

Twelve Talk

03.11.17

Issue 101

Meetings¹ 2017-18

- * 05.09.17
Passing
- * 19.09.17
Nomination and Election of
Office Bearers
Members only
- * 03.10.17
Entering, and affiliation
- * 17.10.17
Passing
- * 07.11.17
Annual Meeting and
Passing
- * 21.11.17
Annual Installation at
615pm
- * 05.12.17
Annual Divine Service
- * 19.12.17
No meeting
- * Saturday 24.02.18
Annual Burns Supper at
630 for 7pm



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

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)

Our next Meeting Tuesday 7th November 2017

Passing by Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121

Tuesday is the Annual Meeting and because of that we have an earlier start at 715pm. It is the hope that the business will be over fairly sharp and visitors will be admitted, at the latest, for 8pm. We are very happy that Lodge Crawfurdsburn will be along to confer a Passing on our candidate Bro Nicol Rhodes. Lodge Crawfurdsburn was founded back in 1913 and it would be fair to say that No XII could have been more enthusiastic about the concept of a new Lodge in the East End of the Town. Indeed, No XII did not support the idea at all. The reasons for this are very unclear and not explained at all in the Minutes. In itself, this is strange because the minutes of that era are very full indeed. However, all's well that ends well because the two Lodges very soon built a very close relationship with gifts being exchanged and degrees worked for one another. In the second half of the 20th Century, No XII went through a strange period

When visiting lodges were not invited in to work degrees. Lodge Crawfurdsburn was likely the last Lodge to confer a Degree in No XII prior to this period when it did so in 1935. Happily, on 7th October 2003, Lodge Crawfurdsburn ended that spell when RWM Bro Douglas Warnock brought along a Deputation and worked a Passing.

We are looking forward greatly to welcoming RWM Bro Malcolm A. Sinclair and his deputation on Tuesday

Esma Barr

We were saddened to hear that Past Master Campbell Barr's wife Esma had passed suddenly to her rest and reward on Wednesday 11th October 2017 at Inverclyde Royal. Esma had suffered with a heart condition for a long time. A teacher by profession, she worked in Langbank Primary School for many years. Esma was Mum to Douglas (also a member of No XII) and Shirley and Gran to Catriona. The Lodge was represented at the service at Greenock Crematorium on Tuesday 17th October. The service was conducted by our Past Master, Jack Glenney, who is a Reader of the Church of Scotland.

Campbell was RWM between 1985 and 1987. Our thoughts and prayers are with Campbell and the family at this sad time.

Previous Meeting Tuesday 3rd October – Entering

Nichol Rhodes was Initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry. The Degree Team was Prayer: Almoner Bro Alistair Glenny PM Obligation: RWM Bro Allan Glen Secrets: Bro Alan Beck PM NEC: Director of Music Bro Robert Marshall Apron: WSW Bro Bob Crossan Working Tools: IPM Bro Allan MacFeate The Charge: Secretary Bro Ken MacDougall PM.

Also at the meeting a deputation from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West attended, under the leadership of RWPGM Bro James P Livingstone. The reason for the visit was to allow the Provincial Grand Master to confer Honorary Provincial Grand Rank of President of Stewards on Bro Tony Buckley and to present him with his jewel in recognition of his hard work and commitment behind the scenes at various functions, both for the PGM on a personal level and for Provincial Grand Lodge in general. Bro Tony was suitably grateful.

Previous Meeting Tuesday 17th October 2017 - Passing

The Lodge was well filled and Candidate Bro Michael Alan Pierpoint who was Passed to the Second Degree. The Degree Team was Prayer: Almoner Bro Alistair Glenny PM Obligation: RWM Bro Allan Glen Secrets: Bro Alan Beck PM Apron: WSW Bro Bob Crossan Working Tools: WJW Bro Brian McFadyen Tracing Board: Secretary Bro Ken MacDougall PM The Charge: RWM Bro Allan Glen

No XII Burns Supper – Entertainers Finalised Saturday 24th February 2018



The Annual No XII Charity Burns Supper will be held in the Town Hall on Saturday 24th February 2018. The Immortal Memory will be delivered by a good friend of No XII – Bro David Vennard PM (left) of The Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge No 4. Bro David is an accomplished speaker and also delivers a mean poetic address. We have heard him before at the No XII Burns supper when he delivered Tam o' Shanter in 2015. Bro David's Immortal Memory will be interesting and informative. The Toast to the Lassies will be by Bro Kenny Wilson of Lodge Ardgowan No 1425. Kenny is, of course, very well known locally be it for his work on the folk and entertainment scene with The Wherries, his involvement in the Scout Association as a former District Commissioner or his expertise on the Bass Drum many years ago in the Greenock and District Scout Pipe Band. I have

spoken alongside Bro Kenny on many occasions and one thing that we all can be guaranteed of is a laugh! By coincidence, we have another former Bass Drummer delivering Tam o' Shanter

and that is Bro David Docherty. David has affiliated to Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 but his Mother Lodge is Lodge Rothesay St John No 292. Bro Davie comes from Rothesay and played the big drum in the Rothesay and District Pipe Band. I have also spoken with Bro Davie on several occasions and his Tam o' Shanter is unique and incomparable.

A great night is in store and bookings will be taken very soon by either Bro Alan D Beck PM or myself (Bro Iain White PM).

Bro Alex McIsaac and RFA Fort Grange

Bro Alex McIsaac passed to the Grand Lodge above on 6th July and we had an obituary for him in Twelve Talk 98. He was remembered formally at our Regular Meeting as the gentleman and committed Freemason that he was.

I was doing some research into Bro RL Scott, arguably the most eminent Past Master of No XII. Amongst other things Bro Scott was a shipbuilder (Chairman of Scotts' Shipbuilding and Engineering Company), a big game hunter, an adventurer, a swordsman of national prominence and a collector of arms and armoury. It was in the shipbuilding connection that I came upon a photograph taken in Scotts' Engine Works around 1975. It depicted the team that had been principally involved in the construction of Engine No 833, built for the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Fort Grange. There, clearly visible in the back row was Bro Alex McIsaac who, at the time, was a draughtsman in the Engine Works Drawing Office. Bro Alex is 9th, from the left, easily identifiable by his characteristic dark hair.



Engine No.833 Fort Grange and those responsible for building and testing it.

Included in photo are Euan Dunsmore (lab); Jim Nicol – Chief Designer; John Hawton, Ass Chief Designer; Willie Kane; Design Office; Willie MacGregor, Inspection; Peter Dodds, PP & R; Alex McIsaacs, D.O.; Sam Hutcheson, Head Foreman Fitter; Jim Harte, Hugh McIlloy, Joe Cameron, Foremen Fitters; Willie Chalmers, Fitter; David Scott, Works Director; Neil MacFarlane, Engineering Director; Donald Kennedy, Fitter; Murray Fleming, John McMorran, Asst Shop Managers; Harry Connell; Bert Wylie, Heavy Turner; Willie Wilson, Fitter; Billy Homer, Heavy Machine Shop; Brian Homer, Boilermaker; Ferguson, Slinger; and John Nicol, Apprentice Fitter

Fort Grange was laid down in 1973, by Scotts' in the Cartsburn Dockyard, launched in 1976 and commissioned the next year. The ship saw her first war service during the Falklands War, and also supported British forces in the Balkans alongside at the port of Split from at least 1994 till 2000, being based at Cervena Luka (North Port) an area just outside Split, Croatia.

The lead ship in her class of fleet replenishment ships, Fort Grange was renamed Fort Rosalie in May 2000 to avoid confusion with the (now-decommissioned) RFA *Fort George*, a change which was not universally popular.

In May 2008 the ship entered a £28 million refit at Northwestern Shiprepairers & Shipbuilders' Cammell Laird yard in Birkenhead.

In August 2010, through the efforts of The Friends of Scotts' Shipbuilders society she returned to Greenock to help commemorate the 300th anniversary, in 2011, of Scotts'. She was berthed at the container terminal and many people (myself included) visited her.

In 2011 it was announced that her service life would be extended by two years to 2024; the Fort class will ultimately be replaced by the Fleet Solid Support element of the Military Afloat Reach and Sustainability programme.

She spent early 2012 in the Caribbean and made a brief deployment to the Gulf of Oman in December 2012; she exercised in home waters and entered refit at Cammell Laird's again in February 2014.

On a personal note, I recognise a number of the Scotts' personnel in the photo because I worked with Scotts' engineers at the Cartsburn Fitting Out Basin between 1971 and 1976 when on University breaks. At that time No XII stalwarts Bro Jim Adams PM, Jock Irvine and Billy Davis also worked in the Cartsburn yard and would have been involved with the Fort Grange. Sadly, these 3 brethren are now in the Grand Lodge Above.

RFA Fort Rosalie (A385), West Float, Birkenhead - 2015



We will remember them ...

Through the Grand Lodge and Poppy Scotland, No XII again placed wooden poppy crosses to be placed in the Garden of Remembrance in Edinburgh for our 10 brethren who made the supreme sacrifice in the Great War. The crosses were sponsored by brethren of the Lodge.

RWM Bro Allan T Glen will lay a wreath on behalf of the Lodge at the Greenock Remembrance Service on Sunday 12th November in the Wellpark. We urge as many Brethren as possible to support the RW Master, and the Lodge, on the day. Brethren should meet at the Wellpark at 1230 for 1245.

The Way We Were



In the last edition of Twelve Talk, mention was made of the inception of what became the annual Bowls Challenge Match between No XII and 1121. It was away back in 1990 that it all started. After a little digging around at home, I found the press picture and story which marked the launch of the challenge. Bro John Paton and I were the respective RW Masters at the time and, as you can clearly see, we have not changed a bit in the intervening 27 years. Sadly, Bro Ian Miller, the presenter of the trophy, and Bob

Richardson, The Ardgowan Club President have passed to the Grand Lodge Above. The photo was taken in front of the Clubhouse at Ardgowan.

It is worthy of note that in 3 years' time we shall have the 30th Anniversary of the Challenge Match. This is no mean feat these days and says a lot for the commitment of the Brethren in both Lodges. We should try to make the match in 2020 a real special occasion.

The Way We Were (2) **No XII and The Scots Lodge No 2319 (EC)**

The Scots Lodge No 2319 meets in London and there have been links between it and No XII for many years. It all started with Bro Henry Sebbon Tibbles. Born on 4th November 1919 in Minster, by Sheerness (Kent), Henry took his first degree in No XII during the Second World War on 10th November 1942. At that time he was in the Royal Navy and stationed locally. He spent all of the war years in the Navy, marrying Gourock girl Muriel along the way. When Henry returned to civvy street, the printing trade beckoned and he rose to the position of Company Director. Unfortunately for No XII, promotion took Henry to London, but XII's loss was The Scots' Lodge's gain and he joined No 2319 (English Constitution) on 24th April 1969. Henry's enthusiasm led him to be installed as Worshipful Master of The Scots' Lodge in 1980. At this time, he brought a deputation up to the Town Hall when Bro Kenneth K Morrison was Master of No XII and very strong links between the two Lodges began to develop. These have been further cemented over the years by visitations to Greenock and London by The Scots Lodge and No XII.

Photographs of some of the Scots' visits North are featured below. In the first of these we see that very first visitation. From the left are Bros William W Irving PM, Alistair Glenney WJW, Henry S Tibbles WM No 2319 (EC) and Kenneth K Morrison RWM.



We move then to 1984, when Bro Alistair Glenney was RWM. Again, a deputation came from London and the brethren are in the two photos below. I am grateful to Bro Alistair Glenney PM for the coloured photo and to Bro Peter R Sinclair PM for the monochrome image. Past Worshipful Masters of The Scots' Lodge, Bros Ian Rainford and Peter Niven were very helpful in assisting the identification of brethren from 2319



Finally comes the visit of 2012 when Bro Robert J Bain was in the Chair of No XII. The names in this photo were supplied, at the time of the visit by Bro Keith Ferries PM who, sadly, has since to the Grand Lodge Above. On this occasion, the Brethren of The Scots' Lodge were busy because the night before they had given an exemplification in Gourrock at Lodge Firth of Clyde.



I am uncertain if more visitations North have taken place. If so, and you have a photo from back then, please either scan it and send it on to me or give me the original and I shall do the scanning. I am keen to document the relationship between the two Lodges as fully as I can.

To that end, in a subsequent issue I shall publish any photos I can gather together of visits by No XII to London. To that end, as above, I should be delighted to see any photos that you have yourself from visits to the Metropolis.

Monday 6th November

Honorary Member Tony having a big night at Lodge The Prince's

The next regular meeting of our friends, Lodge The Prince's No 607 takes place on Monday November 6th at 6:30pm (visitors admitted at 6:50pm). This meeting will be the last meeting in the Chair of Right Worshipful Master Bro Anthony Stewart, an Honorary Member of No XII.

The business of the evening will be a Passing which will be conferred by RWPGM of Glasgow, Bro James C Peddie assisted by commissioned office bearers from that Province and four

neighbouring provinces (including our own RWPGM Bro James P Livingstone). This "Five Provinces" Degree will be a first in Glasgow and a rare sight in Scottish Freemasonry.

The formal part of the evening will be followed by lodge harmony to which all visitors are invited and at which they will partake of a three-course meal at a cost of £10.

A number of members of this province will be attending and WSW Bro Bob Crossan will co-ordinate transport but for first time visitors travelling on their own the lodge is easily reached from either the M8 Govan exit, or from the Glasgow Subway station at Ibrox.

The Prince's meets at Masonic Temple, [3 Mafeking Street, Glasgow G51 2UQ](#)

Monthly Draw

The 2017 Monthly Draw is well under way and payment is now being accepted. Treasurer Bro David Stevenson is keen that we support this handy fund raiser that is a great help with the day-to-day running costs of the Lodge.

Number(s) are available at £1 per number per month and there is no limit to the number and each entrant can have as many as they like! Payment can be made (1) by cash to Bro David (2) by cheque made payable to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII - Social Fund (3) by internet banking to Bank RBS Sort Code 83-22-20 Account Number 10000509 as a one-off payment in multiples of £12 with the entrants name shown in the payment reference box or (4) by standing order to same bank details as above for your chosen monthly amount.

Where possible Bro David will use the same numbers as in previous years unless asked otherwise.

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). These may be paid by any of the means stated above for the Monthly Draw. Please note that the payment is to a different account if you are doing it online – 10000495. All other bank details are the same

From the old Minute Books of No XII

Bro Alistair Glenny and I spent a few hours on Wednesday checking the Lodge Inventor prior to the Annual Meeting. It is a fascinating task if, like us, you are interested in matters historical. Unfortunately, in a way, the task is lengthened as you have a wee blether about the items that you come across. It's not just the items themselves. It's the memories of long departed brethren and happy days in the past. There are many Volumes of the Sacred Law stored in the archives. The story of one of them follows ...

Thursday 21st March 1918

Bro John D MacFarlane, RW Master, in the Chair

Present of Bible from Bro JW Turner RWM

In accepting a bible, for the Altar, from Bro John W Turner DM The RW Master expressed his appreciation and that of the Lodge for this very handsome and useful gift.

Reports on Visits

- The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 on 1st September 2017 (Lecture) – attended by Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Hector Macphail PM
- Lodge St John Kilwinning, Haddington, No 57 on 4th September 2017 (Business Meeting) – attended by Bro Campbell Snoddy
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 7th September 2017 (Business Meeting) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM and Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Greenock St Johns No 175 on 8th September 2017 (Passing) – attended by Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM and Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 on 12th September 2017 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, WSW Bro Bob Crossan, IPM Bro Allan MacFeate, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro David Stevenson, Bro David Martin and Bro Campbell Snoddy
- Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No 624 on 13th September 2017 (Business Meeting) – attended by Bro Bob Bain PM
- Lodge Shalom No 1600 on 14th September 2017 (Passing) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Iain White PM and Bro Tony Stewart HM
- Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 on 22nd September 2017 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen
Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 25th September 2017 (Raising by Lodge The Gael No 609) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan
- Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759 on 26th September 2017 (Entering exemplified by No XII) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, WSW Bro Bob Crossan, WJW Bro Brian McFadyen, IPM Bro Allan MacFeate, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro David Martin, Bro Fraser Cameron, Bro Alex Gray, Bro Allan Jess, Bro Robert Marshall, Bro Andrew Muir and Bro Tony Stewart HM.
- The Prince's Lodge No 607 On 2nd October 2017 (Mark) – attended by Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Tony Stewart HM
- Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West on 3rd October 2017 (Quarterly Communication) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, WSW Bro Bob Crossan, WJW Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro Tony Buckley, Bro Allan Jess, Bro Mark Robertson and Bro James Livingstone (RWPGM)

- The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 on 6th October 2017 (Annual Installation) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Allan Glen, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro James Livingstone (RWPGM)
- The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 on 7th October 2017 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen and WJW Bro Brian McFadyen (PM No 1566)
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 9th October 2017 (Entering) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Paul Stevenson, IPM Bro Allan MacFeate, Bro David Martin, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick and Bro Nicol Rhodes
- Lodge St John, Dunning No 174 on 10th October 2017 (Passing Exemplification) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Tony Stewart HM
- Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No 624 on 11th October 2017 (Passing Exemplification) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, WJW Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Robert Bain PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro Campbell Snoddy, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro Dugald Rankin and Bro James Lever HM (presented with Jubilee Certificate) and Bro James Livingstone (presented with Honorary Membership)
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 14th October 2017 (Annual Installation) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, IPM Bro Allan MacFeate, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro David Martin, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro James Livingstone (RWPGM), Bro James Lever HM, Bro Kenneth McCrae HM and Bro James Strachan 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. 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
04.11.17

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.