



The West Column



I was fortunate enough to escape the recent winter's storms for a few days recently and it was bliss to be able to relax in some warm Canarian sunshine for a little while even if we came back to earth (literally) with a bump on our return to Glasgow Airport! We would amble down to the beach each day for some exercise and I was fascinated by the sand sculptures which local artists were creating.

The photograph I took (above) was a dragon complete with little oil lamps which created a fire-breathing effect from the creature's nostrils. What was so fascinating was the way that the artist started off with nothing other than a pile of sand and some water and a few rudimentary tools and within a very short space of time, could create such a masterpiece.

The more I thought about it, the more I considered the similarity of our own teachings relating to the rough and smooth ashlar. Starting off with a rough lump of stone and fashioning it into something useful much as we try to do with initiates to our Craft.

Some years ago, (as a grumpy old Past Master), I was attending a Lodge meeting where a young man (a Lewis) was being initiated and he seemed so young, shy and immature that I felt he was simply being pressured into joining by his family who were long-standing members of the particular Lodge. Never have I been so glad to be proved wrong as over the intervening years, I have watched that young man blossom and grow in his Masonic career going from being a "rough ashlar" to a very "smooth ashlar", helped by a little guidance, encouragement and patience along the way.

It reminds me that I should not be too quick to form a judgement because from very rough raw material, the Craft assisted in turning that young man into a confident and articulate Brother who has achieved much and I am confident will go onto achieve great things in his Masonic career.

A bit like the pile of sand on the beach, with the correct application, we can turn the “rough ashlar” into a thing of beauty.

Kind regards,

Jim

A riddle for this month's West Column!

Guess which Junior Warden placed his teeth in the Warden's Station at the beginning of the meeting and only remembered that he hadn't replaced them until the Lodge furnishings had been cleared and locked in a cupboard?

A hint – his initials are HD – answers on a ten pound note as a donation to the Abseil event below.

Prostate Scotland – Cancer Charity.

As you are aware, Prostate Scotland, has been the beneficiary of the superb efforts of the Craft in Scotland over the past few years to the tune of around £600,000 and there have been many events taking place to support the charity. Maybe some will recall the Zip Line Challenge across the Clyde, three years ago, when your intrepid, Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master, along with 8 other brethren, hurtled across the Clyde with the Province sponsoring the event to the tune of around £5,000.

I am able to advise that a further event is being organised with one place being allocated to each Province. Once again, as the fittest and most agile member of the Commission, your Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master has been volunteered (think they're trying to get rid of me)!



This time, it is an abseil off the Forth Rail Bridge on Sunday 10th May and shortly, sponsor forms will be available for anyone who would like to contribute. A justgiving page is also available on the Provincial Facebook page.. Once again, I am hoping that the brethren and Lodges, will be able to support this event in a big way.

At the time of compiling this edition of the West Column, the justgiving page has already realised around £700 with donations from a Lodge and individual brethren at a recent meeting adding around £300 to that total. I would be eternally grateful if individual Lodges in the Province could perhaps raise this project within their respective Committees and, if possible, consider making a donation to the appeal.

My grateful thanks to those who have already donated.

I.M.Geordie: Thoughts for the month of March.

This month I'm going to ask you to take a look at a poem. It's by Brother Rudyard Kipling. It shows his love and affection for his Mother Lodge, Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782 in Lahore. More importantly it shows his brotherly love towards the diverse membership of his Lodge.

Kipling himself wrote to The Times stating; 'I was entered by a members of the Bramo Samaj (a Hindu movement), passed by a Mohammedan, and raised by an Englishman'.

There is a lot of talk about immigration being tightened up within the UK at the moment. There is a lot of negativity shown against asylum seekers. It doesn't fit very well with the preaching of Jesus. Jesus said the first great commandment was to love the Lord thy God and the second was to love they neighbour as thyself. (Matthew 22: 36-39.) Again in Matthew (Chap. 7:12) we learn Jesus taught what has become known as "The Golden Rule". Basically do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Check out the Golden Rule. All the major religions advocate it.

Kipling's "The Mother Lodge" shows us that as Freemasons we should celebrate the equality which reigns among our doctrine, without distinction of profession, rank, race or creed.

One of the things I love about Freemasonry is the idea that a Lodge can include brethren from the many and varied interpretations of the Supreme Being. Years ago I attended a Divine Service in Lodge Shalom 1600. I didn't understand all that was being said but it was a very moving experience to be there.

There is no reason why a Lodge could not have a Christian Master one year, a Muslim Master the following year and a Jewish Master the year after that. That is a strength that we have in Freemasonry and we should never forget that we are all brethren in the eyes of the Great Architect.

So let's all love our neighbour and do unto others and embrace diversity. We are indeed all Jock Tamson's Bairns

I know many of you will be familiar with the poem and, if so, I hope you enjoy reading it again. If you are seeing it for the first time I hope it resonates with you in the way it did with me when I first read it.

The Mother Lodge

THERE was Rundle, Station Master,
An' Beazeley of the Rail,
An' 'Ackman, Commissariat,
An' Donkin' o' the Jail;
An' Blake, Conductor-Sergeant,
Our Master twice was 'e,
With im that kept the Europe-shop,
Old Framjee Eduljee.
Outside - " Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!
Inside - 'Brother," an' it doesn't do no 'arm.
We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,
An' I was junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!

We'd Bola Nath, Accountant,
An' Saul the Aden Jew,
An' Din Mohammed, draughtsman
Of the Survey Office too;
There was Babu Chuckerbutty,
An' Amir Singh the Sikh,
An' Castro from the fittin'-sheds,
The Roman Catholic!

We 'adn't good regalia,
An' our Lodge was old an' bare,
But we knew the Ancient Landmarks,
An' we kep' 'em to a hair;
An' lookin' on it backwards
It often strikes me thus,
There ain't such things as infidels,
Excep', per'aps, it's us.

For monthly, after Labour,

We'd all sit down and smoke
(We dursn't give no banquets,
Lest a Brother's caste were broke),
An' man on man got talkin'
Religion an' the rest,
An' every man comparin'
Of the God 'e knew the best.

So man on man got talkin',
An' not a Brother stirred
Till mornin' waked the parrots
An' that dam' brain-fever-bird.
We'd say 'twas 'ighly curious,
An' we'd all ride 'ome to bed,
With Mo'ammed, God, an' Shiva
Changin' pickets in our 'ead.

Full oft on Guv'ment service
This rovin' foot 'ath pressed,
An' bore fraternal greetin's
To the Lodges east an' west,
Accordin' as commanded.
From Kohat to Singapore,
But I wish that I might see them
In my Mother-Lodge once more!

I wish that I might see them,
My Brethren black an' brown,
With the trichies smellin' pleasant
An' the hog-darn passin' down;
An' the old khansamah snorin'
On the bottle-khana floor,
Like a Master in good standing
With my Mother-Lodge once more.

Outside - Sergeant! Sir! Salute! Salaam!
Inside- Brother," an' it doesn't do no 'arm.
We met upon the Level an' we parted on the Square,
An' I was Junior Deacon in my Mother-Lodge out there!

Obituary:

Brother Alistair Glenny, Past Master, Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII and Provincial Grand Almoner, 24th July 1949 – 9th February 2020.

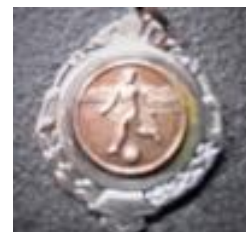


In fond memory by Bro. Iain White PM.



It was a great shock when we heard that Bro Alistair Glenny had passed to the Grand Lodge Above in the early hours of Sunday 9th February in Inverclyde Royal Hospital after a short illness. Alistair's sad passing came just after he had been out in Penang, Malaysia for his annual sojourn to visit his daughter and her family. It is all the sadder, if that is at all possible for the family, and for No XII, that this came a mere 8 weeks after his brother Jack, also a Past Master of No XII, had lost his battle with illness.

"The Glennys" were brought up in Greenock's Bow Road and Alistair attended Greenock High School after successfully negotiating his Qualifying Exam at Lady Alice Primary. Whilst in the High School,



Alistair was a keen footballer and played in a very successful team, shown below as McMillan Cup Winners. His Winner's Medal is also shown (right)



McMillan Cup Winners 1963

Back: **Alistair Glenny**, Ronnie Hawthorn, Eddie Strachan, Donald Blair, Russell Brown, Ronnie Rodger.

Front: Craig Lapsley, Billy Aitken, Ian Samuel (Captain), John Piggott, and Robert Gilmour

Greenock High School FP Degree.

Alistair had the idea in 2018 that, in keeping with making things different for folk and raising interest levels, we should have a degree where all floor work was done by former pupils of Greenock High. Thus, the 'High School Degree' came into being. It was a very successful evening, with a big crowd in attendance and where the degree team FP members were all resplendent in High School ties. Alistair was proud of being a 'High School boy.'



In his youth, Alistair was an enthusiastic Scout being a member of the famous JJ Swan's 45th Troop that met in the hut on Robertson Street, Greenock. He moved through the ranks and became a leader in the troop before transferring to help out at the 33rd Renfrewshire. I first met Alistair when I was a youngster in the 45th Troop, and he was one of the leaders. I

remember him taking us on camping weekends to Everton in Inverkip and teaching us scout craft. We had a good laugh and learned a bit too!

At around the same time, he had become bass drummer in Greenock and District Scouts Dunrod Pipe Band and then the Greenock Burgh Pipe Band. Both bands won numerous prizes in Grade 4 in the 1960s and Greenock Burgh was promoted to Grade 3. I was a piper in the Greenock Burgh with Alistair as was Bro Hector Macphail PM.

When he left Greenock High, Alistair joined one of Greenock's premier, long established garages West Renfrew Motors in Brougham Street, just at the corner of Campbell Street. He served his apprenticeship as a coach painter and this led him to great success in the motor trade, later working for paint manufacturers and travelling the length and breadth of the UK.

Bro Alistair was Initiated into No XII on 19th September 1972, Passed on 3rd. October 1972 and Raised on 7th November 1972. He served as Right Worshipful Master, very successfully, between 1983 and 1985. I served in his team as Senior Deacon and I remember his work as being clear, proficient and precise.



Alistair with his brother at Jack's Installation into the Chair in November 1981. This was Alistair's favourite photo with Jack. Below is Alistair's photo from his own Installation Programme 2 years later

HOLDING UNDER GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND
Instituted 1728. Represented at St Mary's Chapel, Edinburgh,
at Institution of Grand Lodge of Scotland, 30th November, 1736.

Installation of
Bro. ALISTAIR GLENNY



SALOON OF THE TOWN HALL, GREENOCK
TUESDAY, 15th NOVEMBER, 1983 at 6.45pm

INSTALLING MASTERS:
Bro. JOHN ADAMSON, PM
Bro. K. K. MORRISON, PM
Bro. JOHN C. GLENNY, IPM



On left, Bro Alistair Glenney RWM, immediately after being Installed into the Chair of King Solomon on Tuesday 15th November 1983

In recent times, Bro Alistair was a great servant to the Lodge, applying his talents, character and personality to various roles and tasks. He was, for the past few years, Lodge Almoner and this was a role that was particularly suited to him. Being a man who had empathy with, and sympathy for, others who were having a struggle with their health, his kindness, care and consideration meant that his visits, phone calls, cards and flowers were much appreciated. His ready wit would cheer folk up greatly. Indeed, it was Alistair who came up with the idea of having special cards printed (on right) that could be sent out from the Lodge.

Alistair's suitability for the Almoner's role was further recognised when he took up that position for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West. He was very committed to discharging his duties conscientiously and well as was humanly possible. This was further recognised in November 2017 when he was given the Honorary Grand Rank of Almoner by the Grand Lodge of Scotland. I would doubt that anyone ever deserved it more.



Alistair applied his practical skills to the benefit of No XII, refurbishing the 3rd Degree Altar, The War Memorial Altar, the RWM and Wardens pedestals and, most recently in the summer recess of 2019 the Deacons Rods and Candlesticks and the old Wardens' Columns. Examples of his handiwork are in the photos.



I was never aware of Alistair being asked to do anything for the Lodge that he did not happily agree to. He would often volunteer when something needed done. Since his brother's illness, Alistair conducted Divine Services and Remembrance Ceremonies at the Lodge. Also, he would fill in for any absent Office Bearer at the drop of a hat.

Like me, he had a keen interest in the history of No XII and had done a lot of research into Bro Alexander Drummond, RWM of No XII in 1738 and Scotland's first Provincial Grand Master. He used this information to great effect at our Installation Ceremonies and he was preparing a PowerPoint that was to be the basis of a lecture on the Drummonds for us. In the past few years, Alistair would help me conduct the Inventory of the Lodge artefacts and prepare the report for the Annual Meeting. We would go into the Town Hall and spend a morning on the task. I thoroughly enjoyed these mornings. It was Alistair's company really and, if we hadn't done so much blethering, the job could have been done in half the time. He was such good company and would have me in stitches as we looked at various relics and they brought back happy and humorous memories from the years gone by.

Alistair lived in a house with a beautiful view over the river and he was a regular contributor to the Greenock Telegraph, sending in photos of ships sailing past his window with a wee story about each.

Alistair is survived by his wife of almost 50 years, Lynette, daughters Gillian and Jennifer, his sons-in-law Simon and Kevin and 5 grandchildren. All of them he loved dearly.

We shall all miss Alistair. He was a kind, generous, caring, compassionate, talented and humorous man. He was a very knowledgeable Freemason and would be always up for passing that on through anecdotes, stories and reminiscences. The Three Grand Principles on which our order is founded are Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth and Alistair fully embodied all of these. If the world had more folk like Alistair around, it would be a much better place.

Iain White
16.02.2020

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.

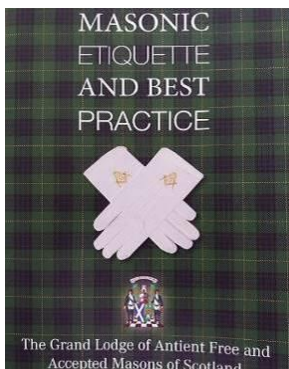
Personal Information and E-Mail Addresses.

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.

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.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 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:

January: Brother Tommy Trotter, Provincial Grand Lodge Treasurer (honestly not a fix)!

February: Brother Ross Nugent (217).

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 Ball:



This year's not to be missed event takes place in Greenock Town Hall on Saturday 16th May 2020 and the cost of the tickets has been kept at an astonishing £25 each, which includes a fabulous three-course meal and entertainment by the Capitol Big Band.

This is a great night and even if you are not a dancer, it's a tremendous opportunity to have an "end of the session" night out with friends from across the Province. This was started 7 years ago and the event has helped to raise thousands of pounds for the Provincial Grand Master's Charity Account which has been distributed amongst local charities.

The photograph above is of a much earlier event taken probably around the late 40's early 50's and has been kindly supplied by Brother Jim Turpie, Past Master of Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626 who enjoyed the evening so much that he took this photograph!

Provincial Grand Master's Diary and update

On Tuesday 4 February I attended Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No 12, where Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626, conferred a FC Degree.

On Thursday 6 February I attended Grand Committee and the February Communication of Grand Lodge in Edinburgh

On Friday 7 February the Annual Communication of PG Lodge took place in the Masonic Temple, West Stewart Street, Greenock, where we enjoyed an excellent Installation of the Elective Office-bearers by the Sub. PGM Bro Paul Docherty. A very well attended meeting with the Citizenship Award being presented to Mr Billy McCready at the supper following the meeting.

On Monday 10 February I attended a FC Degree at Lodge Firth of Clyde No 626.

On Thursday 13 February I had the pleasure of heading a Deputation from PGL to Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 for their Annual Visitation of the year where we enjoyed an excellent FC Degree

and following the reports from PG Secretary and PG Treasurer, I was pleased to award the Lodge a Clear Minute for the session 2018-19.

On Friday 14 February, accompanied by PG Sec Bro Alan Beck and Jr.PG Warden Bro Robert Bain, I attended the Quarterly Communication of the PG Lodge of Ayrshire. On this occasion I had the privilege of heading the Deputation from the Sister PG Lodges. The MWGM Mason Bro Ramsay McGhee was also present and installed the new Substitute PG Master of Ayrshire Bro George Reid.

On Sunday 16 February I headed a Deputation from PGL to the Annual Divine Service of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 and Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217.

On Tuesday 18 February, I attended the funeral service of Bro Alistair Glenly PM of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No 12 and PG Almoner in St John's Church Gourock.

On Tuesday 18 February I had the pleasure of heading a Deputation from PGL to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No 12 for their Annual Visitation where we enjoyed an excellent EA Degree and following the reports from PG Secretary and PG Treasurer, I was pleased to award the Lodge a Clear Minute for the session 2018-19.

My thanks to PG Chaplain Bro George Carson and PSPG Warden bro Richard Harrison who attended the Communication of the PGL of Kilwinning on the same evening.

On Monday 24 February I attended Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 where I witnessed a MM Degree conferred by the Past Masters of the Lodge. I also assisted the RWM Bro Graeme Wallace present Jubilee Certificates to Bro Raymond Bruce PM and Bro Jack Turpie PM.

On Tuesday 25 February along with PG Sec Bro Alan Beck I attended an EA Degree at Lodge Crawfordsburn no 1121.

On Saturday 29 February, in the company of IPPGM Bro James Livingstone I attended the Annual Communication of the PGL of Stirlingshire in Grangemouth.

The photograph below was taken at the Regular Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire at which Brother George Reid was installed as Provincial Grand Master Substitute by the Grand Master Mason, Brother William Ramsay McGhee.



Annual Communication and Installation of Elective office-bearers.

The above meeting took place on Friday 7th February and was, as usual a very pleasant occasion with all the Lodges in the Province well represented.

On this occasion, the Installation of office-bearers was carried out by the Substitute Provincial Grand Master, Brother Paul M Docherty in a very dignified yet friendly and down to earth manner.

Following the formal part of the evening, the brethren retired upstairs to enjoy an informal supper, at which, the Province's Citizen of the Year award for 2019 was presented to Brother Billy McCreadya member of Lodge Crawfurdsburn No. 1121 and a Past President of Greenock Burns Club. Amongst other Achievements, Billy had been very instrumental in leading the restoration of the statue to Highland Mary which stands in Greenock Cemetery.

The evening was made even more enjoyable by the support of a large and influential deputation from the neighbouring Provinces headed by Brother William Steele, the Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire.



The line-up of Provincial Grand Lodge office-bearers along with the heads of visiting deputations headed by Brother William Steele, Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire.



A warm welcome was extended to the heads of deputations from the sister Provinces, including brethren from the Provinces of Ayrshire, Glasgow, Kilwinning, Lanarkshire Middle Ward, Dunbartonshire, Stirling and Argyll and the Isles.

Citizen of the Year Award.

Following the formal part of the evening, the brethren retired to a light supper at which the Province's annual Citizen of the Year Award was made to Brother William McCready for his services to Greenock Burns Club and for his services to Piping throughout the district.





During the formal part of the evening, Brother **Richard McKillop Harrison**, was presented with his certificate, apron and jewel as the outgoing Senior Provincial Grand Warden and in thanking Provincial Grand Lodge and his Mother Lodge, Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 for the gifts, he spoke warmly of his time coming up through the various offices of Provincial Grand Lodge.

Appointment as Almoner: Following the recent tragic death of Brother Alistair Glenny, the Provincial Grand Master is pleased to advise that Brother Harrison has volunteered to take on the role as Provincial Grand Almoner and subject to his official nomination and election by the brethren, will be installed into the office officially at the May Regular communication.

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

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII

Tuesday 3rd – Ballot and Raising.

Tuesday 17th – Passing conferred by The Lodge of Erskine No. 1566.

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 and payment by cash, cheques or through internet banking are all acceptable. Please support the Lodge with this draw.

Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68

Monday 2nd – Business Meeting (Members only).

Monday 9th – Raising (7.15 pm).

Monday 16th – Passing.

Monday 23rd – Entering.

Monday 30th – Mark Degree.

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/>

Lodge Greenock St John's No. 175.

Friday 13th – Entering and annual visit by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West. Note: 7.15 pm start.

Friday 27th – Raising (Past Master's Degree).

Please note the above are changes to the previously intimated schedule.

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 – Lodge of Sorrow – ceremony for Brother Iain Gordon PM and presentation of Jubilee Certificate to Brother Peter Miller.

Thursday 19th – Raising.

Saturday 20th – Race Night in aid of Lodge 275th Anniversary Fund (see Poster below).

Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning, Skelmorlie No. 624

Wednesday 11th - Passing

Lodge Firth of Clyde No. 626

Monday 2nd – General Committee Meeting

Monday 9th – Raising

Monday 16th – SPECIAL MEETING – Entering

Monday 23rd – Passing.

On Tuesday 24th March, the Lodge will be visiting Lodge Prince of Wales, Renfrew No. 426 to confer a Master Mason's degree and a warm welcome is extended to any Brother in good standing who would wish to accompany the Lodge on this occasion.

Past Masters' Degree and Jubilee Presentations:



I'm sure that the Master, Brother Graeme Wallace is eternally grateful to have the benefit of not less than 15 Past Masters, including one current Provincial Grand Master and an Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master, to call on for advice during his tenure of office(whether he wants it or not)!

There was only one Past Master absent on the evening of Monday 24th February 2020, when the gavel was handed over to Past Master Brother Raymond Davey Bruce, who along with his team of Past Masters, assumed control of the degree and conferred an excellent Master Mason's degree on Brother Ross Kane. While the Lodge is blessed to regularly have the majority of its Past Masters at meetings, the opportunity was taken to record the event with a photograph.



It was a special evening in more ways than one for Past Master Brother Bruce, for not only was he in charge of the degree but along with Past Master, Brother John Davidson Turpie (better known to all as Jack), both were presented with their Jubilee Certificates to mark, 50 years of exceptional service to the Lodge. The certificates were presented by the Master, Brother Graeme Wallace and Provincial Grand Master, Brother Robin McIntyre, also a Past Master of the Lodge but on the evening was present in his capacity as Provincial Grand Master.

Lodge Sir Michael No. 989

Wednesday 11th – Passing by Lodge Gleniffer No. 1219. The degree will be conferred upon Brother Cameron Watson (son of the Master).

Saturday 14th – A special event in the history of Lodge Sir Michael No. 989 when the newly created Temple will be dedicated in a ceremony conducted by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West. The ceremony is at 2.00 pm and is limited in numbers (tickets have been issued to each Lodge) and will be followed by a celebration meal at a cost of £8.00 each.

Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121

Tuesday 10th – Passing

Tuesday 24th - Entering

The Lodge's attention was drawn to an article in the Greenock Telegraph about the vandalism done the children's playhouses at the Larkfield Children's Centre at the end of January.

In early January, the Lodge agreed to introduce delegated powers, whereby a small number of office bearers, including the RWM and his Wardens, could approve payment to worthy causes up to certain set levels.

Using these powers for the first time, Lodge Crawfurdsburn was able to contact the administration team at the Centre and offer some monetary support to repair the damage, which to some extent is shown in the attach photo.

A photo of the presentation by RWM Bro Adam McKenzie PM will be submitted for publication in the next edition of West Column.



PGLRW - VE75

The 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe occurs on 8th May 2020.

PGLRW is holding a special commemoration event on 12th May 2020, in Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, Brown Street, Port Glasgow starting at 7.15pm prompt. The Lodge will be opened in the normal way and then put into recess to allow the commemoration to take place.

The format of the evening will be a recital of pipe tunes composed during WW2. The background to each tune will be explained prior to it being played. The tunes will cover all the Armed Services. The pipers, who will each play three tunes, will be Bro John W Black PM and Bro William Mooney (both Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68), Bro Iain White PM (Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII) and Bro Donald J McRae (Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No. 1121).

At appropriate points during the recital, the names of the fallen from the Lodges within the Province will be read out. The event will conclude with the Last Post and the observance of a minute's silence.

A collection will be uplifted on the evening for the Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes.

A Harmony will follow at the conclusion of the meeting, at which there will also be a raffle in aid of the two charities.

To help with the evening's logistics, Lodges are being asked to provide Bro Donald J McRae (djmcrae@aol.com) with certain information, including the approximate number of their brethren, who will be attending and who will be staying for harmony. However, if you are not a member of a Lodge within the PGLRW and wish to attend, please send an email to Bro McRae. It would assist if any such requests were received by 31st March.

Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425.

Thursday 12th – Raising.

For a small Lodge, the brethren of Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425 have been certainly getting out and about in recent weeks and it is nice to see that at most meetings, there is a significant group of brethren representing the Lodge. Indeed, the visits are not restricted to the Province and in recent weeks, the brethren have been represented at the Installation of Lodge Ugie No. 939 all the way up in Mintlaw near Peterhead.

More recently, Brother Alan McKillop, the Lodge Inner Guard, in spite of being on a wee break, took time to visit the beautiful Temple of Lodge Dunblane No. IX and was kind enough to send me some photographs of his visit.



Brother McKillop was keen to emphasise that he was greeted very warmly by the brethren of the Lodge and would heartily recommend a visit if anyone is in the area.

The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814

The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814 is now in recess until April 2020.

Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217.



Friday 20th March 2020

7 pm to 1 am

Venue – Lodge 68, Brown Street, Port Glasgow

Free Buffet

Karaoke

Entertainment

£7.50

Come early - £1.00 free bet on first race

Funds from this event will help pay for Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning's 275th Anniversary Celebrations to be held on or around 4th February 2021.

Other Orders

Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII

Wednesday 18th – Royal Arch Degree.

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.

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

Ranfurley Royal Arch Chapter No. 289

Thursday 5th – Excellent Master's Degree.

Port Glasgow Royal Arch Chapter No. 900

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

Preceptory of Ardgowan

The next meeting is on Wednesday 4th March - Knight Grade.

Venerable Preceptor Nicholas R R Stetz 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.

St. George's Conclave No. 79 –



The next meeting of the Conclave is on Tuesday 17th March (KHS). On Thursday 19th March there is a visit to Glasgow Conclave No. 3 to confer a Kt. Of St. John degree.

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.

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.



RUDI'S FOR SCRAP
3 Cardwell Road
Gourock, PA19 1UB
01475 636190
07852296110
Cars, white goods & metals

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).



The advertisement features a dark background with a subtle grid pattern. At the top, the letters 'D & D' are displayed in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below this, the text 'Roughcast Brickwork Rendering' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. Further down, the words 'All Trades' are centered in a white, sans-serif font. Below 'All Trades' is a graphic of a brick wall with a trowel resting against it. At the bottom, the phone number '07492160416' is displayed in a large, white, sans-serif font.

D & D

Roughcast Brickwork Rendering

All Trades

07492160416

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



The advertisement is split into two main sections. The left section features a close-up photograph of several ripe, red strawberries with green leaves. The right section has a green background with white text. At the top, the text 'Garden Centre', 'Plant Nursery', 'Garden Sheds', 'Summer Houses', and 'Seasonal Goods & Gifts' is listed. Below this is the logo for 'GOWANLEA NURSERIES & GARDEN CENTRE', which includes a small pink flower icon. At the bottom, the phone number '01505 328921' is displayed, followed by the website 'www.gowanleanurseries.co.uk', the email 'E. gowanlea-nurseries@hotmail.co.uk', and the address 'Barochan Road, Johnstone PA5 8YS'.

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

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

Advert:

Gas Technician and Boiler Repairs and Servicing:

Phone Stephen on 07939 917472 or James Cannon (624) on 07940 776847.



For Sale (for a donation to the Marcus Humphrey House).

Having just recent replaced his printer, Brother George Nixon, Past Master of Lodge Crawfurdsburn No. 1121 has a surplus of printer ink to suit a Canon MP220 printer. This consists of 2 x black and 1 x colour (all new) and is happy to part with them to anyone who could use them with a suggestion that a donation of £15 could be passed on to the Marcus Humphrey House. Brother Nixon's number is 07813 131610.

(I'm not sure what the cost of these particular cartridges are new but I know from experience what the replacements are for my own Canon printer and the above seems like a bargain to be snapped up).

Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West

Calendar of Events and Meetings – March 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2 nd 68 – Business Meeting	3 rd XII – Ballot and Raising	4 th Preceptory of Ardgowan – Knight Grade	5 th 217 – Lodge of Sorrow	6 th	7 th	8 th
9 th 68- Raising (7.15) 626 - Raising	10 th 1121 - Passing	11 th 624 – Passing 989 – Passing by Lodge Gleniffer No. 1219	12 th 1425 - Raising	13 th 175 – Entering and AV Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West.(7.15)	14 th	15 th
16 th 68 – Passing 626 – Entering (Special).	17 th XII – Passing by The Lodge of Erskine No. 1566 SGC79 - KHS	18 th . RACXVII – RA Degree	19 th 217 - Raising	20 th 217 – Race Night in aid of 275 th Fund	21 st	22 nd
23 rd 68 – Entering 626 – Passing.	24 th 1121 - Entering	25 th	26 th PGRAC900 - Meeting	27 th 175 – Raising (PM's degree).	28 th	29 th
30 th 68 – Mark degree.						

(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*