



The West Column



Brethren,

By the time this reaches you we will have just celebrated the centenary of Lodge Crawfurdsburn No. 1121 and the arrangements for that event are covered later in this month's West Column. However, the more observant of you will perhaps notice that another "centenary" is celebrated that is the 100th edition of the West Column.

The first edition appeared around 12 years ago and consisted of a couple of pages with the intention of ensuring that details of forthcoming meetings could be made known to as many brethren as possible. This recognised the fact that brethren were beginning to become connected through the internet.

As I recall, the first mailing list consisted of around thirty or so addresses which has grown steadily over the last decade to a direct mailing list of around 350 although from responses received, I know that the West Column is then redirected around the world. Over the years, I have received items of correspondence from Japan, India, China, Iraq, Canada and many parts of the USA to name but a few but it speaks volumes for this great institution of ours that from that humble beginning, we have reached out and made contact with so many across the world. Freemasonry is indeed universal.

There's maybe also a lesson for us in the success of the West Column that what started with very little effort can produce such a response. Often in our Lodges, we may think that our own personal contribution might not make any difference but we should never underestimate the friendly welcome, the handshake to a new candidate, the extra few pence in the collection plate, the visit to a sick brother or the visit to a Lodge which is perhaps struggling. Simple actions which may provide a return on investment well beyond expectations.

Over the next few months, we will witness Installations at all but one of the Lodges with a number of new Right Worshipful Masters being installed for the first time. Installation ceremonies are joyful occasions with the celebration of the ritual work followed by a harmony to be enjoyed by all the brethren. It makes such a difference to the occasion when the hall is full to capacity and I hope that the senior office-bearers of the respective Lodges and as many brethren as possible will attend not only the ceremonies but also the harmonies which are such an important part of our Masonic traditions. In the month of October, we will witness Installations at Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourock No. 626 on the 19th October and Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175 on Friday 25th October. In the meantime, I look forward to meeting you all in your Lodges over the next few weeks.

Warmest regards,
Jim

Contributions to the West Column

Thanks to many of the brethren, for their excellent contributions to this month's edition and a reminder that photographs of events are also welcome but I have to reserve the right to limit their use as it can affect the email transmission speed. However, please continue to send photographs as I can always include them in later editions. Most importantly, it is assumed that any photographs sent to me have the permission of the subjects for publication. If sending articles with accompanying photographs, could I ask that these are not embedded into a word document but send separately as JPEG files. All contributions should be sent to Jim626Col@aol.com

I am aware that many Lodges have had new initiates or even existing members who may have email addresses but do not receive the West Column. I would be grateful if the Lodge Secretaries could mention the West Column in your respective Lodges and perhaps encourage those who do not yet receive it to drop me a note of their email address and I will add them to the distribution list. The Column goes all over the world but let's make sure that it reaches all possible addresses in the Renfrewshire and Inverclyde area as well! My thanks go to those who have forwarded on new contact details within the last month. Views expressed by individuals within the West Column do not necessarily represent the views of Provincial Grand Lodge.

****** - PROVINCIAL NEWS - ******

Provincial Website.

For up to date information on what's happening in the Province, go to www.pgllrw.org Brethren, if you have anything that you wish added to the Provincial website, contact Brother Jim Donnelly at jimdonnelly@ntlworld.com

Meetings.

Lodge meetings in the Province of Renfrewshire West take place as follows;

Day	Day of month.				
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Monday	68	68	68	68	68
Monday		626		626	
Tuesday	XII	1121	XII	1121	
Wednesday		989			
Thursday	217	1425	217		
Friday	1814 *	175	175	175	175

- The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814 meets on the 1st Friday of the months of September, October, April and May.

Dates and duties for your diaries:

Annual Installation and Visitation:

Lodge	Inst. Date	Dep Head	Off/bear	Annual Visit	Commenting
12	19 Nov.	DPGM	G Carson	4 March	JPGW
68	13 Dec	PGM	Robert Bain	17 February	DPGM
175	25 Oct	PGM	John McAlister	10 January	JPGW
217	29 Nov	PGM	Gordon Porter	17 April	SPGM
626	19 Oct	PGM	Gordon Price	10 March	SPGW
989	15 Nov	SPGM	Jim Donnelly	9 April	DPGM
1121	1 Nov	PGM	John Black	28 January	SPGW
1425	6 Dec	PGM	Alex Johnstone	13 February	SPGM
1814	3 May (14)	PGM			

Bowling:

A report on the bowling competitions are available at the PGLRW website www.pgllrw.org

Provincial Visits:

As always brethren, I am indebted to the members of Provincial Grand Lodge who have accompanied me on the various visits which have taken place since the last publication of the West Column.

On Saturday 31st August, I attended the twice-yearly meeting of Provincial Grand Masters with the Most Worshipful Grand Master in Perth.

On Friday 6th September, I attended a meeting of The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814 where I had the pleasure of presenting a cheque for the sum of £500 to the Nepal Schools Trust on behalf of the brethren of the Inverclyde Lodges.

On Thursday 12th September, I attended a meeting of Grand Committee in Edinburgh.

On Saturday 14th September, I joined Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425 on their visit to Lodge Ugie No. 939 in Aberdeenshire East.

On Sunday 15th September, along with the DPGM and SPGM, I attended the Divine Service of the Province of Lanarkshire Middle Ward in Cambuslang.



On Thursday 19th September, I attended Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217 to witness an excellent Fellowcraft Degree by Lodge Barns O' Clyde No. 1018.

On Tuesday 24th September, I attended a meeting of Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121 to witness a Fellowcraft Degree carried out by Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII.

On Saturday 28th September, I attended the Rededication Ceremony of Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121 carried out by RW Substitute Grand Master Brother Alexander Galbraith.

On Sunday 29th, I attended a Charity Concert in aid of Leukemia Research organised by Lodge Shalom No. 1600 in Eastwood Theatre.

Visit to Grand Lodge.

I often hear the remark that brethren would like to go through to Grand Lodge but that travel by car is difficult because of parking in Edinburgh or other reasons. Often brethren go through their Masonic career without ever attending Grand Lodge which is a terrible shame as it is a wonderful experience. One of the topics discussed with the trustees of the Lodges recently was the possibility of arranging an organised visit by bus from the Province and although it was originally thought that this would be arranged for the June communication, an opportunity may have arisen to organise a bus for the Regular Communication of Grand Lodge on Thursday 31st October.

At the moment, it is likely that a bus would leave Inverclyde around 10.00 am getting through to Edinburgh in time for everyone to have lunch prior to the meeting of Grand Lodge at 2.00 pm. Following the meeting of Grand Lodge, brethren would make their way around the corner to Hill Street for a meeting of Lodge Sir Robert Moray which commences at 4.30 pm before heading back to Inverclyde after the "rush hour" has passed arriving home around 7.30/8.00 pm.

As there is not too much time to organise transport etc, I have asked the Masters of the Lodges to make enquiries within their respective Lodges and provide numbers as soon as possible. The cost is likely to be approximately £10.00.

If you are interested, please ensure that you give your name to your Right Worshipful Master as soon as possible. If the venture is successful, then perhaps it could become an annual feature for the Province.

LODGE NEWS REPORTS, NOTES and MEETINGS DURING SEPTEMBER.

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII

Tuesday 1st – Entering and Ballot

Tuesday 15th – Passing conferred by Lodge The Bridgeton, Shamrock and Thistle No. 275

Lodge Shalom No. 1600 Charity Concert 29th September 2013.

Congratulations to Right Worshipful Master Brother Alan D Beck and his group **Caledon**, for a wonderful concert to mark the 50th anniversary of Lodge Shalom No. 1600, which was held in Eastwood Park Theatre in aid of Leukemia Research. At the end of a most enjoyable concert, the Lodge presented a cheque for appropriately £1,600 and judging by the reaction and applause from the audience, the entertainment was greatly appreciated by all.

Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68

Monday 7th – Business Meeting

Monday 14th – Mark Degree

Monday 21st – Passing (to be confirmed)

Monday 28th – Meeting (to be confirmed).

Lodge Greenock St John's No. 175.

Friday 11th – Annual General Meeting, Notice of Motion (Members only).

Friday 25th – Annual Installation 6.45 pm.

Sunday 27th – Annual Divine Service 6.15 for 6.30 pm.

Scottish & Irish Visitation to Grand Lodge, Dublin.

A historical meeting took place earlier this year on Saturday 20th April 2013 in the Grand Lodge Room, Freemasons' Hall, Grand Lodge of Ireland, Molesworth Street, Dublin. This was arranged as part of the Bi -Annual Visitation and the 30th anniversary of fraternal accord between Lodge Gibson 87 (Irish Constitution) & Lodge Greenock St. John's No.175 (Scottish Constitution). Worshipful Master Bro. Evan Corbett & brethren of Lodge Gibson 87 (Irish Constitution) invited Right Worshipful Master Bro. Alexander Johnstone & the brethren of Lodge Greenock St. John's No.175 to exemplify an Entered Apprentice Degree on their youngest brother of Lodge Gibson, Bro. Timothy John Hughes.

Both lodges had arranged, well in advance, influential deputations which were graced with freemasons of high rank and calibre, coming from both the Irish & Scottish Constitution. Four Scottish brethren flew direct into Dublin and met with the Irish brethren in the Grand Lodge of Ireland. A total of 50 brethren (twenty one from 175) travelled from Belfast to join with them. A good number of brethren from the WM Bro. Evan Corbett's mother lodge, the Star of Bethlehem Antrim lodge No. 665, also attended. The brethren were then treated to a fine lunch within the Grand Lodge refectory and afterwards assembled upstairs to be received into the main temple.

The lodge was opened in the usual Irish Constitution manner and all visitors were received. The WM Evan Corbett received the Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Down Brother Roger Mathews, along with the Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Antrim Brother David Lyness. Then the WM received the brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West and the Chairman, Bro. Philip Daley of the Metropolitan Board who represented lodges Unity 238, St Cecilia 494, Lodge Ireland 2000 & Lux Diei.

With the Provincial Lodges having been received the WM Evan Corbett then received the illustrious brethren of the Grand Lodge of Ireland & the Grand Lodge of Scotland respectively,

the Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master Brother Rodney L. McCurley and Right Worshipful Substitute Grand Master Bro. Alexander Galbraith.

After the Grandmasters had been invited to the East to join WM Bro. Evan Corbett, all introductions and welcomes were given with the customary Irish salutes to each. WM Bro. Evan Corbett then presented RWM Bro. Alexander Johnstone with a beautiful set of square & compasses as a gift and token of their friendship to Lodge Greenock St. John's No.175. The meeting was then closed in due & ancient Irish Masonic form and the RWM and brethren of Lodge Greenock St. John's No.175 then prepared the temple for their exemplification degree.

The lodge was then reopened by the RWM Bro. Alexander Johnstone and the Office bearers of Lodge Greenock St. John's No.175 and a warm welcome and fraternal greetings was given to all visiting brethren. At this time the Right Worshipful Substitute Grand Master of Scotland Bro. Alexander Galbraith gave dispensation for the Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West Bro. James P. Livingstone and his delegation of Worshipful Substitute Provincial Grand Master Bro. Robert Paul Shields, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies Bro. James Cowan to be received. This then allowed the Gavel to be presented to the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. James P. Livingstone in the customary manner.

The Provincial Grand Master Bro. James P. Livingstone thanked the RWM and all the brethren for their attendance, as this was his first ever visit, to a masonic meeting in Ireland and returned the gavel to the RWM for the degree to commence.

The degree team on this occasion were: Junior Deacon Brother David McShane Snr., Senior Deacon Brother Greig Mitchell (Apron & Secrets), Junior Chaplain Brother James Robertson (Prayers & N.E. Corner), WSW Brother Marshall North, WJW Brother Callum Wohlgemuth, Almoner Brother Edward Ross IPM and Inner Guard Brother John McKenzie. The Obligation and Charge were given by the RWM Bro. Alexander Johnstone.

The candidate, Bro. Timothy John Hughes was obligated by the RWM, using the newly presented gift of the square & compasses. A thorough 175 degree was conferred upon the candidate. Bro. Hughes was then invited to sit amongst the brethren in the temple and watch the final closing ceremony. Fraternal greetings were given to all, then the lodge was closed in due and ancient 175 Scottish masonic form.

The Right Worshipful Substitute Grand Master of Scotland Bro. Alexander Galbraith, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West, Bro. James P. Livingstone, the Worshipful Substitute Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West, Bro. Robert Paul Shields and the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies of Renfrewshire West, Bro. James Cowan retired for refreshments within the Grand Lodge of Ireland and afterwards enjoyed fine dining in Dublin.

The Right Worshipful Master Bro. Alexander Johnstone & 175 brethren then returned back to Belfast for the festive board along with the brethren of Lodge Gibson 87.

On arrival in Belfast, the brethren congregated within the Mount Masonic Centre where the WM Bro. Evan Corbett received his top table guests, who were, Bro. Neil Ritchie Director of Music, the Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master of Ireland, Bro. Rodney L. McCurley, the Right Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Down, Bro. Roger Mathews, the Right Worshipful Master of Lodge Greenock St. John's No.175, Bro. John McKenzie, Secretary of Lodge Greenock St. John's No.175 and Bro. George Fletcher, Secretary of Lodge Gibson 87.

A sumptuous dinner for all the brethren was then served after which the masonic speeches and toasts were delivered to the Grand Lodges of Ireland & Scotland, The Provincial Grand Lodges of Ireland & Scotland and to all the visiting brethren. The reply to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West was given by 175 IPM Edward McNeil Ross, Provincial Grand Marshal.

It was particularly interesting to note that during the speech by the Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master of Ireland, Brother Rodney L. McCurley, commented on , *"the excellent standard of ritual of 175. In Ireland all 1st degree charges are read as standard by our*

Worshipful Masters. If they had to be learned and delivered from memory, as witnessed, there would not be many Worshipful Masters, maybe a few, within the lodges in Ireland. All the floorwork by the 175 office bearers was exemplary."

The WM Bro. Evan Corbett spoke about the friendship with 175 but more especially to have the visit graced by, *"the fantastic amount of chains from the Grand Lodges of Ireland & Scotland, their respective Provincial Grand Lodges and the visiting Lodges."*

RWM Bro. Alexander Johnstone spoke of the bonds of friendship and brotherhood and how these may, *"long continue with each successor in office, just as had been the custom since the days of Bro. Cochrane Moore Taylor PM and our Honorary 175 Member, Bro Tommy Redpath PM, who is with us tonight enjoying the festivities."*

The meal and speeches completed, the festive board was finished by the full company of brethren singing a Toast, led by Bro. Neil Ritchie, to RWM Bro. Alexander Johnstone. The board having been completed, the brethren then spent the remainder of the evening in fraternal accord.

The brethren of both lodges, now wonder, how they can, *up the stakes*, in their forthcoming visitations, after such a historical event witnessed within the Grand Lodge of Ireland. Both Masters would like to thank all the brethren for their support and look to the future supporting Irish & Scottish Freemasonry.



L/R PGM of RW Bro.J.P. Livingstone, RWAGM of Ireland Bro. R.L.McCurley, W.M. Bro.E.Corbett, RWM Bro. A.Johnstone, RWSGM of Scotland Bro.A.Galbraith, WPSGM of RW Bro R.P.Shields, PGDoC of RW Bro J.Cowan.



Grand Lodge Brethren, Provincial Grand Lodge Brethren & Brethren of Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175 within the Grand Lodge Room, Dublin.



The "Amount of Chains" of Office: L/R

RWDPGM of Antrim Brother David Lyness, Chairman of the Metropolitan Board Bro. Philip Daley, RWPGM of RW Bro. J. P. Livingstone, RWAGM of Ireland Bro. R. L. McCurley, RWM Bro. A. Johnstone, W. M. Bro. E. Corbett, RWSGM of Scotland Bro. A. Galbraith, RWDPGM of Down Brother Roger Mathews, RWSPGM of RW Bro R. P. Shields, PG DoC of RW Bro J. Cowan.

Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217

Thursday 3rd – Raising

Thursday 10th – General Committee Meeting

Thursday 17th – Entering (exemplification)

Social events.

On Saturday 12th October, the Lodge hosts another **FAMILY FRIENDLY SATURDAY** from 12 until 4 pm with food served between 12 and 2 pm.

Christmas Prize Draw tickets are now on sale from the Worshipful Junior Warden, Brother Gordon Leitch.

William Mearns Hill Macfarlane Golf Trophy

From April this year, through the summer months, brethren of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No.217 competed in 5 stableford competitions on golf courses in Inverclyde, Renfrewshire and Ayrshire.

Friends were always welcome to compete for the prizes in each round.

Each competition was keenly contested with the scores being accumulated. The lead changed hands many times throughout the season, making it very interesting leading up to the final round.

The weather was very kind to us, which showed in the attendances with 12 or more competing in every round. Waterproofs and umbrellas were not required, though some wished they had packed their sun lotion on a number of occasions.



The final round took place on Sunday 25th August, 2013 at Port Glasgow Golf Club.

Again it was a very well contested round. The eventual aggregate winner was Bro. Tommy Adair, closely followed by Bro. Jim Cowan and Bro. Alasdair Hamilton.

On Thursday 19th September, 2013, Bro. Adair was presented with the trophy by Bro. William Mearns Hill Macfarlane, a keen golfer for many years, who used to play off a 5 handicap.

A special thank you goes to Bro. Stephen McKenna, who organised each round and was responsible for donating many of the prizes in each round



Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning, Skelmorlie No. 624

Wednesday 9th – Passing and Annual visit of Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire

Lodge Firth of Clyde No. 626

Monday 7th – General Committee Meeting

Monday 14th – Raising

Saturday 19th – Annual Installation at 2.00pm.

Saturday 26th – Installation Dance

Monday 28th - Passing

Lodge Sir Michael No. 989

Wednesday 9th – Annual General Meeting

Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121

Tuesday 8th – Annual Meeting (Members only)
Thursday 10th – CIVIC RECEPTION
Tuesday 22nd – Entering

Centenary Celebration.

I am sure that a full report with photographs will be provided for the November edition of the West Column but in the meantime, congratulations go to the Lodge for 100 years of service to the Craft and to freemasonry within the Province of Renfrewshire West.

Congratulations must also go to RW Substitute Grand Master Brother Alexander Galbraith and his team from Grand Lodge who performed a beautiful and moving ceremony of rededication of the Lodge on Saturday 28th September 2013.

The celebration which followed in the Tontine Hotel was a very happy and enjoyable occasion with appropriate toasts being made along with some light entertainment provided by Right Worshipful Master Brother Alan Beck accompanied by Brother Doctor Fraser Gray on the piano.

On the 10th October, Inverclyde Council will be hosting a civic reception for the Lodge which emphasises the excellent relationship between our local Council and the Province.

As stated above, I would expect that a full report on both occasions (with photographs) will appear in the November edition of the Column.

Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425.

Thursday 10th – Annual General Meeting

Trip to Lodge Ugie No. 939.

On Saturday the 14th September, the Lodge accompanied by many friends from sister Lodges within and beyond the Province, including 8 members of Provincial Grand Lodge headed by the PGM, travelled to the village of Mintlaw, near Fraserburgh in the Province of Aberdeenshire East to assist the host Lodge to confer a Mark Degree on two of its brethren.

Following the meeting in a packed Lodge room, the visiting brethren were treated to a wonderful meal of soup, stovies and sherry trifle before starting the long road back to Gourrock. From the many comments since, it would seem that everyone enjoyed themselves immensely and we are all looking forward to meeting up with our good friends from Lodge Ugie again soon.



The deputation from Provincial Grand Lodge with the two Masters, Brother Bill Kidd and Brother Billy McLarty along with the PGM of Aberdeenshire East, Brother Billy Grant, SPGM Brother Ronald Simpson, Provincial Grand Secretary, Brother Doctor Douglas Nicol and Provincial Grand Chaplain, Brother Ian Bain.



Enjoying the hospitality of the brethren of Lodge Ugie No. 939.

The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814

Friday 4th - Regular Meeting - Presentation on Military Lodges by Brother Grant McLeod, PM242, PM18145.

Other Orders.

Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII

Annual Installation Meeting.

The Annual Installation Meeting of Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No 17, takes place on Wednesday the 16th of October 2013 at 7:30pm prompt, within the Masonic Hall at John Street, Gourock. On this evening M.E.Z elect, M.E.C Thomas F.M. Trotter, will be installed as First Principle of his Mother Chapter, alongside Office Bearers of the Chapter. A warm invitation is extended to all Royal Arch Companions in good standing, to attend what is hoped to be an enjoyable evening.

Ranfurley Royal Arch Chapter No. 289

Greenock Royal Ark Mariners Lodge and Council No. 17

Greenock Cryptic Council No. 17.

Preceptory of Ardgowan

St. George's Conclave No. 79 - 2013/14 Syllabus

2013:

15th October (KHS),
19th Nov (RCC)

2014:

21st Jan (KHS),
18th Feb (RCC),
18th March (KHS),
15th April – Installation of Grant McLeod.

(With the exception of Greenock RAC XVII and St George's Conclave, no information was provided by the other Orders)

The Wee Corner

The spot for all the stories that don't fit anywhere else!

CHARITY NEWS

STAMP APPEAL.

Please remember that Brother Bill Crumlsh of Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626 is collecting used stamps in aid of Ardgowan Hospice so please don't throw them away. Put them in an envelope and hand them on to Bill or to any member of 626 who will be pleased to pass them on. This costs nothing, simply a moment of your time and can mean so much to a very worthwhile cause. I'm sure than we all know of someone who has benefited from the care received at Ardgowan Hospice over the years so please help!

Brother Crumlsh has asked me to advise that if donating stamps it is very helpful if approximately 0.25" border is left around the stamp.

ANNIVERSARY LAPEL BADGES.

Lapel Badges for 25, 40, and 50 years service are available at a cost of £5.50 each. A special "gem" set badge for 60 years is also available at £10. **All prices are excluding postage.** For every badge sold, £2 will be donated to the Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund. All cheques should be made out to "Henry Tibbles"



Badges, may be purchased individually by qualified Brethren, or in bulk by Lodges who may wish to make presentations to deserving Brethren, for meritorious service. All enquiries and orders to Henry Tibbles, 6, Waters Edge, Shore Road, Skelmorlie, PA17 5EB. Tel. 01475 520604, or email to h.tibbles@btinternet.com
Please make cheques payable to Henry Tibbles.

Masonic Education.

I am continuing to publish a list of suggested reading which many of you appear to have found useful. It would be my intention to continue to keep this list as a standard feature and if anyone finds a website or article which could supplement the list, please let me know and I will be more than happy to add the details.

Reading Material

- The Ashlar
- The Grand Lodge of Scotland Year Book (order through your Lodge Secretary).
- Robert Burns - The Freemason edited by John Weir from Grand Lodge of Scotland
- The Origins of Freemasonry: Scotland's Century, 1590-1710 by David Stevenson
- The First Freemasons by David Stevenson
- The Craft by John Hamill
- The Genesis of Freemasonry by Knoop and Jones
- The Scottish Mason and the Mason Word by Knoop and Jones
- The Temple and the Lodge by Michael Baigent and Richard Leigh
- A Pilgrim's Path by John J. Robinson
- The History of Freemasonry by Robert Freke Gould
- The History of Freemasonry by Albert G. Mackey
- The Secrets of Freemasonry by Robert Lomas
- Workman Unashamed by Christopher Haffner
- Famous Scottish Freemasons published by Grand Lodge of Scotland
- The Freemason at Work by Harry Carr
- A Masonic Miscellany by George Power

New Material.

Right Worshipful Master Brother George Carson advises for those with a Kindle Fire HD you can download for free: The Symbolism of Freemasonry by Albert G MacKey in the 1800's. and comments that it is a very interesting insight into the use of symbols and allegories and how they may have developed from ancient cultures into what we have in "modern" Freemasonry. A little bit heavy in parts but as a free download for the information and ideas it is excellent.

Websites

- <http://www.hawthornefortitude200.com/twtmag.html>
- <http://www.lodge76.wanadoo.co.uk/>
- <http://freemason.pastperfect-online.com/37812cgi/mweb.exe?request=random>
- <http://www.americanmason.org/TheNorthernLight.aspx>
- <http://scottishrite.org/srjournal/>
- <http://www.esmason.com/news.html>
- <http://www.freemason.org/newsEvents/index.htm>
- <http://www.freemasons-freemasonry.com/>
- "Pietre Stones".
- Cinosam
- www.rurallodge.com
- Sadly, the last site is now no longer updated but there are a few back copies still on the site which are worth reading and I think that the lectures and material available at <http://www.lodge76.wanadoo.co.uk/> are particularly good.

Lodge Websites.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland - <http://www.grandlodgeScotland.com/>

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West - <http://www.pglrw.org/>

- Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII – www.lgk12.com

Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 - <http://www.lodgedorickilwinning68.org.uk/>

Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 - <http://www.greenock-st-johns-175.masonic-lodge.org.uk/>

Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217 - <http://www.lck217.org.uk/links.html>

Lodge Firth of Clyde No. 626 - <http://www.firthofclyde.org>

- Lodge Sir Michael No. 989 – www.lodgesirmichael989.co.uk

Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121 – www.lodgecrawfurdsburn.org.uk

Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425 - <http://www.Lodge1425.org>

- **Brethren, please note that the web address for Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII has changed and that Lodge Sir Michael No. 989 have now a new website.**

Grand Lodge Guidelines for the creation of Lodge Websites

if anyone is considering the development of a lodge website please bear in mind that the Grand Lodge of Scotland have issued guidelines for the creation of such sites and I would be happy to provide a copy.

The Ashlar:

Of particular interest to all freemasons in the Ashlar edited and produced locally, it is one of the most informative publications that you could read and is available either through your Lodge or through Brother Alex Galbraith, Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master, for the relatively modest sum of £4.00. Often with articles written by brethren known to us locally, it comes highly recommended.

DO YOU ORDER GOODS AND SERVICE THROUGH THE INTERNET – READ ON -----

GRAND LODGE – BENEVOLENT FUNDS - Easyfundraising

Brethren, I draw to your attention the attached fundraising scheme for the Benevolent funds of Grand Lodge and I commend it to you. It is the easiest, most painless way to raise money for the Benevolent funds.

I have used it on a number of occasions and it is incredible the amount that can be sourced by simply buying online at your usual supplier - all the big names are there. e.g. simply renew your car insurance with your Insurance Company and the normal fee sent by the Company to your nominated charity or good cause is £35 other suppliers send a percentage anything from 1.1/2 -2.3/4%.

It is so simple it is brilliant. Please read the attached and consider using if you buy online.

Many thanks

Alex Galbraith

Extract from Grand Lodge of Scotland Yearbook 9th September 2010.

The EASY FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE – AN EXCELLENT AND SIMPLE WAY OF RAISING MONEY FOR THE BENEVOLENT FUNDS OF GRAND LODGE.

The chairman and members of the Benevolence and Care Committee invite you to join them in supporting the above initiative which enables much needed monies to be raised for the Benevolent Funds at **NO** cost either to you or to Grand Lodge.

Please take the time to visit the website to find out more at: www.easyfundraising.org.uk

How it works:

The scheme operates by the registration of organisations and individuals with the service and when they shop online with a participating retailer, a donation is made to their nominated recipient. So many of us now shop online that it is an excellent way of raising funds just by doing something which we would anyway. Since the committee first approved participation in this initiative, Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund has been registered and now has a unique identification number which means that we can receive money from the scheme. Therefore, the more people who register and nominate Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund as their benefactor, the more funds we can raise simply by making online purchases in the normal way but using the links from the above site first.

To go directly to the unique web address for Grand Lodge type: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/glsbf and follow the links to register. The website is easy to use and gives a step by step guide. Different retailers give different percentage donations – for example, Grand Lodge has already received the sum of £35.00 which was donated by Direct Line when a member of staff renewed their car insurance. It is very difficult to raise funds in these challenging economic times so this initiative is worthy of consideration. Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West
Calendar of Events and Meetings – October 2013

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 st XII – Entering/Ballot	2 nd Provincial Grand Lodge – Regular Communication	3 rd 217 - Raising	4 th 1814 - Lecture	5 th	6 th
7 th 68 – Business Meeting	8 th 1121 – Annual Meeting	9 th 624 – Passing AV PGLA 989 – AGM	10 th 217 - GCM 1425 - AGM	11 th 175 – Annual meeting, NoM (Members only).	12 th 217 – Family Friendly Saturday	13 th
14 th 68 – Mark Degree 626 - Raising	15 th XII – Passing x Lodge 275 SGC 79 - KHS	16 th RAC XVII – Annual Installation	17 th 217 – Entering (EXM)	18 th 175 – Entering (Special Meeting).	19 th 626 – Installation (2pm)	20 th
21 st 68 – Passing (TBC)	22 nd 1121 - Entering	23 rd	24 th	25 th 175 – Installation 6.45 pm	26 th 626 – Installation Dance	27 th 175 – Annual Divine Service 6.15pm
28 th 68 – Meeting (TBC) 626 – Passing	29 th	30 th				

(E) denotes an Exemplification

For up to date details of meetings and news and information please log on to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West website at www.pglrw.org