



The West Column



Brethren,

The ***GREAT and MIGHTY THEY.***

A slightly odd way to start the leader column this month. Who or what is the great and might *THEY*?

I've often tried to make the point that everyone in the Lodge has a part to play, whether that be a "starring" role delivering ritual from the centre of the floor as a Master or Warden or as a Past Master delivering kindly advice and guidance to a young office-bearer (not all Past Masters just twiddle their thumbs and criticize you know)!

Or perhaps it's the Brother whose forte lies not in public speaking but is happy to act as Tyler, or prepare the pies or sell the raffle tickets or maybe even helps clean the Lodge room and do a bit of maintenance behind the scenes. Everyone has a part to play.

Unfortunately, there are also those in every walk of life, within and outside of the Craft, who are content to sit back and simply criticise the efforts of others. These are the ones who often worship the Great and Might *THEY*.

You know what I mean, *THEY* should do something about him, *THEY* should do something about the standard of ritual, *THEY* need to tidy up the Lodge. *THEY* need to do something about our falling attendance figures or the standard of candidate. *THEY* need to And so on!

Of course, the Craft is not unique in this regard as the Great and Mighty *THEY* exists in our Churches, in our Youth Organisations, in our work environment, in our Political Administrations, indeed the Great and Mighty *THEY* exists wherever decisions require to be made.

Now here's the strange thing. Where the Great and mighty *THEY* is less powerful, it seems that more things get done. That's when all the brethren take a bit of responsibility and get involved but sadly that is not always what happens.

At this point you probably think that the editor has lost the plot but perhaps I can prove my point by pointing out that as many Lodges will shortly be holding their Annual General Meetings when the election of office-bearers is held, how many Lodges will experience the lowest attendance of the year for what is often referred to as the most important meeting of the year.

I refer to it as the "No-neck Night" for when volunteers are sought to make up committees, everyone's head seems to shrink into their shoulders in a bid to become less obvious and in case they get "a job"!

If that is not the case in your own Lodge then I apologise for making a generalisation but I suspect that it does reflect the position in many Lodges. And yet those who deliberately miss the AGM for fear of getting a job or shrink into their seats in a bid to make themselves invisible are often the very ones who will then sit back and call upon the Great and Mighty THEY to sort things out.

I'm sure most of you must have, at some time in your lives, seen the film, "The Wizard of Oz" and you will recall that towards the end of the film, the "Great and Mighty Oz" was revealed as being nothing more than a sham – a little man hiding behind a façade with a deep and booming voice projected through a speaker system.

Well the Great and Mighty THEY is a little bit like that and the best way to ensure that things get done is to roll the sleeves up, take responsibility and get involved because I've got news for you for I'm going to tell you how you can meet the Great and Mighty THEY face to face.

Simply go and stand in front of a mirror.

Kind regards,

Jim

PS As I sit and compile this month's West Column, I am listening to the radio and learning of the decision of the Courts in relation to the suspension of Parliament. I would immediately say that I do not intend, nor would I ever, intend to use these pages to make any political comment whatsoever but I suspect that, as divided as the country appears to be at the moment, things may get very much worse before they get better,

I have already noticed that the comments appearing on social media sites are becoming more distasteful and aggressive and I would simply appeal to all members of Lodges to think very carefully before posting comments on social media which others might find offensive.

The rule we have in Lodges never to discuss politics or religion is sound common sense and while everyone is entitled to their opinion, sometimes care is required in how this is expressed.

Our actions and our language define us in the eyes of the outside world.

Contributions to the West Column

I would as always thank those who have provided 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 Jimliv626@gmail.com (Note change of email address).

Views expressed by individuals within the West Column do not necessarily represent the views of Provincial Grand Lodge.

Advertising: I would appeal to Lodge secretaries to let me know the details of meetings taking place. I am very conscious of the fact that without the medium of advertising in the local newspaper, there is a void of information which requires to be filled. By letting me know of meetings taking place, I can issue the details in the West Column which is sent out to nearly 500 email addresses as well as adding a weekly update to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West's facebook page which now has around 300 members. PLEASE take advantage of this medium. The schedule of meetings for the week ahead (where such information has been provided, is published in the Province's facebook page each weekend.

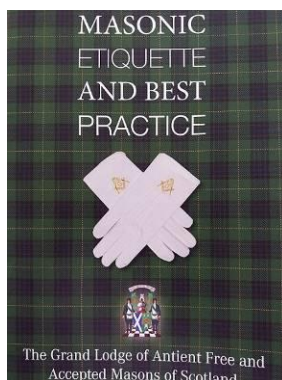
Personal Information and E-Mail Addresses.

Please note that the email address list held for the purposes of distribution of the West Column, are held for that purpose only and are not made available to any third party without consent. The West Column is distributed using "blind copies" to maintain the privacy of the recipients.

Photographs:

Please note that if you are having your photograph taken at an event either as an individual or as a group, it will be assumed, unless clearly expressed otherwise, that you are content to allow the photograph to be published in the West Column and on the Province's facebook page. The West Column is distributed directly to a closed email mailing list of approximately 500 names, all of whom are members of the Craft. The Province's facebook page is a closed group made up of around 350 members.

New Publication from Grand Lodge:



Can I commend to all but especially to those making their way up through the offices, hopefully perhaps towards the chair of their Lodge, the new publication available from Grand Lodge and priced at a very reasonable £3.00 per copy, £1.00 of which is going to Masonic Charities.

The booklet is the work of the Information and Communications Committee and is a very easy guide to Masonic Etiquette and Best Practice.

It covers the A to Z of decorum within the Lodges from the correct positioning of the Altar to correct forms of Address, to Visiting. The booklet also contains guidelines for the use of Masonic Websites, Email and Social Media. One copy is currently being sent to each Master, free of charge and thereafter, the booklet will be available to all to purchase.

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

Provincial Website. For up to date information on what's happening in the Province, go to www.pgllrw.org - 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	Preceptory	989	RAC XVII		
Thursday	217	1425	217	PGRAC 900	
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.

Byelaws and Notices of Motion:

Brethren, could I please urge you to ensure that any proposed changes to bye-laws be discussed with the Provincial Grand Secretary BEFORE compiling a Notice of Motion for submission to the Lodge. This will ensure that the Motion is in an acceptable format and avoid any delays caused by having to have the proposal reworded and resubmitted.

Renfrewshire 200 Club (RW200Club).

Application forms are also still available within each Lodge. If you have not already "signed up" I hope that you will give your earnest consideration to this excellent method of charity fund-raising which should at the same time, assist in boosting attendance figures throughout the Lodges. The monthly entry fee is £5.00. However, those wishing to participate are not limited to any number of "entries" and if anyone wishes to purchase two or more tickets they may do so. It is hoped that Lodges will also participate by purchasing tickets and perhaps this could be favourably considered by your General or Finance Committees.

Members may either pay cash (cheques should be made out to the Provincial Grand Lodge) or may take out a standing order arrangement. You can also take part on a monthly basis but to take part in the draw your contribution, whether by cash, cheque or standing order must be with the Provincial Grand Treasurer prior to the draw taking place. Please remember that a minimum of 50% of the income will be going directly to charity.

Winners:

The winner of the draws for May and June were Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175 and Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425 respectively. The July draw was won by Brother Ross Nugent (217) and the latest draw in August was won by Brother Archie Wright (68) or to give him his full name Archie Wright Again!

Test Fees:

Please be reminded that it is important that Test Fees are kept up to date. Most Lodges now offer the facility of paying by direct debit which is an excellent way of ensuring that you are always clear in your Lodge.

In particular, it is also important to make sure that if you are an affiliate member of another Lodge, you must be clear in ALL Lodges in which you are a member to ensure that you may continue to visit other Lodges. Brethren who are not up to date in all Lodges of which they are a member, have visiting rights withdrawn as well as the privileges which would normally be afforded to them in their Mother Lodges.

Annual Installations:

October 2019.

The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814 – Friday 4th October.
Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626 – Saturday 19th October.
Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175 – Friday 25th October.

November.

Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121 – Friday 1st November.
Lodge Sir Michael No. 989 - Friday 15th November.
Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII - Tuesday 19th November.
Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217 - Friday 29th November.

December.

Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425 – Friday 6th December.
Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 – Friday 13th December.

Provincial Meetings.

Regular Communication - Wednesday 2nd October. This meeting will take place on Wednesday 2nd October 2019 at 7.30 pm within the Masonic Temple of Lodge Sir Michael No. 989. The Provincial Grand Master extends a warm welcome to all qualified Master Masons and a reminder to all Masters and Wardens of the obligation to attend such meetings wherever possible.

Provincial Committee – Wednesday 4th December

Annual Meeting – Friday 7th February 2020.

Provincial Grand Master's Diary.

It has been good to note that the Lodges in the Province have started well, with a number of new Initiates beginning their Masonic career, and as part of their journey they have been welcomed into the Province of Renfrewshire West by a Commissioned Office-bearer or the IPPGM Bro James Livingstone. This is part of an initiative with new candidates being welcomed into Freemasonry not only by the RWM of their Mother Lodge but by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire and they will also be presented with a welcome letter. I hope that this initiative will continue to receive the support of all the Right Worshipful Masters and Lodges in the Province.

On Friday 6 September I attended the Regular meeting of the Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814.
On Monday 9 September I attended Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626 and witnessed an excellent FC Degree and assisted IPM Bro Nicky Stetz with the presentation of a 60 year certificate to Bro Samuel E. Hagen.
On Thursday 12 September accompanied by PG Sec Bro Alan Beck and PG Chaplain Bro George Carson, I attended Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 where we witnessed an excellent EA Degree.
On Monday 16 September I was part of a deputation from Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626, who conferred a MM Degree within Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68.
On Thursday 19 September I headed a Deputation from PG Lodge to Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 who were holding a Lodge of Sorrow in memory of Bro William M H Macfarlane Past Master and Past PG Master.
On Saturday 21 September I attended a meeting of PG Masters hosted by the GMM Bro W Ramsay McGhee in Perth, details of which I will advise at the Regular communication of PG Lodge.

On Monday 23 September I attended the AGM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626.

On Friday 27 September accompanied by DPGM Bro John Black and PG Sec Bro Alan Beck where we witnessed an excellent EA Degree.

The forthcoming Regular Communication of PG Lodge will take place on Wednesday 2 October within Lodge Sir Michael No 989 at 7.30pm and I look forward to seeing as many of the Brethren of the Province as possible.

Provincial Grand Master

LODGE NEWS REPORTS, NOTES and MEETINGS DURING the MONTH AHEAD.

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII

Tuesday 2nd – Entering
Tuesday 15th - Raising

Monthly Draw (from Brother David Stevenson, Treasurer).

As we enter another year the monthly draw is available again to all of you - and family.

£1 per number per month with no limits !!

All participants will be entered into the draw and it is my intention to draw the winning number on the 1st Tuesday of each month.

PRIZES – The prizes are £25 per month with the exception of June and December when there is no uplift. Please support the Lodge with this draw. Cash, cheques or through internet banking are all acceptable.

Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68

Monday 7th – Monthly Business Meeting
Monday 14th – Raising
Monday 21st – Passing conferred by Lodge Wilsontown Ironworks No. 236
Monday 28th - Entering

The Joker Prize tickets are on sale and the usual Saturday night social nights take place from 8.30 until midnight.

For up to date information on events and meetings taking place at Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 go to the Lodge website at:

<http://www.lodgedorickilwinning68.org.uk/>

Senior Members Outing.

Wee Iain MacLeod's Old Boys Outing took place on the 7th September. The brave souls left 68 at 11am heading for destinations unknown. The first stop was Helensburgh where the brethren were let loose on the unsuspecting public.

Leaving there at 2pm the bus headed up Loch Lomondside finishing at the Loch Long Hotel in Arrochar where the brethren were well fed and watered. They entertained themselves and were also entertained by the Lodge's resident band "The North East Corner Boys". This proved a bit of a shock to the system for some of the foreign tourists who were staying in the hotel at the time.

Before anyone called for emergency assistance the bus left Arrochar and got back to the Port by half past seven. We are pleased to report that no-one was left behind. The Lodge would like to express its thanks to Wee Brother Iain for organising the whole day.



The gang having a wee rest before the serious business of the day got underway!



A number of questions remain unresolved. Firstly, how can Charlie Barnes possibly qualify for a Senior Members Outing – surely he is far too young!

Secondly, where does Ricky Kennedy get his shirts from?



Obviously a great time was had by one and all.

Lodge Greenock St John's No. 175.

Friday 11th October – AGM, Ballot, Nomination and Election of RWM and Office-bearers (Members Only) at 7.30pm.

Friday 18th October – Special Meeting starting at 7.30pm for Members and Visitors. Entering.

Friday 25th October – Annual Installation at 6.45pm.

RWM Elect Brother Greig Mitchell will be Installed by Installing Masters Alex Johnstone, Robert P Shields and Matthew B. Henderson.

Sunday 27th October – Annual Divine Service conducted by Brother Rev. David Mitchell at 6.15pm for 6.30pm. (TBC)

Tickets for this year's Hogmanay Dance are on sale now for Members Only (maximum of 4 per member) until 1st November. After this date any remaining tickets will be available to Brethren and Visitors. Tickets are priced at £10 each and available by contacting Brother Thomas Porteous RWM.

The Lodge Annual Burns Supper will take place on Saturday 11th January 2020 with the usual highly regarded Speakers and Musicians from the Burns Fraternity along with the excellent Catering from Brother Jim Williams. Tickets priced at £12.50 each are available from Brother Alex Johnstone PM.

Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175 meetings will continue to be advertised in the Greenock Telegraph, and Online Edition, on the first Friday of each Month."

Please note that meetings of the Lodge will continue to be advertised in the Greenock Telegraph and online edition on the first Friday of each month.

Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217

Important Notice - Due to urgent building repairs required to the Lodge's premises at King Street, Port Glasgow, meetings, with immediate effect, will take place at the Masonic Temple of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68.

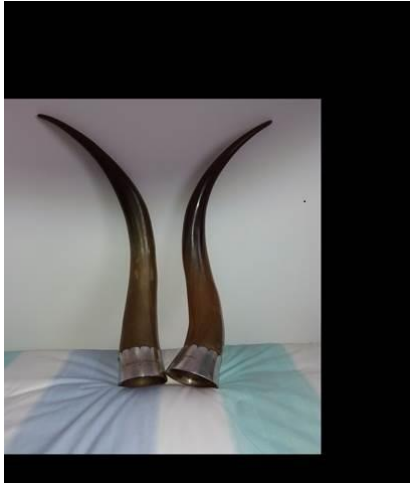
Thursday 5th – Passing (Exemplification)

Thursday 19th – Entering.

There will be a meeting of the Lodge's General Committee on Thursday 10th October.

Note from Secretary Brother Dan Blaney PM.

During the duntakings at our old Lodge in King Street the contractors discovered a pair of cornucopia horns buried in the basement. We have been unable to put an age on them and no one can remember them ever being used, certainly not in the last 65 years. They are in excellent condition and have cleaned up well.



Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning, Skelmorlie No. 624

Wednesday 9th – Passing and Annual Visit by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire.

Lodge Firth of Clyde No. 626

Monday 14th – Fellowcraft degree conferred by Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175.

Monday 28th – Raising

The Lodge's annual Installation shall take place on Saturday 19th October at 2.00 pm when Brother Graeme Wallace will be installed into the chair of his Mother Lodge by Installing Masters, Brothers Nicholas R R Stetz, Andrew G Pigott and Kenneth M McCrae all Past Masters of the Lodge. Following the Installation Ceremony, there will be a dinner and harmony to which all attending the Installation are invited.

On Saturday 26th October, the Lodge will be holding its *Installation Dance* with entertainment provided by DJ Craig Gibson and food (steak pie or curry option) by Brother Alex Black, the event is free and a warm welcome is extended to all to join the Lodge on this occasion. There will also be a raffle for which donations would be most gratefully received.

On Thursday 24th October, the Lodge will be travelling to Lodge The Gael No. 609 to confer a Mark Master Mason's degree. If anyone wishes to travel on the bus which is being organised, please contact Junior Warden, Brother Brian McLure as soon as possible as seating is limited. The Master extends a warm welcome to all qualified brethren to join the Lodge on this occasion.

Presentation:

The first meeting of the new session, on Monday 9th September was especially significant for one Brother, Samuel E Hagen who had travelled up from his home in deepest Englandshire to be presented with his 60th Jubilee Certificate by Immediate Past Master, Brother Nicholas R R Stetz assisted by the Provincial Grand Master, Brother Robin McIntyre. On the evening, Brother Sam was accompanied by his own (actual) brother, Brother Alistair Hagen, Past Master of Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No. 624.



A delighted Brother Sam Hagen with (L – R), Brother Robin McIntyre, Provincial Grand Master, Brother Samuel E Hagen, Brother Alistair Hagen PM624 and Brother Nicholas R R Stetz IPM626.

Honours:

Congratulations to Past Master Brother Andrew G Pigott on being made an honorary member of Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121 at the Regular Meeting on Tuesday 24th September 2019. The honour was richly deserved given Andrew's continuing support not only to Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121 but to all the Lodges in the Province of Renfrewshire West. His obligation was delivered on the evening by Master of Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121 Brother John Laird.

The main business of the evening was a Fellowcraft degree on a very unfortunate candidate Brother Fraser O'Hagan who had recently broken his foot and was hobbling around the Lodge on two crutches but was determined to take his next step in freemasonry, albeit an obviously sore one!



And just a last wee nostalgic note on the subject of honours to include this photo from around 1996 when Brother Rudolf Ludwig Stetz received his honorary membership of Lodge Prince of Wales, Renfrew No. 426. In case anyone is wondering, the figure on the right is the younger much slimmer brother of Past Master Brother James C Turpie!



Lodge Sir Michael No. 989

Wednesday 9th - AGM 9th for 989 Members only. This is an exciting time for the Lodge with a full team of new Office Bearers to be nominated, all brethren are asked to attend.

Regular Meeting 13th November Business will be a Lecture. Full details to be confirmed but this promises to be something quite different for Lodge Sir Michael. Watch this space!

Annual Installation 15th November Lodge Tyles 1915.

All 989 Brethren are asked to come along at 1815 for 1830 in full regalia for Lodge photographs etc to minimise any delays at close of Installation Ceremony.

Installing Masters are Bro Paul M Docherty PM (PIM, Bro Alasdair Keith PM (IM), Bro Kenneth M McCrae PM (IM)

The usual complimentary 3 course meal will be offered to all Brethren wishing to stay. Our usual plea for to members for Raffle Prizes from Lodge Sir Michael Brethren

Lodge Crawfurdsburn No. 1121

Tuesday 8th – Annual General Meeting and Election of office-bearers.
Tuesday 22nd – Entering

Jubilee Diplomas

At the final meeting of the Lodge on 23rd April, prior to the summer recess RWM Bro John Laird was joined by RWPGM Bro Robert McIntyre in presenting jubilee Diplomas to the following brethren:

50 Years

Bro Alexander Hunter
Bro Ian Norman

60 Years

Bro Robert Barrett
Bro Robert English
Bro Robert Heron



RWPGM Bro Robert McIntyre, Bro Robert English, Bro Ian Norman, Bro Robert Barnett, Bro Robert Heron, Bro Alexander Hunter and RWM Bro John Laird.

Note: On 9th July, Bro Robert (Bertie) Barnett was called to the Grand Lodge above.

Bowling match

On Saturday 4th May, the annual bowling match took place between Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII and Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No. 1121.

The game was eventually won by Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No. 1121, and at the end of the match the trophy was presented in a “friendly –reluctantly” way to RWM Bro John Laird by RWM Bro J Robert Crossan.

The game took place on a sunny morning and all, participants and non-participants, had an enjoyable time. A raffle was held, which raised £100 for Marcus Humphrey’s Home in Bridge of Weir.



Thanks are extended to Bro Samuel L Hunter for organising this event as the host team, Bro Malcolm A Sinclair for supplying shortbread, cakes etc., to Mrs. Cathy Morrison for assisting with the catering and to the office bearers and members of the Ardgowan Club for their hospitality and allowing us to use their greens and facilities.

After a spot of harmony and a light lunch (roll and pie) the raffle raised the magnificent sum of £100 which will be delivered to MHH on behalf of both lodges.



Finally, next year will be the 30th anniversary of the Tournament having first been contested in 1990. It is hoped that there will be a good turnout from both Lodges for that milestone in the friendship that has developed over the years between the Lodges.

Special report

At the Lodges regular meeting on 10th September, a brother made a report on a visit he had made on 22nd July, while on holiday, to Lodge Trinity No.1846 Beirut, Lebanon, (District Grand Lodge of Lebanon. SC). The meeting consisted of a lecture by the Lodge's RWM. However, during the meeting, the Lebanese National Anthem is sung in Arabic, while the National Flag is raised.

The Lodge brethren were somewhat surprised, but impressed, when Bro Gordon Barrett joined them in the singing, having learned their National Anthem in 1996, while working in the country between 1995/97. It was a very difficult language to learn however the brother managed it through teaming up with a Lebanese colleague, who, at the time, was trying to master understanding English, when spoken at speed in a west of Scotland accent!

Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425.

Thursday 12th – Annual General Meeting and Election of office-bearers'

The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814

Friday 4th – The next Regular Meeting of The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814 will be held within the Masonic Temple, West Stewart Street, Greenock at 7.00 pm (note the earlier starting time).

On this occasion, the business of the Lodge will be the Annual Installation of Office-bearers for the session 2019/2020. The Installation of Brother Nicholas R R Stetz, Master-elect, will be preceded by the annual visit of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West. Following the formal business of the evening, the newly installed Master will present the William M McKillop Memorial Lecture entitled "Enemies of the Craft".

Other Orders

Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII

October

Wednesday 16th – Installation

November

Wednesday 20th – Excellent Master's Degree

December

Wednesday 18th – Royal Arch Degree.

Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII meets in the Masonic Temple, John Street, Gourock on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Most Excellent First Principal, Nicholas R R Stetz and office-bearers of the Chapter extend a warm invitation to all, especially any Companions who may not have been to the Chapter for some time. Remember, the hardest thing can be walking through that door again. For anyone contemplating returning to the Chapter, you can be assured of a warm welcome.

Meetings for the session ahead.

Ranfurley Royal Arch Chapter No. 289

Ranfurly Royal Arch 289 Annual Installation held in Masonic Temple Kilmacolm Oct 3rd at 715pm. MEZ Elect, Companion James Watson (not the Lodge Sir Michael WSW!) invites all qualified RA Masons to attend the highlight of the Royal Arch Year for Ranfurly 289.

Port Glasgow Royal Arch Chapter No. 900

Thursday.31st – Annual Installation 7.30 pm.

The Chapter meets on the 4th Thursday of the month within the premises of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68.

Preceptory of Ardgowan

Venerable Preceptor Andrew G Pigott and Office Bearers extend a warm to all Fraters to attend the Annual Installation as well as our Musters during 2018/2019 session especially those who have been unable to attend recently through other commitments.

- A pocket sized syllabus is also available where required
- Executive Committee dates and times will be advised separately
- All musters are held within the Masonic Temple, West Stewart Street, Greenock at 7.30 pm unless otherwise advised.

Please ensure the Secretary has your current contact details.

Greenock CC & RAM 17 - Meets 4th Wednesday at Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourock No. 626.

St. George's Conclave No. 79 –

Tuesday 15th – KHS

For those Conclave Masons, please be advised that the Conclave Newsletter "Augustus" is available from conclave79@yahoo.co.uk

The Wee Corner

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

CHARITY NEWS

STAMP APPEAL.

Please remember that Past Master Brother Kenny McCrae 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 Kenny 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 McCrae 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 "David Stevenson"



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 treasurerno12@aol.com
Please make cheques payable to "David Stevenson".

Anniversary Badges.

Brethren, Brother David Stevenson, who kindly took on the task of co-ordinating the supply of anniversary badges from Brother Henry Tibbles has asked me to include a brief request to the effect that he would appreciate if Lodges could ascertain what the demand is likely to be for supplies of such badges during the coming year. It would be helpful if Lodge secretaries could co-ordinate any likely requests for such badges and advise Brother David of demand. His email address appears at the advert for the badges.



In the October 2014 edition of the West Column, I published a 'Grumpy Old Masters' Badge, provided by Brother Brian Hopkins PM626. Brother David Stevenson, has advised me that following enquiries from a number of brethren, he has been able to source these at a cost of £5.50 each excluding postage. Brother David's details are provided above.

Masonic Education.

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, 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.

Provincial Grand Lodge Renfrewshire East.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East operates a digital and lending library with over 5,000 books on a very wide range of Masonic topics and is free to access through their website at www.pglre.org

Registration is a very simple process and open to brethren within the Province of Renfrewshire West.

Out and about.

Last month, the Column contained some pictures from brethren taken in some far flung places and I'm glad to say that we have some more for you in this month's edition.

No Brother seems to get around as much as Brother Alex Galbraith, PM175, PPGM and Past Substitute Grand Master and I am indebted to Brother Galbraith for this very interesting contribution.

An Evening With Author Dan Brown

On Monday 19th August 2019 while in Washington D. C. on other Masonic duty I was greatly honoured to receive an invitation to attend a private evening presentation with author Dan Brown at the prestigious House of the Temple, headquarters of the Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

Dan Brown as most will know is the author of the bestsellers 'The Da Vinci Code', 'Angels & Demons', 'Inferno' and 'The Lost Symbol' to name but a few.

It made perfect sense for the Scottish Rite to invite Mr. Brown to speak at the gathering especially in this particular building.

The 'Lost Symbol' was a 509 page love letter to our fraternity. Its cover featured the double-headed eagle of the Scottish Rite and its motto 'Ordo ab Chao'. Its original hardback release date was very deliberately 15/9/09 which adds up to the number 33 and the thriller's climax unfolded in the House of the Temple itself.

Since someone invariably asks whenever Dan Brown gets mentioned he is not and never has been a Freemason but even as a non-mason he has achieved pop culture pinup boy status with freemasons managing to stoke unparalleled interest in all things Masonic.

During his presentation Mr. Brown gave a very humorous and interesting talk on growing up in Exeter, New Hampshire the son of a fanatical mathematician father Richard and devout Christian mother Connie Brown.

His love of Rosslyn Chapel and particularly the principles of worldwide Freemasonry was the main driving force and inspiration for his writings and the storylines of his principal character Robert Langdon.

An exclusive fifteen part television series entitled 'LANGDON' based on the principal character of his novels will be screened on television during 2020.

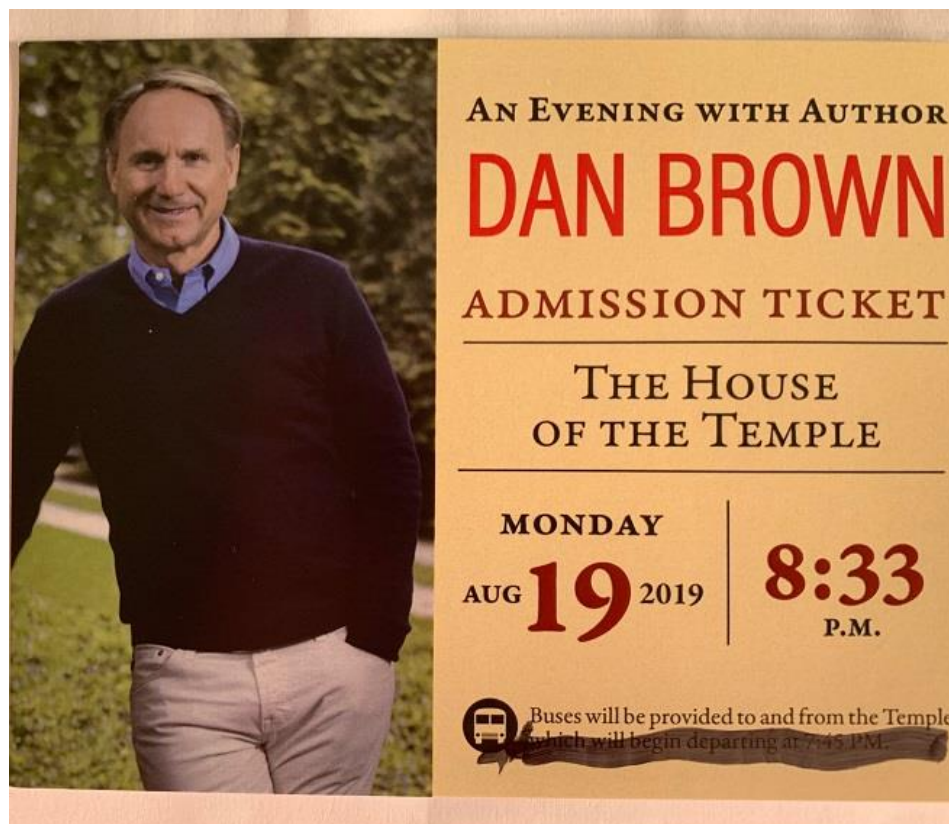
Following the presentation there was a stimulating and enthusiastic question and answer session.

It was a very unique, special and memorable evening and it was a great privilege to have been in attendance.

As a memento of the evening all attendees were presented with an autographed copy of 'The Lost Symbol'.

Alexander Galbraith

Past Substitute Grand Master
Past Provincial Grand Master



The following three photographs were taken by Brother George Carson PM1121 on a visit to the Orkney Isles.





ADVERTISING:

I am always delighted to include any adverts for companies and services operated by our members and there are some additional new adverts included in this month's Column.



Platinum Paving. Brother William Peacock (Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425).

For all your garden, driveway and landscaping needs please call Bro William Peacock on 07588678211.

Advert:

Brother Scott Dunlop.

S D Locksmiths.

Accredited by the UK Locksmith Association.

UPVC window and door locks.

Contact: Scott Dunlop.

Mobile: 07549 230766

Email: scott@sdlocksmiths.uk

Advert: If you happen to be taking the air down in Largs, make sure you take a few minutes to visit *Moda Boutique*, in Tron Place, Largs (opposite the Station), which is the new venture of the Brother Graeme Wallace and his partner, Louise.

Just recent opened, we wish them every success.



Advert: (Brother Emmanuel Oroh is a member of Lodge Greenock St John's No. 175)
Anchor Security & Cleaning Services Ltd
T: 0777 543 9037
E: anchorlimited73@gmail.com
Reg. No: 09394504

Security Services

In today's commercial environment, Security is paramount to every organisation, but at Anchor Security Services we provide much more than a behind the scenes presence.

We successfully carry out static guarding duties, front of house commissionaire and reception operations, mobile patrols, key holding and alarm response services. We also carry out in-depth property surveys which comply with EEC regulations.

Customer Care

At the forefront of our operative's training is customer care. This allows us to carry out the dual role of a highly trained security operative, and create a professional welcome for your visitors and clients at the crucial first point of contact on your premises.

SIA Licensing

All our security operatives are licensed and regulated by the UK government's Security Industry Authority (SIA). These high standards mean that our clients can have complete confidence in our performance.

In addition, we rigorously vet all our staff to ensure only the highest calibre of applicant are employed by Anchor Security Services.

Cleaning Services offered

Our cleaning services range from daily office cleaning to carpet cleaning, decoration, initial deep cleaning and janitorial service/supplies.

All staff vetted

In accordance with our company policy, all cleaning staff are thoroughly vetted before being employed by Anchor Cleaning Services to ensure the highest levels of security before entering our client's premises.

Janitorial Supplies

As an additional service, we also offer vast range of janitorial supplies to our clients, making the procurement and supply of cleaning duties a one stop operation.

Our Control Centre operates 24 hours each day, every day of the year, contact us using the details.

Emmanuel Oroh

(Manager)

Anchor Security & Cleaning Services Ltd

Advert:



First ABC Training

07958940412

First Aid Training Courses



First ABC Training provide first aid training courses to groups and individuals throughout the UK.

We regularly work with local authorities, members of the public and companies in industries including education, catering, construction, and more.

Our courses are a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical sessions. They are designed to give you the ability and practical confidence to protect your family, friends, colleagues, and members of the community.

What courses are available?

We provide flexible training and curriculums that vary in length to suit your requirements; including 1 and 3 day first aid courses, as well as programmes up to 12 hours and 6 hours or under.

This makes it easier for HR, Health and Safety, Training and Compliance Managers to arrange sessions around their different needs and availability.

Below are some of our most popular courses:

- [3 Day First Aid at Work](#)
- [1 Day EFAW](#)
- AED (Defibrillator)
- [Basic Life Support](#)
- [Appointed Persons](#)
- [Paediatric First Aid Training 6 Hour](#) and [12 Hour](#)

Bryn Hopper Training Manager. (Brother Bryn Hopper is a member of Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourock No. 626).

Defibrillation Equipment. It is understood that many Lodges are currently considering the installation of defibrillation equipment on their premises and it is again confirmed that such equipment may be purchased using funds from a Lodge's Benevolent Account, if that is convenient.

Many firms will offer to sell such equipment but of course there is an element of training which is also required and which can also be costly. To this effect I am happy to draw to your attention an offer made by Brother Hopper to the Lodges in the Province who is willing to sell such equipment for the special price of £699.00 plus VAT and provide training necessary, free of charge.

Brother Hopper can be contacted at brynrfc@sky.com

Advert:

sales@etprint.com  www.etprint.com
01475 650706

IT COMPUTER PRODUCTS
61 Shore Street: Gourock: PA19 1RF

PC & LAPTOP SALES AND REPAIR CENTRE
Custom built PCs for business and home - Laptop sales & service
No Fix No Fee - Guaranteed Work - Fully Insured.
Wide range of compatible Inkjet & laser toner cartridges for printers, copiers and faxes

 **PHONE - TABLET & GADGET
SALES & REPAIR CENTRE**
You break it! We repair it...
Tel: 01475 650706
www.itechinverclyde.co.uk

Painting and Decorating.

For all your painting and decorating needs, contact Brother Lindsay Mungin (MM1425) on 01475 728073 or 07715 214 763



Advert.

D & D All Trades (Brother Graeme Dunn of Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121).



Advert: (Brother Russell Johnston, Lodge Sir Michael No. 989).



Don't forget that Gowanlea Nurseries is the place to go for all your bedding plants!

Fine Paulish



- Domestic cleaning
- Commercial cleaning
- Industrial cleaning
- End of tenancy clean
- After builders clean
- Oven cleaning
- One off clean
- Pressure washing
- Carpet cleaning
- Garden maintenance

For Enquiries



finepaulish@gmail.com



07484880413



@finepaulish



Cleaning and Maintenance

Charity Event.

As many will be aware, Ben, the son of Alisdair and Gillian (Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68) spent some considerable time over the winter months in hospital and we were delighted to see that his recovery has enable him and twin sister Abbie, to start on life's next big adventure in Primary one a few weeks ago.

Gillian and Alisdair are organising Charity Event on Sunday 6th October and even if you can't get along, please consider a donation or a raffle prize for this excellent cause.



Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West

Calendar of Events and Meetings – October 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 st XII - Entering	2 nd Regular Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West.	3 rd 217 – Passing (E) RAC 289 – Installation (7.15pm).	4 th 1814 – Annual Installation and visit by Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West (6.45 pm)	5 th	6 th
7 th 68 – Monthly Business Meeting	8 th 1121 – AGM and election of office- bearers.	9 th 624 – Passing and AV by PGLA. 989 - AGM	10 th 1425 – AGM and election of office- bearers	11 th 175 – AGM and election of office- bearers (Members only).	12 th	13 th
14 th 68 – Raising 626 – Passing conferred by Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175.	15 th XII – Raising SGC 79 - KHS	16 th RAC XVII - Installation	17 th 217 - Entering	18 th 175 – Special Meeting - Entering	19 th 626 – Annual Installation (2.00 pm).	20 th
21 st 68 – Passing conferred by Lodge Wilsontown Ironworks No. 236	22 nd 1121 - Entering	23 rd	24 th	25 th 175 – Annual Installation (6.45)	26 th	27 th 175 – Annual Divine Service (6.15 for 6.30).
28 th 68 – Entering 626 - Raising	29 th	30 th	31 st RAC900 - Installation			

(E) denotes an Exemplification *Information is correct at time of issue but may be subject to change. 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*