

Twelve Talk

17.03.19

Issue 120

Meetings 2018-19

*15.01.19

Lecture: "The Mission of Freemasonry" by Bro John Miller IPPGM (Renfrewshire East)

* 05.02.19

Raising

* 19.02.19

Passing
Annual Visitation by PGLRW
Note: Lodge opens at 715pm

* 05.03.19

Passing

* 19.03.19

Raising

*Thursday 28.03.19

Deputation to Lodge The Gael No 609: talk by Bro Iain White PM
HM 609 "No XII and Lodge The Gael – 35 years of friendship"

*02.04.19

Raising

*19.04.19

Mark

* Tuesday 30.04.19

Deputation to Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759 to confer Mark Degree

* Thursday 06.06.19

Summer Meeting: Entering by No XII PMs – Bro Kenneth C. MacDougall PM in the Chair

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII
The Saloon of the Town Hall, Greenock
Regular Meetings – 7.30pm 1st and 3rd Tuesdays – September to April
Summer Meeting – 1st Thursday in June
Burns Supper – Last Saturday in February

RWM Bro J Robert Crossan 22 Dungourney Drive Greenock PA16 7UW (07788923074)
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 8 Mount Stuart Drive Wemyss Bay PA18 6DX (07810270787)
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

Our Previous Meeting Tuesday 19th March Raising

Again, there was a good attendance of brethren from No. XII and visitors, amongst whom – again - were Bro James Hamilton, RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, and Bro Eric Sweeney, RWM of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217. They joined the RW Master in the East.

The Candidate for the evening was called to work at the last minute, and also, at the last minute, Bro. Scott Archie Branchfield who had just been Passed to the Second Degree stood in. Bro Scott did himself, his proposer and seconder and the Lodge proud through his demeanour and the way that he responded to the questions that were put to him. The work was carried out by the brethren of No XII. The Degree Team was **Prayer**: BB Bro Alex Gray; **Obligation**: RWM Bro Robert Crossan; **Retrospect** Bro. Brian McFadyen WSW; **Raising** Bro Alan D. Beck PM; **Secrets**: Bro KK Morrison PM; **Apron**: WSW Bro Brian McFadyen **Working Tools**: Bro. Allan I. MacFeate PM; **Traditional History**: Bro Bob Bain PM WJW; **The Charge**: Bro Iain White PM

Our Next Meeting Tuesday 19th March Raising

We again have a Raising on Tuesday and the Candidate is Bro Calum Robert Price. The Degree will be worked by the brethren of No XII.

Monthly Draw

I have this from our Treasurer, Bro. David Stevenson.

Already there are now 51 numbers taken up for the 2019 Draw. Bro David would be pleased to receive further enquiries about taking part. It all helps towards making the Lodge Tercentenary special in 2028. In particular, it would be great to see more of our newer members involved. You can set up a standing order and the £1 a month from your account wouldn't be noticed! Bro David will help with details.

The March Draw was won by Bro. Tony Buckley with no. 58.

Test and Capitation Fees

Test Fees are now overdue and are £40; **Capitation Fees** are £35 for Life Members (at their discretion). These fees may both be paid by a number of means – please see our Treasurer Bro David Stevenson for details.



The Summer Meeting Thursday 6th June Entering by the Past Masters

In recent times, the special Summer Meetings have been very popular and successful. The last few have involved the Past Masters of the Lodge conferring an Entering and thus it will be in 2019. RWM Bro Bob Crossan asked Bro Kenneth C. MacDougall PM, our Lodge Secretary, to take the Chair this year and put the team together. He was delighted to do this and is now involved in the preparatory work. Bro Ken has begun assembling his team, so Past Masters - beware if you see Ken's number coming up on your phone! Bro Ken was RW Master between 2007 and 2009.

Deputation to Lodge The Gael No. 609 Thursday 28th March

RWM Bro. Bob Crossan headed a deputation of 10 brethren to our old friends at Lodge The Gael on Thursday past. We turned back the clock a bit as we headed first to The Park Bar on Argyle Street and had our tea before the meeting. Bro. Crawford Kirkpatrick surprised us all by forsaking his usual choice of steak pie for haddock and chips. He assured us that it was equally good.

At the meeting, we were, as is the tradition, piped in by Bro. Gordon Wishart Jr. WSW who played the Retreat March written in the Boer War by Pipe Major John McLellan of Dunoon, *The Highland Brigade at Magersfontein*. The Deputation was given a really enthusiastic welcome by RWM Bro Stewart J. Walker and all present were delighted to be amongst a big attendance to see Past Master Bro. Donnie Finlayson, who is, of course, an Honorary Member of No XII, receive his 50-year Diploma from RWPGM Substitute of the Province of Glasgow, Bro. Alan Cuthill. Bro. Alan made a really detailed, warm and sincere speech of presentation. He had a busy evening because he was also leading the Deputation from the Provincial Grand Lodge on its Annual Visitation! There was a big surprise for Bro. Alan D. Beck PM, who was called to the edge of the carpet and asked if he would accept Honorary Membership of Lodge The Gael for services rendered over the years. He readily accepted but, after the Obligation, Bro. Allan admitted that, for once in his life, he was so taken aback by the great honour that he was almost lost for words. He did manage, mind you!



With their Certificates

From Left: Bro Stewart J. Walker RWM, Bro Alan Cuthill RWPGMS, Bro Donnie Finlayson PM (50 years a member) and Bro. Alan D. Beck PM (Honorary Member)

Bro. Iain White PM of No. XII gave a short talk entitled Lodge The Gael and No. XII – 35 Years' of Friendship. He recounted how it was the Great Highland Bagpipe that had initially brought him (and No. XII) to Lodge the Gael because of his friendship with the late Bo. John G. MacLennan PM beginning when they played pipes together in The Clan Campbell Whisky and Britoil Pipes and Drums. He and Bro Jocky were in the Chair of their respective Lodges at the same time. Bro. Iain told tales of incidents and personalities over the years which traced the happy relationship between the two Lodges from all these years ago to the present day. From feedback received after the meeting, the talk seemed to be well received by the brethren.



At the Harmony, the usual Lodge The Gael traditions were observed with the first item being a hornpipe and jig – *Donald MacLeod* and *The Glasgow Police Pipers* - on the pipes from Bro Gordon Wishart WSW and then a Gaelic song from Bro. Donnie Finlayson, who gave us his old standard *Cailin Mo Ruinsa*. We also had a March, Strathspey and Reel beautifully played on the pipes from Bro. Andrew Yu, originally from Hong Kong and a member of St David (University Lodge) No. 36 in Edinburgh. A special treat at the Harmony was Bro Donnie Finlayson's unique chilli mince! It was a most enjoyable evening and did much to cement the bonds of friendship between the two lodges.

A photo from the past is below, showing some "weel kent faces" in their younger days.



**Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII
Visit by Lodge The Gael and Sister Lodges
6th November 1990
The 8 Masters**

Back Row: RWM Bro Alex Fraser (Lodge The Highland Light Infantry No. 1459) RWM Bro. Sammy Hunter (Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No. 1121)
Front Row: RWM Bro. Jim Cowan (Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217) RWM Bro. Thos. Diamond (Lodge St. John's Whiteinch No. 683) RWM Bro Iain White (Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII) RWM Bro. John G. MacLennan (Lodge The Gael No. 609) RWM Bro. William McIntosh (Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No. 624) RWM Bro. Robert Dallas (Lodge Clyde No. 408)

As stated, Bros. Iain White and the late John G. MacLennan forged their friendship through the pipe band world and that led to the association between No. XII and Lodge The Gael. Bro. Iain attended Bro. John's funeral just a few weeks ago. He passed to The Grand Lodge Above at the young age of 61. The funeral was like a Who's Who of Freemasonry in Glasgow and the West.

Bros William McIntosh and Robert Dallas are with Bro. John in the Grand Lodge Above.

Deputation to Lodge Burns Dundonald No. 1759

Tuesday 30th April

Mark Degree

No XII heads to Dundonald again on 30th April, this time to confer a Mark Degree. The relationship between the two Lodges goes back to 2011 just before Bro. Alan D. Beck was in the Chair. Alan was singing in New York and met No XII member, Bro. Barry Banks, and they visited the Grand Lodge of New York building. As they waited for the tour to begin, they overheard a Scottish accent and they began talking to the owner of that voice - it was Bro. Steven Mack PM of Lodge Burns Dundonald. Alan invited Stevie to visit No XII and he attended with a Deputation of Brethren from Lodge 1759. Within a year, Bro Alan was in the Chair and No. XII and 1759 were exchanging Degrees.

Sadly, Bro Steven Mack has since passed to The Grand Lodge Above.

The Way We Were

Soon I hope to have a feature on the late Bros. Grant (Stewart and Ian) who were members of No. XII and were lived in the Bow Road opposite our Bros. Glenny. It all began some time ago when Stewart's son Keith contacted Lodge Secretary Bro. Ken MacDougall PM and I am now involved in a flurry of emails with the Grant family. As usual with these things it has grown arms and legs and now Ian's sons Calum and Ian have been 'sooked into' in the correspondence! Calum, of course, is a member of No. XII.

Reports on Visits

- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 and Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 7th March 2019 (Joint Annual Divine Service) – attended by WSW Bro Brian McFadyen and WJW Bro Bob Bain PM
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 11th March 2019 (Entering) - attended by RWM Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Allan MacFeate PM, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Kenneth McCrae HM
- Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 on 12th March 2019 (Entering) – attended by WSW Bro Brian McFadyen
- PGLRW Masters and Wardens Seminar at Lodge Sir Michael Kilmacolm No 989 on Saturday 13th March 2019 – attended by RWM Bro Bob Crossan & WJW Bro Bob Bain PM
- The funeral service for Barry Alexander MacLean, son of Lodge Tyler Bro Ewen MacLean, on 13th March 2019 in Largs – attended by Almoner Bro Alistair Glenny PM and Bro Allan MacFeate PM
- Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 14th March 2019 (Passing) - attended by RWM Bro Bob Crossan, WSW Bro Brian McFadyen, WJW Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Campbell Snoddy, Bro Alan

Beck PM, Bro David Stevenson, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bro Jim Livingstone and Bro Edward Molloy

- Lodge The Gael No 609 on 14th March 2019 (Raising by Lodge St John Whiteinch No 683) – attended by Bro Iain White PM
- Lodge St David (University Lodge) No 36 on 16th March 2019 (Annual Installation) – attended by IPM Bro Allan Glen

On all occasions, fraternal greetings were exchanged.

From the Old Minute Books Gifts to the Lodge in 1919

It was reported in the previous edition that in April and May 1920, No XII was involved in presenting gifts to a couple of members. In the previous year, gifts were made to the Lodge.

Tuesday 11th March 1919

Bro Robt. Thexton RW Master, in the Chair

Stands for Deacons Rods

The RW Master expressed his appreciation for a pair of Stands, for the Deacons' Rods, which were presented by Bro Geo H Mills, Marshal.

Tuesday 22nd April 1919

Bro Robt. Thexton RW Master, in the Chair

At a meeting of the General Committee

Picture of the Late King Edward

Bro Andrew Main, Depute Master, was thanked by the RW Master, on behalf of the Lodge, for the offer of a picture of the late King Edward.

Tuesday 29th April 1919

Bro Robt. Thexton RW Master, in the Chair

Presentation of Picture of the Late King Edward by Bro Andrew Main

Bro Andrew Main, Depute Master, asked the RW Master to accept, on behalf of the Lodge, a picture of the late King Edward.

Bro Thexton cordially thanked Bro Main for his gift for which he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

The stands for the Deacons Rods are still in use today. The picture of the late King Edward was lost for many years and found in the stewards' room by Bro. Iain White during a tidy out. It was in a sorry state. Bro. Iain took it to a picture framer who reframed it, restoring it to its former glory. The print is a limited edition. It sits proudly in the East at all of our Meetings.

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. 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
31.03.19

Views expressed by individuals within *Twelve 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.