

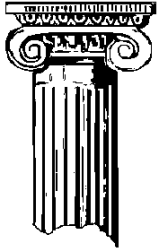
The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union & Crown No.307



Issue No. 373

April 2014

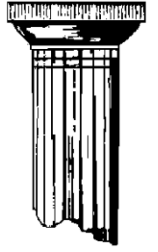


Issue No. 373

The Mallet



Editorial



April 2014

Often it has been said, and without doubt it will continued to be repeated in Lodges the length and breadth of the country, that "*Visitors are the Lifeblood of Freemasonry*". How dull and comparatively lifeless our Regular Meetings would become if they were filled with nothing but our own Brethren, the same familiar faces, month after month. How uninteresting the Craft would suddenly appear too many of us if we could no longer sample the delights of visiting a Sister Lodge, laying the foundations of friendship with newly-acquainted Brethren while cementing existing ones with old friends.

Whilst many of us have good friends amongst our own Brethren, how many of us have maintained good, lasting friendships with others from further afield?

We, in Union & Crown, have always been extremely fortunate in the high number of visitors we receive. Normally, we can count upon somewhere in the region of at least fifteen to twenty visiting Brethren at each and every regular meeting. For this we have always been, and will continue to be eternally grateful and whilst, the reasons for the high turnout at our meetings are many, it would be nice to think it is in part a result of the visits our own Brethren make to other Sister Lodges throughout the province of Renfrewshire East and far beyond.

On these visits we are more often than not greeted with a warm word and a friendly grasp by the hosts, even if they don't actually know us that well. This is in itself reassuring and at times undoubtedly makes the whole thing well worthwhile, and there is no worse experience in Freemasonry than being embarrassingly left on your own, isolated and largely ignored, during a recess or at the close of a meeting as the Brethren of that lodge keep to their own company.

It is a sad reflection on the times, and could be so easily avoided with a friendly hello and brief introduction. A quick handshake and the simple greeting of "Thanks for coming" have over the years proven to be the best means of ensuring that a strange face doesn't go away disappointed - never to return.

Hugh Cattigan P.M. Editor.

MASTER of LODGE

Brethren,

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

Tuesday 6th May 2014

7:30pm

Business meeting
followed by



A Dramatised Degree by the brethren of Lodge Union and Crown No.307 depicting the activities of Freemasons during wartime captivity.



Thursday 8th May 2014

7:30pm

Official visit to

LODGE HOUSTON ST JOHNSTONE No. 242

M.T. 11 Collier Street, Johnstone PA5 8AR

When the Brethren of Lodge Union & Crown No. 307 will confer a:

FC DEGREE



100 CLUB

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

Tuesday 1st April

£10:

Bro. Alan Bernard

£5:

Bro. James Renfrew PM

Tuesday 14th April

£10:

Bro. Kenny Williamson

£5:

Bro. Robert McCulloch



Regular Meetings

A regular meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday 1ST April 2014 and following the business side of the evening a MM Degree was conferred on our candidate:

FRASER BEATTS

by the Lodge instruction class in what was an excellent, spirited and well executed ceremonial.

The usual harmony followed with the brethren enjoying a spot of relaxation following the labours of the evening with Bro. Fraser working hard to sell raffle tickets in what is a traditional duty of a new Brother.

Lodge Opened - 07:30pm Lodge Closed - 09:24 pm Attendance - 72



At the regular meeting of 14th April 2014 and following the business of the evening the following candidate was initiated into the mysteries and privileges of our order by our good friends from Lodge Houston St Johnstone No. 242:

ROBERT McGREGOR SMYLIE

In what was a very good EA Degree by the brethren of Lodge Houston St Johnstone No. 242 and making a welcome return to 307, their work was appreciated by all in attendance.

Following the meeting the brethren gathered in the function suite to enjoy a spirited harmony.

Lodge Opened - 07:30pm Lodge Closed – 09:16pm Attendance – 57



ROD STEWART

TRIBUTE ACT

SATURDAY 24TH MAY

Ticket price: £8

Bob Wyper is firmly established as a top performer in the "Tribute World", and now rubs shoulders with the cream of the top tribute acts in the UK.

If interested in attending what should be a great night there are still a handful of tickets left.

For tickets and or further details contact Bro. Lawrence Webb (Tel: 0141-571 4330).



Rockmount R.A.C. No. 367



At the regular meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday the 8th April 2014 the following Brother:

Ian McGregor Gunning

a MM of Lodge Eaglesham No. 1265 and a MMM of the same Lodge along with Companion:

George Christie

a MM of Lodge Thistle & Crown No. 1167 and also a MMM of Lodge Thistle & Crown received a fine Mark Affiliate and Excellent Masters Degree from the Companions of Rockmount RAC.

Following this C. George Christie, who now lives in England and is a member Liverpool and Epworth R.A.C. No. 5381 under the English Constitution was also accepted for affiliation to Rockmount R.A.C. No. 367.

While the numbers in attendance were disappointing, in part due to Companions being involved with their 'Blue' Lodges, that cannot take away from the excellent work done by the Companions taking part in the degree who are to be congratulated on work very well done.

The next Regular Meeting of the Chapter is scheduled for:

Tuesday 13th May at 7:30pm

When a Royal Arch Degree will be conferred by the Office Bearers and Companions of Rockmount RAC. This will also be our final meeting prior to the summer recess.

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

Rockmount Cryptic Council

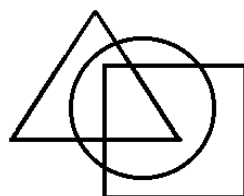
At the Regular meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday 22nd April 2014:

Gordon Edward Hay

a Companion of Rockmount R.A.C. was accepted as a candidate and initiated into Rockmount Cryptic Council in what was a fine display of the Cryptic rite.

T.I.M David Bannerman and his Office Bearers wished all the Companions a restfull summer and as this is the last meeting before the recess invited us to attend the next regular meeting of Rockmount Cryptic Council No. 367 which will also be the A.G.M. and Installation.

Tuesday 23rd September 2014



OTHER ROYAL ARCH NEWS

The half-yearly Convocation of the Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Renfrewshire will be held in the premises of Lodge Union and Crown No. 307, Cochrane Street, Barrhead on:

Thursday 22nd May 2014 at 07:30pm.

The Grand Superintendent, MEC Robert McCulloch, would like to see all the Chapters well represented on the night.

Strathearn Bowling Competition

The Strathearn bowling competition, played for between the Chapters of Renfrewshire will take place this year on:

Sunday 25th May (01:00 for 01:30pm)

**Barrhead Bowling Club
Carlibar Road, Barrhead, G78 1BD**

Even if you're not a bowler, why not pencil this into your diary for an enjoyable day out among friends and support the Chapters.



The new doors into the function suite, made even better with the smoked glass design, along with the mirrored panels, really give the downstairs part of the lodge a great new look.

Up and Coming Events within the Province of Renfrewshire East over the next few month's include:-

Sportsmans Dinner
6th June
Lodge Georgetown
cost £25

PGL EDUCATION DINNER
11th June
Lodge Prince of Wales
cost £15
(Grand Master Mason will attend)

PGL Curry Night
26th June
Busby Masonic
cost £10

PGL Lunch
20th September
Lodge Union & Crown
cost £15

And elsewhere...

The PGL of Glasgow is celebrating its 275th birthday this year and those celebrations include a day trip on the *Waverley*.

Renfrewshire East has been allocated a limited number of tickets for this Waverley Trip on Saturday 21st June and these tickets will be available on a "first come, first served basis." **Cost is £25 per ticket.**

World at War 1914 - 1918

Last month's edition of the Mallet contained a short article about World War 1 and in particular, the memorial plaque behind the Right Worshipful Masters chair in the East of the Lodge.

This got me to thinking that while there are many opinions ranging about how and when, as a Nation, the Centenary of WW1 is to be commemorated, if at all. Some would have it celebrated with fireworks and parades whilst others wish it marked with solemn memorials, some would even rather it be consigned to history... I'll leave that to cleverer minds than mine.

What I have decided to do is that through 2014-2019 I will publish in the Mallet facts taken from the corresponding date 100 years ago. For example , the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand on 28th June 1914 would appear in the corresponding June 2014 edition of the Mallet (actually the 'Summer 2014' edition Ed.).

To this end, and to do the work, I have roped in the help of Past Master Robert Miller (He'll do anything for a half-pint Shandy). I would also like you, the reader, to be involved... If you have any anecdotal or family stories for the same period especially relating to Barrhead we'd love to hear them from you.

Anyway, as a prequel to this series here's a bit of a background from Bro. Robert.

"The Great War"



My first encounter with anything to do with WW1 was seeing two big 'pennies' at my Gran and Papa's house in Barrhead. To me and my brother they were just coins that no one ever tried to spend. In fact they were The Next of Kin Memorial Plaques.

These plaques were given to families who had lost loved ones in WW1, "The Great War".

The plaques at my Grans were for her two Brothers, both who had lost their lives in service for their country.

They were two of nearly 9.7 million soldiers, sailors and airmen who died in the conflict. The war to end all wars? History has shown that was not to be the case. In these articles I'll try to let you get a feel not only for the battles, but also about what was going on at home during the war.

Great Britain declared war on Germany on 4th September 1914. It followed a series of failed diplomatic moves following the death of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo on the 28th of June. Looking back, it seems that the conflict was almost inevitable. The Austro-Hungarian Empire and Germany had expansion designs. Britain and France were the Imperial Giants. Something had to give. The other protagonist, Russia was still a very underdeveloped country, with limited resources.

Her involvement increased the pressure on the Czar, and in 1916 the Romanovs were deposed during the Russian revolution.

Strange to think that the Czar, Kaiser and King were cousins! Perhaps this was the best advert ever for the people in their countries to rule themselves!

The Daily Mirror reported the news, this was in the days before TV or radio, it reported the details leading up to the declaration. It also reported the Kings Message rallying the Empire

Calm and United Home



King George V

The King has sent the following message to his Colonies: "I desire to express to my people of the overseas dominions with what appreciation and pride I have received the messages from their respective Governments during the last few days. These spontaneous assurances of their fullest support recall to me the generous, self-sacrificing help given by them in the past to the mother country. I shall be strengthened in the discharge of the great responsibility which rests upon me by the confident belief that in this time of trial my Empire will stand united, calm and resolute, trusting in God".

The people reacted with enthusiasm, believing it would be a short war with victory inevitable. Four years later, they all knew the horror and reality.



HITTING THE RIGHT NOTES

The brand new PGLRE choir held its first rehearsal at the weekend in the premises of Lodge Union and Crown No.307.

A group of would-be choir members from across the Province turned out to give their vocal cords some exercise.

The inspiration behind the choir is Bro. Razvan Luculesu – a professional musician and accomplished choir master – who is a member of Lodge St. John Busby No.458. Bro. Razvan was born in Romania and studied music at the Universitatea Nationala de Muzica in Burcharest where he specialised in orchestral and choral conducting and has experience in conducting some of the top orchestras all over Europe.

He moved to Scotland in 2010 in order to further his musical career and is currently Musical Director at Milngavie Choir, Accompanist at Strathaven Choral Society and Organist and Choir Director at Busby Parish Church.

Bro. Razvan's offer to help set up a Masonic Choir within the Province was met with great enthusiasm and soon attracted interest. After the weekend session Bro. Razvan said: "There is obviously a lot of musical talent in the Province and the makings of an excellent choir. However, we would welcome other Brethren to join us."

Bro. Ken Stein, PG Steward (Extract from Bro. Ken's blog which is available via PGL website).



For the first time ever, Caledonian Cowboy (Who was that masked man? Ed.) held two back-to-back 'Wee Jock's Big Braw Scottish Nites' for a charitable cause here at the Lodge.

This time it was in aid of the homeless charity Shelter Scotland and raised a magnificent £1200

With regales, tales and entertainment that n'er fails, everyone once again rocked the Jock's socks off over the course of 2 SOLD OUT evenings.

Marriage is a relationship where one person is always right and the other is the husband



Bro. Adam G. Watson continues to take names for "bricks"

Each panel 'Brick' costs only £20, just contact Bro. Adam, give him the details you want displayed on the 'brick' (e.g. "name and Lodge number") along with your £20 and that's it.

The Masonic Education Programme being developed by the Province of Renfrewshire East took centre stage at a special Seminar hosted by Grand Lodge in Edinburgh on Saturday, 29th March.

Over 180 representatives from Grand Lodge and Provinces from all over Scotland attended the meeting designed to showcase the ground-breaking scheme – already underway in Renfrewshire East – featuring the training of Intenders to help educate and encourage Brethren in the ways of the Craft.

The Deputation from PGLRE, headed by RWPGM Bro. John S. Miller, was welcomed to Grand Lodge by the Grand Master Mason Bro. Charles Iain R. Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont.

The PGM then introduced the team taking part in the Seminar: SPGM Bro. Dr. Iain McPhee, PG Assistant Secretary Bro. Alan Graham and Bro. David McArthur, RWM Lodge Union & Crown No.307.

The main objectives of the scheme are to create lodge-based Intenders to assist with retention of new Masons and the progression of Office Bearers through the various lodge offices. The old Scottish term "intender" was used in the Schaw Statutes of 1598 to describe a brother who carried out mentoring duties back in the 16th Century.

The Grand Master Mason said he was delighted at the initiative undertaken in Renfrewshire East and at the interest shown in the Intender training programme from Provinces all over Scotland.

Summer Fayre

Saturday 7th June



As well as a fun day out, it is also a great opportunity for a social occasion with many wives, partners, families and friends joining the brethren in both the tearoom and bar as the day progresses.

It is also important however to remember this afternoon is without doubt one of the most important fundraisers of the year because with the lodge in recess, income is severely limited and bills still need to be paid.

It is vital therefore that the Summer Fayre is a success and that as many brethren as possible contribute in even the smallest way. Perhaps by handing in a prize, some old books, bric-a-brac (not old broken electrical equipment or VHS tapes!) and more importantly by turning up and participating on the day...

Of course we are only too aware of holidays, bowling, caravans and all the other distractions the summer brings but it cannot be emphasised strongly enough how important a good Summer Fayre can be to the Lodge.

Our worthy Wardens, Bro's Ian Blair and George McGrandles are looking for all sorts of help in making this year's Fayre the best ever.., If you have an idea for running a stall, happy to just help man a stall or even working behind the scenes in the bar, the kitchen and/or decorating the premises (and clearing up) just approach them or any member of management.



The usual stalls will be there and the Right Worshipful Master Bro. David McArthur hopes this will be a successful day and appeals for a good attendance.



LODGE GOLF OUTING
2014
MOFFAT GOLF CLUB



Bro Lawrence Webb, Golf Convenor would like to remind the brethren this year's annual golf outing is taking place in Moffat on Saturday 14th June 2014. Anyone interested should contact Bro Lawrence on 0141-571 4330.

We hear that couple of spaces have opened up on the main list and that any Bro. still interested in going should contact Bro. Lawrence as soon as possible.



You know that there is a problem with the education system when you realize that out of the *Three R's* only one begins with an 'R'.



It is with profound sadness I intimate the passing of Past Master Bro. Willie Love on Sunday the 30th March 2014 at the Royal Alexandra Hospital (R.A.H.), Paisley.

Bro Willie had suffered during the past year from a health problem which sadly contributed to his personal worry and consternation. During this period, I visited Bro. Willie at his home in Barrhead and also whilst in hospital both as Lodge Almoner and as friend making every endeavour to raise his spirits and find some form of good cheer, hopefully at times with some measure of success.

I have also visited at the home of his daughter, Jane, and expressed deep sympathy on behalf of the Lodge. I was informed by the family that when funeral services were arranged the family requested privacy and that wish was adhered to.

Past Master, Bro. Willie Love was one of life's gentlemen, a good man and mason, and will be sorely missed by both family and friends.

During the past month I have endeavoured, as always, to carry out the duties of Lodge almoner. I have visited Mrs Grace Smith at the R.A.H.

I have also visited the following:-

Bro. Jim Waterston (Home)

Bro. Jim Liggat (Home)

Bro. Davie Provan (Millview Care Home)

Bro. Robert Spiers (Norwood Care Home)

Bro. James McKenzie Allan (home)

Bro. Jack Brown (PM 1167/Norwood Care Home)

Mrs Betty Campbell (Home)

Mrs Netta Miller (Westlea Care Home)

Mrs Margaret McLellan (Home)

Mrs Jessie Miller (Home)

Mrs Liz Kavanagh (Westlea Care Home)

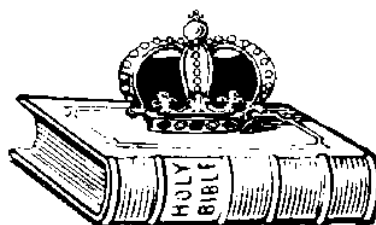
Mrs Isabel Heron (home, on discharge from hospital)

Brethren, please take note, while some home visits may seem, at times, repetitive they are always carried out in true masonic spirit to the gladness of all Brethren/Widows concerned.

Can I take a moment to express a "Thank you" to Bro. Alistair Yarwood, Almoner of Lodge Prince of Wales No. 426 for assistance given to me by him over the past weeks "Take care Bro. Almoner"...

Brethren, I, your Worthy Almoner, await your call to aid and help you all, no matter what... I wish you all well.

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





FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from the Mallet of 30 Years Ago



Issue No. 74

April 1984

RWM Bro. Douglas Junner

At the Regular Meeting on Tuesday 3rd April 1984 the following three Candidates:

James Armstrong, Gilbert Gault and Eric Gray Jnr

had the Fellowcraft degree conferred upon them by a team from our own Instruction Class.

As has now come to be expected the floor work was up to the usual extremely high standard however, special mention must be made of the debut as a degree worker of Bro Willie Mulholland. Willie who is a noted Burns exponent delivered the Lecture in his own inimitable style with a most expressive turn of phrase which was a revelation coming from a first-timer. We sincerely hope we will see more of Willie in the future.

Lodge Opened : 7.30pm

Lodge Closed : 9.25pm

Attendance : 142

The Regular Meeting on Tuesday 17th April 1984 saw the long-awaited fraternal visitation of our friends of Lodge St John, Busby, No.458.

An obviously well practiced team, our visitors conferred the Master Mason Degree on the aforementioned three candidates, who must have been much impressed by the dignified and clear manner in which the degree was presented.

Lodge Opened : 7.30pm

Lodge Closed : 10.15pm

Attendance : 152

We hear that General Office Aids, which is at the corner of George St & Cross Arthurlie St is closing down. They are proposing to move from Barrhead to smaller premises

We also hear that one of our members may be involved in the alterations to the old pawn shop in Cross Arthurlie St. The café owner, Tony Crolla, has bought the premises to convert them into a carry-out restaurant and dwelling house.

We notice the late P.M. Bob Ferguson's shop in the Main Street is available for letting.

We notice that Bud is the latest member of 307 to join the Order of St John.

We hear that Bro Jim Nicol 307 & PM of St Andrew, No.524 who has taken early retirement from his own business, is now Managing Director of an engineering firm in East Kilbride.

Congratulations to Bro Joe Roberts PM, SPGM on being granted honorary membership of Lodge Rutherglen R.A. No.116. We are also pleased to tell you that his daughter Anne, who was 21 in January, has now become engaged to be married.



Humour



Well, after Houston St Johnstone on the 8th May, that's all
The Lodge visitations complete for the first part of this year...
I feel a recess coming on! Some folk cannae get enough though.

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



Syllabus 2013-2014

* - Denotes an Official visit



May 2014

Tuesday	06 th	07:30pm	Dramatisation	"NEW" - Prisoners of War
*Thursday	08 th	07:30pm	FC Degree.	At Lodge Houston St Johnstone No. 242

RECESS

September 2014

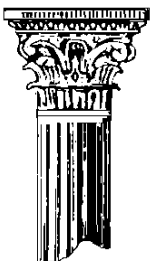
Tuesday	02 nd	07:30pm	FC Degree	By Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426
Tuesday	16 th	07:30pm	MM Degree	By the Lodge Instruction Class

October 2014

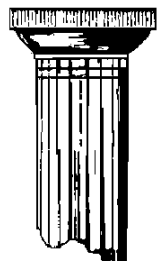
Friday	10 th	07:30pm	Open night ~ Drama, <i>The Table of Scottish Freemasons</i>
Tuesday	21 st	07:30pm	Annual General Meeting

November 2014

Tuesday	04 th	07:30pm	MMDegree	Dramatisation
Tuesday	18 th	07:30pm	MMM Degree	By Bro. Paul Stewart IPM
Saturday	22 nd	04:00pm	Installation	2014-2015



OFFICE BEARERS 2013 - 2014



RWM	David McArthur
WSW	Ian Blair
WJW	George McGrandles
IPM	Paul Stewart IPM
Depute Master	William H. Gauld PM
Substitute Master	Alan Bernard
Secretary	Thomas Mulholland PM
Treasurer	James Kerr PM
Almoner	Alexander White
Senior Deacon	Christopher Baillie
Junior Deacon	Kenneth Beatts
Inner Guard	Nicol Hynd
Senior Chaplain	Ronald McIsaac
Junior Chaplain	Alan Ross
Director of Ceremonies	Kenneth Coleman PM
Architect	John Robertson
Jeweler	Tommy Wilson
Bible bearer	Steven Ross
Director of Music	Lawrence Webb
Organist	Sam Wilson
Marshall	Adam Watson
Standard bearer	James Cherry
President of Stewards	Evans Reid PM
Steward	Davie Barr
Tyler	Jimmy Laing

