

# The Mallet

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

No. 307



October 2007

It is perhaps fitting that, on this the 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary of **The Mallet**, that we reach what is a significant milestone - the 307<sup>th</sup> edition of our journal.

Much has happened over the years since Bro Bud Gauld came up with the idea for a simple newsletter which was intended to keep Brethren, and their families informed. Latterly assisted by the late Bro Len Matthews, and his wife Bessie, the humble newsletter grew into an institution which became known throughout the four corners of the globe.

Much has changed over the years, hopefully for the better, as content, format and many of the different aspects of **The Mallet** etc. evolved. We sincerely hope that we can still manage to strive for the high standards set originally back in 1976. Our Lodge may have altered in so many ways over the years, but perhaps one of the stalwarts such as our journal, remains to uphold all that is right and proper about the Craft, in what are undoubtedly difficult and challenging times.

We are now in our 20<sup>th</sup> year as Editor, and in an effort to ensure that we survive in the years ahead, and that the solid lessons learned under Bud, Lenny and Bessie are not lost to future generations, we have decided to seek some assistance in the production of **The Mallet**. As it stands at the moment, the Editor is solely responsible for researching, writing, typing and printing-off our publication each month for some 10 editions each year. There's no doubt that this can at times prove to be an onerous and time-consuming task, but the determination to meet every deadline, and the real joys gained in doing so, make it all worthwhile. Time, or indeed the lack of it, is now proving to be a real burden, and if the truth be told, we have made more than a few final deadlines by the skin of our teeth !

Business gurus, and consultants will have you believe that "succession planning" is the key to consistency and survivability. With this in mind, we have decided that it would be prudent to seek not only an assistant to perhaps ease the current burden, but also provide an opportunity to groom a successor. For the future.

If you fancy becoming involved, or perhaps want to know more about what the job entails, I would encourage you to come forward. Perhaps you the right person to take us towards the 40<sup>th</sup>, or even the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our journal.



# Lodge Union & Crown

No. 307

*Dear Sir & Brother,*

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

*Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2007*

*Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

*Dramatised Master Mason Degree*

*conferred by the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class*

*Harmony*



*Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007*

*Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

- *Mark Ceremonial conferred by Bro Graham Manson FPM*

• *Harmony*



*Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2007*

*Business : Minutes & Correspondence etc.*

- *Annual Installation of Office-bearers at 3pm*

• *Harmony*

*Yours faithfully & fraternally*

*James Miller P.M., Secretary*

# Regular Meetings

At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge, held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, the following Candidate :

## DAVID GRAHAM

was raised to the high and sublime degree of a Master Mason, by the Brethren of the Lodge Instruction Class, in what was a very good 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. Bro Michael Hughes PM, our Instruction Master cannot fail to have been delighted by the efforts of his team. The attendance at the meeting was particularly low, as it was in direct competition with an important Champion's League match on TV.

**Opened : 7-30pm**

**Lodge Closed : 9-21pm**

**Attendance : 50**



At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October, the Lodge held its Annual Business Meeting. The various Office-bearers and committee members for the forthcoming year were nominated and elected by the Brethren, with the worthy Secretary and Treasurer submitting their respective reports. Both gave clear and precise details of the complex workings of the Lodge and were well received by the Brethren, who were grateful to both of the executive office-bearers for their efforts over the preceding twelve months in what was an extremely busy year for the Lodge.

**Opened : 7-30pm**

**Lodge Closed : 8-40pm**

**Attendance : 50**



## 100 CLUB

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

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

£10 : **Bro Graham Manson IPM**

£5 : **Master John Allan**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October**

£10 : **Bro Robert McCulloch**

£5 : **Mrs Marion Osborne**



We are currently taking names for the 2007/2008 100 Club. The annual fee is still £10, and anyone interested should append their name to the notice which has been posted in the Downstairs Lounge.

All monies should be paid by the Installation in November.



# *Dates for you Diary*

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November** A Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where a specially extended version of our already popular Dramatised MM Degree will be conferred by Brethren of the Lodge

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November** Management Committee Meeting at 7-30pm.

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November** A Regular Meeting of the Lodge, where a Mark ceremonial will be conferred by Bro Graham Manson IPM, assisted by the Instruction Class of the Lodge.

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November** Installation of Office-bearers. The ceremonial will be carried out by Bro William Gauld PM, Bro James Kerr PM & Bro Thomas Mulholland PM. (Please note the 3pm start)

*(In addition to the above, the R.W.M. and Wardens are 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 as they represent the Lodge throughout the Province. Full details of all visitations, be they official or otherwise, are available on the Lodge Website, which is updated constantly - <http://unionandcrown.org>)*



## **Installation Dinner**

The Brethren are reminded that Installation Dinner tickets priced £10 for Brethren (£8 for Senior Members) are now available from Bro Colin McLardy WJW and Bro Colin Hamilton WSW. Senior Members should see Bro Alex White, our Almoner. You are advised to get your order in early, as they are expected to sell-out very quickly.

# BITS & PIECES

- Our Worthy Treasurer has informed us that Lodge Test Fees are now due, and should be paid as soon as possible.
- A whole series of Fund-raising events are planned during the session. Racenights, Quizzes, Coffee Mornings etc. We will keep you advised of each event as arrangements are finalised, and we would ask all to support these endeavours as much as possible.
- With the Installation Season almost upon us, a list of all Installations in the Province of Renfrewshire East has been posted in the Downstairs Lounge. If you can assist our Senior Office-bearers by attending the odd Installation, it would be greatly appreciated.
- Would any of the Brethren who have reached 65 should let the Lodge know as soon as possible and arrangements will be made to make sure that you receive an invitation to the Senior Members' Dinner in February
- Our Worthy Treasurer would be more than willing to accept any donations towards the annual Capitation Fee that the Lodge pays to Grand Lodge. This is based upon the number of active Brethren in the Lodge and comes to a bill well in excess of £1600.
- Christmas isn't too far away, and we will soon be distributing a whole host of Benevolent Parcels to the Widows of the Lodge. This is quite a considerable expense for the Lodge, and donations towards this very worthy cause would be much appreciated. Why not "Sponsor a Parcel" for less than you think ? The date to uplift the parcels is Sunday 10th December and Bro Alex White, Lodge Almoner, would appreciate some assistance.
- Congratulations to Bro Martin Muir and Bro Tom Mulholland PM who were successful in winning the Samuel Love Trophy, the Provincial Pairs competition. Runners-up were Lodge Craighends, No.1042
- It is very heartening to see some of the Brethren working together quietly in the background to ensure that the repairs and maintenance of the Temple are carried out as required. Especial mention to Bro Stephen Allan, WSD who has worked long and hard over the summer and beyond to get a long list of tasks completed.
- Hasn't Bro Jim Miller PM taken to the role of Lodge Secretary, like a fish to water. A caring and concerned individual, Bro Jim is ensuring that we are all on our toes, with the state of the Lodge, first and foremost in his mind at all times.
- The Hallkeeper's Flat is still available for rent, on negotiable terms, and all interested should see Bro Jim Miller PM, or Bro Jim Kerr PM
- Brethren are reminded that the Function Suite, with all the facilities of the Lodge are available for hire at a very modest charge. Depending upon the nature of the function, it can accommodate up to 120 people, and is ideal for family parties and dances.
- Congratulations to Brother Graham Allan's wife Kim, who recent celebrated her 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday with a party for family and friends in Fereneze GC.

# A Mixed Bag

## 1. A New Sign ???

A young Entered Apprentice was being examined as to his proficiency in the Entered Apprentice Degree. After he had finished, he looked at his instructor and said, "I noticed several of the older members sticking their fingers in their ears and whistling. Is that a sign that I missed something? What does that sign mean?"

"That's not a sign," his instructor said, "those are old Past Masters adjusting their hearing aids."

## 2. Food for Thought

Find a Lodge whose Master and other officers are leaders in the true sense of the word, and you will find a Lodge in which the Brethren value their membership, participate in the activities of the Lodge, keep their membership active, and through their actions, in and out of the Lodge, attract other good men to petition for the Degrees.

## 3. Origins

No man discovered law or can locate its beginnings. No man invented education, or can name its birthplace. Nor is it possible to state when religion took its place in the moral sphere of men.

These great forces spring from the needs of the human soul, and are the result of growth and development. The same is true for Freemasonry. It was not created, but grew out of the past." (*Bro Delmar David Darrah*)

## 4. A Fine Story

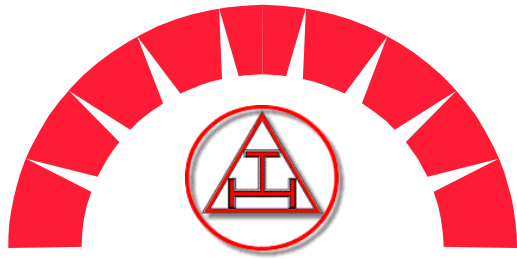
A Sales Rep breaks down in a remote country lane, a farmer in the adjacent field comes over and they discover that they are "Brothers". The Rep is concerned as he has an important appointment in the local town

"Don't worry says the farmer you can use my car, I will call a friend and get the car repaired while you go to the appointment" Off goes the sales rep and a couple of hours later he returns but unfortunately the car is awaiting a part which won't arrive until the next morning.

"It's not a problem," says the Farmer, "use my telephone and re-schedule your first appointment tomorrow, stay with us tonight and I'll see that the car is done first thing!" The farmers' wife prepares a wonderful meal and they share a glass of fine single malt during an excellent evening, the sales rep sleeps soundly and when he awakes, his car is repaired and ready to go.

After a full breakfast the salesman thanks them both for the hospitality. As he and the farmer walk to his car he turns and asks "my brother, thank you so much, but I have to ask, did you help me because I am a Mason?"

"No" was the reply, "I helped you because I'm a Mason"



## Rockmount R.A.C. No.367

At the installation meeting of the Chapter held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October, MEC Livingstone Boyd MBE and his team of office-bearers, were installed into office by MECs John Miller PZ, Robert McCulloch PZ, and Alex White PZ

All involved perform well in what was an impressive ceremony, greatly appreciated by all in attendance. We are sure that our MEZ, MEC Livingstone will have a good year in office.

The next Regular Meeting of the Chapter will be on :

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm**

and the Companions of Rockmount, extend a warm invitation to all to attend on that evening, where a Mark Affiliate, and Excellent Masters Degree will be conferred by the Office-bearers and Companions of Rockmount RAC.

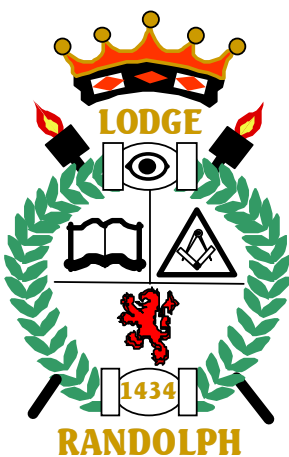
## Rockmount Cryptic Council, No.367

MEC Wilson Davidson TIM and his Office-bearers are settling in nicely to their new duties within the Council following the annual installation on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

The next Regular meeting of Rockmount CC is on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November** at 7.30pm, where it is expected that a Cryptic Degree will be conferred.



## Lodge Randolph

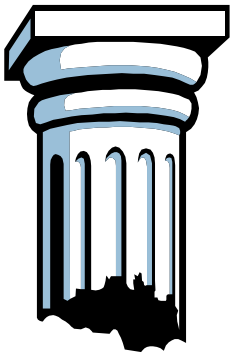


The next Regular Meeting of the Lodge is on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November** at 7-30pm. The guest speaker on that evening is local Historian, David Rowand. An architect by profession, David will take us back to Paisley in earlier times, with a very interesting talk about the history of his home town .

All Brethren planning to attending are most welcome, but should inform either our worthy Secretary, Bro Alistair MacDonald (☎01355 522731) or Bro Jim Miller PM (☎881 4006) to ensure that a meal can be purchased on their behalf.

All Brethren are reminded that the dress code is Dinner Suits and Black Tie, wherever possible.

# From the East



Time... Man has measured it in many different ways. If I were Chinese, I would have been born in a year of the Monkey, no comments please! In Western society we tend to measure it by birthdays but in Freemasonry, Masters and more particularly Past Masters measure it by talking of "In my year".

For me, "My Year" is now almost over... For Lodge Union & Crown has it been a good year? Has it been a successful year? I'll dodge that particular bullet & leave you the brethren and posterity to decide.

There is one particular cliché that all Masters use, and I make no apology for using it again, "I can't believe where the year went".

Would I change things if I could do it again, almost certainly...? At my Installation I was selected as an "expert" craftsman but in truth it was only day one of me being an 'apprentice' Master, sitting on the edge of my chair concentrating on what I had to do and say. Later in the year you gain a bit of experience, start to relax and that's when you make the big mistakes and the panic returns. Finally, you strike a balance where you can sit back, enjoy the work of the brethren, govern the Lodge and it's then you get replaced by a younger model!

Over the period I've had the fun stuff, 17 Home meetings, 10 Official visits and 56 Unofficial visits and sandwiched around these are the not so fun (but necessary) Management meetings, General Committee meetings and of course the Instruction class which contains a lot of both fun and seriousness.

Highlights...? There have certainly been many but sticking to home I'm delighted that, this year, we have inaugurated TWO brand new dramatisations into our syllabus, The Table of Scottish Freemasons' and an updated version of our dramatised Third degree. I was also delighted and proud to play host to a Barrhead 'Civic Dinner' and privileged to welcome Sir Archibald Orr Ewing, the Grand Master Mason of Scotland into Lodge Union and Crown to join us on that night.

"My Year" hardly..., I've been helped by so many brethren that if had to list them all here I'd have to persuade Bro. Jim Renfrew PM (Ed.) to produce a bumper edition of the Mallet. But if I can single out a couple of brethren as 'team leaders' so to speak – Can I than Bro. Ian Nicol and his team for redecorating the function suite, Bro. Steve Allan and Co. for their work in replacing the Lounge display cabinets, Bro. Graham Manson PM and his team for our new boilers and heating system. Others I want to thank are Bro. Wilson Davidson PM, Bro. Alan McIntyre and Bro. Ian Mason for the 'extra' work they all put in keeping the Lodge tidy and ready for functions. Thanks also to 'Ed.' and his team for the continued production of the Mallet, a publication which keeps 307 minded people informed throughout the four corners of the globe.

I'd also like to thank Bro. Secretary, Jim Miller PM and Bro. Treasurer, Jim Kerr PM for the work they do for us all throughout the year.

Finally brethren, I'd like to thank each and every one of you for giving me the opportunity of being the Right Worshipful Master of Lodge Union & Crown this past year. I wish the RWM Elect, Bro. David Watson and his office bearers all the best for 2007/2008, enjoy it brethren... I did.

**Hugh Cattigan RWM**

# ***Masonic Home at Bridge of Weir***



We know that there is still about eight weeks to go, but we would appeal to all our Brethren to remember the Brethren who are in the Marcus Humphrey House in Bridge of Weir.

It would be a nice touch if as many as possible could send a Christmas Card again this year, simply to remind the Brethren that they are still very much in our thoughts during the Festive Season. The address is :

**Marcus Humphrey House**

**Quarriers Village Bridge of Weir PA11 3SX**

## **MORE LIGHT !**

With the closing of the volume and the opening of a door,  
Think not this lodge has ended, think what has gone before.  
Remember all those worthy men who as apprentice came,  
And who developed love and skill and worked in friendships name.  
When you take up the working tools to gently put aside,  
Think not their work is ended, think how they were applied.

Remember well the lessons taught, to craftsmen tried and true;  
Of masons worthy of the name and apron white and Blue,  
When your tracing boards are covered and the columns laid at rest,  
Think not their teaching ended, think more a message blessed  
Remember the special meaning to master masons all,  
Of birth and life and learning and waiting for the call

With the sounding of the gavel and as the lights at last go out,  
Think not your lodge has ended, dispel all lingering doubts,  
Master, Wardens, Brethren, remember as you depart,  
Your lodge will live forever in every mason's heart.

# Almoner's Report

Since my last report, I have visited the following Brethren and widows of the Lodge, in some cases on several occasions :

**Bro Tom Forde** spent some five weeks in the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow and underwent a serious operation. During his stay there I visited him on several occasions and found him to be extremely positive with regards to his current health. Following his discharge from hospital, I managed to call on him at home where he is progressing well and thanked me and the Lodge for their interest.

**Bro Iain McFarlane PM** sustained a broken thigh whilst on holiday in Cumbria and was admitted to the Cumberland Infirmary in Carlisle, where he underwent an operation to repair the damage caused by the fall. He was later transferred by ambulance to the Western Infirmary in Glasgow, where he is recovering well. I managed to call in on him in the Western, and he is well, and I also managed to call in on his wife Betty at home.

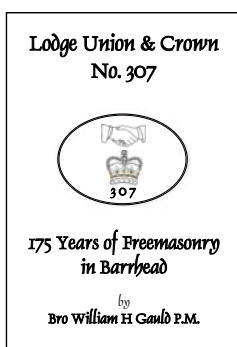
**Bro Jack Gauld** has had a couple of short spells in hospital recently following an infection. I managed to catch him in the RAH, and although tired he was in good spirits. Now back at home, I do hope that good reports will come his way in the coming weeks. **Bro Jim Miller PM** had an overnight stay in the RAH recently. I managed to catch up with him on his return home, and he is relatively pleased with his progress.

In addition, I have managed to call in on several of the Brethren of the Lodge in recent weeks including : **Bro Bobby Nixon PM**, **Bro Eric Gray** (who has been poorly of late, but is now fine), **Bro John Osborne** and **Bro Ken Houston**. All appreciated the visit and sent their regards to the Lodge.

I also took the time to call on some of the widows of the Lodge – Mrs Liz Kavanagh, Mrs Vera English and Mrs Susan McDougall and all thanked me for taking the time to call on them.

**Bro Alex White**

Lodge Almoner 0141-571 6411



## History of the Lodge

We would remind all our readers that there are still copies available of Bro Bud Gauld P.M.'s excellent History of Lodge Union & Crown, No.307 available - priced £10.

Anyone interested should contact Bro Bud (☎ 881-9552) who will be only too glad to sell you a copy.

# FLASHBACK

## Some Snippets from "The Mallet" of 29 Years Ago

No. 18

October 1978

### TO OUR READERS :

We thought it was about time that our publication had a title. Quite a few suggestions were put forward, but were all rejected as being unsuitable. Suddenly the inspiration came : why not call it **THE MALLET** ?

After all, is it not the Symbol of Authority. We hope you like it ?

### REGULAR MEETINGS :

On the 3rd October the following four Candidates had the Entered Apprentice Degree conferred upon them by a well-rehearsed team from the Instruction Class : A Joss, J McKinnon, A Kelly & J Reid. There was also the affiliation of Bro Sam Francis of Lodge Thistle & Crown, No.1167

Attendance : 140

On the 17th of October, there was a fraternal visitation from Lodge Garthland St Winnoch, No.205. Their Office-bearers conferred an excellent Fellow Craft Degree on the above-mentioned candidates.

Attendance : 120

### POINTS of INTEREST :

Martin Henderson, the former Ranger's player, who recently returned from the USA and who was signed for Leicester City by Jock Wallace, is a member of the Lodge of Kirkaldie, No.72, where his father is a Past Master.

Did you know that Shanks & Co., when founded had strong Masonic ties. The Tubal Works were called after the first artificer in brass and iron.

To settle an argument in the Lodge concerning Ian St John, one-time centre forward with Motherwell, Liverpool & Scotland, and now manager of Portsmouth FC, he is a member of Lodge Livingstone St Andrew, No. 573.

### 100 CLUB :

£10 : David Noble & Sam McFadyen.     £5 : David Gebbie & Jim Easdon.

£1 : Nat Christie & Len Matthews.

### ACQUISITION :

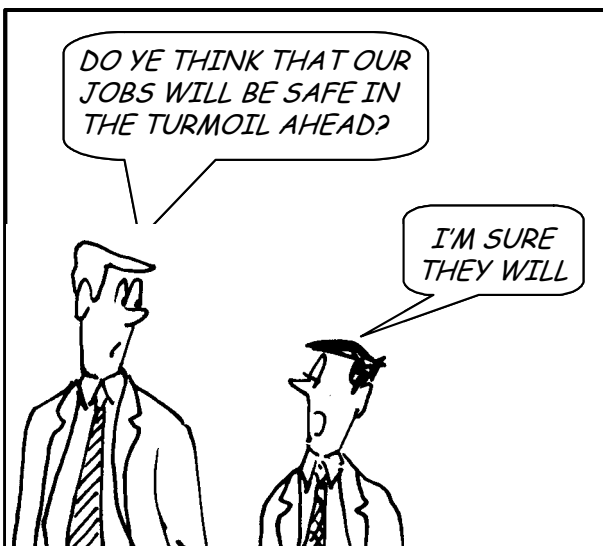
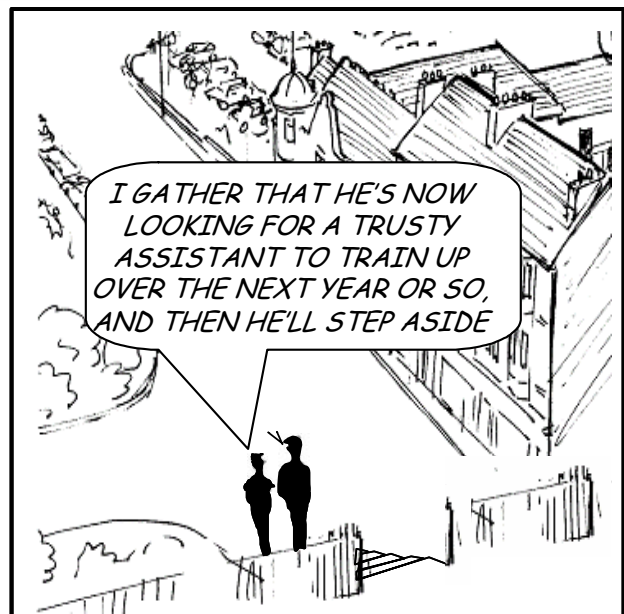
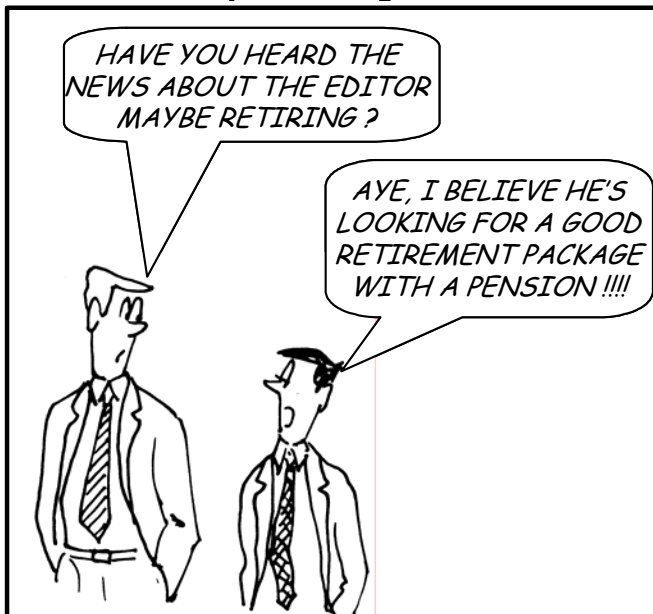
Through the good offices of Bro Jack Gauld we have now acquired an electric typewriter. He has our grateful thanks ! That now makes our publication totally independent.

### TAILPIECE :

Conductor to Candidate : " I must divest you of all money and metallic substances "

Candidate : " My wife must be a mason, she's been doing that for years "

# MARK & ARCHIE



J RENFREW OCT07

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

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