

Twelve Talk

16.09.23

Issue 162

Meetings 2023-24

- 05.09.23
Mark
- * 19.09.23
Entering by Past Masters of the
Lodge
- * 03.10.23
Mark
- *17.10.23
Annual Meeting and Nomination
and Election of Office Bearers
Members only
- * 07.11.23
Entering
- *21.11.23
Annual Installation of Office
Bearers
- *05.12.23
Annual Divine Service
- *19.12.23
No meeting as per Bye Laws

- TBC 02.24
Burns Supper (630 for 7pm)

- Thursday TBC.06.24
Special Summer Meeting
Entering by PMs of the Lodge



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

Folk can be strange...

I like, when I can and on days when I am not golfing, to have a wee walk. Generally, I like to go in the morning after I have dropped Susie at school. I feel that it sets me up for the day that's to come as well as catering for the needs of the iPhone generation as it gets my steps up for the day.

We are very fortunate here at the Tail of the Bank. There are beautiful walks along the riverside in Greenock, Gourock and Port Glasgow where the air is fresh and the views are spectacular.

Of course, I am not the only one who is out taking exercise of a morning. I see lots of people: walkers like me; dog walkers; cyclists; joggers and runners. I greet them all with a cheery "Good morning," as they pass me by. On many occasions this is reciprocated with a greeting and a smile, but a surprisingly large number of folk just ignore me. Is it me, I wonder? This is particularly noticeable amongst the athletes – the joggers and runners. They never look the road that I am on, far less exchange any sort of pleasantries. Generally, their faces are grimacing, twisted in apparent agony. I enjoy my walks. Every indication is that this is anything but the case with the athletes. You never see a smiling runner!

I feel that basic manners in responding to another person's greeting (and indeed in making the initial greeting)

are important in life, especially nowadays when so much time is spent by so many of us with our faces glued to a screen, be it phone, computer or TV.

One of the great things about the Craft is that we are very good at making greetings and reciprocating when someone greets us. For those of you who know No XII's meeting place in the Saloon of Greenock's Town Hall, it is a fair walk from the entrance to the Master's Room. I generally arrive about 10 minutes before the Lodge opens and it is quite busy with people in groups chatting, buzzing around doing the stuff they have to do before the meeting and queuing to sign the Sederunt Book. My walk to the Master's Room to get my apron on is punctuated by exchanges of greetings – maybe a dozen or more as I make my way through. Of course, there are the handshakes too! Nobody is too busy to exchange a greeting.

Freemasonry may be unique amongst modern day organisations in its emphasis on social intercourse and the notion that a stranger is just a friend that you haven't yet met. Over the years, I have known many brethren who found their way back to the Lodge when they found themselves in the sadness and despair of having lost their life's partner. On their return they experience the genuine warmth of human kindness in the greetings extended by the Brethren. May the exchange of greetings and development of relationships forever be a fundamental of the Craft and its Lodges

Our Previous Meeting Tuesday 5th September 2023 Mark Degree

The meeting was a Mark Degree conferred by our own Brethren, with Bro. J. Robert Crossan IPM taking the Chair as RWM Master for the occasion. Bro. Bob is presently First Principal of Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII.

There was a very good number in attendance, especially on such a lovely, warm, sunny early autumn evening. RWM Bro. Billy Mooney of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 and RWM Bro. Brian McClure of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No. 626 accepted the invitation to the East.

This time around, the degree team was **Conductor:** Bro. Alan D. Beck **PM Junior Overseer:** Bro Ken MacDougall **PM Senior Overseer:** Bro Brian McFadyen **RWM Master Overseer:** Bro Robert Bain **PM Obligation:** Bro. J Robert Crossan **RWMM Secrets & Lecture:** Bro James Livingstone **DM Working Tools & Badge:** Bro Colin Reddy **JD The Charge:** Bro J Robert Crossan **RWMM**. The Candidate was Bro. Finlay Ian Campbell, a Master Mason of No. XII, who acquitted himself very well. He was advised of the possibilities now open to him, particularly in the Royal Arch, by Bro. Bob Crossan **RWMM**.

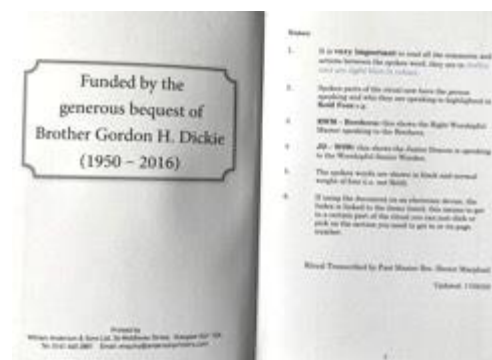
Our Next Meeting Tuesday 19th September 2023 Entering

The meeting on Tuesday is an Entering. It is the Annual Past Masters' Degree, delayed from June owing to unforeseen circumstances that befell us. Bro. Allan T. Glen PM will take the Chair and has put the team together. We look forward to a good evening led by the 'Auld Yins'.

The Candidate in Mr. Alexander McCoist, son of 'Super Ally' of Rangers fame.

The Definitive No. XII Ritual

Bro. Hector Macpahil's *Magnum opus*, begun back in 2009, is now available for purchase from Lodge Treasurer Bro. David Stevenson by bank transfer (preferred) or by cash or cheque. The cost is £15. Bro David has kindly agreed to look after the stock of rituals and their sale. Consequently, they are available from him only.



The development was supported by the generous bequest from Bro Gordon H. Dickie to the Lodge when he passed to the Grand Lodge Above in 2016.

The ritual is available to Mark Master Masons of No. XII only.

Bro. David can be contacted by email

to arrange purchase at treasurerno12@aol.co.uk

Bank details are

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

Cheques should be made out to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII (Social Fund).

No. XII Tercentenary Jewel Now Available



Lodge Greenock Kilwinning was established on 27th December 1728. It is the oldest organisation in Inverclyde.

We shall celebrate the Tercentenary of the Lodge in 2028 and, Tercentenary Jewels (left) are now available for purchase by Lodge Members and brethren of the Sister Lodges.

The jewel is available from Lodge Treasurer Bro. David Stevenson. Payment may be by bank transfer (preferred) or by cash or cheque. The cost is £15. Bro David has kindly agreed to look after the stock of Jewels and their sale. Consequently, they are available from him only.

Bro. David can be contacted by email to arrange purchase at treasurerno12@aol.co.uk Bank details are the same as for the rituals.

Jewels may be purchased by all Freemasons.

The Monthly Draw A note from the Treasurer, Bro David D Stevenson

Usual format - £12 per annum per number, payable between Jan and Dec. - so £12, £24, £36 etc. You can join at any time.

- For those of you paying by standing order - thank you and no need to do anything
- For those of you wishing to renew your subscription or start a subscription please send me the appropriate amount by one of the following ways – (a) by cash, when I see you, or cheque, to 5 Broomberry Drive Gourock PA19 1JY, or (b) by bank transfer to – RBS Sort Code 83 22 20 Account No. 10000509 Payment Ref - your name and 'Draw'

Recent winners have been **April** (No 57) Robin McIntyre; **May** (No 58) Paul Branchfield; **June** (No. 70) Colin Reddy; **July** (No 51); Jim Livingstone; **August** (No 23) Tony Buckley

Where I can and appropriate, I will allocate the same numbers as previous years

Any questions please drop me a mail.

DDS Treasurer

Bro. Alex More Our Oldest Past Master

Bro. Alex More was RW Master when I joined the Lodge in 1974, having been first Installed in 1973. As well as having held the Chair of his Mother Lodge, he is a Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden of The Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West.

He left the town some years ago to live first in Killin, then Luncarty and now, near his sister, in Helmsdale. Alex is seen in the photo (right) with Past Master Hector Macphail who visited him in June.



Hector reported that, despite being 97 years-of-age, Alex is still in good health and interested in the Lodge's activities.

Out and About with the Brethren of No. XII Summer Holiday Photos

Of course, the brethren of the Lodge travelled far and wide during the summer recess. Below are photos taken of Masonic 'stuff' by them whilst they were *en vacances*.



At the bus terminal in Bridgetown, Barbados,
West Indies - Bro. Tony Buckley



Brighton, Sussex – Bros. Cameron (in photo) and Iain White





**Lodge Fortrose No. 108, Stornoway,
Isle of Lewis, Province of Ross and
Cromarty – Bro. Martin Anderson**

**The United Lodge of Dunkeld No.
14, Dunkeld, Perthshire, Province
of Perthshire West – Bro. Finlay
Campbell**





**Lodge Blairhoyle
No. 792
Thornhill,
Stirlingshire,
Province of
Perthshire West
Bros. Cameron
(in photo) and
Iain White**





**Lodge St. Donan No. 933, Helmsdale,
Sutherland, Province of Sutherland -
Bro. Hector Macphail**



**Lodge Leura No. 50 Camperdown, Victoria, Australia
– Bro. Alan D. Beck**



Lodge Leura No. 50 Camperdown, Victoria, Australia – Bro. Alan D. Beck





**Lodge St John No. 46
Auchterarder, Perthshire,
Province of Perthshire West
– Bros. Cameron (in photo)
and Iain White**

**From Bygone Days
The Lodge Artefacts (5)
Photographed by Bro. Derek A. Kirkpatrick PM**

We return to the photos of Bro Derek Kirkpatrick PM to display some of the historical artefacts of the Lodge. Derek is a wonderful photographer and we are grateful to him for his work

We are lucky as a Lodge to have so many links to the past through our artefacts and whilst few are of any monetary value, they mean a lot to the Lodge and to Freemasonry in general terms.

Derek has taken a legion of photos of our artefacts and I am sharing them with you a few at a time. He did another session in June of this year when many more photos were taken.



This silver pencil was gifted by the late Bro. Gordon Dickie probably about 40 years ago. I think it was intended to be used as part of the set of tools for the Raising, but this has never happened. Bro Gordon passed to the Grand Lodge Above in 2016 and left a very generous bequest to the Lodge. Part of the bequest has been used to support the production of the new Rirual Books.

**This Salver was presented to No. XII in 1978. It is inscribed:
*“Presented to Lodge Greenock
Kilwinning No. XII on the
occasion of their 250th
Anniversary by Lodge Doric
Kilwinning No. 68 16th December
1978”***

Although the actual date of the anniversary was 27th December, the celebrations were held on Saturday 16th January, hence the date of the presentation.



The altar used in the Raising. Its age and origins are unknown. It was refurbished by Bro. Alistair Glenny PM just before he passed to the Grand Lodge Above



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.

Reports on Visits

- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 20th April 2023 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Alan Beck PM, IPM Bro Robert Crossan, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro James Livingstone, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Alex Gray
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 24th April 2023 (Mark) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen and Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 27th April 2023 (Homes Degree) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, WJW Bro Robert Marshall, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro Alan Beck PM, IPM Bro Robert Crossan, Bro Alex Gray, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Craig McFadyen
- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 9th May 2023 (Commemoration of the coronation of HM King Charles III) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Bryan Campbell-Black
- Lodge Kilbarchan No 156 on 16th May 2023 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen and Bro James Livingstone
- The PGL of Kilwinning on 22 July 2023 (Installation of PGM Bro Thomas Wood) – attended by Bro Hector Macphail PM
- The PGL of Glasgow on 27th August 2023 (Summer Seminar) – attended by Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Tony Stewart HM
- Lodge Stinchar Valley No 1705 on 31st August 2023 (Lecture delivered by Bro Alan Beck PM) – attended by Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Tony Stewart HM
- The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 on 1st September 2023 (Lecture) – attended by Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Alan Beck PM, IPM Bro Robert Crossan, Bro Bryan Campbell-Black

On all occasions, Fraternal Greetings were exchanged.

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. 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
16.09.23

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.