

# Twelve Talk

04.09.22

Issue 151

## Meetings 2022-23

- 06.09.22  
Passing
- \* 20.09.22  
Entering
- \* 04.10.22  
Passing
- \* 18.10.22  
AGM and Nomination and  
Election (Members Only)
- \* 01.11.22  
Passing
- \*15.11.22  
Annual Installation (615 pm)
- \*06.12.22  
Annual Divine Service
- \*20.12.22  
No meeting
  
- Saturday 25.02.23  
Burns Supper (630 for 7pm)



**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**  
**Burns Supper – Last Saturday in February**

**RWM Bro Brian McFadyen 47 Renshaw Road Bishopton PA7 8HL (07810008075)**  
**Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 6 Stirling Drive Gourrock PA19 1AH (07810270787)**  
**Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)**

## Imagine that!

Owing to personal circumstances, and the summer recess, it has been a while since we had an issue of *Twelve Talk*. Times have certainly changed over these few months. Indeed, that is one thing about which we can be sure these days. There will be change and the rate of change is rapidly accelerating. When I was a student at the University of Glasgow in the early 1980s, a lecturer in education shared this fact with us. Little did he know where we would be today. Certainly, the personal computer that I am creating this on, the word processing program which forms the text and the internet by which it reaches you were all science fiction rather than fact. Remember Arthur C Clarke's "2001 A Space Odyssey"?? Well, that was 21 years ago...

If the world is changing, I believe that we, in the Craft, and the organisation itself must change with it. We must embrace new technologies, be more outward looking, pay more heed to public relations and marketing, streamline our approaches and be able to act quickly, and decisively, when the situation demands it. Small changes taking 18 months because they must jump a series of bureaucratic hoops before they get made are not suitable in today's world. Some of these bureaucratic regulations were set up in the days before even the telephone was available and have not been changed since. In the light of our world today, surely this cannot go on?

How refreshing it is to get the weekly updates from The Grand Master Mason – wherever he is, be it Brora or Barbados. It demonstrates the way in which technology aids communication and gives an insight into his role in a way that I do not recollect us ever having before. Thank you, Grand Master for this proactive lead!

Structures and processes in the Craft need to be changed and changed dramatically and quickly. Or is it just me?

## The Monthly Draw

Recent lucky winners have been

June	Iain White
July	Tony Buckley
August	Crawford Kirkpatrick

Numbers are still available from the Treasurer, Bro. David Stevenson.

## **Bro. Dugald McPherson Rankin** **25<sup>th</sup> October 1932 – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Members of the Lodge were saddened to hear of the passing to The Grand Lodge Above of Dugald Rankin. RWM Bro Brian McFadyen informed that Dougie, as we all knew him, passed peacefully at home on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022, aged 89 years.

Bro Dougie had family connections with Jura, and he loved to go to the island whenever he could. These connections fostered his love of Scottish, and particularly Gaelic, culture. He was a keen listener to the BBC Pipeline programme although he “did not care much for the Piobaireachd”; he much preferred the light music.

When he left school, he worked on local farms. He held several other jobs before he joined Inverclyde Council as Assistant Council Officer. In these days, part of that job’s duties was to be the Tyler at No. XII and set up the Lodge for meetings. So, Dougie joined us.

He was Initiated into Freemasonry on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1972, Passed on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1972, Raised on 6<sup>th</sup> February 1973 and took his Mark on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1973. He was a most conscientious Tyler until his retirement from the Council in 1997. By this time, he had been promoted to the top job and was Council Officer. Brother Dougie would have been due to receive his 50-year Jubilee Certificate in October of this year.

Dougie was a real gentleman with a keen sense of humour. He liked a laugh and was a regular attender at the Lodge for all his years of membership except when ill health prevented him being here. Dougie was a most popular member and held in great affection by his brethren.

The funeral took place on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at Greenock Crematorium. RWM Brian McFadyen took part, and the Lodge was well represented by Past Masters and brethren.

### **Meeting of Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022** **Raising**



It was a very proud day for me when my son, Cameron, was raised to the Third Degree. His Granda, Bro George Hopkins of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No. 626 was also very proud. We three may be seen in the photo on the left, taken after the meeting.

It was a special evening for all in attendance as an excellent degree was worked by a team, made up as follows: **Prayer:** Bro Bob Bain PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Brian McFadyen **Retrospect:** Bro Robert Marshall JD: **Raising** Bro Allan T Glen PM **Secrets:** Bro Iain White PM **Apron:** Bro Iain White PM **Working Tools:** IPM Bro Bob Crossan **Traditional History:** Bro Bob Bain PM **The Charge:** Bro Paul Branchfield SD

There was a large attendance and the following Masters accepted the invitation from RWM Brian McFadyen to the East - Bro William Mooney, RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, Bro Eric Sweeney, RWM of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217, Bro Graeme Wallace, RWM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 and Bro James Watson, RWM of Lodge Sir Michael No 989.

## **Meeting of Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 Mark Degree Conferred by Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68**

We were delighted that our very good friends from Lodge Doric Kilwinning No.68 accepted our invitation to come to No XII to confer the Mark Degree. RW Master Bro Billy Mooney brought a large deputation of 24 brethren into the Lodge.



(From Left) Bros. Innes Nelson (XII) Alan Nettleton (68) Leslie Ballingall (68) camero White (XII) Paul Branchfield (XII) Billy Mooney (RWM 68) Craig McFadyen (XII) Brian McFadyen (RWM XII) George Freeburn (PM 68) Donnie Cunningham (WJW 68) Alex B Wilson (PM 68)

There were 4 candidates from No XII and 2 candidates from No 68. The candidates from No XII were Bro Paul Branchfield, Bro Innes Nelson, Bro Cameron White and Bro Craig McFadyen. From 68 we had Alan Nettleton and Les Ballingall.

The brethren of 68 conferred a very fine Mark Degree which was much enjoyed and appreciated by all those in attendance. All in all, the evening further cemented the special relationship that exists between the two Lodges.

## **Special Summer Meeting of Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Entering by the Lodge Past Masters Celebration of the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II**

As has become a bit of a tradition in No XII that the Summer Meeting should be a degree conferred by the Past Masters of No. XII. These meetings are usually very well attended, and this was no exception with over 80 brethren present. The Gavel was handed to Bro. Alan D. Beck PM who was taking the Chair for the evening

**Degree Team:**

**Chair** – Bro Alan D. Beck PM **WSW** – Bro Allan T. Glen PM **WJW** – Bro Robert J. Bain PM **SD** – Bro Hector Macphail PM **JD** – Bro Derek A. Kirkpatrick PM **IG** – Bro Kenneth K. Morrison PM **Chaplain** - IPM Bro J. Robert Crossan

**Floorwork:**

**Prayer** – IPM Bro J. Robert Crossan **Obligation** – Bro Alan D. Beck PM **Secrets** – Bro Robert J. Bain PM **NEC** – Bro Derek A. Kirkpatrick PM **Apron** – Bro Allan T. Glen PM **Working Tools** – Bro Hector Macphail PM **Charge** – Bro Kenneth C. MacDougall PM

An excellent degree was worked. The 2 candidates were Mr Finlay Ian Campbell and Mr Marc Raphael Sherland.

After the work of the degree was over, Past Grand Master Mason Joseph J Morrow gave a most engaging lecture, relevant to the ,n his role and duties as The Lord Lyon King of Arms. He was made an Honorary Member of the Lodge and was delighted with the honour.



**PGMM Joe Morrow in full flow delivering his lecture**



**Our special guest for the evening!**



**PGMM Bro. Joe Morrow with his Certificate of Honorary Membership**

**From Left: Bros. John Black (Provincial Master Depute) Brian McFadyen (RWM) Joe Morrow (PGMM) Robin McIntyre (PGM) Paul Docherty (Provincial Master Substitute)**

## **Our Next Meeting Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Passing**

We start the session on Tuesday with a Passing and the Candidate is Bro. Jordan Kincaid. The Degree Team is **Prayer:** Bro Bob Bain PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Brian McFadyen **Secrets:** Bro Bob Crossan IPM **Apron:** Bro Bob Crossan IPM **Working Tools:** Bro Paul Branchfield SD **Tracing Board** Bro Ken MacDougall PM **Charge:** Bob Bain PM.

## **Monthly Draw**

Bro David Stevenson, our Treasurer, tells me that the uptake for the Monthly Draw is quite good but we can always do with more participants. It is £1 per number per month, ideally by Standing Order to

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII  
Royal Bank of Scotland  
Sort Code: 83 22 20  
Account Number 10000509

Recent winners: **June** Bro Iain White; **July** Bro Tony Buckley; **August** Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick

**Annual Bowling Challenge Match**  
**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022**  
**Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121**



The annual bowling challenge with Lodge Crawfurdsburn was held at Gourock Bowling Club on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May. We are grateful to the Club for giving us the courtesy of its greens.

The match was, as usual, played in a spirit of great friendly rivalry with Lodge Crawfurdsburn edging a victory.

Our RW Master may be seen in the photo (left) presenting the trophy to Past Master Bro. Sammy Hunter of Lodge Crawfurdsburn.

**PMs on the Lecture Circuit (1)**  
**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022**  
**Bro. Alan D Beck PM at Lodge Thistle and Crown 1167**

Bro Alan sojourned into deepest Renfrewshire East to the Mother Lodge of PPGM Bro. John Miller. He had been asked to deliver his celebrated lecture on Bro Colin Rae Brown.

A native of Greenock, CRB was a member of Lodge Greenock St John's No. 175. He accumulated considerable wealth as a writer, poet and publisher and from investments he made. Brown is probably the individual who did most, in Victorian times, to promote the development of the Burns movement into what we know today. He was twice President of Greenock Burns Club (The Mother Club), founded the Burns Club of London and was its President and was instrumental in founding the Robert Burns World Federation.

Bro. Alan's talk was very well received by the assembled brethren.

**PMs on the Lecture Circuit (2)**  
**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022**  
**Bro. Iain White PM at Lodge Kelvin Partick No. 1207**

Bro. Iain White was invited to Lodge Kelvin Partick where he premiered his presentation "Industry and Freemasonry in Greenock – the briefest of introductions". He was accompanied by Bro. Cameron White and Honorary Member Bro. Donnie Finlayson (PM Lodge The Gael). Incidentally, Bro. Donnie is also an Honorary Member of Lodge Kelvin Partick.

The presentation features the luminaries of No. XII who were important in the development of the Lodge and the shipbuilding industries in the town – the Scotts, Cairds, Steeles and Blackmores – and also veers into the sugar industry with the Neills and Kerrs. It also looks at the activities of the Masonic Associations that flourished in the big manufacturing works.

Several of the brethren present were 'shipyard men' so stories were shared at the conclusion of the presentation. We then adjourned for harmony.



From the left: Bros. Cameron White, Iain White PM, Alex Ferguson IPM Lodge Kelvin Partick No 1207 and Donnie Finlayson PM HM

The usual raffle was held at the Harmony. The star prize, donated by Bro. Bill Rennie PM 1207, was a holographic picture of Rangers greats. Bill won it back in the raffle! Cameron was delighted when Bill presented it to him for the sports room Chez White. Bill and Cameron are shown on the right.



## **Provincial Grand Lodge Ball Saturday 21st May 2022 Greenock Town Hall**

The Provincial Grand Lodge Summer Ball was a great success. It was the usual grand affair with a sumptuous 3 course meal from Tony Buckley's ICE Catering and dancing thereafter to the Capitol Big Band. No. XII supported the event by taking 4 tables

### **Test Fees**

Lodge Test Fees are overdue and should be paid to Lodge Treasurer Bro David Stevenson asap. In fact, next year's will be due soon! The Fees are presently £45.

### **Members' Social**



Members were invited to a wee pre-session social evening and a blether on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August. Bro David Stevenson got us the courtesy of the Gourrock Bowling Club. We had a great time as may be seen from the photo of a very cheery RW Master. It should be said that Brian was the only one driving and not partaking of alcohol and that goes to prove my mother's old saying, "You shouldn't need alcohol to enjoy yourself!"

In addition to the RW Master, Bros Iain White, Hector MacPhail, Bob Crossan, Robert Marshall, Paul Branchfield and David Stevenson were there. A good night was had by all...

## **Lord Inverclyde (1897 – 1957) A Brother of No XII Part 8**

### **The Lord Inverclyde Memorial Church, Wemyss Bay**

So, we are back with Lord Inverclyde again!

Much has been written in *Twelve Talk* about Lord Inverclyde who was a member of No XII in the 40s and 50s. During the recess, in an idle moment or two, I found myself on eBay and saw a



postcard for sale which depicted the *Lord Inverclyde Memorial Church* in Wemyss Bay. I wasted no time in acquiring it for the Lodge archives.



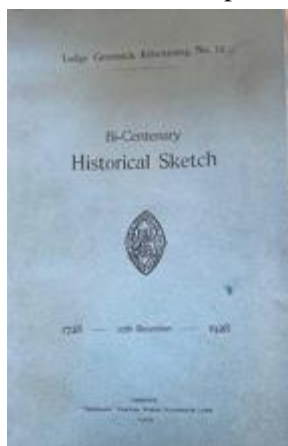
Online, in *Scottish Episcopal Clergy 1689-2000* by David M. Bertie (Publisher T & T Clark Edinburgh 2000), I found the following information about the church.

### **Wemyss Bay English Chapel**

Built in 1860 by Sir George Burns (a Trustee of St Jude's English Church, Glasgow) near his castle at Wemyss Bay. Services were held in the summer and autumn, clergy officiating for a month and residing in the nearby parsonage. Services were suspended during the Second World War but resumed in 1946 and continued until the death of the last Lord Inverclyde in 1957. The chapel was demolished in 1970.

## **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.



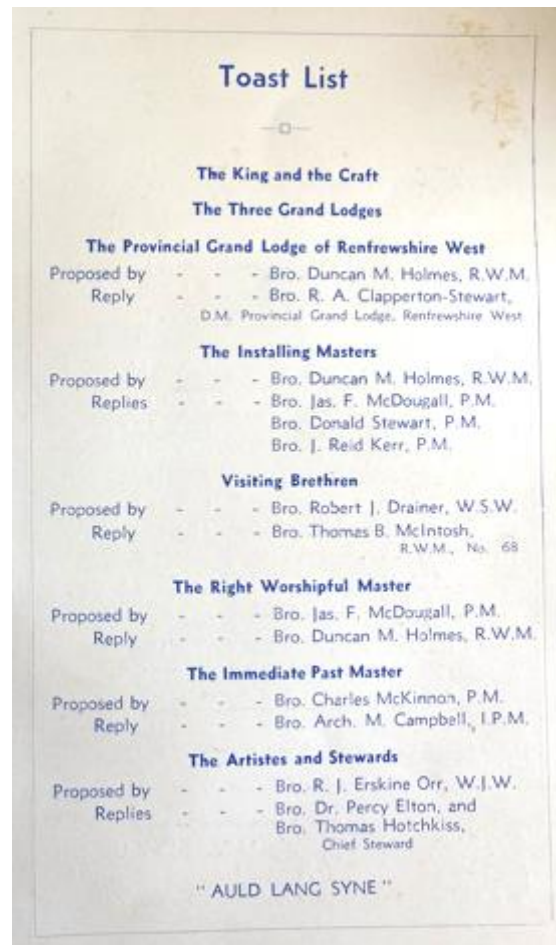
I was delighted when Bro Ken MacDougall PM informed me that he had seen a couple of No XII artefacts in a book shop in Largs and had snapped them up. The items in question were a copy of the *Bicentenary Sketch* (published in 1929, just after the big event in 1928) and an *Installation programme* from 1949.

The *Bicentenary Sketch* is shown on the left. It is a paperback version and I have never seen one like that before. The book was publicised in paperback, hard cover and leather cover with the cost increasing accordingly.

The *Installation programme*, below, was for Bro Duncan M Holmes. Bro Holmes had a slater's business locally and served 2 years in the Chair. It is interesting to note that the Ceremony was held on the first Tuesday in December and not the third in November which has been the case for many years now. Also slightly different, is the first toast which is "The King and the Craft" where now we simply toast the Monarch; the

second toast – “The Three Grand Lodges” has long since disappeared from our Toast List. I’m sure you also noticed that the Lodge number is given as 12 on the cover rather than XII as we would have it today.

Some things do not change, however. Then, as now, and in the years between, the Toast to the Visiting Brethren was replied to by the RW Master of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 in Port Glasgow. The incumbent in 1949 was Bro. Thomas B. McIntosh.



## Reports on Visits

- Lodge Greenock St John’s No 175 on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022 (Raising and Annual Visitation by PGLRW) – attended by various members of No XII on PGL duty.
- Pilgrimage to the Western Front. Between 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022, Bros. Iain White PM, Donnie Finlayson HM and Keith A Bowes HM visited the War Graves /Memorials of these four No XII Great War Casualties: Bros. Archibald Lindsay Barr 2nd Battalion Scots Guards *Loos Memorial* (France); Duncan McFarlane 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders *Forest Communal Cemetery* (France); Alexander Niven Russell 6th Battalion Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders *Arras Memorial* (France); Joseph Henry Sanders 10th Battalion Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) *Brandhoek Cemetery* (Belgium). *Their name liveth forever more...*
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 (Raising conferred by a Deputation from No XII) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, IPM Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Iain White PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro David Stevenson, Bro Robert Marshall, Bro Paul Branchfield, Bro Scott Branchfield, Bro Alex Gray, Bro Ian Dyer, Bro Edward Molloy, Bro Tony Buckley, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick
- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 (Entering and Annual Visitation by PGLRW) – attended by Bro Paul Branchfield, Bro Scott Branchfield, Bro Jordan Kincaid, Bro Craig McFadyen and other members of No XII on PGL duty

- Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No 624 On 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 (Presentation of Jubilee Certificate to Brother Bill Duncan PM) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen and Bro Eddie McGill
- The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen

## Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII Burns Club

### Annual Burns Supper 2023

The Burns Supper will be held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023 in The Saloon of the Town Hall, Greenock. As ever, a great night will be in store. Keep your eye on *Twelve Talk* for more details.

### 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. He passed the mantle on to our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson.



Bro David asked me to start to publicise the badge availability through *Twelve Talk*. It has been, and remains, 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**  
**04.09.22**

**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.**