, our Sister Lodge, Lodge Thistle & Crown, No.1167 is about to celebrate its centenary. To commemorate this, we are publishing details of the Petition made to Grand Lodge in 1917, and the accompanying letter. It is interesting to note that of the 36 Brethren who signed the petition, 29 of them are Brethren of Union & Crown.

17 Wellpark Cottages,

Neilston

26th April 1917

Mr David Reid
Grand Secretary
Grand Lodge of Scotland

Dear Sir & Brother,

In submitting this petition for the consideration of Grand Lodge together with recommendations from Lodge St Mirrins, Paisley No.129, and Lodge Craighends, Linwood No.1042, we beg to draw attention to the following points :-

1. All Masons residing in Neilston are in perfect accord and harmony in their desire for a Lodge in Neilston.
2. There is ample and most suitable accommodation for Masonic gatherings and functions in the Glen Halls, Neilston
3. Barrhead Lodge Union & Crown No.307 is two miles from the nearest point, and at least five miles from the outlying parts of the district which the new lodge would serve; and it is particularly noted that the growing residential village of Uplawmoor lies within this district.
4. The inconvenience of travel to and from Barrhead, especially during the winter months is largely responsible for the very poor attendance of Masons at Barrhead Lodge Union & Crown.
5. In consequence fully forty Masons have almost completely fallen away from the duties of Masonry.
6. There is not the slightest intention whatsoever of any influence being brought to bear on Barrhead Masons to join the new Lodge.

Trusting these points will receive due consideration when the Petition is brought before Grand Lodge,

Yours faithfully and fraternally

David Pride, R.W.M. Elect

Robert Fimister, Secretary Elect

Petition for a Charter to hold a Lodge in Neilston, Renfrewshire

Unto the Most Worshipful the Grand Master Mason, the Right Worshipful the Office Bearers, and Members of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The Petition of the undersigned regularly registered Master Masons of the Lodges mentioned against their respective names and residing in the village of Neilston, Renfrewshire :

Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners having the good of Masonry at heart are desirous of erection a new Lodge or resuscitating Lodge Thistle and Crown No.267 (Original number, as shown in local records, but set down in Grand Lodge Constitution as No.263) and thereby extending the benefits of the Craft in this part of the country which cannot be accomplished without a regularly constituted Lodge in our midst,

We therefore, being anxious to commence and carry our Masonic Labours, under sanction of the Grand Lodge, pray for a Charter of Constitution and Erection empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at Neilston by Name & Title Lodge Thistle and Crown, and there to discharge the duties of Masonry in a Constitutional manner according to the forms of the Order and the Laws of Grand Lodge; and we recommend and propose the following to be the first Office Bearers :

David Pride, Master; David G Nicolson Depute Master; Robert Barr, Substitute Master; Gavin Muir, Senior Warden; William Boyle, Junior Warden; Robert Fimister, Secretary; George Mackay, Treasurer; James Stewart, Senior Deacon; George Donaldson, Junior Deacon; Robert Mathieson, Inner Guard; John Hay. Tyler

The Prayer of this Petition being granted we promise strict obedience to the Constitution and Laws of Grand Lodge.

David Pride 307

Robert A Barr 307

William Boyle 307

George Mackay 497

George Donaldson 307

John Hay 307

Alexander Braidwood 307

J R Gormley 307

J Macfadyen 609

Robert Barr 307

Wallace Pride 307

Robert Lochhead 307

Robert Scott 307

John Macdonald 28

John Paisley 307

James Grant 307

James French 153

John Campbell 177

John Flanagan 307

D G Nicholson 307

Gavin Muir 307

Robert Fimister 571

James Stewart 307

Robert Mathieson 307

Matthew Flanagan 307

Archibald Mackie 307

Samuel Gray 307

Alexander Leggat 307

Adam Gillies 626

William Hamilton 307

Thomas Lochhead 307

W Chiswley 360

William Jones 307

Allan Craig 307

John Stewart 307

Henry Winder 307

Robert Ashford 307

Email to the Editor



Lodge Old Inverness Kilwinning St. John's No. VI

Dear Brother Jim,

My apologies for the delay in sending this, but my work takes me away from home for long periods.

May I take the opportunity to thank the RWM and all the brethren of the lodge who took the time to visit Lodge Old Inverness Kilwinning St. John's No VI in November. The degree was well anticipated as evidenced by the full lodge room, and proved to be worthy of the attendance.

The brethren are still talking enthusiastically about the evening, and are asking me when we can visit your lodge - hopefully very soon. It is a very proud moment for the RWM when he looks from the East and the lodge room is full to capacity.

May I also wish you, the RWM, office bearers and brethren of the lodge a happy, healthy and prosperous 2018, and may the Most High bless the lodge and its members, and allow the Lodge Union and Crown 307 to go from strength to strength.

Yours fraternally, **Alex Craib O.St.J., RWM**

BITS & PIECES

- We apologise for a case of '*mistaken identity*' in our January edition. We congratulated Bro David Bannerman PM 1478, on his installation as RWM of Lodge of Glasgow St John No.3 Bis, when in actual fact it should have been Bro David Jack PM 1478 who is now the RWM of No.3 Bis. The Past Masters of Lodge Nitshill are indeed proving popular this year with another two of them taking the chair in other Sister Lodges (Bro Terry Robinson – Lodge Thorntree, No.512 and Bro David Allan – Lodge Union & Crown, No.103)
- Whilst in conversation with Bro Keith Hodgson PM of The Glasgow Star Lodge, No.219 we discovered that he is back in the chair again for the 6th time !! He tells us that they are down to only one meeting a month (2nd Monday) but still continue right through the recess with two meeting per month in the summer. Apparently, they are much busier than their other regular meetings.
- It's ironic that Bro Nicol Hynd and Bro Evans Reid, friends from school, are both in the chair of the two lodges who meet in our Temple at the age of 70.
- Do you know that it is 35 years since Lodge Union & Crown put 5 candidates through at the same time !
- Congratulations to Bro Jimmy Laing who was made an Honorary Member by Lodge St Conval, No.1359 at their recent Installation. Bro Jimmy is also the current WJW of Lodge Dunlop Caledonia in Ayrshire.
- As ever, we are interested in obtaining old Grand Lodge Yearbooks (especially dating from the 1950`s and 1960`s) If anyone has copies which they no longer want, please contact the editor who will arrange to uplift them.
- On the subject of Masonic literature, if you have any old books about Freemasonry laying around, why don't you donate them to PGLRE Library.



WORLD AT WAR 1914 – 1918 (January 1918)



In what we now know as the last year of the First World War, politics would take more and more centre stage. The United States entered World War I on the side of the Allies on April 6, 1917. However, the U.S. entered the war reluctantly. Unlike many European nations, the U.S. wasn't fighting over territory or in revenge for past wars. President Woodrow Wilson wanted the end of the war to bring out lasting peace for the world. He gathered together a number of advisors and had them put together a plan for peace.

On January 18, 1918, President Woodrow Wilson gave a speech to the US Congress that outlined Fourteen Points for peace and the end to World War I. Wilson wanted lasting peace and for World War I to be the "war to end all wars."

Summary of the Fourteen Points

- No more secret agreements between countries. Diplomacy shall be open to the world.
- International seas shall be free to navigate during peace and war.
- There shall be free trade between the countries who accept the peace.
- There shall be a worldwide reduction in weapons and armies by all countries.
- Colonial claims over land and regions will be fair.
- Russia will be allowed to determine its own form of government. All German troops will leave Russian soil.
- German troops will evacuate Belgium, which will become an independent country.
- France will regain all territory including the disputed land of Alsace-Lorraine.
- The borders of Italy will be established such that all Italians will be within the country of Italy.
- Austria-Hungary will be allowed to continue to be an independent country.
- The Central Powers will evacuate Serbia, Montenegro, and Romania leaving them as independent countries.
- The Turkish people of the Ottoman Empire will have their own country. Other nationalities under the Ottoman rule will also have security.
- Poland shall be an independent country.
- A League of Nations will be formed that protects the independence of all countries no matter how big or small.

It could be argued that this was the USA's first play at the main table of world politics and while its industrial strength and muscle were clear for all to see it was still a young country and made up of many citizens who could trace their own roots back to both sides of the warring nations. Many had emigrated to America from Europe to get away from the old political rulers and there was little willingness to get involved in events thousands of miles away. The 14 points were a major change in negotiations.

Almoner's Report

It is with profound sadness I make known the passing of Bro Jim Heron (81) on Monday 21st January at his home in Barrhead. A stalwart of 307, Bro Jim was a much respected Brother who had endured illness for over a year and managed to sustain it during that trying period with dignity. He was strong in spirit and determination, and made the best of any situation throughout life. Bro Jim had a compassionate regard for others and supported me as Almoner on many occasions. I personally will miss Bro Jim Heron.

Sincere condolences on behalf of the Lodge were extended to his grieving daughters – Linda and Janice, and other family members. The Funeral Service will take place on Wednesday 7th January at 1pm in the United Reform Church in Barrhead, and thereafter at Woodside Crematorium in Paisley at 2pm. ***'Gone, but not forgotten'***

Further to my intimation in the December edition of 'The Mallet', on Wednesday 27th December, I attended the funeral of Bro Allan McKinnon Brown MM of Lodge 989 in Kilmacolm. Bro Allan was the father-in-law of Bro Tom Smillie.

I respectfully wish to intimate the sad passing of Bro Andrew Meiklejohn (75) on Tuesday 9th January at Erskine Hospital. A former long-serving member of the armed forces, Bro Andrew had been resident in Erskine for a number of years, where I had visited him on a number of occasions, and found him to be very much a former soldier by his manner, presence and demeanour. Before that he'd lived in the Glenburn area of Paisley with his beloved wife May.

I was informed of Bro Andrew's passing by Bro Jim Cherry, a family relative. Condolences were extended to May and her sons Gordon and Andrew at the funeral service at St Peter's Church in Glenburn.

I have also been informed that Bro Raymond Fraser Chadwick of 307 passed away suddenly at home in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where he'd lived for many years, on Tuesday 26th December. Our thoughts and prayers are for his family at this time. No further information is to hand.

Home Phone Calls :

Mrs Florence Laird	Bro Robert Nixon PM	Bro John W Smith
Mrs Karen Laird	Bro Robert Kennedy	Bro Kenneth Lang
Mrs Margaret McLellan	Bro Willie Reid	Bro Jim Kerr PM
Mrs Isobel Paton	Bro Eric Gray	
Bro Robert McCulloch	Bro Campbell Stewart	

I also managed to visit at home the following Brethren : Bro Donald Ferguson; Bro Jim Paton & Bro Jim Laird (following his discharge from hospital)

My I once again express my grateful thanks to Bro Jim Bradshaw for his continuous and regular reports regarding our dear friend, Bro Jim Heron

Brother Alexander G. White

Lodge Almoner, ☎ 0141-571 6411

FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 39 Years Ago

No. 21

JANUARY 1979

ORDINARY MEETINGS : At the meeting on January 16th Fellowcrafts J Brooks, J Rice and R McKay had the high and sublime degree of a Master Mason conferred upon them by a team consisting of Installing masters and Past Masters of the Lodge.

As was confidently expected, they enacted a most competent and dignified presentation.

Attendance 130

On the same evening, with appalling weather conditions prevailing outside, in two separate accidents, five Brethren - Frank Brown, Bob Dunlop, Willie McCreadie, Len Matthews and Bob Carrey PM had the misfortune to have their cars damaged when they were parked in an orderly line just outside the Temple. We very much regret the inconvenience and material loss suffered by these Brethren.

POINTS of INTEREST : Gordon Smith, who wears the No. 10 shirt for Rangers F.C. is at present going through Lodge Burns St Mary, No. 505 in Hurlford.

Lodge St Peter, No. 331 in Galston, had an unusual visitation at a recent meeting from Jock Stein, Willie Waddell and Willie Thornton, who turned up to see a friend going through his degree.

CONGRATULATIONS :
To Bro Ian Ryan who was married on January 18th
To Bro John Mills who recently retired
To Bro Roy Dinning on his well merited promotion.

100 CLUB : We congratulate the lucky winners of the January draw :
£10 : W. Love £3 : R Niven £1 : A McMillan

READER'S QUESTIONS :

From Bro George Cook R.W.M. of Lodge Craigielea, Paisley.

" Is wearing a Skean-Dhu, or dirk permissible in open Lodge or is it classed as an offensive weapon "

Answer : As the Skean-dhu is only worn with full highland dress and is entirely ornamental, it is allowed.

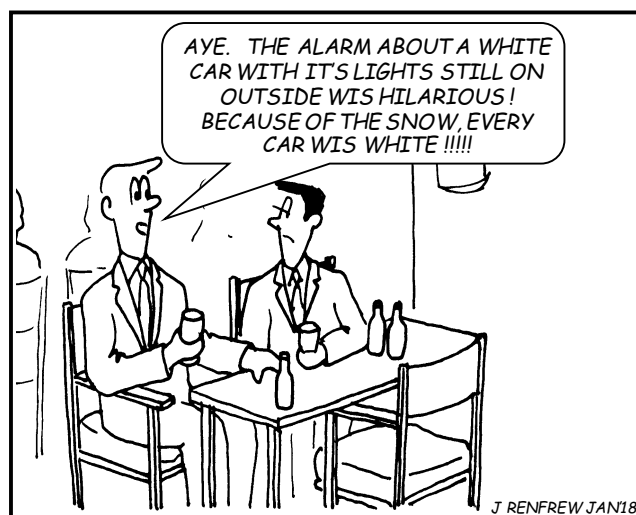
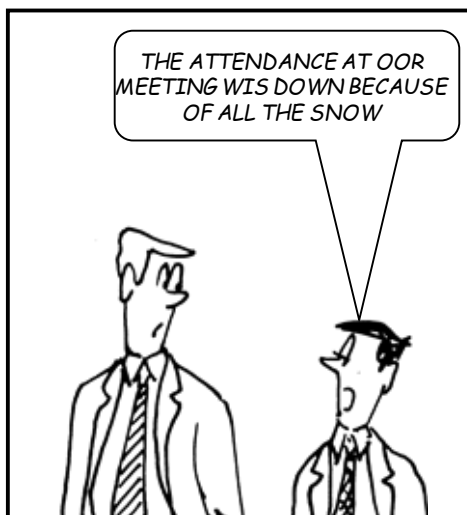
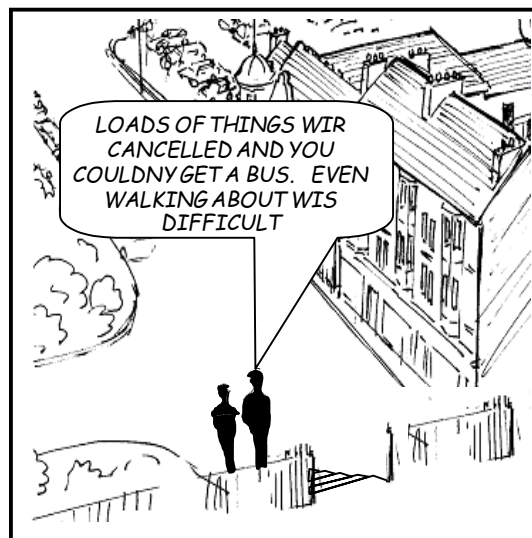
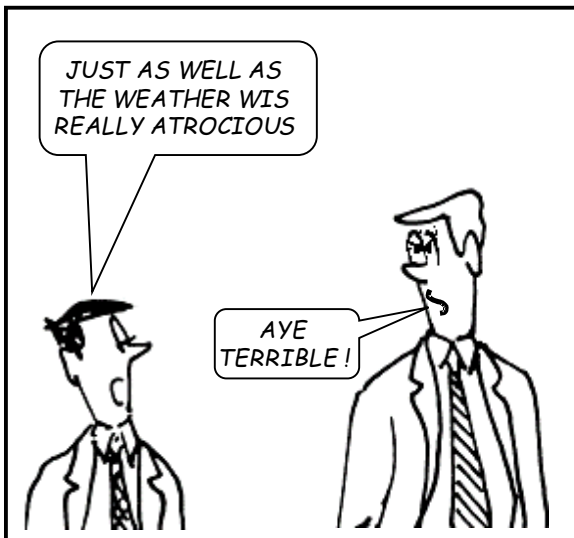
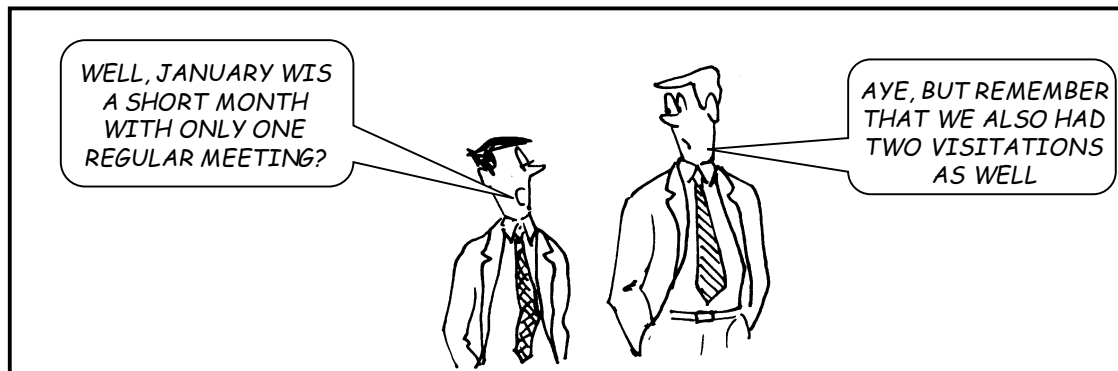
THANKS : We would like to thank Bro George King, the owner of McIntyre's Garage and a member of Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning, No.370, for the gift of 50 keys for the members of the Social Club.

TONGUE TWISTER :

Did you hear about the well known R.W.M. in our province who always manages to say

"Have all the pages of the evening been wade ?"

MARK N' ARCHIE



The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by :

Brother Jim Renfrew P.M.

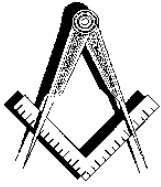
'Rapallo' 5 Stobs Drive, Barrhead, G78 1NY

☎ 0141-571-5979 e-mail : jim.renfrew@ntlworld.com

Assistant Editor : Bro Graham Manson PM

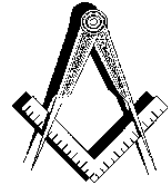
" With grateful thanks to all those who gladly gave their assistance "

Lodge Website address : <http://unionandcrown.org>



Syllabus 2018

(* Denotes an Official Visitation)



February 2017

Friday 2 nd February		Anniversary Dinner
Tuesday 20 th February	EA	Lodge Nitshill, No.1478
* Saturday 24 th February	<i>TSF</i>	<i>At PGL of Perthshire East</i>

March 2018

Tuesday 6 th March		Visitation by PGL of Renfrewshire East
Tuesday 20 th March	FC	Lodge Thistle & Crown, No.1167

April 2017

Tuesday 3 rd April	MM	Lodge Instruction Class
Tuesday 17 th April		'Burns vs Kipling' Dramatisation

May 2018

Tuesday 1 st May	EA	'Visiting Master's Degree'
Tuesday 15 th May		Prisoner of War Dramatisation
* Saturday 2 nd June	<i>TSF</i>	<i>At Lodge St John Fisherrow, No.112</i>

September 2018

Tuesday 4 th September	FC	Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426
Tuesday 18 th September	MM	Lodge Instruction Class

October 2018

Tuesday 2 nd October	DMM	Lodge Instruction Class
Tuesday 16 th October	MM	Annual General Meeting
* Saturday 20 th October	<i>PoW</i>	<i>At Lodge Loretto Centenary, No.1373</i>
* Tuesday 23 rd October	<i>FC</i>	<i>At Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426</i>