

## 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

Raising

\* 19.04.16

Mark

\* Thursday 02.06.16

Summer Meeting  
Entering by the Past  
Masters 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  
Special Meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in June

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)

## Previous Meeting Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February Entering

The Lodge was well filled with 49 brethren in attendance and RWM Bro Allan MacFeate invited all reigning Masters and Past Masters to the East. Bro William Lawson, RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, Bro Edward Ross, RWM of Lodge Greenock St John's No 175, Bro Paul Docherty, RWM of Lodge Sir Michael No 989 and Bro Thomas Boyce, RWM of Lodge The Gael No 609 accepted the invitation. The Lodge proceeded to carry out the Third Degree ritual on Bro Max Johnstone. The floor workers were: **Prayer:** Almoner Bro Alistair Glenny PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Allan MacFeate **Retrospect:** Architect Bro Brian McFadyen **The Raising:** IPM Bro Alan Beck **Secrets:** Almoner Bro Alistair Glenny PM **Apron:** Secretary Bro Ken MacDougall PM **Working Tools:** WJW Bro Bob Crossan **Traditional History:** Chaplain Bro Robert Bain **The Charge:** Treasurer Bro David Stevenson. A warm welcome was given to Bro Paul Galbraith SD who was back in the Lodge after a serious

illness. An obituary was given, and a silence observed, for Bro James Sinclair Snr who had passed to the Grand Lodge Above.

## Our Next Meeting Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April Raising

There will be a Raising on Tuesday and the Candidate will be Bro Allan Jess. The degree will be worked by the brethren of No XII. This is the second last meeting of this part of the session with the final meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April being the annual Mark Degree. The dignity and decorum in the way that No XII works the Third Degree is often commented upon and it has been thus for at least the last 40 years ... and probably back into the mists of time. This is a matter of some pride amongst the brethren of the Lodge.

## 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.

## For the Boolers



At the last Regular Meeting, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM advised the Brethren of the annual Bowling Challenge match with Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 to be held this year on 30th April 2016 at the Ardgowan Bowling Club and also of the Province of Renfrewshire West's Competition for the Orr Bowling Trophy which will be held this year on 11th June 2016 at the Grosvenor Bowling Club. Of course, a rink from No XII) Bros George Felgate, David Stevenson and Kenny Morrison himself) won the Orr Trophy in 2015

and the trophy was donated by Bro Dan Orr who was Substitute Master of No XII in 1909. The competition dates back to at least that time. Any Brother wishing to participate should advise Bro Kenny.

## Bro Alex More – 90 not out!



On 4<sup>th</sup> March, our senior Past Master, Bro Alex More, celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. This is indeed a splendid achievement and No XII marked the occasion with a suitable gift and a card signed by the brethren who were in attendance at the Regular Meeting on the Tuesday previous. 'Big Alex' was in the Chair when I joined the Lodge in 1974. This was a particular pleasure to me as he and my late father (Bro Harry White of Lodge Greenock St John's No 175) knew one another very well both being in the education profession. I

paid a visit to see Bro Alex in his home in Luncarty, Perthshire, recently along with Bro Kenny Morrison PM and our driver for the day, Lodge Almoner Bro Alistair Glenny PM who keeps in regular contact with Alex. We received a letter of thanks from Bro Alex which was read out at the Lodge's last meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> March. He was delighted with our gift, the card and the thoughts behind them. Alex still keeps a keen interest in the Lodge through his contact with some of the brethren and by reading *XII Talk*. Maybe we shall see him back in the Lodge again before too long ...



## Come fly with me ...

Bros Bob Bain PM and Allan Glen WSW are going to fly across the Clyde next month from the top of the iconic Finnieston Crane to the BBC Headquarters in Glasgow. Their breathtaking act bravery is in aid of the Province's work to support the work of the Grand Lodge to raise money for the charity Prostate Cancer Scotland.

I have this from the Provincial Grand Master Bro Jim Livingstone,

*We will be promoting this event over the next few weeks, which is being jointly organised by a number of the neighbouring Provinces, including Renfrewshire West in order to raise funds for the chosen charity of Grand Lodge, Prostate Cancer Scotland. This is a Scottish charity set up to provide information, advice and help on prostate health and diseases of the prostate. Nearly 1 in 2 men in Scotland will be affected by prostate disease at some stage in their lives and 1 in 11 are likely to develop prostate cancer. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men in Scotland. To bring this into perspective, of the nearly 500 brethren now on the direct distribution list for this edition of the West Column, around 40, will suffer from prostate cancer and I urge you to give your earnest consideration to supporting this charitable effort.*

All sponsorship monies will be gratefully received by the brethren and faithfully applied by the recipients. My personal response to the opportunity to participate was the famous West of Scotland 'double positive negative'- "Aye right!" My admiration for all the brethren participating knows no bounds.

## Reports on Visits

- ✦ Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 3rd March 2016 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro David Stevenson, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro James Livingstone and Bro James Strachan HM
- ✦ The Prince's Lodge No 607 on 7th March 2016 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, IPM Bro Alan Beck (RWM No 607), Bro Tony Stewart HM, Bro Donnie Finlayson HM and Bro Ian McPherson HM
- ✦ Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 on 8th March 2016 (Entering) – attended by WJW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Campbell Snoddy, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro James Livingstone
- ✦ Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 9th March 2016 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, IPM Bro Alan Beck, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Paul Galbraith, Bro Alex Gray and Bro James Livingstone
- ✦ The Lodge of Erskine on 10th March 2016 (Entering and PGL Visitation) – attended by IPM Bro Alan Beck, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Paul Galbraith and Bro Brian McFadyen
- ✦ Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 10th March 2016 (Mark) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, Bro David Stevenson, Bro James Livingstone, Bro Tony Stewart HM, Bro Kenneth McCrae HM, Bro James Lever HM and Bro James Miller HM
- ✦ Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 14th March 2016 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Paul Stevenson, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro James Livingstone, Bro Kenneth McCrae HM and Bro James Strachan HM

## From the old No XII Minute Books

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 1913**

Bro RC Smith, RW Master, in the Chair

Annual Grant to local organisations

It was intimated by the RW Master that the Executive recommended that the sum of 12 Guineas be given as a grant to local organisations allocated as follows:

Greenock Hospital and Infirmary	£3 3/-
District Nursing Association	£2 2/-
Childrens' Convalescent Home	£2 2/-
Eye Infirmary	£1 1/-
Ear and Throat Infirmary	£1 1/-
Medical Aid Society	£2 2/-
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children	£1 1/-

Bro Angus B Fisher moved and Bro John Lyle seconded that the recommendation should be adopted.

Explanation of the Tracing Board to Fellowcraft Masons by Bro WG Buchanan PM

After the Lodge had been closed in due and ancient form Bro WG Buchanan PM gave an explanation of the Tracing Board as it applies to Fellowcraft Masons – which was listened to attentively.

*As we are about to embark upon distributing the Lodge's Charitable donations for 2015-16, it is reassuring to see that this vitally important aspect of the work of Freemasons was just as close to the hearts of the brethren of No XII all those years ago. The 12 Guineas would be over £1000 now.*

*Also, it is interesting that after the degree business (an entering) was over, and the Lodge closed, a Fellowcraft Tracing Board lecture was given. This was by the same Past Master, Bro WG Buchanan, who, a few weeks earlier on Christmas Eve, had given the First Degree Tracing Board lecture for what was believed to have been the first time.*

## 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 [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**  
**17.02.16**

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.