

## Meetings 2020-21

\*01.09.20

Lecture by Bro. Brian McFadyen  
WSW PM 1566

*Pitcairn Island*

\* 15.09.20

Lecture by Bro. Iain White PM  
*Guess who's coming to dinner?*

\* 06.10.20

Lecture TBC

\* 20.10.20

Lecture TBC

\* 03.11.20

Lecture TBC

\* 17.11.20

Lecture TBC

\*01.12.20

Lecture TBC

**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 Dungleary 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)

## COVID-19/Corona Virus Pandemic (3)

The Grand Master Mason has sent us 2 recent updates and, with the Covid situation worsening again, as far as the Craft is concerned, there is no light at the end of the tunnel as regards holding our regular meetings.

We should all be concerned about this because the Government has had to impose and re-impose limiting strategies on people gathering to try to get the situation under some sort of control. However, as time goes on, we should be getting increasingly concerned about the future of the Craft. The essence of the Craft, as seen by many of our Brethren, is the getting together at meetings and social occasions to further our knowledge and support charitable causes. Obviously, it is now a long time since we have been able to do this, and it seems that it will be a long time before we can do it again. No XII is being proactive and taking the crisis as an opportunity. We are seeking to keep Brethren in touch and providing opportunities for education in Freemasonry and life in general. The following message was sent out by RWM Bro Bob Crossan.

*Good evening Brethren,*

*Further to our excellent educational presentation on Pitcairn Island last Tuesday night by our WSW Bro Brian McFadyen, please find below*

*a link to our next zoom meeting which will be by Bro Iain White PM and the title is 'Guess Who's coming to Dinner?'*

*Can I please ask that you attend these zoom meetings as they are being arranged to coincide with the Tuesday nights we were supposed to be having our Regular meetings, in other words had it not been for the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent ongoing lockdown, you would be coming along to the Town Hall for our meeting.*

*They are also for the benefit of trying to keep your interest in the lodge and I worry that it will be all too easy not to come back to the Lodge when we are able to have meetings once again.*

*We have guest speakers from outside our own Lodge lined up in the coming weeks.*

*Finally I would urge you to find the time to do this, it's only for a couple of hours out of your week.*

*Thank you all*

*Fraternal best wishes  
Bob*

*'Visiting Brethren' are most welcome and the Zoom link is on the next page.*

*Please join us and help to keep the Craft thriving.*



## Our Next Meeting by Zoom Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September

Bro Iain White will give a Lecture entitled, 'Guess who's coming to dinner'? He will focus on a handful of historical figures that he would like to dine and converse with and explain the reasons why.

### Zoom Link

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII's Zoom Meeting

Time: Sep 15, 2020 07:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98922026514?pwd=Mk84Nzk0bUdBa2ZWMUxpZTI0UjNNdz09>

Meeting ID: 989 2202 6514

Passcode: 520425

Please join us!

**Bro. Captain Allan Ian MacFeate  
1947 - 2020**



It was a great shock to us all when Past Master Bro Captain Allan Ian MacFeate, *or The Captain* as he was affectionately known in No XII, passed to The Grand Lodge Above on 4<sup>th</sup> September

in Ardgowan Hospice after a short illness. We were all devastated by the news, especially given that Allan was such a fit and healthy man, golfing a couple of times a week with his pal, Donnie Cunningham JD of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, at Gourock GC up until very recently.

Bro Allan was born in Dunoon and brought up in Gourock. He was educated at Gourock High School and Greenock High, leaving the latter to commence training for a successful sea-going career that would take him all round the world. Allan was very proud of being a High School FP and took part in the *High School Degree* on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018 illustrating the Working Tools and taking the Office of Inner Guard as part of the team.



The success of his career may be measured in his becoming a qualified ships' master and spending many years deep sea with the huge responsibility of ensuring the safety of his crews, his ships and his cargoes. Most of us could not begin to imagine the enormity of all of that. He was, for a time, Captain of the Ben Ocean Lancer, a self-propelled drillship which was built in Scotts' of Greenock and at the cutting edge of technology. We used to enjoy when Allan would regale us with stories of the dodgy places that oil prospecting took him to. In particular tales of Nigeria and Brazil were scary yet

entertaining.

Allan joined No XII in 1988 when Bro Peter R Sinclair was RW Master and I was pleased to be his proposer. Over the years, he was an enthusiastic member and a regular attender when he was at home on leave. When he 'swallowed the anchor' some years ago, he took office and took the Chair in 2014, having served as Depute Master. I was really honoured when Allan asked me to be his Principal Installing Master; when a Brother you have proposed takes the Chair it is very satisfying. He served with real distinction as RW Master, demonstrating that leadership skills are indeed transferrable, bringing skills of communication, motivation and empathy to the office. During his term, he travelled widely on behalf of the Lodge and was well known and popular in the Lodges that he visited. His continued in his years as a Past Master, serving as Director of Ceremonies and standing in often as IPM. He even went back into the Chair when the Master was indisposed after a road traffic accident!



**In the Provost's Room at the Installation of Bro. Captain Allan Ian MacFeate**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**From Left: Bro KK Morrison PM (Installing Master) Sir Ludovic Shaw Stewart Bart. Bro. Captain Allan I. MacFeate RWM Bro. Iain White PM (Installing Master) Bro David Wilson (Deputy Provost) Bro Hector Macphail (Installing Master)**

Allan was very proud of No XII, its history and traditions and its place in the social fabric of the town and district, stretching back through the centuries. This was exemplified in the care that he took in setting up, and taking down, the display of our artifacts in the mobile case at each regular meeting. He was a man who knew what quality was and aspired to it in every aspect of his life, including No XII. Quality, dignity and decorum were his hallmarks



**Bro Allan MacFeate RWM at his re-installation in 2015 with his son, Derek, as Depute Master**

**Bro Alan D Beck IPM Bro. Kenneth C MacDougall PM (Installing Master) Bro. Iain White PM (Installing Master) Bro. Captain Allan I. MacFeate (RWM) Bro James P Livingstone (RWPGM) Bro Hector Macphail (Installing Master) Bro. Derek A MacFeate (Depute Master)**

He was a man who enjoyed life and enjoyed it to the full. He was gregarious and outgoing and had a wide circle of friends. Indeed, he was a joiner, not in the trade sense but of organisations. A member of the Innerkip Society, the Greenock Burns Club (The Mother Club), the Cotters, Gourock Golf Club, Greenock Wanderers Rugby Club, Greenock Cricket Club and the Royal West of Scotland Amateur Boat Club, he cheerfully patronised them all!

He was great company and I always enjoyed the opportunity to have a few drinks and a yarn with him. While the conversations could be serious at times, he always made me laugh with his ready wit.

Through Allan, No XII became an annual sponsor of both Greenock Wanderers and Greenock Cricket Club and we must ensure that this continues, not just because it is an intrinsically good thing for us to do but in Allan's memory. He was also an enthusiastic supporter of Children in Poverty Inverclyde.

Over the past few days, I have heard the following said of Allan by Masons and beyond: "A lovely, lovely man"; "A wonderful man", "A shining example of what a Freemason should be both inside and outside the Lodge" "Allan helped me a lot when I first joined and I enjoyed his company in harmonies"; "He will enhance the Grand Lodge Above as he did for our Lodge"; "I had so much respect for The Captain".

Despite all of the above, Allan was first and foremost a devoted family man and will be greatly missed by his wife Catherine, son Derek – who was his Depute Master when he served as RW

Master – daughter in law Leigh and the apples of his eye, grandchildren Freddie and Lexi. He was proud of them all and, I know, they of him.

Turning to that most evocative of poems, *Sea Fever*, by John Masefield inspired by the poet's years as a sailor, Past Master Bro. Alan Beck and I discussed its particular relevance for *The Captain*. We hope you'll agree.

*I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,  
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by;  
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking,  
And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking.*

*I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide  
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;  
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,  
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the seagulls crying.*

*I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,  
To the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted knife;  
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,  
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.*

I am sure that we all know where Allan's star has steered him safely to. He will undoubtedly be enjoying that merry yarn with the laughing fellow rover in Fiddler's Green. In the care of the Great Architect of the Universe, he will be having that quiet sleep and sweet dream with the long trick being over.

And finally, from the Volume of the Sacred Law, King James Version at Matthew Chapter 25, Verse 21: *His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant*

**Iain White PM**

Allan's funeral will take place on Thursday (17<sup>th</sup> September). The cortege will leave his home on The Greenock Esplanade at 1230 and go via the RWSABC, Greenock Wanderers RFC and Greenock Cricket Club to the Crematorium. Present circumstances dictate that the funeral will be private.

However, members of No XII will form a socially distanced Guard of Honour at the entrance to the South Street Cemetery. Members should assemble at 1230 for 1245. No XII dress should be worn, including Past Masters' Jewels where appropriate but no aprons or Office Bearers' regalia.

## **From the Old Minute Books**

*AT present, we are holding a series of Zoom meetings online because of the circumstances caused by the Covid pandemic. Some will be of more general interested rather than of specific Masonic interest. It is sometimes said that there is nothing that is really new. A look at the Minute extract below will show that this sort of thing was happening away back in 1933,*

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 1933**

Bro John Waddell, RW Master, in the Chair

Lecture on 'Port of Greenock – some stray notes'

At the close of the degree we had the pleasure of listening to a paper by PM Councillor John Miller of Gourrock, who was formerly a Collector of Inland Revenue in Greenock, on the 'Port of Greenock – some stray notes'. Bro Miller took us away back to the time when Greenock first constructed a harbour and gave many interesting sidelights of the Customs in connection with shipping in those days.

### **Test Fees now due!**

We still have Test Fees to pay! Even though the Lodge is not meeting in the Saloon, we still have our financial obligations.

If you do not pay your Test Fees by standing order, they are now due to be paid to our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson. Similarly, those Brethren who are Life Members and support the Lodge by covering the Annual Capitation Fee to the Grand Lodge of Scotland should also speak to Bro David about payment as soon as possible. It is important that we all meet our financial obligations to the Lodge. Test Fees are now £45, and the Annual Capitation Fee is £35.

### **Lodge Memorabilia**

In my role as Lodge Librarian, I am still very keen to have any documentary or other links to the past – installation programmes, Orders of Service, postcards, flyers etc. etc. If they are lying in a cupboard or drawer at home, please get them to me to enhance our understanding of No XII's past.

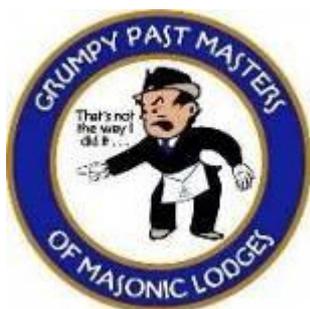
### **Lapel Badges**

For many years, the late 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 [treasurno12@aol.com](mailto:treasurno12@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**  
**13.09.20**

**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.**