

# Twelve Talk

19.11.23

Issue 164

## 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 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 Gourock PA19 1AH (07810270787)**  
**Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourock PA19 1JY (07887904910)**

## What's it all about?

Over the years, I have found that the Craft is criticised because, “You just look after your own.” I have never believed this. When you look at the charitable work done by The Grand Lodge of Scotland, Provincial Grand Lodges and Daughter Lodges, the evidence is there for all to see of our work in the wider community. Maybe we aren't as good as we might be in publicising our good works, but we are improving at that. Over the past 10 years supporting others has been an important facet of the work of No. XII.

However, there is more to looking after folk than handing out cheques.

Recently, I met a fellow Mason that I hadn't seen for a wee while. His Dad had passed to the Grand Lodge Above and I expressed my condolences which led him to tell me a sad, and very disturbing, story. Over the years his Dad had supported their Mother Lodge well. He had been an Office Bearer, excellent floor worker and supporter of social events. He had not been around so much in recent years owing to a variety of reasons; in the past few years failing health had been the major factor. His Mother Lodge was aware of his challenges but during the last 3 or 4 years, his Dad received no contact from the Lodge for which he had worked so hard: not a single phone call, email, card or letter – far less a visit; nothing. The son had emailed the

Lodge directly on 2 occasions to explain his Dad's situation. Even this brought no response for his Dad. This upset the whole family. Nothing changed and Dad sadly passed to the Grand Lodge Above.

“Looking after our own?” In this instance, I think not. My friend is now questioning much about the Craft – and especially his Mother Lodge - and no wonder. This should never happen but it has and the question must be asked – “How many brethren have found themselves in a similar situation?” It's a rhetorical one. If the answer is even one Brother, it is one too many. My Mum used to counsel me as I grew and developed with many little *aide memoires*. One such was, “Manners cost nothing.” That comes to mind now because I am thinking that neither does kindness, nor empathy, nor understanding. Even a greetings card is not too expensive.

Since hearing this sad story, I have been taking a good look at myself in this regard. Perhaps we should all do likewise, both as individuals and as lodges?

Just saying...

IW

**Bro. Samuel McGonigle**  
**1950 – 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023**

We had not seen Sam McGonigle in the Lodge for some time but back when he joined, he was a regular attender. Initiated on 7<sup>th</sup> September 1982, Passed on 7<sup>th</sup> December 1982 and Raised on 15<sup>th</sup> February 1983 he was a Port Glasgow man who was a joiner in the Port shipyards. Bro. Jack Glenny was Master when Sam joined.

A quiet, pleasant and unassuming Mason, his was good company to be in and those of us who were around back in the day were very sad to read of his passing to the Grand Lodge Above.

**Bro. James Twaddle**  
**1947 – 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Bro. George Twaddle**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> February 1948 – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

It is a very sad thing when the Lodge loses 2 brethren to the Grand Lodge Above. It is made even more upsetting when the Brethren concerned are siblings. Such was the case with the Twaddle brothers – Jim and George – who passed within 2 days of one another on 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October respectively. We hadn't seen them in the Lodge for some years, but I can remember when they were regular attenders and very much part of the fabric of No. XII. Really nice gentlemen they were.

Although the younger brother, George was in the Lodge before Jim, being Initiated on 7<sup>th</sup> March 1969, Passed on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1969 and Raised on 16<sup>th</sup> November 1969. The Master at the time was Bro. Alistair A. Kirkpatrick (father of Crawford and Grandfather of Derek PM). Jim was Initiated on 16<sup>th</sup> February 1971, Passed on 7<sup>th</sup> September 1971 and Raised on 7<sup>th</sup> December 1971. This was during the term of Bro. RJ Drainer Jr. as Master.

George and Jim were preceded into the Lodge by their brothers Hugh and Thomas in 1965 and 1966 respectively. Bro. Hugh was a very regular attender until he passed to the Grand Lodge Above in 2016 at the age of 80 years. His son, also Hugh, is a member of No. XII. I have no idea what has become of Thomas. Perhaps if anyone does, they could let me know? An interesting, yet unusual fact about the Twaddle brothers is that they were all gardeners apart from Jim who was a mechanical assembler.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of all these brethren. We were shocked to hear of the sudden passing of our Tyler **Bro. Ewen Maclean**. After a lengthy spell of ill health, he had been at our meeting in September and was very positive about the future. An obituary will be published in the next edition of *Twelve Talk*.

**Our Previous Meeting  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
Act of Remembrance and Entering**



As this was the meeting nearest to Remembrance Sunday, the Lodge held its Annual Act of Remembrance. The No. XII Members who made the supreme sacrifice were 10 in number.

RWM Brother Brian McFadyen led the following Act of Remembrance to the fallen No XII Brethren named on the altar of the Lodge.

**LODGE GREENOCK KILWINNING No XII - THE FALLEN REMEMBERED- 2023**

A memorial to the members of the Lodge who fell in the Great War was unveiled and dedicated on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 1922. It took the form of an altar in gothic design, made of Scottish oak, has been greatly preserved, and has been central to our ritual and assemblies for just over 100 years.

**Private Archibald Lindsay Barr** *2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Scots Guards*  
**Engine Room Artificer. George William Campbell** *Royal Naval Reserve* **Lieutenant James Hannah** *Royal Garrison Artillery*  
**Pioneer Henry Hay** *Royal Engineers*  
**1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Arthur Johnston** *Mercantile Marine*  
**Private John Duncan Macfarlane** *2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders* **Engineer Sub Lieutenant David Rankin Fleming MacKail** *Royal Navy*  
**Lance Corporal Alexander Niven Russell** *6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders*  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Joseph Henry Sanders** *10<sup>th</sup> Battalion Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)* **Serjeant James Ritchie Smith** *1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders*

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn  
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,  
We will remember them.*

That well-known verse from a poem, written by Laurence Binyan in 1914 following the Battle at Mons, ensures that their names liveth with us for evermore.

RWM Brother Brian McFadyen requested that the brethren remain upstanding for a period of silence to remember the No. XII Fallen and all who served and lost their lives in conflicts past and present. The period of silence commenced with the playing of *The Last Post* and ending with *Reveille*.

The RWM thanked Bro Robin Shields, PM of Lodge St Vincent Sandyford No 553, for his playing of the bugle on this occasion.

The brethren of No. XII then conferred an Entering. The Candidate was Mr. Alexander Easdale and the Degree Team was **Prayer:** Bro Bob Bain PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Brian McFadyen **Secrets:** Bro Alan Beck PM **Apron:** WSW Bro Alex Johnson **NEC:** WJW Bro Robert Marshall **Working Tools:** Bro Jordan Kincaid **The Charge:** Bro Ken MacDougall PM

Amongst the visiting brethren were the following Masters: Bro William Mooney RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, Bro John McKenzie, RWM of Lodge Greenock St John's No 175, Bro Brian McClure, RWM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626, Bro Gordon Price, RWM of Lodge Sir Michael No 989, Bro Iain Hair, RWM of Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121, Bro Robert Hannah, RWM of The St John's Operative Lodge Rutherglen No 347 and Bro Martin Cassidy, RWM of Lodge Craigends No 1042.

## **Remembrance Sunday Wreath Laying 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023 Wellpark Cenotaph, Greenock**



As has become the custom, No. XII's Master, Bro. Brian McFadyen, laid a wreath on behalf of the Lodge at the Greenock Remembrance Service. Amongst many others taking part were the Masters of Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175, Bro. John McKenzie and Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No. 1121 Bro. Iain Hair. Bros Brian, Iain and John (from the left) may be seen in the photograph just after the respective wreaths have been laid. A number of Brethren of the Lodge accompanied the Master including Bros. Hector Macphail PM, Alan D. Beck PM and Cameron White. WJW Bro. Robert Marshall attended the Service in Gourock.

## **The Annual Charity Drive More Donations Made!**

On the right our Master presents a cheque for £200 to Donna Armstrong, Vice President of the Homeless Veterans' Association are in the pipeline. Brian took time out of his work with PoppyScotland to deliver the support. No. XII supports a veterans' organisation in its Charity Drive each year.

At the last regular meeting, £100 was also presented to Bro. Finlay Campbell, who was wearing his hat as an official of the Inverclyde Music Festival in receiving it. Bro. Finlay also thanked the Lodge Brethren who had sponsored him when he (literally) walked over hot coals for Ardgowan Hospice recently.



**Our Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023**  
**Annual Installation at 645 pm prompt**



This year's Installation will see Bro. James Pearston Livingstone take the Chair of No. XII, one of his affiliate Lodges. Bro. Jim affiliated to No. XII around 15 years ago and, since then, has given great support to the Lodge in many ways that we have greatly appreciated. It seemed but right, that when, through circumstances this year, the opportunity arose he should be offered the chance to be Master for 2023-24. The rest, as they say, is history.

It is unlikely that there is a better-known Brother in this part of the world than he is, given what he has contributed to the craft through a variety of Lodges over the year.

I am sure that all our readers will join me in extending every good wish to Bro. Jim for the forthcoming session.

The article from the recent *Greenock Telegraph* is on the left.

The Installation will all be done in the Saloon, with no Board of Installed Masters constituted.

Brethren are reminded that prizes are needed for the Installation Raffle. The Pre-Installation Buffet for No. XII Office Bearers will be held from 5pm in the room adjacent to the Saloon.

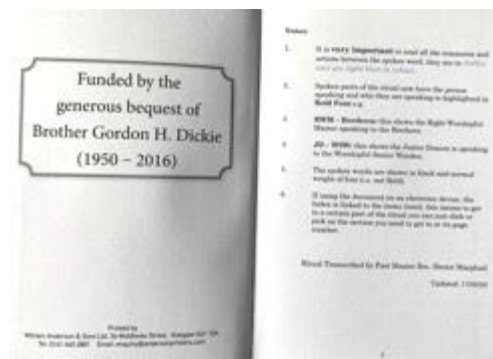
### Memorabilia

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.

Similarly, if you see anything on sale – anywhere – please advise us so that a purchase may be organised.

## The Definitive No. XII Ritual Now Available

Bro. Hector Macphail'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](mailto: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 27<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:treasurerno12@aol.co.uk) Bank details are the same as for the rituals.

Jewels may be purchased by all Freemasons



## A Message from the Lodge Treasurer Test Fees are now overdue!

*It's that time of year again!!!! I am requesting payment of this session's Test Fees - this year it is £45 and they are now overdue.*

*If you pay by standing order and the monthly amount is sufficient to cover £45 then you can stop reading now OR if you must, please adjust your S/O accordingly.*

*For those of you who pay as a lump sum please do so in one of the following ways - direct to me by cash or cheque at a meeting - cheques payable to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning XII*

*'Lifers' are requested to **voluntarily** pay an amount equivalent to the capitation fee i.e., £40*

*The preferred way is to bank transfer the money to -*

*Royal Bank of Scotland  
Sort Code 83 22 20  
Account No. 10000495  
Payment Ref - your name /Fees*

*David Stevenson - Treasurer XII*

## Bro 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant James Hannah No. XII Great War Casualty Gravestone Repair and Reinstatement



Our regular readers will remember that it was reported that the gravestone in Greenock Cemetery for Bro. James had been badly vandalised and that the Lodge determined to have it fixed.

As reported in Issue 161, Fraser Downie (Stokes Memorials of Dunoon) has been working on the job of restoring the stone to its former glory

As may be seen from the photos below, the bottom part had new holes bored; the middle part had been freed from the ground and new stainless steel screwed rods fitted; the top part had been freed from the ground.

This was from a visit at the beginning of September





I returned on 22<sup>nd</sup> September and further progress was evident as may be seen from the photos on the left.

And finally, in time for Armistice Day 2023, the restoration was all but completed. The three pieces are back together and the stone has been cleaned so that its lustre has returned. Also, the re-lettering process has begun and this will finish the job nicely.

I am sure that you will all agree that our mason, Fraser Downie, has done a fine job.



**Bro. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant James Hannah - his refurbished gravestone – nearly done now!**



## No. XII on the Road Lodge The Royal Stuart No. 1414 Annual Installation Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Two weeks past on Saturday, I made the journey beyond the borders of this Province. It took me to Drumoyne, in Glasgow, but paradoxically the Lodge I was visiting that meets there is allocated to the Province of Renfrewshire East. A train from Fort Matilda to Cardonald, and a wee wander down Berryknowes Road to Shieldhall Road, took me to Lodge The Royal Stuart No. 1414. Many of you will have driven past the Temple often, because it sits right on Shieldhall Road just about 100 yards before you would turn left towards the Clyde Tunnel.



I was accompanied by my son Cameron (right) and we were heading to the Lodge Installation. We were due to meet Bro. Donnie Finlayson, Past Master of Lodge The Gael No. 609 and Honorary Member of No. XII, the reason being that he and I were to be the Installing Masters. This was a great honour for us and it had come through a fellow piper, Bro George Johnson, PM of 1414 and a friend, in my case, for some 50 years. I played with George in the British Caledonian Airways (Renfrew) Pipe Band and, for him, when he was Pipe Major of Kilbarchan Pipe Band. Donnie too has known George for years and goes to the Veteran Pipers' Association with him at the Piping Centre in Glasgow each week.



The scene is set. We received a warm welcome from the Lodge members and from RWPGM Substitute Gavin Burt heading the Provincial Lodge of Renfrewshire East Deputation. We also met or friend, The Master of The Lodge of Erskine No. 1566, Bro. Iain Shirley.

Bro. Donnie and I then had the pleasure of installing Bro. Alex.

Stewart (above) into the Chair of King Solomon. It was his second time. Bro. Alex is a remarkable character, being resident in Wales and travelling up for the Lodge meetings. Now there is commitment for you...



After the formalities, and a hearty supper, the traditional Loyal and Masonic Toasts were observed. We then had a 'Lodge The Gael style' harmony with Gaelic songs, the pipes (Bro. Gorge left) and, of course, 'The Green Oak Tree' from yours truly. After some time, Cameron and I wended our way back up to Cardonald for the train home. A very fine day was had...

## Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII Burns Club Annual Charity Burns Supper Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Although it's a wee while to go yet, arrangements for the Annual Charity Burns Supper are under way. It will be on the usual Saturday (above). However, the Town Hall is getting some roof repairs done and so is unavailable. Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No. 626 has been kind enough to make its premises available to us, so it will take place in John Street.



The Immortal Memory will be given by Bro. Bobby Shaw (right), Past Master of The Bridgeton and Glasgow Shamrock and Thistle Lodge No. 275 and Lodge The Prince's No. 607. He is presently one of the Province of Glasgow's Substitute Grand Masters.



The Toast to The Lassies will be delivered by Bro. Martin Cassidy (left), Master of Lodge Craighends No. 1042 in Linwood. Bro. Martin has worn many Burns Club Presidential Chains!

### Annual Hospitality Levy 2023-24

We all know that the hospitality at No. XII's post meeting harmonies is famed far and wide for its generosity and, of course, President of Stewards Tony Buckley's superb food. However, tall the drams and suppers do not come without a cost.

At a General Committee meeting on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023, it was agreed that we would return to having a hospitality levy on all the Officer Bearers. This would begin after the 2023 Installation. Bro. Paul Branchfield WJW will oversee collecting the levy. Each Office Bearer should bring Bro. Paul £10 in cash or a bottle of spirits as soon as possible after the Installation.

Of course, brethren of No. XII who wait behind and enjoy the harmonies may wish to contribute too and what they give will be very welcome!

### No. XII on the Road (again) The Brethren and the search for Masonic Lodges



*Recently, Brethren of the Lodge have been sharing photos of Masonic lodges when they find them in strange, and not so strange, places. It makes for an interesting feature, so keep them coming please!*

**Bro. Craig McFadyen at Crieff, in front of a very fine panelled door – Lodge St Michael No. 38 - Province of Perthshire West**



**Bro. Bryan Campbell Black in Sandbach, Cheshire. Several lodges meet here across the year as may be seen below.**

**Sandbach MASONIC HALL**

Pages - Contact - Members -

Sign In

<p><b>Samaritan Lodge</b> No. 368</p> <p>Samaritan Lodge meet on Wednesdays in January, February, March, April, October, November &amp; December.</p> <p><a href="#">More Info</a></p>	<p><b>Sanbec Lodge</b> No. 8787</p> <p>Sanbec Lodge Meetings are held on the second Monday of February, April, October and December &amp; October.</p> <p><a href="#">More Info</a></p>	<p><b>Saxon Crosses</b> No. 6227</p> <p>Saxon Crosses Lodge meets on the third Monday in the months of January, March, May, July, September and November.</p> <p><a href="#">More Info</a></p>
<p><b>Penda Lodge</b> No. 7360</p> <p>Penda lodge meets on 1st Tuesdays of October, November, December, February, April, &amp; May.</p> <p><a href="#">More Info</a></p>	<p><b>Lodge of Good Counsel</b> No. 5270</p> <p>The Lodge meets on the third Monday of February, April, October (installation) &amp; December.</p> <p><a href="#">More Info</a></p>	<p><b>Lodge of Installed Masters</b> No. 9433</p> <p>The Lodge meets on the third Monday of February, April, October (installation) &amp; December.</p> <p><a href="#">More Info</a></p>

## No. XII Annual Divine Service Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023

The Divine Service will be held in the Saloon of the Town Hall on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 730 pm. Presiding will be our new Master, Bro. James P. Livingstone. The theme for the sermon is, *“It’s only words (Part 2)”*

### Reports on Visits

- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (Entering) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 (Entering) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen
- Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121 on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (Entering) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen

- Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, WJW Bro Robert Marshall, IPM Bro Robert Crossan, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro Colin Reddy, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Eddie McGill
- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen
- Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121 on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, IPM Bro Robert Crossan, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro David Stevenson, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Eddie McGill
- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (Raising conferred by Lodge Greenock St John's No 175) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen
- Lodge The Royal Stuart No 1414 on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (Annual Installation) – attended by Bro Iain White PM as Installing Master, Bro Donald Finlayson HM as Installing Master and Bro Cameron White
- Lodge St John Kilwinning Largs No 173 on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (Annual Installation) – attended by Bro Bob Bain PM and Bro James Livingstone

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 [treasurer12@aol.com](mailto:treasurer12@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**  
19.11.23

**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.**