



Inside:-

- * Burns' Monument Alloway
- * A Fern Ware Table
- * Philip Giles of St. Austell
- * Fleetwood Again
- * Saltburn
- * George Osbaldeston
- * Paul Stetson
- * Skye
- * Napoleon III Thread Boxes
- * Spill Vases

The Tale of a Mauchline Blotter!

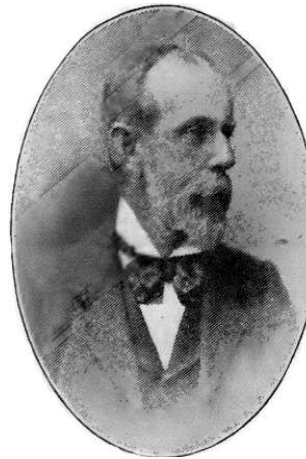
This was one of the talks given at the Lincoln Convention

Several years ago, I bought a rather handsome blotting folder, with a transfer of Poosie Nansie's, Mauchline, mainly because it also carried the legend 'Made of oak from Poosie Nansie's, Mauchline', and is clearly made from comparatively substantial pieces of oak. Its interior, however, proved equally interesting. There is a typed label stuck to the inside front cover which reads:



So who were these people who at some point had contact with my blotter?

To begin at the beginning, Thomas Killin J.P. was born in Mauchline in 1850, the son of James Killin, a handloom weaver. Thomas's own death certificate states that his father was a box maker, but this is not borne out by the census returns where James is listed, firstly as a weaver, and latterly as a postman.



Thomas Killin

Thomas himself, however, was listed in 1871 as a box maker. By 1881 he had moved to Glasgow, eventually becoming Manager of a Coal and Ironworks Depot. He must have retained a strong affection for his birth place as he became a founder member and officer of the Glasgow Mauchline Society, which later became 'The National

Burns Memorial & Cottage Homes Society', and he remained an office holder of it until his death in 1933. Is it possible that as a box maker, he actually made the blotter?

GLASGOW & DISTRICT BURNS ASSOCIATION.

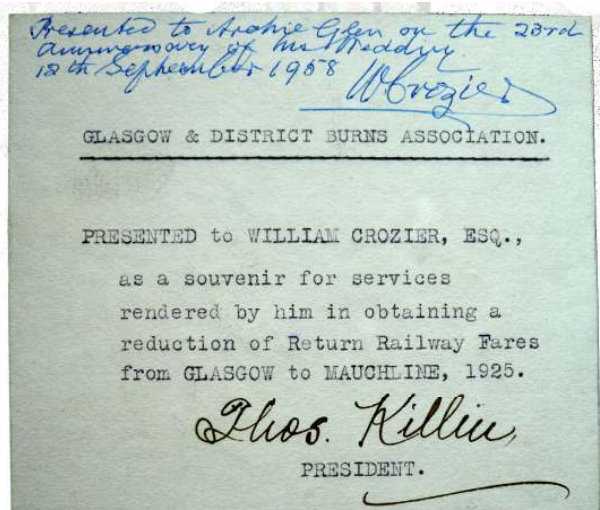
PRESENTED to WILLIAM CROZIER, Esq.,
as a souvenir for services
rendered by him in obtaining a
reduction of Return Railway Fares
from GLASGOW to MAUCHLINE, 1925.

Thos. Killin
PRESIDENT.

Across the top of the label there has been added in ink:

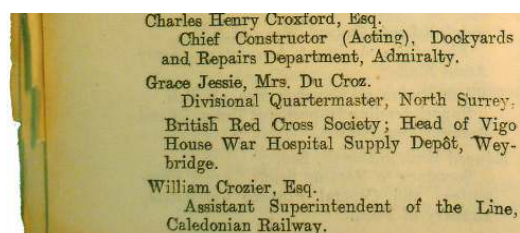
*Presented to Archie Glen on the 23rd
Anniversary of his Wedding
12th September 1958*

W. Crozier



William Crozier

William Crozier O.B.E., J.P., the recipient, was born in 1876, and is first recorded working in Glasgow as a Booking Clerk in 1881. At some point he joined the staff of the Caledonian Railway, and, as an Assistant Supervisor of Line, was awarded an O.B.E. in 1920, presumably for his work in keeping the railways running during the First World War. Unfortunately how he was



Crozier's citation in the London Gazette
Courtesy of Peter Laird

From the Editor's Desk



Welcome to another Journal – I hope you are all enjoying a good summer, and finding some interesting pieces on your travels. You will see from elsewhere in the Journal that already 2012 promises to be a vintage year, with a visit to the Chabots' collection in Caen, and a Sussex Convention at Eastbourne. For the Sussex Convention we aim to have a full set of Sussex transfers for display. We already have some on the database but there are many gaps, and some transfers on items difficult to photograph well. If you can help with photos from your items it would be very much appreciated. In December we will try another version of 'For Sale and Wanted' – if you can provide photos of the For Sale items, we will include them. If a lot of members send listings, members will be rationed to a limited number. The next photo feature will be on 'Dressing Table Items' – from ring stands to hairbrushes – all contributions, all finishes welcome.



Jane Bowen



able to reduce rail fares for the folk of Mauchline remains a mystery, but he had a long life, not dying until 1961.

A picture of Crozier was sold at auction with the blotter and other personal effects in December 2008. Coincidentally, both Killin and Crozier died in Cambuslang.

Archie Glen proved to be William's son-in-law, having married his daughter Jeannie in September 1935. Why the blotter was transferred to him on his 23rd wedding anniversary, however, is also a mystery.

Jane Bowen

The Burns' Monument at Alloway

The Burns' Monument at Alloway was a popular place to visit and have the opportunity to buy Mauchline Ware as we see from the numerous pieces marked "BOUGHT AT THE MONUMENT". A remarkable confirmation of this appears in the *Souvenir of the Land o' Burns*, one of a series of booklets with fold-out photographs published in the 1880s and bound in sycamore boards, because one of the photographs inside, entitled "Interior of Burns' Monument, Alloway", clearly shows, on the table, spill vases and other articles in Mauchline Ware which were, no doubt, on sale to visitors.

We are very grateful to be alerted to this discover by the eagle-eyed Laurance Black, who noticed the photograph while restoring a copy of the book. Charles Hamer kindly supplied the photographs from his copy, for which we are also very grateful. However some copies of the book, though having the same title, do not include this particular photograph, so there are clearly two editions of it.

William Hodges

