

The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



May/June 2019

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No. 424



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As a brother of Lodge Union & Crown, No.307, one cannot help but feel a prevailing genuine sense of well-being as you go about your duties. Without attempting to be too cocky or boastful, we must be all reasonably content with our lot in recent times, with much to bring a smile to our faces.

The lodge is looking absolutely great, with most of the premises having been totally refurbished over the last few years, and several excellent initiatives adding a 'touch of class' to our Temple. Whilst we may not have some of the more antique and sophisticated surroundings enjoyed by the older, more established Lodges whose temples date back to the eighteenth century, what we do have is a Temple which is both stylish and functional. Able to meet the needs of a modern Lodge, without losing sight of the history of our Lodge, nor embracing aspects which could be looked upon as flashy and ostentatious. Our Lodgeroom certainly looks the parts, and anyone sitting in the sumptuous new seating will have a fine view of proceedings, whilst still sitting comfortably.

The new windows throughout blend in well with their surroundings, especially at the front of the building, where it is difficult to remain functional and weather-tight and still meet the restraints of a 'Listed Building'. The Management Committee took considerable care and thought before going ahead with the project, and spending a substantial sum of the Lodge's funds and I believe that everyone will agree that it was worth every bit of time, cash and effort to achieve an excellent result.

Downstairs it is a similar tale, with refurbished toilets, bar facilities and lighting making our Social Club a delight to visit, and this is adequately reflected in the number of outside lets and functions which want to come along and use the comfortable surroundings. When you add that we are the cheapest bar prices in the town, you can clearly see that we have a winning formula, even in the difficult economic circumstances in which we find ourselves.

Some cynics may suggest that it was the generous bequest the Lodge received a couple of years ago, which brought the new-found prosperity to the Lodge. Nothing could be further from the truth, as the Lodge looked to the future when it received Bro Duncan Birse's generous legacy and this has been wisely invested to ensure there is a financial future for the Lodge. What we have achieved in recent times is the direct result of careful planning, good fundraising and a lot of hard work.

So enjoy the good ambience of the Lodge, but be ready to step forward and do what you can the next time there's something your Lodge needs from you.

Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 7th May, a fine Entered Apprentice Degree was conferred on the following Candidates :

Ross Aitken

Edward Mullan

by the Office-bearers and Brethren of Stivenstone, Thistle and Rose, No. 169 All cannot fail to have been impressed by the extremely high standard set by Bro Steven Forster R.W.M., who played a major part, and his Brethren from Ayrshire.

Opened : 7-30 pm

Lodge Closed : 9.23 pm

Attendance : 75



At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 21st May , the Brethren of the Lodge came together to carry-out the popular 'Prisoner of War' dramatization before a large attendance of our own Brethren and our many visitors.

Again, all were most impressed by this curious mixture of humour and seriousness, where a group of Brethren found themselves incarcerated during the Second World War.

Opened : 7-30 pm

Lodge Closed : 9.14 pm

Attendance : 152



100 CLUB

The fortunate winners of our cash prizes were :

7th May £20 : **Bro Robert Miller PM** & £10 : **Bro Jim Cherry**

21st May £20 : **Bro Paul Stewart PM** & £10 : **Bro Gordon Neil**

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.



Widow's Lunch

The annual Widow's Lunch was held in the Function Suite on Friday 14th June, with 70 of the 'Ladies of the Lodge' in attendance.

A wonderful day was enjoyed by all with an excellent meal and good entertainment, and the gratitude of the Lodge must go to those who contributed to a great day.

Cairn Dedication Ceremony & Dinner

Although Saturday 25th May dawned overcast with the forecast of shower later in the day, it did little to dampen the enthusiasm of the Brethren of the Lodge who were putting together the final touches for what was expected to be an exciting day for the entire Lodge. Whilst much had been done in the weeks before, many were involved in ensuring that an important day in the history of Union & Crown would go off without a hitch.

The Lodgeroom itself was pristine, with the Function Suite downstairs spotlessly laid out to receive the many Brethren invited to attend. The Lodge gardens were lovingly cared for by the small group of green-fingered Brethren responsible, but many still cast a thought about the way the recently departed Bro Tommy Wilson had lovingly turned a wasteland into a stunning patch of colour over recent years, and were saddened by the fact that Bro Tommy would not be present to receive just reward for his efforts, even though many had his memory in their thoughts on the big day.

The Lodge opened at 11am, and was promptly recessed again to save time later in the day. The large deputation from Grand Lodge began to arrive, with Bro William Ramsay McGhee, Grand Master Mason, marshalling his men before what would be a busy day, over a cup of tea and some sandwiches.



An extensive photo session involving Grand Lodge, Provincial Grand Lodge and of course our own Office-bearers followed at 12 Noon, before the invited Brethren of the Lodge, and the Lodge guests began to congregate. There was excitement and a certain amount of tension mounting as 1pm approached, and the Lodge was resumed in preparation for the afternoon's ceremonial.

Provincial Grand Lodge, headed by Bro Gavin Burt SPGMRE was admitted, before an alarm was given and everyone in a packed Lodgeroom tensed, before hearing the dulcet tones of Bro William H Gauld, Grand Director of Ceremonies who gave the commands for the Lodge to prepare to receive a distinguished deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, headed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland – Bro William Ramsay McGhee. Thereafter, a large deputation of almost 30 Brethren entered, before being introduced in turn by Bro Bud, and taken to their proper place in the Lodge.

The normal fealty was expressed by our acting R.W.M. for the day – Bro Thomas Nicol Hynd I.P.M., before the exchange of the gavel, with the Grand Master Mason taking control of the Lodge. The offices were swiftly exchanged, and after an expression of delight from Bro Ramsay McGhee at receiving such a unique invitation, he thanked the Brethren of Union & Crown and proceeded to commence what was a moving and emotional tribute to Bro Duncan Mundell Birse, in who's memory the cairn today was to be dedicated.

The Lodge was adjourned, and all the Brethren present, followed Grand Lodge out in to the gardens where over 100 Brethren gathered around the Cairn where the Grand Master Mason assisted by distinguished members of Grand Lodge carried out a lovely ceremony, albeit in pouring rain !!



Taking an 'executive' decision due to the deteriorating weather, the ceremony was shortened, and the Brethren quickly returned to the Temple where the impressive ritual was completed. All cannot fail to have been enthralled by the distinguished manner in which those involved carried out their duties with aplomb, before concluding the proceedings and handing control back to Bro Nicol Hynd IPM.

However, before the afternoon came to a close, Bro Ramsay McGhee had one final duty to perform, and Bro Donald Ferguson and Bro Alexander D White were summoned forward in turn to the West. The Grand Master Mason gave a glowing tribute to both Brethren, who were totally unaware of what was to happen, before presenting Bro Donald with a Sixty-Year Jewel and Diploma, and Bro Alex with his thoroughly-deserved 'Distinguished Service Certificate for 'services to the Lodge'. Both Brethren, although taken aback, replied well before being drowned out by the thunderous applause of the assembled Brethren.



That brought the Dedication Ceremony to a close, and the Lodge was closed in preparation for the Dinner later in the day.

The excitement within the Temple only heightened as over one hundred Brethren retired to the Function Suite in preparation for the Celebration Dinner downstairs. Admittedly the seating was tight, but it ensured that everyone present had a 'ringside seat' for the

remainder of the celebrations.

A delightful four-course meal, and copious quantities of celebratory drinks – all courtesy of Union & Crown followed with a delightfully pleasant atmosphere over the entire proceedings.

The 'Toasts & Responses' which followed were of a particularly high standard, with the entire proceedings under the 'eagle-eye' of our own Bro Bud Gauld who as Grand DoC kept the whole thing moving smoothly until at around 7.30pm when our own Bro Robert Scott WSW took over and a splendid Harmony was enjoyed by all, with representatives from all the various bodies present contributing well. Even Bro Ramsay McGhee took to the floor and entertained the assembled Brethren with a few stirring tunes on his Accordion.

Without doubt, a wonderful evening was enjoyed by all in attendance, and the thanks of the Lodge must go to each and every one of those who contributions made both afternoon and evening an unqualified success. We are sure that Bro Duncan Birse would have approved.



Dates for your Diary

- Friday 12th July** Installation Meeting of Lodge Randolph, No.1434 at 7pm
- Monday 26th Aug** Management Committee Meeting at 7-30pm.
- Tuesday 3rd Sept** Regular Meeting of the Lodge where a FC Degree will be conferred by the Brethren of Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426
- Tuesday 17th Sept** Regular Meeting of the Lodge where a MM Degree will be conferred by the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class.

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)

Meet the Candidates

- Ross Aitken :** A Retired Detective Superintendent with Strathclyde Police, Ross is 52 years old and lives in the Lochfield area of Paisley with his wife Maria. Originally from Crookston, he is currently employed within the Civil Service, and enjoys hill walking when he can get the opportunity.
- Edward Mullan :** A close friend of his fellow candidate since childhood, Eddie is 53 and lives in Meikleriggs, on the southside of Paisley with his wife Dorothy and their teenage son and daughter. His is a Taxi Driver in the town, and has recently joined Fereneze Golf Club where he hopes to spend some of his free time over the summer months.

Lodge Golf Outing

At 7am on Saturday 8th June, 31 Brethren and their guests set off for Muckhart in Fife, where the annual Lodge Golf Outing was being held.

The weather was fine, not too hot or wet, and a fine day's golf was had by all, with Bro Alastair Carse winning the William Little Trophy by a narrow margin from the chasing pack. Russell Guthrie won the 'Visitor's Trophy' and a great day was had by all *(with more than a few sore heads to testify for this the next morning)*



BITS & PIECES

- Congratulations to Graeme, the elder son of our R.W.M. Bro Stewart Gray, and his lovely wife Estelle following their recent wedding.
- It was most pleasing to see a total of 12 Reigning Masters at our Regular Meeting on Tuesday 21st May.
- Tickets costing £25 are now available for the Lodge's 'Sportsman's Dinner' which is being held on **Friday 25th 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.
- Our worthy Secretary, Bro David McArthur PM, is always on the look out for email addresses from the Brethren. This allows him to increase the numbers he can reach when he sends out the minutes etc. So if you want to keep in touch, jot down your details and hand it to Bro David.
- Bro Robert Scott WJW is still looking for Brethren wishing to 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 200th Anniversary benefits including Tickets, Jewels, Books etc.
- Congratulations to Bro Gordon Neil who celebrated his 50th Birthday with a party within the Lodge Function Suite for his family and friends.
- We congratulate Bro Alex White who has just completed a successful year as Worshipful Senior Warden within his adopted Lodge – Randolph, No.1434.
- On a similar note, we congratulate Bro Jimmy Laing who is just about to be installed as WJW within the same Lodge. Bro Jimmy is going to have a busy year coming up !!!
- Congratulations to Bro Iain Nicol's granddaughter Myrrin, who recently graduated from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland with a BA in Production Art & Design.
- Good to see that approval has been given to refurbish the upstairs Ladies Toilets
- Best wishes and hearty congratulations to Bro Grant Maybury and his lovely wife Rebecca following their recent wedding.
- We hear that the Rev Pamela Gordon, the minister of our near neighbours, Bourock Parish Church, and a good friend to the Lodge is making a Parachute jump for charity in July, and she's hoping to raise over £1000.
- Did anyone notice on TV recently, Canon Bro Joe Morrow PGMM leading HM The Queen and the other dignitaries, in his capacity as HM Lord Lyon King of Arms at the recent visit to the Scottish Parliament.
- Amazingly, Bro Alex White is still keeping in touch with many of his former clients by telephone, even though he has regretfully given up his role as Lodge Almoner

From the South



Well brethren it is that time of year again, with half of our duties for the year complete and many more to look forward to in the Autumn, we enter the summer recess. As WJW of the lodge my constant place is in the South. From that position it is my duty to mark the sun at its meridian, and so it seems timely, as we approach the recess, and the meridian of another Masonic year, that we take a moment to consider some of the highlights of the year thus far.

It seems like yesterday that we came together to install a new Master - Brother Stewart Gray. Stewart is Past Master of Lodge Stivenstoune, Thistle and Rose, No. 169, and over the first half of our masonic year he has worked incredibly hard, and performed to the highest standard, bringing great credit to himself and to his Mother Lodge 307.

The installation also saw a number of brethren move on to new offices. For me personally that meant a step up... quite literally, into the JW box. The warden's box sits on a platform that is no more than six inches off the ground, however, that step into the box for the first time feels considerably higher, and, whilst I have occupied the office with a great sense of pride, I must confess the first few weeks were somewhat daunting... even for someone used to working at heights!! The year thus far, like every year, has been one of highs and lows. We have enjoyed great success with some fantastic degree work, under the supervision of Bro Tom Mulholland PM.

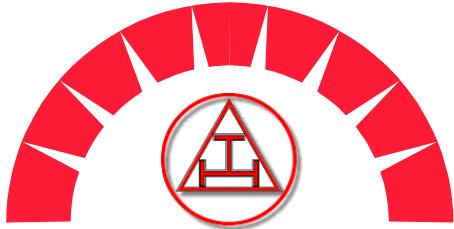
Our dramatisations also continue to be extremely popular with visitors coming from all around the country to watch the team in action. It is very clear to me that our willingness to do things a little differently has proven to be a wise decision and anyone who witnessed the attendance at our latest Prisoner of War degree will surely agree that we must be doing something right. To have over 150 brethren in the temple to witness our efforts made it a very special occasion indeed and one that I will remember for many years to come.

Whilst that was a wonderful night, I don't think many occasions could possibly compare to the Dedication of the Cairn, in memory of Bro. Duncan Birse. A unique event by all accounts and one that was conducted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason and the office bearers of The Grand Lodge of Scotland. As usual the brethren of 307 rose to the challenge and all those who attended witnessed something very special indeed.

Sadly, however this year has also saw the passing of some very popular brethren to the Grand Lodge above and whilst they will be missed by their friends and brothers their contribution to 307, and to freemasonry, means that their legacy will live on for many years to come. And so, the time rolls on, but before the sun sets on this masonic year there is much to look forward to. Our calendar is filled with degree work, new candidates to progress, visitations and dramatizations and I am certain that whatever challenge comes our way, we will work together, perform to the highest standard and bring credit to our mother lodge. That is what makes us Union and Crown.

I look forward to continuing to represent you as WJW and I hope that you enjoy the recess and hopefully get the chance to unwind and enjoy a well-earned break.

Bro Robert Scott W.J.W.



Rockmount R.A.C. No.367

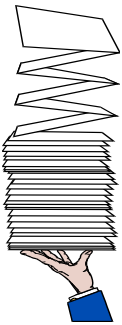
At the regular meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday the 14th May 2019, the Companions of Rockmount RAC conferred a fine Royal Arch Degree on

Bro Ronald Bright

MEZ David Allan extends a cordial invitation to all Companions to attend the next meeting of the Chapter, where a Royal Arch Degree is scheduled for: **Tuesday 10th September 2019** at 7:30pm



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/m² 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/m² card for various tasks within the Lodge.



Did you know ???

- That at the first Premier Grand Lodge meeting in June 1717 the Brethren present voted in the “*oldest Master*” in the room at the time - Bro Anthony Sayer, Gentleman as Grand Master. It is of note that in the years following Bro Sayer twice applied for and received Masonic relief for debts before his death in 1741. Even the first Grand Master of the Premier Grand Lodge, was not immune to financial distress
- That there is only one city in the world known to be purposely laid out on a Masonic theme. In 1816, Hector Kilbourne, a surveyor and member of the first Master of Science Lodge No.50, laid out the original plat of Sandusky Ohio. He designed the city on a grid of equal-sized squares and rectangles representing an open Bible, with a square and compasses located in the centre. He named many of the streets after famous Masons.
- The Masonic Lodge with the highest meeting place on the earth is Roof of the World Lodge No.1094, of Oroya, Peru. The elevation of the Lodge room in the Andes Mountains is 14,167ft above sea level.

!

Famous Scottish Freemasons

(Continuing our series about Famous Scottish Brethren, this month we turn to a military hero, who gave his life for his country)

Bro Lt-General Sir John Moore (1761-1809)

Sir John Moore, KB is best known for his military training reforms and for his death at the Battle of Corunna, in which he repulsed a huge French army under Marshal Soult during the Peninsular War.



He was born in Glasgow, the son of John Moore, a doctor and writer, and attended Glasgow High School, but at the age of eleven joined his father and Douglas, the young 8th Duke of Hamilton, on a grand tour of Europe, which included a two-year stay in Geneva, where Moore's education continued.

He joined the British Army in 1776 as an ensign and first saw action in 1778 during the American War of Independence. From 1779-1781 he was garrisoned at Halifax, Nova Scotia and it was during this period that he was initiated in St John's Lodge, No.2 in Halifax. After the war, in 1783, he returned to Britain and in 1784 was elected to Parliament as the Member for Lanark Burghs, a seat he held until 1790.

In 1787, he was made Major and re-joined the army, where in 1791 his unit was assigned to the Mediterranean and he was involved in campaigning in the invasion of Corsica, and he was given a Colonelcy and became Adjutant-General to Sir Charles Stuart.

Friction between Moore and Stuart led to his recall and posting to the West Indies in 1796, where Moore played a leading role in the British reconquest of St. Lucia, where he participated in efforts to repress the slave rebels until falling ill of yellow fever, upon which he returned to Britain.

When it became clear that Napoleon was planning an invasion of Britain, Moore was put in charge of the defence of the coast from Dover to Dungeness. It was on his initiative that the Martello Towers were constructed following a pattern he had been impressed with in Corsica, and recruited about 340,000 volunteers to a militia that would have defended the lines of the South Downs if an invading force had broken through the regular army defences. In 1804 Moore was made a Knight Companion of the Bath and promoted to Lt-General. In 1806 he returned to active duty in the Mediterranean and following a short spell in the Baltic, he was ordered to Portugal, where Moore took command of the British forces in the Iberian Peninsula

When Napoleon arrived in Spain, Moore drew the French northwards while retreating to A Coruña and Vigo, where he established a defensive position on hills outside the town. In the ensuing conflict, Moore was fatally wounded after being struck in his left breast and shoulder by a cannon shot. He remained conscious throughout, surviving long enough to be assured that he had gained a victory. He said to his old friend Colonel Anderson

"You know I always wished to die this way, I hope the people of Scotland will be satisfied! I hope my country will do me justice!"

He was then silent and died shortly afterwards.

Moore was buried wrapped in a military cloak in the ramparts of the town. When the French took the town, a monument was built over his grave by the orders of Marshal Soult. The monument was rebuilt and made more permanent in 1811.

In his native Glasgow he is commemorated by a statue in George Square, and in England by a monument in St Paul's Cathedral.

EMAIL Inbox

Subject: Dedication of Cairn

Date: 3 June 2019 at 15:41:00 BST

To: "secretary@unionandcrown307.com"



Dear Sir and Brother,

May I please take the opportunity to thank the RWM, Office Bearers and Brethren of Lodge Union and Crown 307 for the fantastic weekend I enjoyed in your company last weekend at the Dedication Ceremony for the Cairn.

On that occasion I attended as part of the Grand Lodge deputation, and I have to say that it was an outstanding ceremony and harmony – a memory that will never leave me. It is always a huge pleasure for me to visit your lodge – I always feel so welcome, and enjoy meeting up with the brethren again. I was very saddened to hear about the passing of PM Jim Kerr. I looked forward to the banter with him and the other brethren each time I was fortunate enough to visit your wonderful lodge.

Our thanks also go to Brothers Billy Petrie and Steven Scott who picked us up in Uplawmoor and took us to the Lodge – very much appreciated brethren.

May I also take the opportunity to thank Bro. Bud Gauld PM and his good lady for accommodating myself and Bro. Ian Rodgers IPM Lodge of Fort William No. 43. It was most kind and very much appreciated by us both. As far as I can remember we had a wee ceilidh in their house when we left the lodge, with music supplied by the Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason – it doesn't get any better than that, after the harmony we all enjoyed!

Thanks again for a fantastic weekend brethren, and may I take the opportunity to wish your wonderful lodge all the very best for the future. Bro. Bud Gauld PM always tells us that we are part of the finest fraternity in the world, and when I get the chance to visit your lodge it proves that to me and all your other visiting brethren.

Yours fraternally,

Alex. Craib PM

Lodge Old Inverness Kilwinning St. John No. VI

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FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 32 Years Ago

No.105

May 1987

Regular Meeting :

On Tuesday 5th May, the following Candidates :

WILSON DAVIDSON JIM ANDERSON KEN KELLY ALAN McINTYRE

were initiated into the Lodge by the members of Lodge Prince of Wales, No.426, Renfrew. An excellent degree was carried out, as was expected from such a strong & successful Lodge.

At this particular meeting, a deputation from PGLRE led by Bro Alex Hutton PGM were admitted. After the customary surrender of the mallet, Bro Hutton went on to present the McMenemy Golf Cup to the RWM of 307, who accepted it on behalf of the winners, Bro Davy Provan and William Renfrew (the electrician).

Hereafter, the RWM, Bro Iain McFarlane, invited the PGM to receive honorary membership of 307, which he accepted. After being obligated, Bro Hutton was presented with a framed diploma by Bro Iain, who wished him well as a member of 307, prior to presenting him to the Brethren, who in turn received him into Union & Crown with thunderous applause.

Bro Hutton responded in a quiet, sincere and dignified manner, thanking the members for the honour bestowed upon him.

Lodge Opened : 7-30pm

Lodge Closed : 10-30pm

Attendance : 192

The Mallet

Big Tam Forde is making sure that the Brother who wrote to us from Algeria recently will get a copy of The Mallet each month.

Our grateful thanks go to wee Willie Mulholland, who came down, stapled the last lot of Mallets, and disappeared before we knew he was around !

It is strange, but nonetheless welcome, how some Brethren of Sister Lodges only drop in once a month – to collect a copy of our journal.

Are we too controversial ? There are those who think so. While most magazines, newsletters etc. tend to toe the Grand Lodge line, we have always tried to play it at grass roots level, warts and all. To illustrate our point, we heard of a G.L. Office-bearer (*from Edinburgh by the way*) reading a snippet in The Mallet which told about a Glasgow Rangers player being in the Craft. He G.L. Office-bearer declared that Glasgow Rangers should not be mentioned in a Masonic Magazine. He must support Hearts !

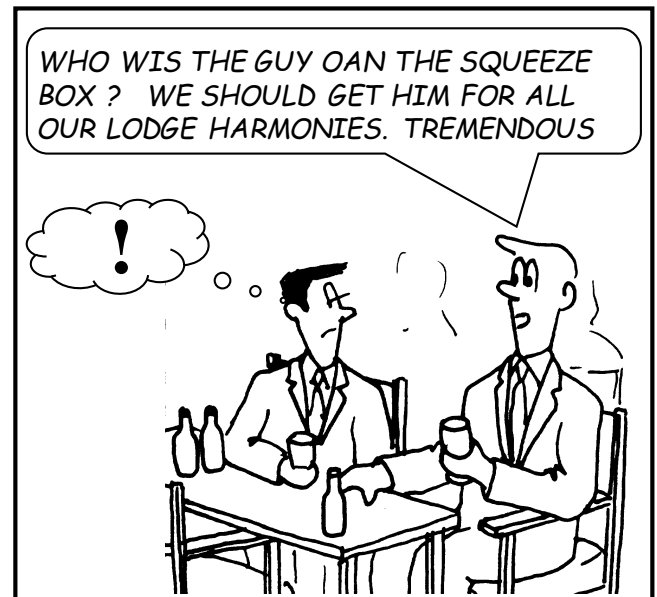
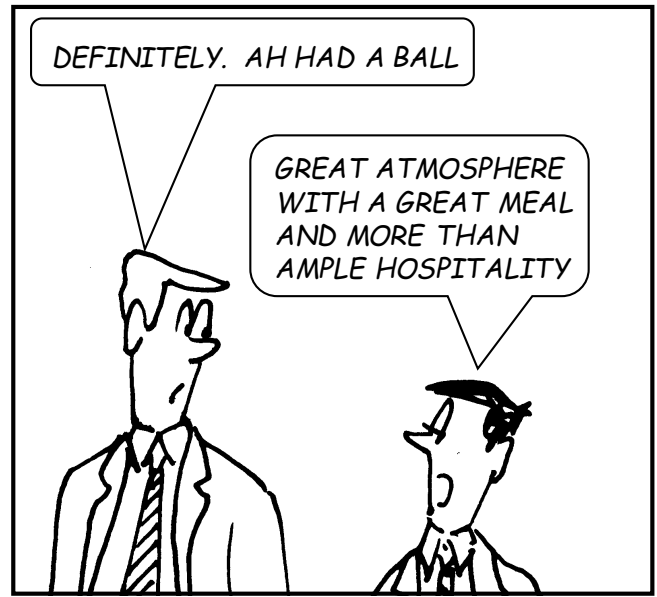
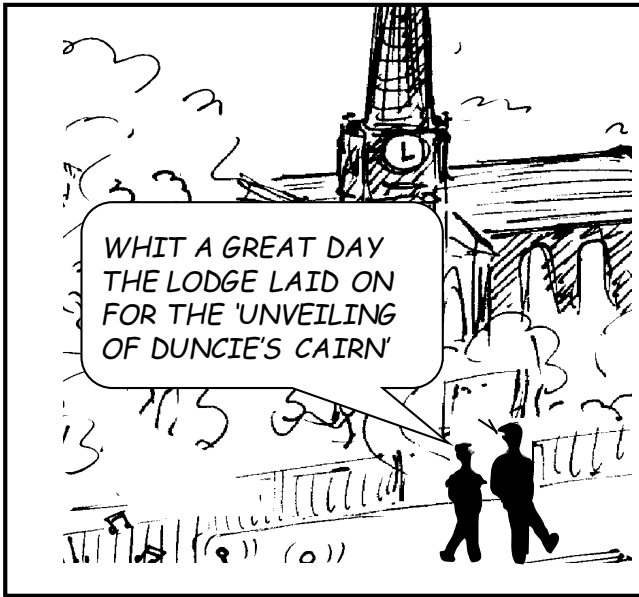
Lodge Gossip

Bro Gordon Wright has moved into his new house in Lochlibo Road. At one time it belonged to Ewings, the Ironmongers, who were also members of 307

Work has begun on re-roofing the Temple, and all work should be completed by September. Wherein do Masons meet ? In the Arthurlie Inns we would say !

It is good of Lodge Thistle & Crown, Neilston, to allow Fereneze O.E.S. and Rockmount C.C. to hold their meetings in their Temple whilst our roof is being repaired.

MARK N' ARCHIE



J RENFREW MAY 2019

The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by :

Brother Jim Renfrew P.M.

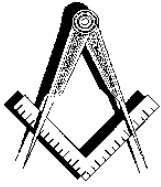
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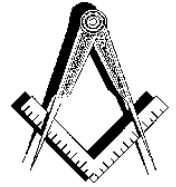
" With grateful thanks to all those who gladly gave their assistance "

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



Syllabus 2019

(* Denotes an Official Visitation)



September 2019

Tuesday 3rd September FC Lodge 'Prince of Wales', No.426

Tuesday 17th September MM Lodge Instruction Class

October 2019

Tuesday 1st October DMM Lodge Instruction Class

Tuesday 15th October Lodge AGM

November 2019

Friday 1st November Table of Scottish Freemasonry

Tuesday 19th November MMM Bro Nicol Hynd IPM

Saturday 23rd November Installation of Office-bearers (4pm)