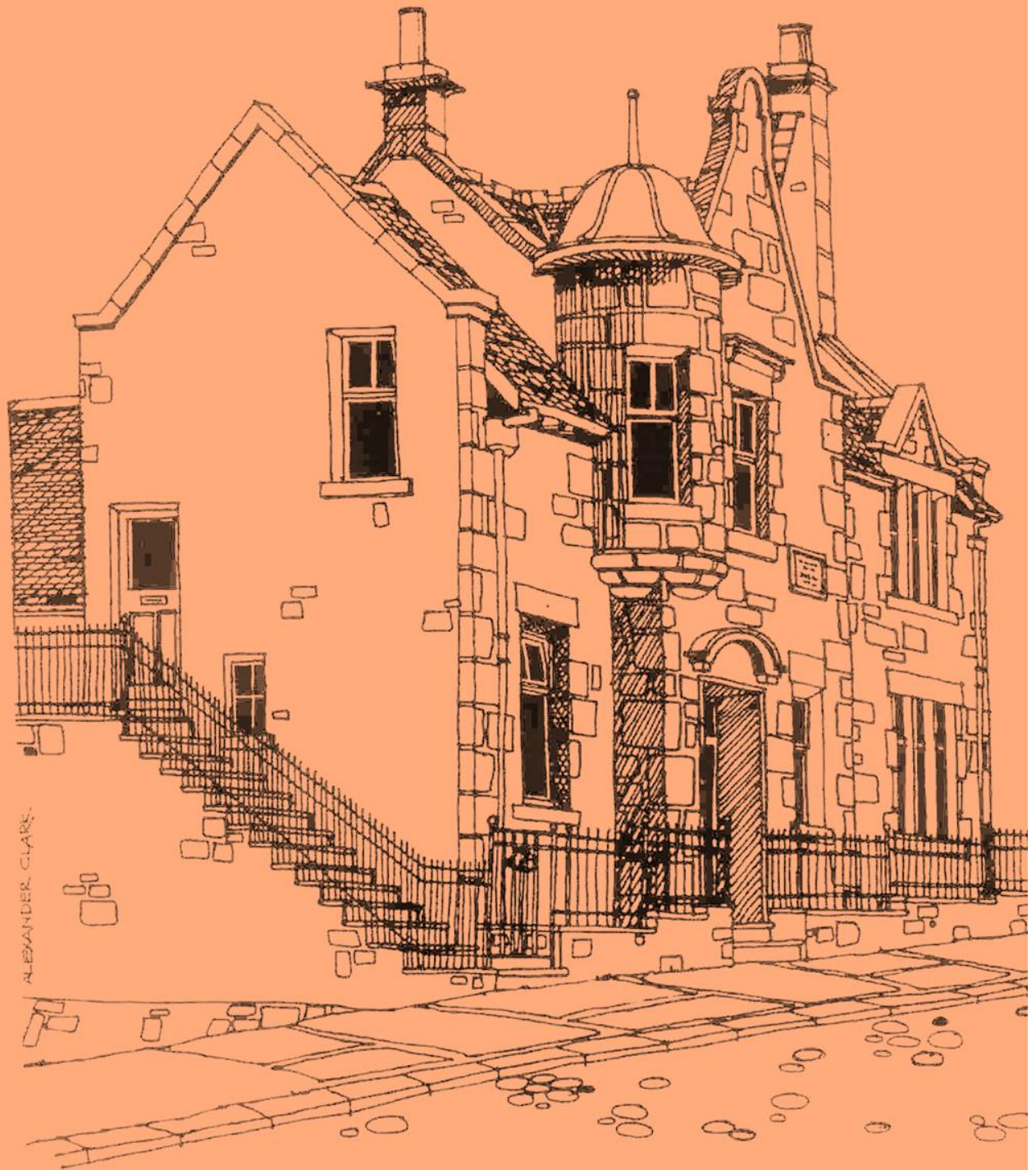


The Mallet

The monthly journal of Lodge Union and Crown No.307



February 2023

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No. 461



February 2023

The old adage that “you’ve got to speculate to accumulate” can certainly be applied to Lodge Union & Crown, and I don’t mean in a monetary sense either ! Almost thirty years ago, we realised that times were changing and we would need to adapt if we were to continue to progress. We saw that degrees, no matter how well done, did not have the appeal of earlier years, and that we would have to look at ways of making our syllabus, and our regular meetings, more attractive to our Brethren.

At that point we shuffled things around and took the bold step of introducing, initially our now well-known “Dramatised Third Degree”, followed a year or two later by the popular “Dramatised Second Degree”. Both have stood the test of time over the last 25 years or so, and have done much to attract visitors to our Lodge.

Never a Lodge to stand still, and let the grass grow under our feet, a few years later we took another look ahead and decided that still further “surgery” would be needed if the patient were to survive. After a long and hard look at what was popular, and of course what would be acceptable to the craft in general, and the Brethren of Lodge Union & Crown in particular, we arrived at the conclusion that adding a touch of drama to the proceedings was the way forward. The results were there to be seen in 2007, when “The Table of Scottish Freemasonry” made its debut.

The brainchild of the imagination of Bro Bud Gauld PM and a couple of Brethren, it was almost an hour of magic, theatrical pageantry and sheer good fun, with many of the colourful characters of the Scottish Craft brought back to life when portrayed by over 20 of our own Brethren. The amount of sheer hard work and rehearsal, with re-writes and additions as we went along, was at times trying, but one which Bro Bud and his band of thespians carried out with aplomb.

The reaction from those who witnessed the performances over the years, have been unanimous with much positive feedback we’ve received. We’ve now added the even more popular ‘Prisoner of War Degree’ and the slightly different ‘Burns vs Kipling’. Both of which have gone down very well .

This has resulted in a greatly changed syllabus to that which existed back in the early 1990s. One which has become both popular and informative.



Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

Dear Sir & Brother,

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

Tuesday 7th March 2023

*Annual Visitation of the
Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East*



Tuesday 21st March 2022

Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.

Fellowcraft Degree

By the 'Worthy Deacons'

Harmony

Yours faithfully & fraternally

R Evans Reid P.M.,

Lodge Secretary

Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Friday 3rd February, the Lodge held a short Business Meeting, before adjourning to the Function Suite, where the 199th Anniversary Dinner was held before a company of over 60 Brethren and gentlemen.

In attendance was the MW Grand Master Mason, Bro William Ramsay McGhee and Bro Chris Kerr Depute Provincial Master of Renfrewshire East. The Toast to the Lodge was proposed by Bro James Bell PDGM, Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire, and this was warmly enjoyed by the Brethren present.

Thereafter the Brethren enjoyed a fine Lodge Harmony, with Bro Donald Findlay KC regaling all with his tales of the courtroom and life in general.

Opened : 7.00pm

Lodge Closed : 8.14pm

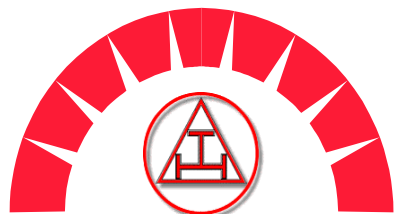
Attendance : 48

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Friday 24th February, the Lodge held a short Business Meeting, before adjourning to the Function Suite, where the Annual Burns Supper was held before a company of over 60 Brethren and gentlemen.

Opened : 7.00pm

Lodge Closed : 8.22pm

Attendance : 38



Rockmount R.A.C. No.367

At the Regular Meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday 14th February, the Companions of Rockmount RAC played host to the Provincial Grand Chapter of Renfrewshire. The Deputation was headed by MEC Kevin Pollock, Provincial Grand Superintendent, and the companions of 367 were delighted to receive the praise of PGC for all their efforts over the previous year.

The next Regular Meeting of the Chapter, is scheduled for **Tuesday 14th March** at 7-30pm when it is expected that the Companions of Rockmount will be conferring an Excellent Master's degree upon a Candidate.

MEC Graham Manson MEZ and his Office-bearers extend a cordial invitation to all Companions, especially any visitors, to attend on that evening.

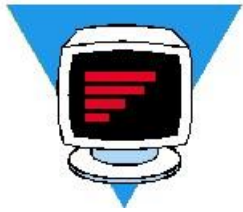
All Companions are invited to support the Chapter, by coming along on that evening.

Did you Know ?

That Bro Anthony Sayer, the first Grand Master of the Premier Grand Lodge in London, was chosen because he was the "Oldest Master Mason then Master of a Lodge."



To the Editor



From : **Danny Webster**

Sent : 06 December 2022

To : **Bro Jim Renfrew**

Hi Bro Jim, I've always enjoyed the Mallet Journal, ever since I joined 307 in 1979 and things haven't changed. Back in those days as you know it was the printed version and you had to be fast out the blocks when it was printed to ensure you got a copy. But now with technology, It's delivered to your desk. Who would have thought ! My main reason for writing is to ask you to pass on my sincere congratulations to Bro Bud on his resent installation into office of Depute Grand Master. No doubt a huge honour for him, his family and of course Lodge 307.

I remember when I was going through my 1st degree 43 years ago, I was working in Peterhead and Bud was at St Fergus gas plant just up the road from Peterhead (that's when he used to work for a living) Bud was RWM at that time and was picking me up on his way down to Barrhead for the meeting. Bud thought he was going to have some company for the drive down, but me being young and burning the candle at both ends, I fell asleep leaving him to drive on his own. He's never let me forget this either. After the degree I was invited up to the East by Bud and followed by my father to see what I'd learned that night and as you can imagine I got a rap across the knuckles as I proceeded to write some secrets, never again ! Bud's payback !

Hope this gives you a wee chuckle. I'm looking at coming home again around September next year and looking forward to attending my Mother Lodge once more. That being said, I wish you, your family, office bearers and the brethren of Lodge 307 a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. Stay Safe until we meet again !

Kind Regards

Bro Danny Webster

(Editor's Note : *Great to hear from Bro Danny who has been a resident in Australia for many years, but whenever he's back in Scotland he always makes a point of attending his Mother Lodge.*

Apologies for the lateness of this email, but it somehow got mislaid on my computer !!!)

Did you Know ?

That the Commissioner of Patents In 1872 ruled that the Masonic Square and Compasses emblem could not be used in any trademark or trade name for commercial purposes

BITS & PIECES

- Congratulations to IPM Bro Stewart Gray's lovely wife Suzanne who recently celebrated a 'Milestone Birthday'.
- Further hearty congratulations to Bro Craig Allison, who only a few short weeks ago was installed as RWM in his adopted Lodge in Aberdeen. This time he has been installed as a Provincial Grand Steward.
- As we mentioned last month Bro Paul Stewart PM is Captain of Fereneze Golf Club. On Saturday 4th February he Golf Club Burns' Supper where all those participating were Brethren of 307, with one exception and he was the grandson of one of our Past Master ! From what we hear it was a fine evening with everyone acquitting themselves very well.
- Bro George Smith, a local farmer and frequent visitor to 307, recently reached a fantastic masonic milestone when he celebrated the 70th anniversary of his initiation into Lodge Pollokshaws Royal Arch, No.153. Now almost 93 years of age, Bro George's eyesight isn't great and he no longer drives. Not to be deterred, his Mother Lodge arranged for someone to pick him up and take him to the Lodge for his presentation.
- We gather that Bro Ken Coleman architectural practice in Bristol, where he now lives is doing extremely well and he's looking to expand the business.
- Brothers Robert Easdon PM, Douglas Junner PM and Brian Morton PM all celebrate 50 years a member of Lodge Union & Crown over the next month or two. Bro Dougie and Bro Brian were actually initiated on the same evening during the late Bro Tom Young's year as Right Worshipful Master. Congratulations to all.
- Congratulations to Bro Tommy Kelly on his recent election as Vice-Captain of Fereneze Golf Club.
- Brother Bob Smillie and his wife Isabel, who retired to Callandar a couple of years ago following his retirement, have just returned from a long-haul trip to Australia to visit family.
- Many congratulations and best wishes to Bro Kenny Beatts and his wife Jacqueline on the birth of a beautiful granddaughter – Rose. Mum is Kaitlinn, Bro Kenny's daughter and of course the granddaughter of Bro Davie Noble PM
- Bro Lawrence Webb is organizing another of his popular Games Nights. It is being held in the Downstairs Lounge on Friday 17th March and all are welcome.
- Delighted to see that our Burns Supper went so well with an excellent attendance. Congratulations to Bro Robert Scott SM, and his team of helpers and artistes, for their hard work.
- Many thanks to Bro Billy Petrie who has joined our small band of workers who spend a couple of mornings each week ensuring that the Temple is kept spick and span, and that all minor repairs are completed.

Famous Freemasons

(This month we tell of a freemason who was one of the very first men to set foot upon The Moon in 1969)

Bro Edwin Eugene Aldrin Jr. (born 1930)

Edwin Eugene Aldrin Jr was born at Mountainside Hospital in Glen Ridge, New Jersey on January 20, 1930, to Edwin Eugene Aldrin Sr. and Marion Aldrin who lived in nearby Montclair. His father had been an Army aviator during World War I and became the assistant commandant of the US Army's test pilot school at McCook Field, Ohio, from 1919 to 1922. Aldrin's mother's maiden name was Moon, which was to prove to be particularly ironic in later years.

His father left the Army in 1928 and became an executive at Standard Oil.

Aldrin had two older sisters - Madeleine and Fay Ann, and his nickname, which became his legal first name in 1988, arose as a result of Fay's mispronouncing "brother" as "buzzer", which was then shortened to "Buzz".

He was a Boy Scout, achieving the rank of Tenderfoot Scout. Aldrin did well in school, maintaining an A average, and he played football and was the starting centre for Montclair High School's undefeated 1946 state champion team

After graduating from Montclair High School, he enrolled at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, and received a bachelor of science degree in 1951, graduating third in his class.

He was commissioned into the United States Air Force, and served as a jet fighter pilot during the Korean War. He flew 66 combat missions and shot down two MiG-15 aircraft.

Buzz went back to school, earning a doctorate in Aeronautics in 1963, just in time to become involved in NASA's quest to land a man on the moon.

Aldrin was selected to join NASA's third group of astronauts in October 1963, after completing his graduate degree at MIT. He was the first astronaut with a doctoral degree

Aldrin has honorary degrees from six colleges and universities

Originally, Aldrin was rejected from NASA because he was not a test pilot. However, the following year, applicants with over 1,000 hours of jet aircraft flying time were eligible, and with more than twice that time the former jet fighter pilot was more than qualified.



He has received many awards and accolades throughout his life, and has been widely celebrated for his contribution to America's space program. His first award, however, was bestowed upon him thanks to his efforts in the Korean War, after which he was awarded the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal in 1969.

Aldrin, and his Apollo 11 colleagues, Neil Armstrong and Mike Collins were awarded a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame for Television at 7021 Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street in Hollywood, California.

Brother Aldrin was initiated into Freemasonry at Oak Park Lodge No. 864 in Alabama in February 1955 and raised at Lawrence N. Greenleaf Lodge, No. 169 in Colorado in February 1956. He is a member of Montclair Lodge No. 144 in New Jersey, and Clear Lake Lodge No.1417 in Seabrook Texas, and joined the York Rite and Arabia Shrine Temple of Houston in May 1967.

On the crest of the Apollo 11 mission to the moon, The Grand Master of Texas approved Brother Aldrin's request to open a Representation of the Grand Lodge of Texas on the Moon and, thereby, establish Masonic Territorial Jurisdiction there. He also asked Buzz to carry a special deputation on his journey. Aldrin signed this deputation and confirmed that it was, indeed, carried to the moon.

Aldrin also carried a handmade silk Masonic flag with him on his space journey, embroidered with the words, "Supreme Council, 33°, Southern Jurisdiction, USA."

After leaving NASA in 1971, Aldrin became Commandant of the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School. He retired from the Air Force in 1972, after 21 years of service. His autobiographies *Return to Earth* (1973) and *Magnificent Desolation* (2009) recount his struggles with clinical depression and alcoholism in the years after leaving NASA.



Aldrin continues to advocate for space exploration, particularly a human mission to Mars, and developed the Aldrin cypher, a special spacecraft trajectory that makes travel to Mars more efficient in terms of time and propellant. He has been accorded numerous honours, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1969.

In December 2016, Aldrin was part of a tourist group visiting the Amundsen–Scott South Pole Station in Antarctica when he fell ill and was evacuated, first to McMurdo Station and from there to Christchurch, New Zealand. At 86 years of age, Aldrin's visit made him the oldest person to reach the South Pole. He had travelled to the North Pole in 1998



Visitation

Monday February 13th saw the Lodge heading over to our good friends Lodge Nitshill, No,1478, where we had been invited to confer the MM Degree.

A deputation of 19 Brethren supported Bro Bobby Clark RWM and an excellent MM degree was conferred by the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class, in what was the usual 'spirited' 307 delivery.

After the degree the Brethren of both Lodges concerned, retired to enjoy the harmony and cement old friendships.

(We continue our series of articles which trace the history of local Lodges. This month we visit a Lodge on the southside of Glasgow who have had numerous homes over the last 25 years)

Lodge Saint Christopher, No.1453



In 1947 Bro Thomas Gardiner, a member of Lodge Thorntree No 512, had an idea to form a Lodge in the Pollok Area.

After approaching the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East it was decided that in order to raise the necessary funds and the required knowledge to form a Lodge, the "Pollwood Club" was formed. At a meeting on the 10th May 1949 at a local school where 90 members were present, it was agreed that we should approach Lodges Thorntree 512 and Rutherglen Royal Arch 116 to be our sponsor Lodges. The colours and the name of the Lodge

were also decided at this meeting.

On Friday 12th May 1950 Lodge St Christopher 1453, on the Roll of The Grand Lodge of Scotland, was dedicated and consecrated in Pollokshaws Burgh Hall by Bro Samuel W Love, Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire East, with Bro George Hill Scott PM of Lodge Govanhill No. 1222 as the first RWM. Two days later, on Sunday 14th May a commemorative Divine Service was held in St Christopher's Church Hall, conducted by the late Rev Cameron Peddie.

The first initiation ceremony took place on Wednesday 27th September 1950 and was held in the St Christopher's Church Hall which was to be our regular meeting place until February 1953.

On 2nd June 1951 the Lodge was host to the Province when the foundation stone of the former Titwood Parish Church was laid with full Masonic Honours at St James Church in Pollok, again by Bro Samuel W Love PGMRE. On 28th February 1952 the Lodge was pleased to be one of the sponsor Lodges of Lodge Nitshill.

In February 1953 the Lodge was forced to move to Pollokshaws Burgh Hall as the City Assessor had ruled that as the Lodge was not part of the Church, they would be required to pay rates. The Lodge remained at the Burgh Halls until 1959, although this move was not very successful owing to a very poor bus service. When we moved to McGill School in Pollok it proved to be an excellent move as things steadily improved and at this time we changed our meeting night to Friday. While at McGill School our first initiate to take the chair was Bro James McNeil in 1961.



The Lodge remained at McGill School until 1972 when they moved to Broompark farm. After a number of attempts to find premises we were informed the lease of Broompark

farm on Barrhead Road, adjacent to Cowglen Golf Club was available. It was decided to negotiate a long term lease, and it was dedicated on the 25th May 1973, by Bro Ralph Denholm, Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire East.

A fruitful and successful period for the Lodge followed at Broompark Farm. However, the estate factor attempted to double our rent, and due to the fact that their financial position had become much stronger, we started to negotiate to buy the farm. A price was agreed but the conditions of the sale were unacceptable and it was decided that we had little choice in the matter but to move out, and return to the Pollokshaws Burgh Hall.

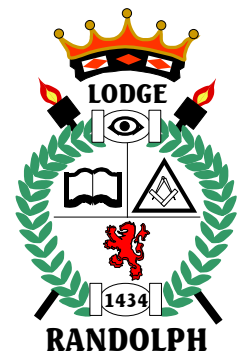
Unlike the previous stint, this move was much more successful and they remained there until its enforced closure in 1997. The Lodge then transferred to Langside Halls where they remained for a number of year, before moving yet again to Pollokshaws Burgh Hall which had reopened.

It cannot be denied that like many other Lodges they have gone through a very rough period but over recent years things have improved. In their 50th year they enjoyed a great revival, a regular supply of candidates and a strong financial basis to work from.

Great deal thanks must go to two Past Masters who filled the Chair when 1453 were going through a very rough patch in our history, Bro Ernest Stephen and Bro Robert Marshall who between them led the Lodge for five years and for this we will be forever grateful.

Randolph Lunch

We would like to remind our readers that our Sister Lodge – Lodge Randolph, No.1434 is holding its Annual Lunch, here in 307 on Saturday 13th May at 1.30 for 2.00pm. Tickets costing £15 are available for any 1434 Office-bearer (of which there are many within Union & Crown!!).



Lodge Coffee Morning

Some advanced notice that our Worthy Deacons – Bros Ross Aitken and Eddie Mullin are organizing the Lodge Coffee Morning to be held on **Saturday 22nd April** in the Function Suite between 10am and 12 Noon.

They are looking for as much support as possible from the Brethren and their families and donations of home

baking and raffle prizes will be gratefully accepted, and faithfully applied. If you can help. Contact Bro Ross on ☎ 07590 207 365

Tickets costing £2.00 will shortly be available.



Dates for your Diary

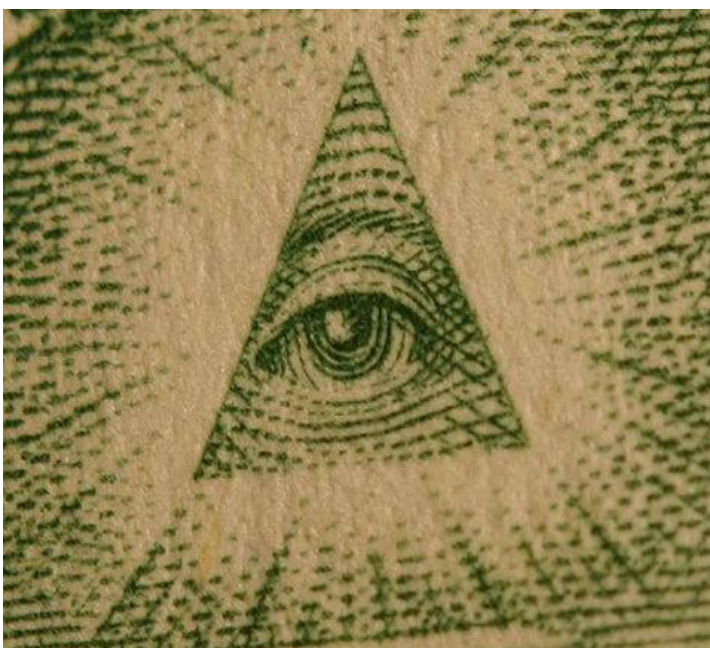


- Friday 7th March** Annual visitation by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East
- Monday 20th March** Management Committee Meeting at 7.30pm
- Tuesday 21st March** Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where a Fellowcraft Degree will be conferred by the Worthy Deacons.
- Tuesday 4th April** Regular Meeting of the Lodge, the 'Guid Brethren o' the Ludge' will be conferring the Dramatised FC Degree

(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 Ronnie Maclsaac RWM or via the Lodge Website at <http://unionandcrown307.com>) or any senior Office-bearer, who will be only too pleased to take you along with them as they represent the Lodge throughout the Province)



The 'All Seeing Eye'



The All Seeing Eye, also known as the Masonic Eye or Eye of Providence, is up there as one of the most recognized symbols of Freemasonry. This is especially so considering it features on none other than the American dollar bill. It's been around since way back in 1797 when it was introduced in a publication of the Freemasons Monitor.

It represents the eye of God and serves as a reminder to Freemasons that God is always watching, seeing all of their actions and thoughts.

FLASHBACK

Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 15 Years Ago

No. 311

February 2008

Regular Meetings

Following a short business meeting of the Lodge on Tuesday 5th February, the Lodge held the 184th Anniversary Dinner to commemorate the founding of the Lodge in 1824. The majority of the Brethren then sat down to a fine three course meal with the customary 307 hospitality, and were thereafter entertained by the principal speaker for the evening : Bro William McGregor RWM of Lodge Saint Conval, No.1359, who proposed a fine toast to the Lodge.

Later in the evening the assembled Brethren were well entertained by Sergio Lamara a talented and humorous entertainer who kept the assembled company on their toes, with his particular brand of humour

Opened : 7.30pm

Lodge Closed : 8.05pm

Attendance : 57

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge on Tuesday 19th February, the Brethren took part in one of the newer initiatives to Union & Crown, which proved extremely popular at its debut in 2007. "The Table of Scottish Freemasonry" involved over 20 of our own Brethren who portrayed various well-known freemasons, who had an important part to play in the development of the Craft in Scotland over the centuries.

Led by Bro Bud Gauld PM, a fine musical accompaniment from Bro Sam Wilson, added greatly to the atmosphere. On the technical side, Bro Ian McPhie did some sterling work behind the scenes, which added much to the evening's entertainment

Opened : 7.30pm

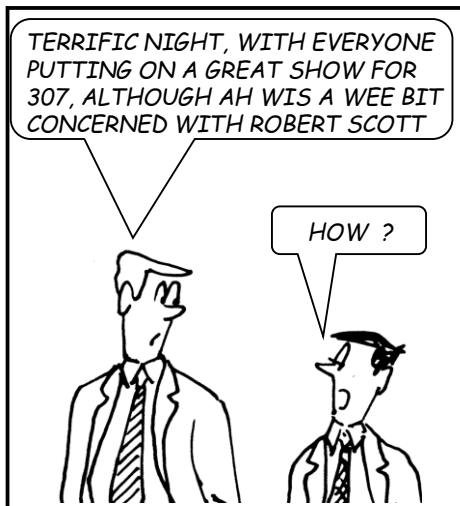
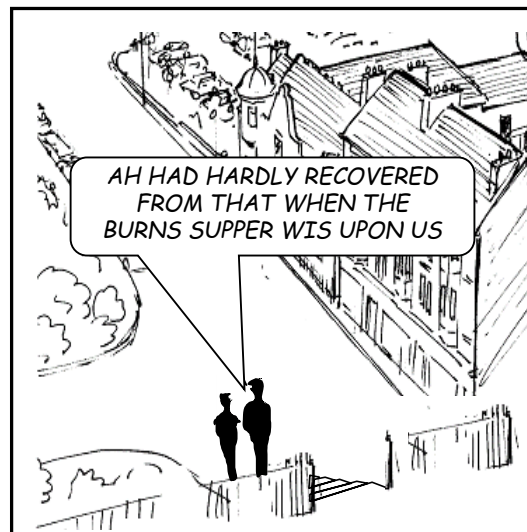
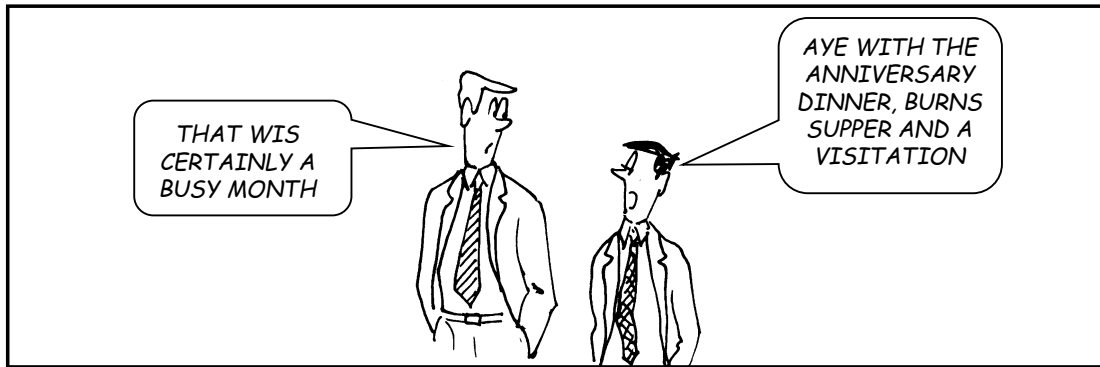
Lodge Closed : 9.34pm

Attendance : 140

Bits & Pieces

- Congratulations to Bro Jim Kerr PM and his popular wife Lorna on becoming grandparents. Their daughter Nicola, a well-known figure in 307 recently gave birth to a bouncing baby boy, who has been named Luke.
- It was very pleasing to see that the St Valentines Dance organised by Bro Stephen Allan was a success.
- After a 3 year spell of living and working in Brisbane, Australia it is great to see Bro. Kenny McPhie back attending his meetings. Kenny assures us he enjoyed himself down under, but did miss the family and football at home.
- Congratulation to Bro Jim Herron's granddaughter Kara, who passed her Driving Test on St Valentine's day with flying colours.
- Well done to Bro Graham Manson and his team of helpers who replaced the heating boiler. It is working well (perhaps too well !) and should save the Lodge some money in running costs. Our grateful thanks go to those Brethren who donated all the materials for the job.
- Congratulations to Bro Hugh Cattigan IPM on his appointment as PG Steward, the latest in a long line of 307 PMs who have served PGL well.
- If you have any unwanted Christmas gifts, Bro Colin McLardy WSW is more than willing to take them off your hands, and sell them on E Bay with the proceeds going towards Lodge Funds.

MARK N' ARCHIE



J RENFREW FEBRUARY 2023

The Mallet is researched, edited & printed by :

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

Lodge Website address : <http://unionandcrown307.com>