



Festive Greetings

Brethren,

In this edition of the Newsletter I would like to focus your attention on the less fortunate within our community. On Christmas day we will be spending time with Family over a well prepared meal opening presents and having a few drinks no doubt. However, please spare a thought for those who live alone, have no family or may even be spending Christmas in hospital. Christmas can be a lonely time for some and it only takes 5 minutes to

chop the door, wish them a merry Christmas and make sure they are ok. Im sure seeing a friendly face would put a smile on theirs and possibly set them up for the day.

The lodge is also very pleased to hear that Bro Alex Sweeney is slowly on the mend and is enjoying the visits from the brethren of the lodge. These types of visits are extremely important and, more over, very rewarding.

As the weather depreciates it is even more important that we check on the elderly assisting in shopping or running small errands which they themselves could not undertake.

The Lodge will be donating a hamper to one pensioner within the village and this will be presented at the bingo on Christmas Eve.

Remember...if there is anything you would like to see included in this newsletter, please email the Bro Secretary direct.

I wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a very prosperous New Year.

Stay safe

Seasonal Wishes

Peter



Office Bearers 2013/14:

The Office Bearers will be nominated and elected at our AGM on the 6th December. Please remember that only brethren in good standing (ie up to date with test fees) can be nominated and elected.

Test fees (£30) are now due and can be paid to either the Bro's Treasurer or Secretary.

Also the lodge is requesting donations from Life members if their circumstances can fairly warrant.

Lodge Facts



Did you Know?...

The lodge will be presenting a hamper to one of the pensioners who attend our bingo. This will be presented on Monday 24th December when the bingo is on

RWM Bro Peter Walker will be the 15th Master of the Lodge who has served 2 or more years in the chair, come February.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW
YEAR FROM ALL AT
1186**

Contents:

Festive Greetings	Pg1
OfficeBearers 2013/14	Pg1
Lodge Facts	Pg1
Masonic Santa	Pg2
Visit to Lodge Albric Festival..	Pg2
On the Mend	Pg2
New Publication	Pg3
Future Articles	Pg3
Petitions	Pg3
Mark Your Diaries	Pg3



Masonic Santa:

'Twas the Night before Christmas, and down at the Lodge
Not a gavel was stirring, and in the hodge-podge.
Of aprons and jewels and chairs East and West
You could savor the silence, most gladly divest
All metal and mineral, it mattered not,
Since Christmas was nigh and the coals were still hot.

In the hearth of your home place, all Masons abed,
As visions of trestleboards danced in their head;
When up on the roof there arose such a clatter
Our Tyler jumped up to see what was the matter!
He picked up his sword and ran fast to the door,
Three knocks shook the panels
- he wondered 'What for?'

He answered the knocking with raps of his own,
And once the door opened he saw, with a moan
Of delight it was Santa, all jolly and red
Except for one notable feature instead!
Upon his large finger he wore what we knew
Was compass and square on a background of blue!

'Why Santa!' he shouted and lowered his blade,
'I see you're a Mason!' the Tyler relayed.
He looked toward the Master's most dignified chair
And said, voice near trembling, 'Most Worshipful there

Is a Gentleman properly clothed at the gate!
The Master replied, 'Let's allow him - but wait!
You tell me a Gentleman, but I don't see his Apron beneath that
Red suit, can it be Our visitor hasn't been properly raised?
Must we offer a test that is suitably phrased?

'I do beg your pardon,' ol' Santa said quick
As he pulled up his coat and displayed not a stick
But a cane with engraving, two balls did appear
And oh, what an apron, he wore and held dear!

Adorned like the Master's, complete with a sign
Of "The North Pole Lodge Number One" on one line!
"Now let this man enter," the Master declared,
And once in the Lodge room, the Brethren all stared,

For Santa was wearing a jewel not seen
For many a century - there in between
The fur of his coat and the splendid red collar
Gleamed two golden reindeer that shone like a dollar!

"It's Donner and Blitzen, who I must confess
"Are actually images brought from the West
By my Warden, a craftsman like none in the world!"
And with a great laugh from his bag he unfurled

An ear of fine corn, and some oil from the East,
"My friend I have plenty, tonight we will feast
On all that is good! We are Masons, kind sir!"
A murmur went throughout the Lodge, quite a stir,

As presents and promises flew from his sack!
This Santa, a Mason, showed he had a knack
For making this Christmas the best you could glean,
And soon even Deacons were laughing, they'd seen

On this very night only happiness reigned!
This jolly Saint Nicholas quickly explained
That only a Mason could be so inclined
To make all kids happy, make all people find

A Christmas so special, yes, Santa was right!
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!

Author: Clayton L. Wright

On The Mend:

Our SD Bro David Sutherland and his wife have a lot to be thankful for recently as their Daughter Maiya is now on the mend following a Stroke. Maiya is only 3 and and it is uncommon for anyone so young to suffer a stroke. She is only 1 in 200-300 a year to suffer a potentially lethal episode. The body does some remarkable things against adversity and following the stroke, Maiyas body shut down to protect the brain and start the healing process.

Doctors think the stroke occurred by Maiya jerking her neck which caused a hairline split in an artery. A bit of clot broke off and blocked the blood vessel feeding the brain , which starved the brain and caused the stroke.

Her recovery could not have been possible without the much needed care and attention from St John Hospital and the Sick Kids unit.

David would like to thank the brethren of the lodge for their good wishes and to all the staff who assisted in Maiya's recuperation.

**Reminder:
Test Fees Now Due**

Visit to Albric Festival No9576 EC:

Six brethren from the lodge and PM Bro Allan Baker (HM1186) made the journey down to Shropshire on Monday 12th November to visit PM Bro John Murray in his affiliate English Lodge. The business on this occasion was to raise one brother to the 3rd degree. The brethren were given a warm reception and our banner was proudly displayed next to Albric Festivals banner. An excellent degree followed and a Travelling Charge was Finally delivered. This charge certainly stuck in our minds. Thereafter a few hours of harmony followed and a demonstration Chain was formed to show us how the English greet an EA in the harmony board. This was very infomative and a pleasure to be part of. It was great catching up with PM Bro John Murray and we hope it wont be too long before we meet again. Until the next visitation..

New Publication:

Bro Tom Purdie has released his 4th book on Scottish Football. The latest in a line of publications is called "Hearts- The Golden Years". The book covers the most successful period in the club's history, 1954 - 1963 when they won 4 League Cups, 2 League Championships and the Scottish Cup. It will be available in Waterstones, W H Smith and Amazon etc. All proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated by Tom to the 1914 Memorial Trust. The Trust was formed last year and is chaired by P.M. Gordon Angus "Auld 13" and the purpose is to raise funds to build a memorial at Tynecastle in honour of the Hearts players who volunteered for active service in 1914. The sum of money needed is about £60,000 and along with others, Tom's been arranging and attending fundraisers in the past year. The entire Hearts squad enlisted, most of whom joined the 16th Royal Scots, going from the "playing fields of Scotland to the killing fields of France". On 1st July 1916 the team was decimated on the first day of the Battle of the Somme.

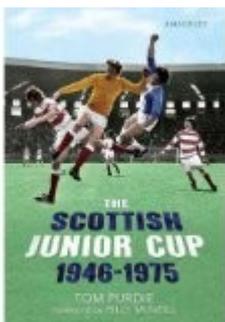
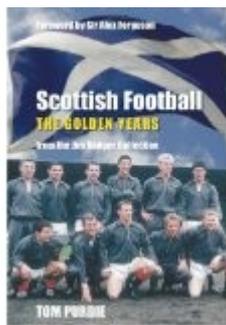
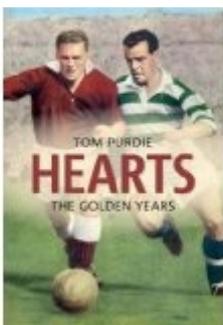
When the guns fell silent in 1918 some returned to Gorgie to once again pull on the famous maroon strip, others returned but because of their injuries and mental scars were unable to play again. Some didn't return at all.

Tom will have a few copies at each meeting which he will personally sign.

In his capacity as senior security manager Tom has worked with many SPL clubs including Hearts, but now with Falkirk F.C. as match day operations manager. Tom's knowledge and research of Scottish Football is astounding.

Other publications under Tom's remit include..

- Scottish Football: The Golden Years
- Inside Scottish Football
- The Scottish Junior Cup from 1946-1975



**OUT
NOW**

Waterstones

WH Smith

Amazon



Future Articles:

Should any brother have any articles of interest, photographs etc., trips down memory lane, then please submit them to the Bro Secretary, PM Bro Alan Borsbey at the following email address...

bod101uk@yahoo.co.uk

Please note:

Only photographs sanctioned by the owner will be used.

Petitions:

There are currently no petitions Pending. If you would like to Propose any gentlemen into the lodge, please see the Bro Secretary

Mark Your Diaries:

6th Dec – AGM (Members Only)
20th Dec – FC Degree by 1186

Merry Christmas and a Happy
New Year from All at 1186!

3rd Jan – EA Degree by 1658
17th Jan – FC Degree by 272

7th Feb – MMM Degree by 1186
21st Feb – FC Degree by 1186
23rd Feb – Annual Installation

7th Mar – EA Degree by 1186
21st Mar – FC Degree (Prov Visit)
*7pm tyle