

# Twelve Talk

13.01.18

Issue 104

## Meetings 2017-18

\*16.01.18

Lecture by Bro Iain White  
PM

*From No XII to the King  
Emperor by way of the  
Scotts and the Cairds*

\* 06.02.18

Raising

\* 20.02.18

Raising and Annual  
Visitation of the  
Provincial Grand Lodge

\* 20.02.18

Fellowcraft Degree by No  
XII at Lodge Renfrew  
County Kilwinning No  
370

\*Saturday 24.02.18

Annual Burns Supper at  
630 for 7pm

Immortal Memory – Bro  
David Vennard PM

Lassies – Bro Kenny Wilson

\* 26.04.18

Visit to The Scots Lodge No  
2319 (EC) in London

**Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII**  
**The Saloon of the Town Hall, Greenock**  
**Regular Meetings – 7.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays – September to April**  
**Summer Meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in June**

RWM Bro Allan T. Glen 41 Morris Crescent Blantyre Glasgow G72 0DA (07736060280)  
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 8 Mount Stuart Drive Wemyss Bay (07810270787)  
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)



## The New Year

Of, course we are now in the New Year and we wish you all the very best for 2018. I always become a bit reflective at this time of year and it has been interesting for me to see that Bro Jack Glenly PM touched on this theme in his sermon at the Divine Service and RWM Bro Allan T Glen follows that up in his piece in this edition of Twelve Talk. Bro James P Livingstone RWPGM also mentioned this reflective theme in his recent editorial in The West Column.

My own reflections are around my family and personal life, my working life and a moment or two is devoted to freemasonry and my involvement and contribution. As regards the Craft, I think that I'd sum it up by saying that I am going to continue to do all that I am able to do to support

No XII, its RWM and freemasonry in general. I would not pretend that I'll be able to do all that I'd like to, but I'll continue to do simply all that I can. I'm wondering if that would be a maxim for all of us as regards the Craft as we move into 2018?

## The Monthly Draw

Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick won our December 2017 draw. The prize for December (and Jun) was £50 in 2017.

For 2018, our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson, says that the draw winnings will be changed to £25 per month. This will make a total prize payout of £300 which is up on the 2017 amount by £50.

To keep our surplus level the same, we need a few more brethren to contribute so please, if you are not yet a Draw contributor, see Bro David asap and sign up! Also, if you are already in, please consider taking a number or two more. Every wee bit helps!



## **Our Previous Meeting - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

### **The Annual Installation Divine Service**

Business commitments meant that I was unable to be at the Annual Divine Service, so I called on one of our roving correspondents to provide a piece for Twelve Talk. The RWM obliged!

*I seem to be becoming something of a special correspondent for Bro Iain or maybe a guest editor (I've always rather liked that title).*

*To me, No XII's Annual Divine Service officially kicks off the Festive Season and the run up to Christmas. It's also a chance for the RWM to find his feet as it's the meeting directly after the Installation. While this wasn't as much of an issue this year, I can assure you that last year it was particularly welcome. Open the Lodge, conduct the business, close the Lodge and then hand over to the wonderful Bro Jack Glenny PM after which I can just sit back and enjoy.*

*Bro Jack's sermon was on the subject of building and promises. The idea of making a promise and putting it off and off and off. Something I think we can all relate to. This is especially true in freemasonry. In order to build relationships with new members of any lodge it is important that we each make a promise to make them feel welcome, to sit with them, to answer any questions and to encourage them. It is important that we don't put off this duty or we risk losing new members. This is something I think No XII does exceptionally well. Ever since joining, I have been offered nothing but friendship and encouragement and long may this continue.*

*Aside from the usual hymns we were also entertained by the wonderful Clydevie Academy Boys' Vocal Group who gave a beautiful rendition of Abide with Me. It's a bit of a cliché, but you really could hear a pin drop once the boys had finished in the split second before the rapturous applause.*

*What's also particularly nice about the Divine Service is that it's a chance for members of No XII to welcome family and friends to join us. I always make a point of bringing my parents along and this year was no exception. I'm not a nervous person (my job doesn't really allow for it) but, I must admit, seeing my Mum and Dad in the audience made me slightly nervous. Thankfully, as I've already mentioned above, I had a pretty easy night of it.*

*The Divine Service always offers the opportunity to pause and take stock of the year that is about to end and the one that is about to begin. To go back to Bro Jack's sermon, I always make a promise to learn from my mistakes and to do better in the New Year. This isn't so much a resolution, it's merely to hold myself to account for my successes and failures during the year.*

*I'm always struck by the immense history of No XII. A history, I must confess, I am rather ignorant of. In my defence, I think many members would say the same thing. Even something as simple and knowing who was in the Chair. In many other lodges this would be a simple matter of referring to the boards listing the Masters of a lodge. Sadly, this had never been the case with No XII - until the night of the Divine Service.*

*It gave me a great deal of pleasure to ask Bro Jack if, during the Divine Service, he would dedicate the new Masters' boards. These boards were purchased from the bequest of Bro Gordon H Dickie and were dedicated to his memory.*



**Bro JC Glenny PM and Bro Allan T Glen RWM in front of the new Masters' Boards which Bro Jack had just dedicated to the memory of Bro Gordon H Dickie**

*I must say, the boards look wonderful. And it's not until you see the sheer number of brethren who have passed through the chair of No XII do you realise, not only how many men have come before you, but just how short your time in the chair really is.*

*Christmas has now passed; the New Year has only begun and I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a very peaceful and prosperous 2108.*

**Bro Allan T Glen  
RWM**

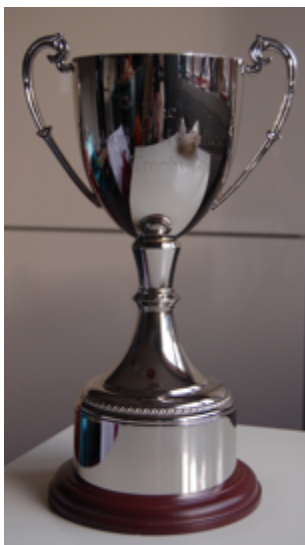
## **Our Next Meeting Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018**



The meeting on Tuesday will be a busy one. Firstly, and most importantly, we have the presentation of a jewel from the Lodge to Bro Kenneth Kennedy Morrison PM, or KK as he is affectionately known to us all, to mark his being honoured was by the Grand Master Mason at The Annual Installation of Grand Lodge on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017. The Grand Master bestowed Honorary Grand Rank of Grand Architect upon him. In masonic parlance, this recognition of Kenny is "peculiarly appropriate and well deserved." Bro Kenny is the first member of No XII to be so honoured since the late Bro John Adamson PM in the 1990s. Before that it was the late Bro Archie Campbell PM in the 1970s who received Honorary Grand Rank.



Funnily enough, when I was in the Lodge on Friday doing some work on the archives I came across the Certificate that Bro Archie Campbell received all these years ago and the jewel that had been given to Bro John Adamson by the Lodge.



The lodge will be closed after the business because at 8pm, Donald MacDonald, Trophy Convenor for the Inverclyde Music Festival, will be along to be presented with the Wilson J McCulloch Trophy (photo left) by the Lodge. A cheque will also be handed over as a donation to help the work of the Festival in which many hundreds of local people – mostly children – take part in each year. This continues the Lodge's emphasis on outreach into the community.

The trophy will be presented for verse speaking in the Primary 6 age group. Wilson of course was a very highly qualified and extremely accomplished elocutionist. He was very successful in the Festival competitions in his youth.

RWPGM Bro James P Livingstone and a deputation from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West will be in attendance and the RWPGM will assist with both presentations. Bro KK Morrison PM is, of course, presently a Provincial Grand office bearer and the late Bro Wilson J McCulloch served with distinction as Provincial Grand Chaplain. Bro Wilson is seen in the photograph on the right in the Provost's Room at his Installation into the Chair of King Solomon in November 1977. He presided, with dignity, expertise and aplomb, over the Lodge 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations in December 1978 when the Grand Master Mason, Bro Captain Robert Wolridge Gordon, 10<sup>th</sup> of Esslemont and 21<sup>st</sup> of , (father of the present Grand Master), and a deputation visited for a rededication ceremony in the Town Hall Saloon and a Dinner at the Tontine Hotel.



Finally, the Lodge room having been rearranged suitably, there will be an illustrated lecture from Bro Iain White PM entitled *From No XII to the King Emperor by way of the Scotts and the Cairds*. This will be a quirky look at a wee slice of the history of No XII and how the Lodge connected to the bigger picture in the British Empire. Even though I say so myself, this is not to be missed!!

### **Visit to The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

Again, I was unable to be with RWM Bro Allan T Glen and the Deputation from No XII when the visit was made to our friends at The Lodge of Erskine. We have a strong and growing friendship with this Lodge. It is of course the affiliate lodge of Bro Brian McFadyen, our Junior Warden, and Bro Brian was RWM there in 2014-15.

I called upon another of our roving correspondent, Bro Bob Crossan WSW to supply a piece for me. He drafted it out and the aforementioned Bro Brian McFadyen provided some additional detail. I am grateful to them both.

*For the first time in a couple of years the Brethren of No XII were invited to travel East to confer a Fellowcraft Degree exemplification at The Lodge of Erskine No 1566. On arrival at the lodge we were welcomed with open arms and outstretched hands. The meeting began promptly at 7:30 pm and at around 7:50 pm we assembled as one and were led into the lodge as a large deputation headed by our RWM, Brother Allan T Glen. We received a warm welcome from RWM Brother Ronald Armstrong of The Lodge of Erskine No 1566. After the usual formalities, our RWM received the gavel and Office Bearers exchanged. A short recess was called to prepare the candidate.*

*The RWM then brought the lodge out of recess to allow the business of the evening to be resumed. A Fellowcraft Degree was then exemplified by the following Brethren*

*Prayer – Bro Allan I MacFeate IPM  
Obligation – Bro Allan T Glen RWM  
Secrets – Bro Alistair Glenny PM  
Apron – Bro Bob Crossan WSW  
Tools – Bro David Stevenson Treasurer  
Tracing Board – Bro Ken MacDougall PM  
Charge – Bro Brian McFadyen WJW*

*Senior Deacon – Bro David Martin  
Junior Deacon – Bro Campbell Snoddy  
Inner Guard – Bro Alistair Glenny PM*

*The Degree work having been concluded, the gavel returned, and office bearers exchanged again, our degree team received the wages of appreciation from the RWM of Lodge Battlefield No 1258 on behalf of the assembled brethren, after which we were invited to retire as a deputation.*

*Most of our 15 or so brethren remained afterwards to have a most enjoyable harmony where we were treated to homemade soup, pies, sausage rolls, chili/rice and a few libations. In all the excitement, we totally forgot to take a photograph to help remind us of a most pleasant evening in the company of our friends at The Lodge of Erskine No 1566.*

**Bro Bob Crossan  
WSW**

## **Test and Capitation Fees**

**Test Fees are now due** and £40 should be paid by any of the means above. **Capitation Fees** are £30 for Life Members (at their discretion). Please see the Treasurer to pay your rightful dues.

## **Henry is 98 years young!**

Our esteemed Past Master, Bro Henry S Tibbles was 98 on his recent birthday on 4<sup>th</sup> November past. Although he is not able to get out and come along to the Lodge meetings now he still has a keen interest in our work and was very pleased when RWM Bro Allan T Glen and a ‘powerful’ deputation of Past Masters visited him on the big day. Photos of the happy gathering are below.

Clockwise we have RWM Bro Allan T Glen, Bro Alistair Glenly PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM and Bro Alan D Beck PM.



**Visit to Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No 370  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

We have a long friendship with 370. Although it had somewhat fallen into abeyance for a while, it has successfully been rekindled. No XII will take a deputation to Paisley on 22<sup>nd</sup> February and confer a Second Degree.

## **Visit to the Scots Lodge No 2319 (EC)**

### **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

It is a few years since we had an exchange visit with our friends at 'Scots' in London. That will be remedied when RWM Bro Allan T Glen will lead a deputation to the April meeting.

Any brethren interested in attending please meet with the RWM after the lecture on Tuesday.

## **From the old Minute Books of No XII**

*Since I was poking around in the Lodge archives for a few hours during the week, this item from the old minutes is of interest.*

### **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 1921**

Bro John G Macpherson, RW Master, in the Chair

Donations to Lodge Property

From Bro HW Jones, Dir of Music, a George II farthing, in good condition, dated 1737 which year is coincident with the date of Lodge Charter.

From WG Buchanan PM, a framed photogravure of King Edward VII in masonic regalia.

*The George II farthing has been in the Lodge safe and in all the inventories in all my years of membership (since 1974). However, the King Edward VII photogravure is a different story. A few years ago, I found it, frameless and in a very sorry state stuck in a recess high above the Lodge safe in the cupboard. To this day, I do not know what led me to look in that remote place. I took King Edward to a specialist framer in Glasgow and he was restored to his former glory. He now sits behind the RWM in the East at all our meetings.*

## **Reports on Visits**

- Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 on 10th November 2017 (Entering) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan and Bro Paul Stevenson
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Alistair Glenney PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Bob Bain PM and Bro James Livingstone (RWPGM)



- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (Entering) – attended by Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Hector Macphail PM
- Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 1st December 2017 (Annual Installation) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, WJW Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro David Stevenson, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro David Martin, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Alistair Glenny and Bro Kenneth Morrison PM
- Lodge Inchinnan No 1405 on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017 (Annual Installation) – attended by WJW Bro Brian McFadyen
- The Prince's Lodge No 607 on 4th December 2017 (Annual Installation) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Tony Stewart HM

On all occasions, Fraternal Greetings were exchanged. The RWM thanked the Brethren for their support.

## Lapel Badges

For many years, Bro Henry S Tibbles PM sold anniversary lapel badges in aid of the Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund through the West Column, the monthly newsletter of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West. Recently, he passed the mantle on to our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson. Bro David asked me to start to publicise the badge availability through *XII Talk*. This will now be a regular feature.

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*.





Grumpy Past Masters badges are also now available from David at a cost of £5.50 each, excluding postage.

**Iain White PM**  
**13.01.18**

**Views expressed by individuals within XII Talk do not necessarily represent the views of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII. Unless otherwise stated, Bro Iain White PM is the author of all material.**