

# Twelve Talk

02.01.16

Provincial Issue 79  
Grand Master Kenneth K Morrison

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  
Special Meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in June

## 1. Meetings 2015-16

- \* 05.01.16  
Lecture  
The History of  
Freemasonry in  
Renfrewshire West by Bro  
Alex Galbraith SM PSGM  
PPGM
- \* 19.01.16  
Raising
- \* 02.02.16  
No Meeting – Music festival
- \* 16.02.16  
Entering
- \* 01.03.16  
Passing
- \* 15.03.16  
Raising
- \* 05.04.16  
Entering
- \* 19.04.16  
Mark
- \* Thursday 02.06.16  
Entering by the Past  
Masters of the Lodge

RWM Bro Capt. Allan I. MacFeate 40 The Esplanade Greenock PA16 7RY (07855332738)  
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 8 Mount Stuart Drive Wemyss Bay (07810270787)  
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

## A Guid New Year to ane and 'a

Next Meeting  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January  
2016

## Lecture by Bro Alex Galbraith

As Freemasons go, they do not come much more experienced than Bro Alex Galbraith. A Past Master of his Mother Lodge, Greenock St John's No 175, and the Anchor Lodge or Research No 1814, member of No XII, our Substitute Master, Past Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West and Past Substitute Grand Master ... and that would be just the start of it! Alex's subject matter should be of great interest to No XII Members given the long history of the Lodge and its position as the oldest in the Province of Renfrewshire West. Of course, this means that No XII is the constant, being around as all other masonic developments unfolded in Renfrewshire West and seeing Lodges come and go over time. Knowing Alex as we do, we are guaranteed a paper that will be entertaining, interesting, informative, thought provoking and perhaps even seasoned with a little controversy. An evening to look forward to ...



Alex at the No XII Installation in  
November 2015

## Test and Capitation Fees

Test Fees are now due and £40 should be paid either by standing order or direct to Bro David Stevenson, Treasurer. Capitation Fees are £30 for Life Members (at their discretion) and again these may be paid by standing order or direct. For details either see the recent email from Bro Stevenson or speak to him directly.



## No XII and Greenock Wanderers RFC

### James Reid Kerr PM - Captain and President of the Wanderers

I had a really interesting email from Donnie Cunningham, regular visitor to No XII and a member of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68. Donnie is Past President of Greenock Wanderers Rugby Football Club and there are strong links between the Wanderers and No XII.” It’s just to say that I have a story that may interest you for the Twelve Talk magazine that you edit and it is about James Reid Kerr a Past Master of No XII from 1945. In his earlier days you may be aware he was capped for Scotland at both cricket and rugby. With the 6 Nations Rugby Tournament about to start in the New Year I thought it may be a topical story for the magazine. Scotland play England this year at Murrayfield on 6<sup>th</sup> February. There is more info on him in the photos and package I have put together so I’m sure you could get enough for a wee article.”

I was fascinated by this and arranged to meet Donnie at the Inter Festive Meeting at Lodge Firth of Clyde on Monday past. Donnie passed a tremendous package of information to me and since then yet more through email correspondence.

I am planning a special edition of Twelve Talk based on No XII and the Wanderers in the near future.

### The Charity Drive – Provost’s Nomination

**£500 presented to Craigmarloch School**



*The photo (above) and this piece appeared in the Greenock Telegraph of Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015.*

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII is Inverclyde’s oldest organisation having been instituted in 1728. As freemasons, the brethren of No XII have the concept of helping those in need at the heart of all that they do. This is reflected in the importance placed on the annual charity drives.

Since 1765, No XII has a close association with Greenock Corporation and now Inverclyde Council. The Lodge made an agreement at that time with the Magistrates and Council to purchase a share in the property of the new Town House then being built. Each November, when the Provost attends the Annual Installation Dinner, he is asked to nominate a charity of his choice for the Lodge to help.

Provost Robert Moran nominated Craigmarloch School in Port Glasgow for the attention of the brethren and recently Morag McCracken, Chair of the Craigmarloch Parent Council, accepted a cheque for £500 from RWM Bro Allan I MacFeate. Morag said, 'Thank you for thinking of us. It is much appreciated. We are hoping to fund a Christmas treat for all our young people and later in the year support the residential experiences of the primary and secondary pupils when they go away.'

The brethren of No XII are delighted to enhance the educational experiences of Inverclyde's young people. Over £7000 will be distributed by the Lodge to different causes this year and more presentations are yet to be made.

### **Charity Burns Supper – 8 Weeks to go!**

The 2016 Charity Burns Supper will be in the Town Hall on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 630 for 7pm. Bro Alasdair Hendry of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 will propose the Immortal Memory. The Toast to the Lassies will be from Bro Duncan McFadyen PM of the Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge No 4.

The 2015 event was a huge success and over £6,000 was raised on the evening for local charities. We are grateful to all of our supporters and look forward to seeing you again next year. The Burns Supper is the foundation of our charitable work and your support is vital to its success

Tickets are £20 and they can be reserved with Bros Alan Beck IPM and Iain White PM. Table reservations are also welcome.



**The Top Table  
No XII Burns Supper 2015**

## Reports on Visits

- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 20th November 2015 (Annual Installation) – attended by Bro James Livingstone (PGM), Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Alastair Glenny PM, Bro Robert Bain PM, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 23rd November 2015 (Entering conferred by Lodge The Gael No 609) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, IPM Bro Alan Beck, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Paul Stevenson, Bro Fraser Cameron, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bro Alasdair Beaton, Bro James Livingstone, Bro Kenneth MacCrae HM, Bro James Strachan HM, Bro Hamish MacLachlan HM, Bro Donald Finlayson HM, Bro Keith Bowes HM and Bro William Bryce HM
- Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 on 24th November 2015 (Passing) – attended by Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick
- Lodge Pollok Pollokshields No 772 on 24th November 2015 (Annual Installation) – attended by IPM Bro Alan Beck and Bro Tony Stewart HM
- Grand Lodge of Scotland on 26th November 2015 (Annual Installation and Festival of Saint Andrew) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, WSW Bro Allan Glen, Bro Fraser Cameron, Bro James Livingstone (PGM Renfrewshire West), SM Bro Alexander Galbraith (PSGM) and Bro James Strachan HM.
- Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 on 27th November 2015 (Entering Exemplification) – attended by Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 27th November 2015 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, WSW Bro Allan Glen, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, IPM Bro Alan Beck, Bro Alastair Glenny PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro James Livingstone, Bro Kenneth McCrae HM, Bro James Strachan HM and Bro James Lever HM.
- Lodge Salfire No 1505 on 28th November 2015 (Annual Installation) – attended by IPM Bro Alan Beck and Bro Tony Stewart HM

## From the old No XII Minute Books - The McGregor Brothers

In issue 78, I highlighted the initiation of the 4 McGregor brothers – Andrew, Peter, Gordon and Norman - at the same time on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 1912. It turns out that Andrew McGregor is the Grandfather of our Bro James McGregor (the Elder) and obviously Great Grandfather of Bro James McGregor (the Younger). Jim has said that he will see what information he can find out for us. I shall feature what he manages to unearth.

## From the old No XII Minute Books

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 1912**

Bro John J Park, RW Master, in the Chair

Deputation from Lodge Firth of Clyde to confer Fellowcraft Degree

Bro John Dixon PM, who headed the deputation took over the working of the Lodge and with his Office bearers carried out the degree in an efficient and instructive manner which was appreciated by the brethren present.

After the RW Master had expressed his thanks to the brethren from Gourock, the Lodge was closed in due and ancient form.

*Of course, at our Regular Meeting on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015, Bro Nicky Stetz, the new RWM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 headed a large deputation into No XII to confer a passing – just as his predecessor John Dixon had done 101 years before. Isn't this just the spirit of Freemasonry to see such fellowship surviving across the centuries?*

## **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 1912**

Bro John J Park, RW Master, in the Chair

Presentation to Bro Alf Flett SM on occasion of his silver wedding

Thereafter, on behalf of the Office bearers, the RW Master presented Bro Alf Flett SM with a silver dessert sugar and cream to mark the occasion of his silver wedding in June last.

In handing it over, Bro Park referred to the many years of useful service Bro Flett had devoted to the Lodge as an Office bearer

Bro Flett acknowledge the gift in suitable terms and expressed the pleasure it gave him to receive it.

*Bro Flett was indeed an active member as the minutes of Regular and Executive meetings show. He presented the set of Mark Degree Plans used by the Lodge to this day on 7<sup>th</sup> May 1912. His surname suggests that his origins were in Orkney but the roll book shows him to be a grocer by profession who was born in Glasgow.*

## **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 [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**  
**02.01.16**

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.