



## *The West Column*

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Brethren, I have to confess that I have a bit of a varied taste in music. I love music played on the “King of Instruments”, the pipe organ, I love brass band and pipe band music, easy listening, a bit of opera and even a bit of country music although I would not consider myself as an expert on any particular genre. One of my favourite country and western singers was the late Johnny Cash and strangely enough, one of my favourite tracks performed by him was not one in which he sings but speaks the lyrics and that is the “song”, *Ragged Old Flag*. Many of you are probably familiar with the song and it concerns a visitor to a town striking up a discussion with an old local and remarking, as he looked at the Stars and Stripes in the town square, that it had seen better days. The old chap then tells him the story of the flag flying in the middle of the town and although not wanting to brag but he’s very proud of the ragged old flag.

He recounts that the flag was damaged when Washington crossed the Delaware, at battles in New Orleans, the Alamo, and how the southern winds had blown hard upon it during the Civil War. It got a big hole from a blast from a bertha gun in Flanders Field, then served in the Pacific and in Korea and Vietnam and “she went where she was sent by Uncle Sam”!

He concludes his story by saying;

“So we raise her up every morning, we take her down every night.  
We don’t let her touch the ground and we fold her up right.  
On second thought, I do like to brag,  
‘Cause I’m mighty proud of that Ragged Old Flag”.

The flag might have been well-worn and ragged but it had earned the right to be and wore its battle scars with pride.

Of course in the Craft we also have our “colours” on show, our aprons and in many ways the aprons reflect how much service the wearer gives to the Craft. I have been fortunate in recent times to have been present when brethren have received their jubilee certificates from their mother Lodge and nothing reflects better on them than when they put on an apron which is perhaps faded and a bit worn and perhaps has seen better days for this reflects that they have not just been members for fifty-years but have given fifty years devoted SERVICE to their Lodge. There is a big difference!

How much more impressive is that well-worn apron than the apron which lies in a plastic bag, within a case and rarely sees the light.

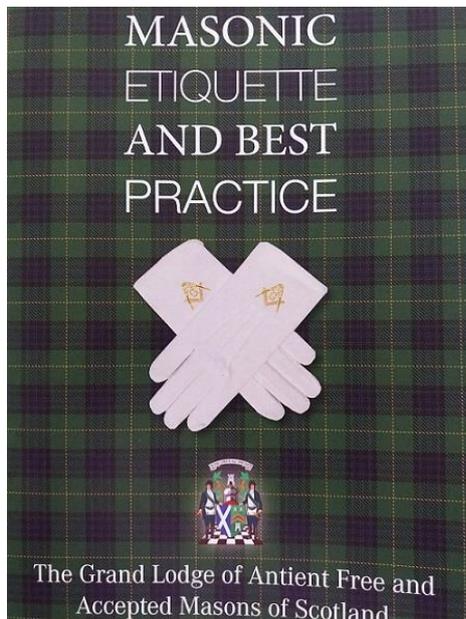
We wear our colours with pride within the Lodge and of course, in some ways we also wear our colours outside of the Lodge and we do so by our words and actions which speak of who we are and what we represent.

The all-seeing eye is ever upon us and I wish that we could all remember that, especially as some of the posts that I see on social media do us no credit. Intemperate language, thoughtless remarks and comment often does not reflect well upon us and it is important that we all remember that we are freemasons whether wearing our colours inside or outside of the Lodge.

Congratulations to the brethren who have recently received their jubilee certificates and I'm sure the Provincial Grand Master will not mind if I remind all Lodges that he, or his representative, are always willing to come along to any Lodge and assist with any such presentation. It is always a little bit more impressive and memorable for the recipient.

Regards,

Jim



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.

## **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](mailto: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.

### **Acknowledgement:**

As always we are very grateful to Brother J Stewart Cruikshank, Substitute Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire for kindly allowing us to use many of the photographs which appear in the West Column.

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

**Provincial Website.** For up to date information on what's happening in the Province, go to [www.pglrw.org](http://www.pglrw.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 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
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 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the months of September, October, April and May.

**Dates and duties for your diaries:**

**Provincial Grand Lodge**

**Annual Installations and Visitations:**

Lodge	Inst. Date	Off/bear	Annual Visit 2018	Commenting
12	Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	TBA		
68	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	TBA		
175	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	TBA		
217	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	TBA		
626	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	TBA		
989	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov.	TBA		
1121	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov.	TBA		
1425	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec.	TBA		
1814	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	TBA	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	

**In the event that any Provincial Office-bearer is unable to make any of the above dates, it would be appreciated if an apology could be registered with Provincial Grand Secretary in advance of the meeting.**

**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 over the summer months are as follows:

April – Brother Robert S Stone, Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217.

May – Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217.

June – Brother Archibald (again!) Wright, Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68.

July – Brother Murdo Munro, Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626.

August – Brother George J Carson, Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121.

#### **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.**

#### **Provincial Grand Master's Diary.**

It has been good to note that the Lodges in the Province have started well, with 3 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 a new 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 West and they will also be presented with a welcome letter. I hope that this new initiative will receive the support of all the Right Worshipful Masters and Lodges in the Province.

My first duty of September was accept an invitation to attend Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 who were presenting a Jubilee Certificate to Bro Robert S. Stone PM, Past Senior Provincial Grand Warden. It was a pleasure to be part of the presentation to Bro Stone and it was great to see him back taking part in the Degree work after his recent illness.

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September I attended Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No 12, where I witnessed an excellent FC Degree carried out by Bro Alistair Glenn PM and other former pupils of Greenock High School.

On Saturday 22 September I attended the Installation of the new PGM of Argyll and the Isles, Bro Douglas Philand and his Commissioned Office-bearers in Oban. On this occasion I was accompanied by IPPGM Bro James Livingstone, DPGM Bro John Black and PG Sec. Bro Alan Beck, also present was Past Sub. GM Bro Alexander Galbraith who was part of the Grand Lodge deputation. I was pleased to see that Bro Kenneth Harvey a member of the Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 was installed as Sub PG Master. We enjoyed an excellent ceremony and dinner before heading back down to the Province.

On Monday 24 September I attended the AGM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626.

On Tuesday 25 September I attended Lodge Crawfordsburn No 1121, where Lodge Sir Michael No 989 carried out an FC Degree. It was good to see a good attendance to witness the Degree.

On Saturday 29 September we welcomed the Widow Son's Motor Cycle Group and Poppy Scotland to the Province as part of the events to Commemorate the 100 years since the end of Great War. This was the last weekend of visits to the Provinces in Scotland, and it was a pleasure to join the Masters for the wreath laying ceremony in Port Glasgow (see report below).

The forthcoming Regular Communication of PG Lodge will take place on Wednesday 3 October and we are delighted that the GM Mason and Deputation from Grand Lodge will be attending. The evening will also feature a question and answer session with the new Grand Secretary and a buffet will also be provided after the meeting. Looking forward to a good attendance on the night to show the Province in the best possible light.

### **Regular Communication.**

The Regular Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West will take place in the Masonic Temple, of Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626 on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 at 7.30 pm. Along with the usual business which will include a vote on the Citizen of the Year Award for 2018, the Province will be graced with a visit from the Grand Master Mason, Brother Charles Iain Robert Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont along with a deputation of Grand Lodge office-bearers including the new Grand Secretary, Brother J Euan Edmont. Following the close of Provincial Grand Lodge, the brethren are invited to remain for a buffet supper, followed by a question and answer session with Grand Secretary. I'm sure that it will be a lively and interesting discussion and it is hoped that the meeting will be well supported by the brethren of the Province on what will be one of the Grand Master's final engagements before retiring from the office after ten years faithful and devoted service.

### **Provincial Ball.**

Date for the diary. The provisional date for the 2019 Provincial Summer Ball had been set for Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May and will be confirmed at the Regular Communication of Provincial Grand Lodge on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

### **Grand Lodge.**

#### **Future Meetings:**

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October – Regular Communication  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November – Festival of St. Andrew.

### **Commemoration of the Fallen 2018.**



### **Wreath Laying at Port Glasgow Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018.**

Due to shortage of time and space, a full report on the visit by the Widow's Sons to the Province will be included in the November edition of the West Column but in the meantime I have provided a couple of photographs below to whet your appetite. Although the weather was not very kind, the attendance of brethren did the individual Lodges and the Province much credit. Wreaths were laid at the Port Glasgow Cenotaph on behalf of the Province and every Lodge in the Province and it was a pleasure to host the visit by the Group, the second in five years, to the Province.

A special word of thanks must go to the brethren of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 for hosting the event and for kindly providing an excellent buffet for those attending the event.



Brother Robin McIntyre, Provincial Grand Master accompanied by Brother David A Reid, Grand Sword-bearer and representatives of the nine Lodges in the Provinces prepare to lay wreaths at the Cenotaph.



Wreaths laid following a very moving ceremony at the Port Glasgow Cenotaph on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

**Grand Lodge Event – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018.**

On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November, the Grand Lodge of Scotland will be marking the end of the First World War, with a Commemoration of the Fallen which will take place at Freemason's Hall, George Street, Edinburgh. As admission to the event is by ticket only due to the demand, tickets are being allocated in proportion to the size of each Province. This Province has been provided with a total of six tickets only which will be allocated by the Provincial Grand Master.

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

### Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Entering  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> - Entering

#### 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 - I am hoping for £25 per month with the exception of June and December when the prize will be £50 each month. Please support the Lodge with this draw. Cash, cheques or through internet banking are all acceptable.

### Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> – Business Meeting.  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Entering (Exemplification).  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – TBC  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – TBC  
Monday 29<sup>th</sup> - TBC



The Regular Meeting of the Lodge on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September, turned out to be a very special meeting for two of the members of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68, Brother Norman Morrison and Brother Phil Mahon who were both presented with Jubilee Certificates to mark 50 years of membership to their Mother Lodge and the Craft.

Their certificates were presented by the Master of the Lodge, Brother Alexander Bloomfield Wilson, assisted by IPPGM Brother James Livingstone, an honorary member of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68. Congratulations to both brethren on their service.



The Master of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68, Brother Alexander Bloomfield Wilson has travelled many miles in recent months, flying the flag for the Lodge and even right through the summer "recess". In the photograph above, he is seen with other reigning Masters visiting Lodge Barns O' Clyde No. 1018 in the Province of Dunbartonshire.

## Social Scene



Photographic evidence of a very sober party of senior members of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 on the annual seniors' outing which this year arrived at Lodge Rothesay St. John's No. 292. All were impeccably behaved throughout and any unsteadiness which might be reflected from the stance of the three amigos to the left was probably due to a slightly rough crossing on the ferry back to Wemyss Bay!

Our regular Saturday dances continue every week from 8.30 until midnight

Also available is our Joker Prize. Tickets cost £1 and can be purchased on a Monday night from Bro. George Taft or on a Saturday night at the dance.

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/>

### Lodge Greenock St John's No. 175.

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> – Annual General Meeting and Election of Office-bearers, Ballot (Members only).

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> – Annual Installation: The annual Installation will take place at 6.45 pm on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October when the Master-elect, Brother Thomas Porteous will be installed to serve a second term by Installing Masters, Brother Edward M Ross, Brother Marshall R C North and Brother Matthew B Henderson all Pasty Masters of the Lodge.

The date and time for the Lodge's Annual Divine Service will be confirmed following the Annual General Meeting.

The Lodge's Installation Dance will be held on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October with entertainment provided by "Masquerade". Tickets are available, priced £5.00 from Junior Warden, Brother Grant Armstrong or Senior Warden Brother Greig Mitchell.

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

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> – Fellowcraft Degree and Ballot  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> – Entered Apprentice Degree



Many congratulations to Brother Robert Smith Stone on him receiving his Jubilee Certificate to mark his 50 years of service to his Lodge and the Craft. A Past Master of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217, a Past Master of The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814, Treasurer in both Lodges, holder of honorary Grand Rank and a Past Senior Provincial Grand Warden. It was an absolute pleasure to be present as the Master, Brother Gerard C Robertson, assisted by Provincial Grand Master, Brother Robin McIntyre, made the presentation. The number of friends present on the evening were testament to the esteem in which Brother Stone is held.

**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.**

### **Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning, Skelmorlie No. 624**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> – Fellowcraft (E), Ballot and Annual visit by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire and conference of Honorary Membership.

### **Lodge Firth of Clyde No. 626**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Fellowcraft Degree.

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Entered Apprentice Degree

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> – The Annual Installation meeting will take place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 2.00 pm when Brother David D Stevenson will be installed to serve as second term as Master of the Lodge. The Installing Masters are Brother Brian G Hopkins assisted by Brother Kenneth M McCrae and Brother Robert M Wilson all Past Masters of the Lodge. Following the ceremony there will be a celebration meal and all visitors are cordially invited to join with the brethren of 626 in harmony. There is no charge for the meal.

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>: The Lodge will hold its annual Installation Dance and a warm invitation is extended to all friends of the Lodge to this event, which is always a very popular evening. The entertainment for the night will be provided by DJ Craig Gibson, entry is free and there will be a hot supper of steak or chicken pie.

#### **Presentation:**

On Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September, at the AGM of the Lodge, it was a delight to be present as the Master, Brother David D Stevenson, presented Brother William G Crumlish with his Jubilee Certificate to mark his 50 years of service to the Craft. Brother Crumlish is an affiliate member of Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626, his Mother Lodge being Lodge Douglas No. 1557 but since his affiliation, Brother Crumlish has given sterling service to Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626 at one time serving as Senior Warden and also, for many years, as Chaplain.

### **Lodge Sir Michael No. 989**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> – Annual General Meeting (Members only).



What a fantastic job the brethren of Lodge Sir Michael No. 989 have carried out to transform the attic of their hall into what must be one of the most impressive Lodges created in recent times. I will publish more photographs in future editions but meantime, the photo above is just a "taster" and I'm sure that we are all looking forward to the dedication of the new Lodge and to the many meetings which will take place therein. Details of the rededication meeting will be advised as soon as possible.

### **Lodge Crawfurdsburn No. 1121**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> – Annual General Meeting and Election of office-bearers  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Fellowcraft Degree (Exemplification).

### **Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425.**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> – Annual General Meeting (7.00 pm) and Fellowcraft degree (7.30 pm).

### **The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814**

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October – Annual Meeting, Installation and Annual Visit of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West (7.00 pm). The Master-elect, Brother Thomas F M Trotter extends a warm welcome to all qualified brethren. Brother Trotter will be installed by IPM, Brother James Cowan, thereafter Brother Trotter will install the office-bearers of the Lodge. Following the ceremony, there will be the customary supper and address by the newly installed Master.

### **Other Orders**

#### **Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII**

Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII meets in the Masonic Temple, John Street, Gourrock on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

Most Excellent First Principal, William A McLarty 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.

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Installation

MEC elect, Nicholas Rudolph Robert Stetz, extends a warm welcome to the Annual Installation of Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 within the Masonic Hall, John Street, Gourrock at 7.30 pm. Following the ceremony, there will be a complimentary dinner to which all are invited.

Future meetings.

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Mark Affiliation and Excellent Master's Degree

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Royal Arch Degree

#### **Ranfurley Royal Arch Chapter No. 289**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> – The Annual Installation will take place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October when MEZ Paul Docherty will be installed into the chair by PMEZ Andy Forsyth assisted by James Fletcher and George Robertson. A warm welcome is extended to all Companions in good standing.

## **Port Glasgow Royal Arch Chapter No. 900**

No information provided. The Chapter meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

2018

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November – Installation

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December – KG

2019

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February – KG

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March – KG

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April - KG

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

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Installation

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November – Meeting.

## **St. George's Conclave No. 79 –**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October – KHS

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

### **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](http://www.pglre.org)

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

**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](mailto: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](mailto:brynrfc@sky.com)

## Advert:

McPherson's Plumbing & Bathroom  
Centre  
11, Clarence Street, Greenock PA15 1LR  
Telephone: 01475 720881  
Website:  
[www.afmcperson@btconnect.com](http://www.afmcperson@btconnect.com)



## A LITTLE BIT OF OUR HISTORY

A local family business established over 140 years ago, continues to develop new services.

McPherson's, founded by the great grandfather of the present owner Bill Knox, Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626, offers their customers a wide range of plumbing and building products from a nail to complete bathrooms. A supply only or supply and fit service is available with free design. The front counter staff of Morag, John and Mark, Bill's son in law, are able to provide advice on a wide range of plumbing and building matters.

A supply only or supply and fit service is available with free design.

From Contemporary Bathroom Design to Traditional Bathrooms we offer bathroom suites, plumbing accessories, bathroom sinks and taps, and bathroom accessories.

**Stop by today to view some of our showroom examples or to pick up at catalogue containing 100s of options for you next bathroom project!**

With over 100 baths available to order you're sure to find exactly what you're looking for in your new bathroom design.

McPhersons are the major stockist in the area of a wide range of pipes and gutters in different profiles and colours, manufactured by Flowplast, Brett Martin and Polypipe. Many of the stockists in Glasgow can't match the range of sizes and colours available in our store.

Deliveries in Inverclyde are free on orders over £100!

**Friendly service and value for money along with quality are all important to the staff, whether it's a tap washer or complete bathroom, DIY and trade customers will all receive the same professional attention.**

## OPENING TIMES:

**8.30am - 5.00pm Monday thru Friday and 9.00am - 12.00 noon Saturday**

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

**Garden Centre  
Plant Nursery  
Garden Sheds  
Summer Houses  
Seasonal Goods & Gifts**

**GOWANLEA  
NURSERIES  
& GARDEN CENTRE**

**01505 328921**  
www.gowanleanurseries.co.uk  
E. gowanlea-nurseries@hotmail.co.uk  
Barochan Road, Johnstone  
PA5 8YS

*Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West*  
**Calendar of Events and Meetings – October 2018**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> 68 – Business Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> XII - Entering	3 <sup>rd</sup> Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West – Regular Communication	4 <sup>th</sup> 217 – Passing and Ballot  RAC289 – Annual Installation.	5 <sup>th</sup> 1814 – Annual Installation (7.00 pm)	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>
8 <sup>th</sup> 68 – Entering (E) 626 - Passing	9 <sup>th</sup> 1121 – AGM and Election of Office-bearers	10 <sup>th</sup> 624 – Passing (E), Ballot and AV by Provincial Grand Lodge Ayrshire  989 - AGM	11 <sup>th</sup> 1425 – Annual General Meeting (7 pm) and Passing (7.30 pm).	12 <sup>th</sup> 175 – AGM, Ballot, Nomination/election of office-bearers (members only).	13 <sup>th</sup> 626 – Annual Installation	14 <sup>th</sup>
15 <sup>th</sup> 68 – TBC	16 <sup>th</sup> XII – Entering SGC79 - KHS	17 <sup>th</sup> RAC XVII - Installation	18 <sup>th</sup> 217 - Entering	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup> 626 – Installation Dance.	21 <sup>st</sup>
22 <sup>nd</sup> 68 – TBC 626 - Entering	23 <sup>rd</sup> 1121 – Passing (E)	24 <sup>th</sup> CC/RAM 17 - Installation	25 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup> 175 – Annual Installation (6.45pm).	27 <sup>th</sup> 175 – Installation Dance.	28 <sup>th</sup>
29 <sup>th</sup> 68 - TBC	30 <sup>th</sup>	31 <sup>st</sup>				

**(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](http://www.pglrw.org)*