

# The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



February 2019

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*The Monthly Journal of Lodge Union & Crown, No.307*

No. 421



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Like many other lodges throughout the country, we in Union & Crown are no different in that we sometimes find it a little more difficult to attract Candidates willing to join our fraternity. Granted, we are not without Candidates, unlike many others who haven't had any Initiates for several years, but it can be a constant strain upon the Lodge in its efforts to ensure that we have enough, of sufficient quality, to meet the basic needs of the Lodge.

If you go back thirty years, it was not uncommon to find between ten and fifteen initiates joining 307 each year, and a backlog of others patiently waiting up to 18 months just to join !

It is accepted that these days are long gone, and that we are satisfied if we can attract a handful of Candidates each year, allowing us to put one or two through at a time.

We fully realise that Freemasonry probably doesn't do enough publicly to advance its own case in a modern world. After all, why should the young professional people of today even consider joining something, about which they know very little beforehand.

The surprising aspect of this for Union & Crown, is the low number of sons of our members we are managing to entice. There have been the odd one in recent times, but not many. We can all probably name a dozen or more sons of our members who may occasionally frequent the Lodge socially, but haven't taken the decisive step of applying for membership.

Perhaps their fathers aren't actually asking them about the possibility of join The Craft, something that in recent years has become much easier, with the lifting of the sanction upon the practice of asking Candidates. But it seems to us that we are failing to tap into a potentially large and lucrative source of Initiates, who could, and should have an appreciable amount of inside knowledge about what the Lodge stands for, and what it actually does.

It could be that fathers are genuinely reluctant to ask their sons, because they are fearful of a reaction that Freemasonry is old-fashioned and outdated to the younger eye. We would appeal to all, who have a son who is of age to join the lodge, to actively consider approaching them and asking would they consider joining the Lodge. However, we would counsel them to ensure that they arm themselves with at least have some of the answers to the questions they could well be asked about Freemasonry. They could well be pleasantly surprised with the answer they receive..



# Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

*Dear Sir & Brother,*

*The Right Worshipful Master, Bro Stewart Gray cordially requests your attendance at the forthcoming Meetings of the Lodge to be held within the*

*Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019*

*Business :*

*Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

*Visitation by the Provincial Grand Lodge of R.E.*

*Harmony*



*Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019*

*Business :*

*Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

*Fellowcraft Degree*

*Conferred by Lodge Thistle & Crown, No.1167*

*Harmony*

*Yours faithfully & fraternally*

*David McArthur P.M.*

*Lodge Secretary*

# Regular Meetings

A rescheduled meeting of the Lodge was held on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February, and after a short business meeting, the Brethren of the Lodge, and their invited guests retired to the Function Suite, where the lodge held its 195<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner.

A fine meal was enjoyed by all, with the guest speaker for the evening being Sheriff Lindsay Wood regaling all with his tales of the Sheriff Court and its characters.

At the same meeting, Bro Thomas McCrone R.W.M. of Lodge Randolph, and a Past Master of Lodge Griffin, Gartcosh No.1254 was obligated as an Honoray Member of the Lodge for his all his efforts and hard work for 307.

**Opened : 7-30 pm**

**Lodge Closed : 7.59 pm**

**Attendance : 45**



At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February, an excellent Entered Apprentice Degree was conferred on the following Candidate

## **CRAIG GRAHAM HAUGH**

by a deputation from our good friends, and near neighbours Lodge Nitshill. No. 1478, headed by their Right Worshipful Master, Bro David Allan. The ceremonial was greatly appreciated by all in attendance, before retiring to enjoy a spot of Lodge harmony.

**Opened : 7-30 pm**

**Lodge Closed : 9.32 pm**

**Attendance : 64**



## **100 CLUB**

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

**1<sup>st</sup> February £20 : Mrs Christine Miller & £10 : Bro Adam Watson**

**19<sup>th</sup> February £20 : Bro Jim Miller PM & £10 : Mrs Elaine Webb**

Names are still being taken for this year. The annual fee is still very good value at £10, & anyone interested should see George McGrandles PM, our Acting Treasurer.



# Dates for your Diary

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March** Regular Meeting of the Lodge where the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East will be making their Annual Visitation.

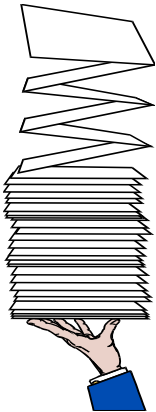
**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March** Games Night in the Lodge at 8pm. All Brethren and their families and friends are most welcome

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** Management Committee Meeting at 7-30pm.

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March** Regular Meeting of the Lodge where a FC Degree will be conferred by Lodge Thistle & Crown, no.1167

*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)*

## Paper Appeal



As ever, we are still looking for that essential commodity – PAPER.

As many of our readers will know we make regular appeals for A4 size, 80g/m<sup>2</sup> paper, preferably white but any colour will do. Without sufficient stocks, we simply cannot print enough copies of our journal to satisfy our wide-ranging readership. So if you have the odd ream lying about just let us know and we'll even arrange to have it picked-up if necessary.

In addition, we also need 160g/m<sup>2</sup> card for various tasks within the Lodge. Any colour will do.

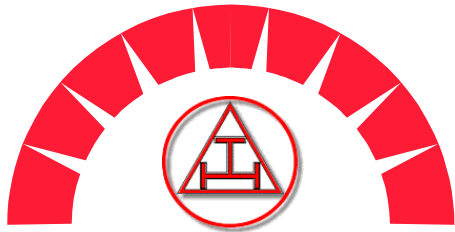


Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though chequered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat.

**Brother Theodore Roosevelt**

# BITS & PIECES

- We gather that the Senior Office-bearers are using 'WhatsApp' to communicate about visits and outings etc. How things have changed with the advent of Social Media etc. in the modern age.
- The very popular and extremely successful Lodge Burns Supper managed to raise £742 for Lodge Funds, in addition to being an excellent night where over 80 Brethren and their friends had a great evening
- Sorry to Hear that Bro Tom Wilson and his lovely wife Liz suffered a burst pipe in the flat above the Lodge recently.
- Aren't the new double-glazed windows in and around the Lodge looking superb.
- Bro Ronnie MacIsaac tells us that there are only a couple of places left for the annual Lodge Golf Outing on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June to Muckhart.
- Tickets for the 'Recess Dance' on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May are selling well with more than half of them already gone !! If you're interested, see Bro Jim Renfrew PM (☎ 07957 556689)
- Congratulations to Bro William Ramsay McGhee, Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason who recently returned to his Mother Lodge – Lodge St Barchan, No.156 to receive his 50 year certificate and jewel (Bro Ramsay is of course an Honorary Member of Union & Crown, No.307)
- It was good to see Bro Alex White making it along to a recent meeting.
- Great to hear that Bro Wilson Davidson PM is now home after a lengthy spell in hospital. We gather that he is enjoying being spoiled by the daily carers who are looking after him.
- Tickets costing £25 will soon be available for the Lodge's 'Sportsman's Dinner' which has been moved until **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October**. The speakers on that evening are Derek Ferguson and Frank McAvennie. Anyone interested should contact Bro Lawrence Webb on ☎ 07736 780 132 as soon as possible.
- Further to last month's 'Stop Press' Bro Iain Nicol's new Great Grandson is to be named Jackson.
- Hearty congratulations to Bro Adam Watson, and Bro Jimmy Laing who both celebrated their 80<sup>th</sup> birthday recently. Bro Adam and his wife headed out to the Cost del Sol to celebrate, whilst Bro Jimmy and his good lady Ann are heading for a cruise in the Canaries.
- We gather that the Lodge intends to purchase and install a defibrillator to be sited at the front of the Temple. Defibrillators are essential in greatly boosting the chances of survival of anyone who suffers a heart attack. It is intended to be used by our own Brethren and their guests, as well as members of the public.



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

At the regular meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019, the Companions of Rockmount RAC entertained the Provincial Grand Chapter of Renfrewshire, who were making their customary annual visit to the Chapter.

The deputation was headed by MEC Gordon Renfrew, Provincial Grand Superintendent, and he was well supported by a fine deputation of Provincial Office-bearers.

MEZ David Allan extends a cordial invitation to all Companions to attend the next meeting of the Chapter, where a Roral Arch Degree is scheduled for:

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7:30pm**

## **Royal Arch & Cryptic Council Syllabus**

### **Royal Arch Meetings**

Tuesday 9th Oct	<b>Installation</b>
Tuesday 13th Nov	<b>Regular (EM)</b>
Tuesday 11th Dec	<b>Regular (RA)</b>
<b>2 0 1 9</b>	
Tuesday 8th Jan	<b>Regular (EM)</b>
Tuesday 12th Feb	<b>Prov. Visit</b>
Tuesday 12th Mar	<b>Regular (RA)</b>
Tuesday 9th Apr	<b>Regular (EM)</b>
Tuesday 14th May	<b>Regular (RA)</b>
Tuesday 10th Sept	<b>A.G.M.</b>
Tuesday 8th Oct	<b>Installation</b>

### **Cryptic Council Meetings**

Tuesday 24th Sept	<b>A.G.M. &amp; Installation</b>
Tuesday 26th Nov	<b>Regular</b>
<b>2 0 1 9</b>	
Tuesday 21st Jan	<b>Regular</b>
Tuesday 12th Feb	<b>Prov. Visit</b>
Tuesday 26th Mar	<b>Regular</b>
Tuesday 24th Apr	<b>Regular</b>
Tuesday 24th Sept	<b>A.G.M. &amp; Installation</b>



## **The Power of Masonry**

"There were those who thought that the power of Masonry lay in her secrecy; some think so still, not knowing that its real power lies in

- the sanctity of its truth
- the simplicity of its faith
- the sweetness of its spirit, and
- its service to mankind,

and that if all its rites were made public today it would still hold the hearts of men."

**Brother Joseph Fort Newton**

# Rogues Gallery



Brother Tom McCrone, Right Worshipful Master of Lodge Randolph, on the evening he was inducted in to Lodge Union & Crown, No.307 as an Honorary Member.



Brother Stewart Gray Right Worshipful Master, at the installation of his eldest Brother William, as the Worshipful Master of Minster Lodge, No.4663 in York. He was accompanied by Bro Jim Renfrew PM and Bro Bobby Clark WSW

Bro Alvin McKnight of Spring Lodge, #1174 in Houston Texas, who gave the Civil War Enactment when the Brethren from Spring Lodge visited 307 in October 2017 was recently the recipient of the 'Golden Trowel Award' (the equivalent of 307's Bud Gauld Plate). In attendance on that evening was Bro Colin McLardy PM who is currently working in the Lone Star State.



# *Freemasonry is....*

Kindness in the home

Honesty in business

Courtesy in society

Fairness in work

Pity and concern toward the unfortunate

Resistance toward the wicked

Help for the weak

Trust in the strong

Forgiveness for the penitent

Love for one another - and above all-

Love for (your) God.

Freemasonry is many things

All of these and more

(But in a few words, Freemasonry is a way of life)

## *Food for Thought*

### **'Resignations from private lodges under Rule 183'**

London and many UGLE Provinces now operate a system of 'exit interviews' with the aim of ascertaining whether a resignation is owing to a general disillusionment with Freemasonry, or is related to the particular lodge of which he is a member. In the latter case it is often possible for the Metropolitan or Provincial authorities to find a more convenient or congenial lodge for the Brother to join so that his masonic career is not interrupted.

This is pretty interesting. The idea of an exit interview to ascertain why an employee is leaving a job is very common. However, have you ever heard it used in a Masonic context. We all know brothers that joined and left within a couple years, but have you ever heard of any lodge ask why.

# Famous Scottish Freemasons

*(Concluding our series of the Brethren portrayed in the Mural in our Function Suite, we turn this month to the Scot who was a pioneering Scottish Engineer who became known as 'The Father of the Modern Road')*

## Brother James Loudon McAdam (1756-1836)



John Loudon McAdam was born in Ayr in 1756. A member of a minor branch of Ayrshire nobility (his father James was Baron of Waterhead, and his mother Susanna, a niece of the Earl of Dundonald) He was the youngest of 10 children and the family moved to Lagwyne Castle. When this burned down they moved to Blairquhan Castle, in Ayrshire. John was educated at McDoick's School of Maybole until 1770 when, at the age of 14, his father's business, the Bank of Ayr, and the family fortune both collapsed, and his father died.

McAdam, was sent to live with his uncle, a wealthy merchant in New York. During the American Revolution, where he supported the loyalist side. He went on to make his own fortune at a very young age, becoming a successful merchant, part owner of the privateering ship "General Matthew", and a "prize agent": in effect selling goods and material captured during the war and taking a cut for doing so.

While in New York, he married Gloriana Nicoll. In 1783, he paid the price of supporting the losing side in the War of Independence, and had his assets seized before being put on a boat back to Scotland with his wife and two children. Back in Ayrshire, McAdam still had the means to buy an estate at Sauchrie near Maybole. Meanwhile, his close links with his relative, the Earl of Dundonald, gave him a business interest in an iron works.

He was initiated into Lodge Ayr Kilwinning, No.124 in 1789 and became a very committed Freemason, serving as Master of his Lodge on no less than 3 occasions.

John's interest in developing his estate caused him to study the way roads were constructed. At the time roads were either built from laid stones, and were simply abysmal. His work became more widely known and in 1798, he was asked to improve the road surfaces in Falmouth. He was appointed surveyor to the Bristol Turnpike Trust in 1815, and argued that building the road surface above the surrounding land ensuring good drainage, and using carefully graded and layers of crushed stone, bound together with fine gravel or slag, roads could be made very much durable than before. They were also cheaper and easier to maintain once built. This method represented the greatest advance in road construction since Roman times and became known as "macadamisation", or just "macadam".

By the early 1820s, some 70 turnpike trusts across the country were using McAdam as a consultant. In 1823 Parliament mounted an enquiry into the state of roads across the country, which were generally perceived to be falling short of the needs of a rapidly industrialising nation. McAdam was appointed as Surveyor General of Metropolitan Roads across Britain, where his methods became widely used, before also spreading to America and Europe.

Except for the later addition of a layer of tar to bind the road surface's stones together (a process known as Tar Macadam or "Tarmac"), McAdam's basic techniques remain in use by road builders today.

McAdam died at the age of nearly 80 on 26 November 1836, and was buried in Moffat Cemetery.

## Did you know ???

- That you can still participate in the '200 for 200' scheme being offered by the Lodge's Bi-centenary Committee? A single payment of £200 (which can be paid up over the next 5 years if necessary) will secure a range of 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary benefits including Tickets, Jewels, Books etc. Apparently, almost 40 Brethren have already enrolled, and anyone interested should be Bro Robert Scott WJW as soon as possible.
- That Bro Jim Renfrew PM is appealing for donations of Wine for the forthcoming 'Cairn Celebrations' in May. He hopes to gather in 50 bottles of wine (both red & white) which will become part of the hospitality offered to all those attending the Ceremony, and subsequent Dinner attended by Grand Lodge.
- That 16 Brethren, many of whom are already Life Members of the Lodge, make regular monthly contributions to the Lodge by Standing Order. Enough to bring a smile to the face of our Treasurer !!
- In recognition of the \$25 million gift made by Minnesota Masonic Charities, the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital will now be named the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital. When adding the Masonic Charities' donation to \$75 million it gave to support cancer research and care since 2008 and additional gifts it made over the past six decades, the Masons' total support of the university tops \$125 million.

## *The Craft and the Law*

- In *Hammer versus The State of Indiana* in 1909, the Supreme Court ruled that it was a criminal offense to wear the emblem of any society or organization of which one is not a member. The court based its decision on the fact that the membership in such societies is the result of fitness and selection and that the wearing of such emblems by non-members is a deceit and false pretense.
- In *Robinson versus Yates City Lodge, 86, Illinois* in 1877, a court ruled that an expelled Mason was not entitled to the return of his degree fees. The court held that the plaintiff voluntarily paid the fees and the expulsion under the provisions of the rules of the organization does not constitute the rescission of a contract under which the fees were paid.
- *Massachusetts' Bristol Lodge, established in 1797*, that: "No liquor shall be brought into the lodge, except by order of the Worshipful Master. Fighting is forbidden during the opening, or with 30 minutes of the closing of the lodge."

# FLASHBACK

## Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 36 Years Ago

No.162

February 1983

### REGULAR MEETINGS

At the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday 1st February, the following two Candidates :

**KENNETH JUNNER**

**HUGH GRAHAM Jun**

received the Fellow Craft Degree. The proceedings were in the capable hands of a team from Lodge Thistle & Crown No.1167, Neilston who were the visitors for the evening.

We have come to expect that the degree work of our friends from Neilston will attain a high standard and once again we were not disappointed, the performance was well nigh perfect.

Lodge Opened : 7-30pm

Lodge Closed : 9-35pm

Attendance : 193

The same two Candidates were raised to the M.M. degree at the meeting on February 15th by a team provided by our own Instruction Class. We have often commented very favourably on the unfailing degree of competence provided by the Instruction Class and once again they proved their worth with an almost flawless rendering of this degree,

Lodge Opened : 7-35pm

Lodge Closed : 9-50pm

Attendance : 180

### 100 CLUB

The lucky winners for February are :

£10-00 - Robert Dunlop, J Rice

£3-00 - Peter Cameron, Roy Dinning

£1-00 - Jack Gauld, Stuart Gillan Jun.

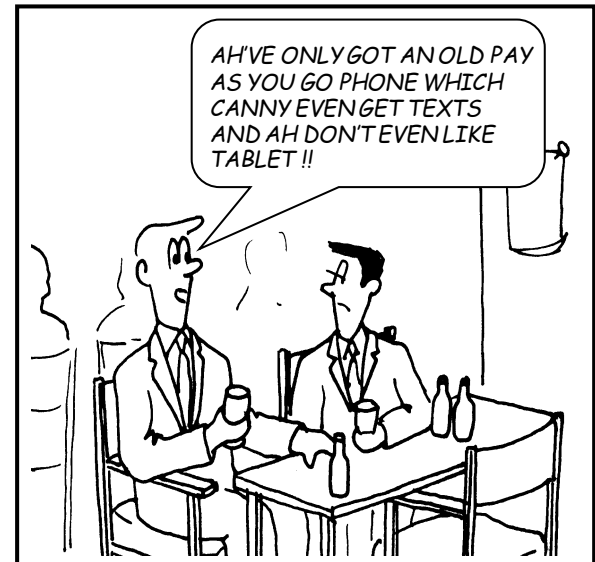
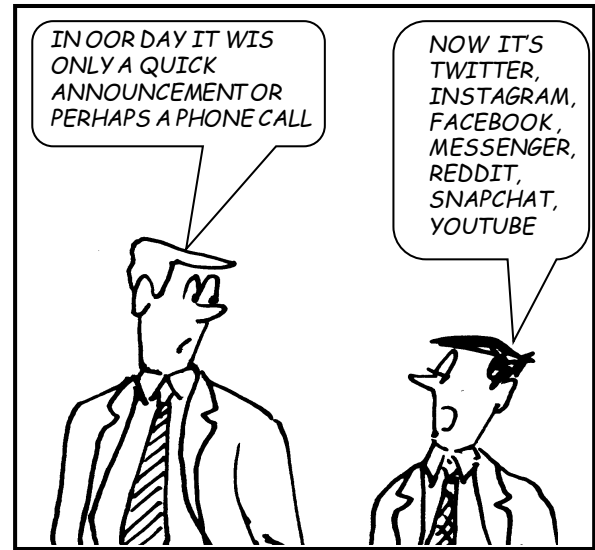
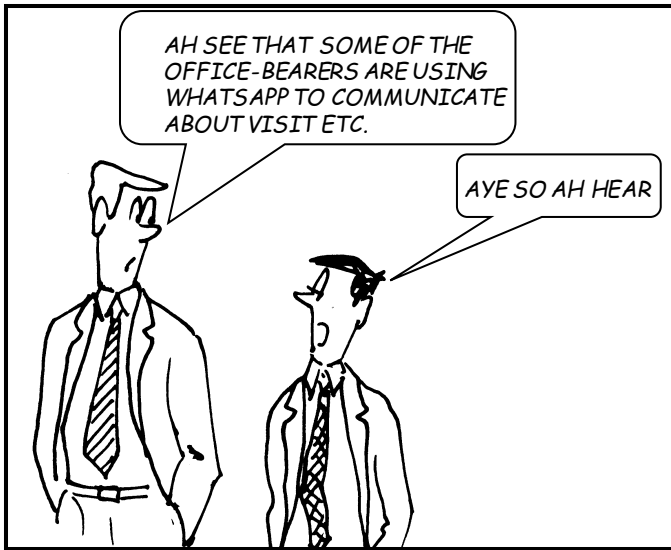
### LODGE GOSSIP

Congratulations to Bro Brian Morton I.P.M. who has been made Proxy Senior Warden of Lodge Thomas Gardener, No.762 in Transvaal, Orange Free State & Northern Cape.

We are delighted to tell you that Bro Gordon Wright has taken over as Secretary of the N.E.C. Charities Committee. He is the 4th member of 307 to hold this position and has replaced Bro Ian McFarlane who is kept busy with his duties within his Mother Lodge.

We are glad to hear that Bro Eddie Glasper has finally got his Hackney Carriage licence and now has his own taxi on the road. We wish him all success.

# MARK N' ARCHIE



J RENFREW FEBRUARY 19

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

**Brother Jim Renfrew P.M.**

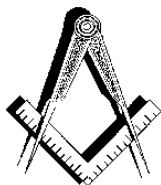
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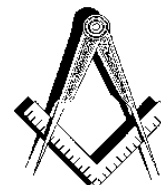
" With grateful thanks to all those who gladly gave their assistance "

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



# Syllabus 2019

(\* Denotes an Official Visitation)



## March 2019

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March

Visitation by PGLRE

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March

FC Lodge Thistle & Crown, No.1167

## April 2019

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

MM Lodge Instruction Class

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April

Dramatised Degree - 'Burns vs Kipling'

## May 2019

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May

EA Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426

\* *Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May*

*FC At Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426*

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May

Dramatised 'PoW Degree'

## September 2019

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

FC Lodge Thistle & Rose, No.169

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September

MM Lodge Instruction Class

## October 2019

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October

DMM Lodge Instruction Class

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October

Lodge AGM