

The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



September 2023

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No. 466



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Many Lodges in recent times, and Union & Crown has been no exception, have found it difficult, if not impossible to attract Candidates into our order. Indeed it is not uncommon for some Lodges not to have initiated a single Candidate for several years. No longer is it to be taken for granted that Freemasonry will attract the numbers that it did in the past.

If we examine ourselves honestly and frankly, we must ask the question – *“What do we offer to potential Candidates, especially in a modern world?”* The answer in some cases will be deeply depressing, and perhaps the root cause of the troubles that the Craft finds itself in.

For many years 307 had “recruiting sergeants” in the local works and factories and these many of these, such as Shanks, provided a steady stream of promising Candidates, who went on to senior positions in the Lodge, serving Union & Crown loyally and well for many years. For a long time we enjoyed the enviable position of being able to initiate batches of four or five at a time.

The social changes within the town over the last thirty years, and the wholly different employment patterns which have emerged, have largely turned Barrhead in to what could be described as a “dormitory town” whose populace now commute to Glasgow and Paisley to earn their daily bread. Whilst many people live in the town, many socialise elsewhere and perhaps the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the Lodge and its members is lost.

When talking to potential Candidates, or new initiates, it is obvious that their first glimpse of Union & Crown is normally through some of the social events in the Lodge. We obviously present the correct image to the outside world, and this is heartening for the future of 307.

Whilst It is highly unlikely that we will return to the halcyon days of 20+ candidates a year, we will continue to seek good young candidates who perhaps are anxious to sample the delights of Freemasonry. Especially within 307.



Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

Dear Sir & Brother,

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

Tuesday 3rd October 2023

Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.

Master Mason Degree

by the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class

Harmony



Tuesday 17th October 2023

Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.

Annual General Meeting

(Nomination & Election of Office-bears and Committees)

Harmony

Yours faithfully & fraternally

R Evans Reid P.M., Lodge Secretary

Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 5th September, the following Candidates :

Gregor Mullin

Callum Heirs

were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry by the Brethren of Lodge Thistle & Crown, No.1167 in what was an excellent EA Degree. Bro John S Miller, R.W.M. and his Brethren are to be congratulated on the standard of their work

On the same evening, Bro James Cherry was presented with a certificate and jewel to commemorate his 60 years as a member of Lodge Union & Crown.

Opened : 7.32pm

Lodge Closed : 9.34pm

Attendance : 62



On Tuesday 19th September, the same two Candidates were passed to the second, square or Fellowcraft degree by the Office-bearers & Brethren of Lodge Nitshill, No.1478 in what was an excellent degree.

On that evening, Bro David Alexander Reid PPGMRE was affiliated into Lodge Union & Crown, with the obligation being administered by our Right Worshipful Master, Bro Robert Clark

Thereafter the Brethren retired to the Function Suite, where all enjoyed a fine Lodge Harmony, in each other's company.

Opened : 7.30pm

Lodge Closed : 9.42pm

Attendance : 58

100 CLUB

The fortunate winners of our cash prizes this month were :

5th September

£20 : **Bro Gordon Neil**

£10 : **Bro Ross Aitken SD**

19th September

£20 : **Bro Alex White**

£10 : **Bro Johnny Gauld PM**

Bro George McGrandles PM, our worthy Treasurer, is taking names for next year, which will commence immediately after our Annual Installation in November.

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



At the last Meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday 12th September 2023, the chapter held its Annual General Meeting with all Office-bearers nominated and elected for the forthcoming year.

The Annual Installation will be held on Tuesday 10th October at **7pm** (note the early start) with the Installing Principals on that evening being – MEC James Miller PZ and MEC James Renfrew PZ.

MEC Graham Manson MEZ Elect and his Companions extend a cordial invitation to all to attend on that evening.

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



The Big Breakfast

The ever-popular '**Big Breakfast**' is being held on **Saturday 28th October** from 9.30am till 12 Noon, in the Lodge Function Suite.

Tickets costing £5.00 are now available from Bro Ronnie Maclsaac PM (☎ 07718 828 061) or any Office-Bearer



Freemasonry in the White House

Bro 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 member of Federal Lodge No. 1, and its first Worshipful Master. He was present when the cornerstone was laid by Maryland Lodge No. 9 of Georgetown on October 13, 1792, with Masonic ceremony.

During President 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.

Dates for your Diary



Tuesday 3rd October Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where a MM Degree will be conferred by the Instruction Class

Monday 16th October Management Committee Meeting at 7.30pm

Tuesday 17th October The Annual Business Meeting of the Lodge

Tuesday 7th November Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where the dramatised '**Table of Scottish Freemasonry**' will be performed. This is an Open Night where non-freemasons can be invited to attend.

(In addition to the above, the R.W.M. and his Wardens are constantly involved in unofficial visits to sister Lodges. Details of which can be easily obtained by contacting Bobby Clark RWM or any senior Office-bearer,

They will be only too pleased to take you along with them as they represent the Lodge throughout the Province)

Meet the Candidates

Gregor Mullin	Gregor is 21 years old and currently lives with his parents in the Meikleriggs are of Paisley. He is of course the son of our Worthy Junior Deacon and works as a management trainee with Asda, currently based in Govan. As yet unattached, in his spare time he enjoys a game of golf at nearby Caldwell.
Callum Heirs	Callum is 22 and is the best friend of his co-candidate Gregor. He is 22 and also lives in the same area of Paisley. He is a Gas Installation Engineer and enjoys playing the guitar when he get a chance.



Did you Know ?

- That in 1789 when Dr Edward Jenner, discovered the vaccination process against smallpox, he was Worshipful Master of Faith & Friendship Lodge, No.270 at the time.
- That in 1799, Barton Lodge in Upper Canada accepted "*good merchantable wheat*" in payment of Lodge dues

BITS & PIECES

- Tickets for our Christmas Dance on Saturday 16th December are moving fast and you should contact our Social Convenor – Bro Lawrence Webb 📞 07736 780 132 as soon as possible
- Great to see that Bro Johnny Gauld PM is back on his feet again after recent surgery on his back.
- Our Worthy Treasurer has informed us that Test Fees are now due, and should be paid as soon as possible.
- Best Wishes to Bro Tom Mulholland PM who recently retired from his job with Chivas.
- Tickets for the forthcoming Lodge Installation Dinner on Saturday 25th November are now available from either of our Worshipful Wardens – Bro Stephen Scott and Bro Alan Izatt.
- It was good to see that one of our recent initiates – Bro Ross McLardy has managed to make both of our Regular Meetings. Bro Ross and his good lady Sophia have just moved into their new house in Cumbernauld.
- Our heartiest congratulations go to Bro Duncan McGregor PM of Lodge Nitshill who celebrates his 60th Birthday in November, the day before he installs the RWM in his Mother Lodge.
- Great to see Bro Danny Webster making it along to our recent Lodge Meeting. Bro Danny has been resident in Australia for over 20 years, but regularly returns to these shores every couple of years to visit family and always makes sure that he comes along to 307.
- It was good to see Bro Donald Murdoch making it along to the Lodge recently. Bro Donald hasn't been enjoying the best of health recently, and to compound matters, his wife June also had a spell in hospital herself.
- Our Editor Bro Jim Renfrew PM has changed his email address after many years and now can be reached via renfrew2022@gmail.com
- Quite a number of our Brethren have had recent spells in hospital, or have undergone minor surgery to correct various ailments. Thankfully the picture is becoming a bit better as each of them appear to be progressing well.
- We gather that Bro Alan Bernard has changed his job with the added bonus of being able to work a 'normal' working week after many years of shifts.
- Bro John McIntyre, who recently turned 71, tells us that he intends to keep working in his building business for quite a few years yet, although he is cutting back on working on roofs as the climbing of high ladders is finally getting to his knees !!
- It's good to see that our last four candidates have all been the young sons of some of our Brethren. For quite a number of years, this has not been the case with quite a number of 'Sons' not following their fathers in to the Craft.

(We continue our series of articles which trace the history of local Lodges. This month we move across to the 'New Town' of East Kilbride)

Lodge Kil Bryd, No.1667

The first meeting calling for the formation of a new Lodge was held in The Masonic Hall, Kittoch Street, East Kilbride on Thursday 17th February 1972, following an intimation in The East Kilbride News on the 10th February 1972. Fifty-two brethren attended the meeting and it was unanimously agreed by those present to proceed to form a new Masonic Lodge in the town. There then followed a further fourteen meetings prior to the 5th October 1972 when the various matters appertaining to the formation of a Lodge were discussed and among other matters it was agreed that the meetings would be held in The Masonic Hall, Kittoch Street (owned by Lodge St. Andrew No. 524) and that the meeting nights would be the first and third Thursdays of the months September to May inclusive and that the name of the Lodge would be Kil Bryd.



A charter was granted by The Grand Lodge of Scotland on the 3rd August 1972, with the number 1667.

Thus on Thursday 5th October 1972 in The Ballerup Hall, East Kilbride Lodge Kil Bryd No. 1667 (Sponsored by Lodge St. Andrew No. 524 and Lodge Douglas No. 1557) was erected and consecrated by The Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East headed by The Provincial Grand Master Brother Ralph Denholm and Brother Alexander Brown, Past Master of Lodge Nitshill No. 1478 was installed as the first Right Worshipful Master.

During his year in office 21 meetings were held and the Lodge welcomed into the Fraternity 29 Initiates and 9 Affiliates. The Lodge held its first Burn's Supper on the 19th January 1973 an event, which has been held every year since. The Lodge also took part in the Annual Joint Divine Service of the East Kilbride Lodges an event that continues to this day with each of the four Lodges in the town taking turns of hosting the event. A highlight of a very successful first year was the visit of a deputation from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East headed by the Provincial Grand Master Brother Ralph Denholm on the 31st May 1973 who conferred the MM Degree on five candidates.

On the 6th October 1973 Brother David McMinn was installed as RWM by The Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland Brother David Liddell Grainger. During his year in office 20 meetings were held and the Lodge welcomed into the fraternity 23 Initiates and 5 Affiliates. During his successful year the exchange visits between the Lodge and Thistle Lodge No. 62 Dumfries began and these visits have continued to the present day. It was also during this year that discussions took place with Lodge Douglas and The Royal Arch Lodge regarding the purchase and sharing of new Lodge premises. A charity ball run by the three Lodges in the town raised £200.00, which purchased five geriatric chairs for Hairmyres Hospital.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason, Brother David Liddell Grainger was made an Honorary Member of the Lodge and Brother Daniel Cowan a Founder Member and first Chaplain was presented with a Past Chaplain's apron for services to the Lodge.

In 1981, during Brother Robert Ross year as RWM, the Lodge submitted a planning application to East Kilbride District Council to build new Lodge premises on ground at Straitdykes, East Kilbride. Unfortunately, the following year the Lodge's application was turned down by the District Council, and an approach to another body was also unsuccessful. However the Lodge opened a Building Account Fund for the purchase of new premises in the future.

During 1996 the Lodge voted to accept an earlier offer from Lodge Douglas No. 1557 and moved to their hall with a view to becoming part owners in the future. So the Lodge left the Masonic

Hall, Kitch Street after 24 years having partly achieved what we always wanted, a hall of our own. The last regular meeting was held in Kitch Street on Thursday 16th May 1996 and the first meeting in Douglas Hall was held on Thursday 5th September 1996 when Lodge Douglas No. 1557 conferred the MMM Degree.

On the 4th October 2003 Brother William Sime was the first in the Lodge to be installed as RWM for the first of three consecutive years in a row and the only Master to carry out these duties for a fourth time in the Lodges history.

During 2007 This year saw a couple of rare occurrences happen, the first being 8 brethren being advanced to the rank of Master Mason in the one night by the Lodge Instruction class and the other being that of three Past Masters sons being initiated together. On this occasion the Provincial Grand Master Designate Bro David A. Reid was present and gave the new brethren an explanation on the varying attire, sashes, aprons worn by the Brethren within the Lodge.

During 2008 the Lodge received a plaque by a small Deputation from the Parachute Regiment Association in thanks for the Lodges continued support of this charity. Further highlights from this year were Bro Robert Cameron PM receiving Honorary Provincial Grand Rank of Sword Bearer for his services to Freemasonry, the donation of £500 to Yorkhill Children's Hospital.

The second was carried out by the Provincial Grand Master Bro John S. Miller titled 'The perfect No. 7'. During this occasion the Provincial Grand Master also presented PM Bro. James Ross with a certificate confirming that he had been awarded Honorary Grand Rank of Architect for his commitment to Lodge Kil Bryd and Freemasonry in general. The Brethren of Lodge Kil Bryd also presented Bro Jim with a jewel to mark this great achievement.

In 2012 the Lodge was also recognised by the PLGRE for having the highest retention rates of candidates in the Province and were invited to share any examples of good practice.

Bro John Stevenson PM was awarded Honorary Grand Standard Bearer which was marked by the Lodge with an Apron and Jewel.

With our 50th anniversary quickly approaching, a working party was set up to look into the arrangements for this occasion along with fund raising ideas etc.

2018-19. On the 6th October 2018 Brother David Bell was installed as RWM. During his year in office 17 meetings were held and the Lodge welcomed into the fraternity 4 Initiates with 4 brethren being advanced to the rank of Mark Master

Another milestone in the year was when we celebrated Bro Jackie Goldie PM achieving 60 years in the craft and when he received his diamond jubilee certificate at his adopted Lodge – Lodge Union 244. The Brethren of Lodge Kil Bryd also presented Bro Jackie with a special presentation bottle and glass on this occasion.

2019 started on a positive note with the news that Bro Scott Henderson PM was to receive Honorary Grand Rank of Sword Bearer for his services to Freemasonry

Post Covid on the 17th of September 2021 Bro John Turner reaching his 50th year in Freemasonry with the presentation of a 50 year diploma and anniversary Jewel.

With 2022 being the Lodge's 50th Anniversary, the Brethren have been making plans for some time to celebrate the occasion and on Saturday 3rd of September a 50th Anniversary meeting will take place with the Provincial Grand Master Bro Ronald E. Fraser PM 1688 and the Office Bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East conducting a Rededication Ceremony.

Having enjoyed a very successful collaboration between the three Lodges under the Douglas Masonic Trust this new four-member partnership has seen the Trust be renamed to The East Kilbride Masonic Trust and the Lodge is indebted to all the Brethren, past and present, who contributed to making this magnificent achievement happen. We all look forward to many more successful years together and working with each other in the future.



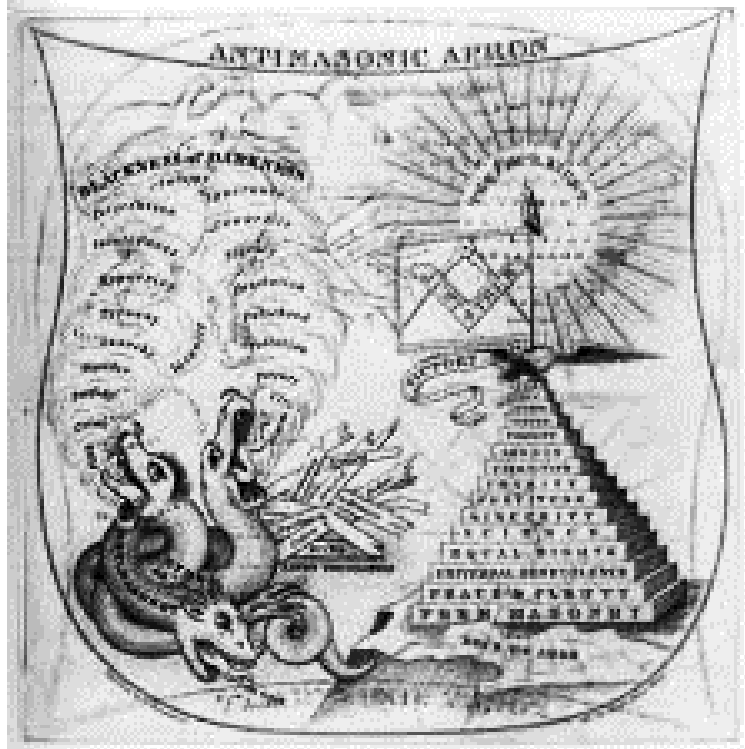
Anti-Masonic Apron

Have you ever heard of an "Anti-Masonic Apron?"

The aftermath of the set of events in 1826 known as the "Morgan Affair," was a trying time for our Masonic Fraternity. Feelings against the Masons became so intense it led to the formation of the first political third-party in the US, actually called the Anti-Masonic party. The Masons resisted the movement as best they could but anti-Masonic sentiment was intense.

One of the tools the Masons used to fight back was something called the "Anti-Masonic apron. It wasn't an apron per se, but a depiction of one in ads and flyers. Printed by William Cammeyer of Albany, New York during the 1832 presidential election campaign, the apron symbolically contrasts Masons and anti-Masons.

The left side of the apron shows a three-headed anti-Masonic hydra and the sandy foundation of the movement. The structure of anti-Masonry, shown collapsed in ruins, is built on broken planks of baseless fabrication and rottenness with associations to Benedict Arnold and even the likes of Judas. Spewing from the mouths of the serpentine hydra are the anti-Masonic traits of Vice, Perjury, Collusion, Slavery, Cowardice, Ignorance, Anarchy, Perfidy, Intolerance, and a host of other insipid characteristics billowing into a cloud called the "blackness of darkness."



Spewing from the mouths of the serpentine hydra are the anti-Masonic traits of Vice, Perjury, Collusion, Slavery, Cowardice, Ignorance, Anarchy, Perfidy, Intolerance, and a host of other insipid characteristics billowing into a cloud called the "blackness of darkness."

The apron's right side illustrates a stone pyramid of Freemasonry built on the Rock of Ages. The pyramid's steps include Universal Benevolence, Equal Rights, Science, Sincerity, Fortitude, Charity, Honor and other Masonic characteristics. An eagle of victory sits atop the pyramid and, above that a Just and True square and compasses and the beacon of Perfect Light.

It's difficult to gauge the effectiveness of the Anti-Masonic apron. In that 1832 election Andrew Jackson, former Grand Master of Kentucky, defeated Henry Clay, also a Freemason. William Wirt, the Anti-Masonic Party candidate, oddly, was also a Mason. He garnered only 3 electoral votes. Wirt's Anti-Masonic party dissolved eight years later, but the anti-Masonic sentiment of the Morgan Affair lingered on.

Perhaps one of the interesting aspects of the apron is that we can see, even as far back as the early 19th century, Freemasonry, as a whole, stood against slavery. It also promoted Equal Rights and Tolerance, subjects at the forefront today, nearly two centuries later.

(Editor's Note : *Next month we will be publishing the first of 4 parts about the 'Origins of Anti-Masonry' and the 'Morgan Affair')*

Lodge Union & Crown, No.307



Xmas Dance

**Saturday
16th December**

Tickets : £7.00

Available from :

Lawrence Webb (☎ 07736 780 132)



Dress : Smart Casual



FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 37 Years Ago

No. 97

September 1986

REGULAR MEETINGS :

On Tuesday 2nd September the following three Candidates were passed to the 2nd Degree by Lodge Nitshill, No.1478 :

DOUGLAS MILLER

EDWIN DAVIES

BILL SIMPSON

The deputation from Nitshill was somewhat depleted compared to normal standards, as their Lodge was still in recess at the time, but nevertheless a respectable number still managed to put in an appearance. As was expected, with this meeting being part of the Week of Celebrations, the attendance was good, the harmony was good and the entertainment was good.

Attendance : 188

On Tuesday 16th September, the same three Candidates were raised to the high & sublime degree of a M.M. by the Lodge Instruction Class. An excellent degree was carried out, with both Candidates and Brethren assembled suitably impressed.

At this meeting, Bro GEORGE FRANCIS was affiliated into the Lodge and we take this opportunity of wishing both Candidates and Affiliate every happiness in 307.

Attendance : 158

100 CLUB

2nd September : £10 - Ian McKenzie £5 - Hugh Blair £1 - A Little

16th September : Billy McGinlay A Smith J Shaw

Around the Town :

It is rumoured that the old Saunders & Connors premises in Cross Arthurlie Street/John Street may be turned into a small industrial estate by a local businessman.

We hear that yet another grocer's shop in the town is up for sale. Reason ? without doubt, the arrival of Finefare.

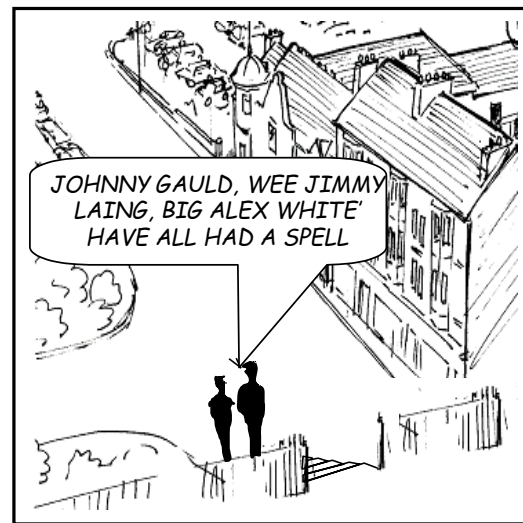
It is now common knowledge that Bro Ian McMahon has bought the Brig Inn.

We notice that the old premises of Arcade Glass in Cross Arthurlie Street are up for sale.

Gossip has it that Leggat's offices in Glasgow Road may be turned into a hotel.

Many of our elder readers will remember the "Cafe de Paris" as a haunt of their youth - or perhaps their courting days - where they were served hot peas and vinegar by the sisters Mary & Rose Capaldi. After lying vacant for some time we see it has now been refurbished completely and has opened as a cafe once more. It now has the rather more mundane title of "Station Cafe".

MARK N' ARCHIE



J RENFREW - SEP 2023

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

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