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Meetings 2017-18

- * 05.09.17
Passing
- * 19.09.17
Nomination and Election of
Office Bearers
Members only
- * 03.10.17
Entering, and affiliation
- * 17.10.17
Passing
- * 07.11.17
Annual Meeting and
Passing
- * 21.11.17
Annual Installation at
615pm
- *05.12.17
Annual Divine Service
- *Saturday 24.02.18
Annual Burns Supper at
630 for 7pm



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

RWM Bro Allan T. Glen 41 Morris Crescent Blantyre Glasgow G72 0DA (07736060280)
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 8 Mount Stuart Drive Wemyss Bay (07810270787)
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

Well I Never!

Here we are at Issue 100. It seems a long time ago that I proposed at a General Committee Meeting that, in order to boost interest amongst the members I might send out a wee Newsletter before each meeting. In the grand scheme of things, it wasn't that long ago because it was on 12th January 2010 that the First Edition was published. I have attached it for your interested and a poor wee emaciated thing it is compared to more recent editions.

Twelve Talk has grown and developed over the years in response to contributions and ideas from Brethren and my own preoccupation with recording the life of the Lodge and looking into its past. It would be fair to say that this growth and development mirrors that of No XII itself, for the Lodge that we see today bears no comparison to what it was like back then in the same way that is true for *Twelve Talk*. Much has happened in the intervening years and a few things have given me great pleasure as a Past Master of 26 years standing and a member with 43 years under my belt.

We have seen many new Initiates in recent years and they bring an

energy and focus to our work. We have also seen a return to the high standards of floor work and administration that had always characterised No XII and that are so important. Quality, dignity and decorum must always be our watchwords. Our *Back to the Future* initiative has brought back many important traditions of No XII that were in danger of being forgotten and yet this has not impeded the progress of the Lodge as it also changes and develops to meet the demands of 21st Century life. Very soon this will be cemented by the publication of the No XII Manual that will draw so much of this together and clarify ritual and operational matters – at last! The profile of the Lodge in the local community has risen dramatically, aided greatly by our charitable work and support for other local organisations. Hand in hand with this has been a consolidation and growth of our partnership with Inverclyde Council and we are grateful for the interest shown by its elected members and officers in what we do. Talking of 'no comparison' the Saloon is looking spectacular now with its refurbishment and upgrade by the Council, soon to be enhanced by a new floor. Despite all of these things, we must never be complacent in No XII. American advertising executive, Jay Chiat, once said, "I'm uncomfortable when I am feeling comfortable". This should be our mantra as we head into the next 100 *Twelve Talks* and towards the Tercentenary in 2028. Don't get too comfortable!!

Our Previous Meeting

Tuesday 19th September – Nomination and Election of Office Bearers

Bro Allan Thomas Glen, our RWM will take the Chair for a second term, having been nominated and elected at the last meeting. Bro Allan has done an excellent job in his first term and I'm sure that we shall see the same level of commitment, energy and expertise during his second. Bro Allan's Installing Masters on Tuesday 21st November will be Bro Iain White, Bro Kenneth C MacDougall and Bro Alan D Beck, all Past Masters of No XII.

Bro Robin McIntyre, Provincial Grand Secretary, has expressed an interest in nomination for the post of Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West which will become vacant soon when the present incumbent, Bro James P Livingstone, demits office. Once the election formalities were over, Bro Robin addressed the brethren giving a statement of what he saw as the challenges that lay ahead for the Province and his plans. What he had to say obviously met with the satisfaction of the brethren as he formally received No XII's nomination after he had spoken. The brethren of No XII wish Bro Robin well in the months and years ahead.

Our Next Meeting

Tuesday 3rd October – Entering

The meeting on Tuesday is an Entering, with an Affiliation thrown in for good measure.

No XII Burns Supper

The Annual No XII Charity Burns Supper will be held in the Town Hall on Saturday 23rd February 2018. More details will follow but get the date in your diaries, please!

Bowling Challenge Match with Lodge Crawfurdsburn

The Annual Bowling Challenge Match between No XII and Lodge Crawfurdsburn took place in May. As has often been the case over the years, No XII took second place but nonetheless an enjoyable time was had by all. Bro Malcolm Sinclair, RWM of Lodge Crawfurdsburn was magnanimous in victory and RWM Bro Allan Glen of No XII took the defeat in the way that many of his predecessors have over the years – with a sigh of resignation. The Lodges are again grateful to the Ardgowan Club for the use of its facilities.



Pictured left: RWMs Sinclair and Glen with the Trophy

The challenge began back in June 1990 when Bro Iain White was RWM of No XII and Bro John Paton was in the Chair at Lodge Crawfurdsburn. The trophy was donated by the late Bro Ian Miller of No XII who was proprietor of the local joinery firm John Miller and Son. The whole thing was the brainchild of Bro Hector

Macphail PM of No XII. No great planning went into the concept! After a pleasant evening

visiting at Lodge 1116 in Paisley, he and Bro White were blethering on the way down the road, brimming over with the creativity of thought that follows a few drams. Bro Macphail said to Bro White, 'Why don't we have a boolin' match wi' Crawfurdsburn'. And the rest, as they say, is history.



Relaxing after the match

(With thanks to RWM Bro Malcolm Sinclair and the West Column for the photos)

We will remember them ...

Through the Grand Lodge and Poppy Scotland, No XII will again place wooden poppy crosses to be placed in the Garden of Remembrance in Edinburgh for our 10 brethren who made the supreme sacrifice in the Great War. Any Brother who wishes to sponsor a cross should see our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson. The cost is £10.

RWM Bro Allan T Glen will lay a wreath on behalf of the Lodge at the Greenock Remembrance Service on Sunday 12th November in the Wellpark. Details will follow nearer the time.

Deputation to Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759 Tuesday 26th September 2017

No XII was on tour again and Bro Alistair Glen PM has supplied this report on the visitation and also the supporting photographs. Bro Alistair is no mean photographer as regular readers of the Greenock Telegraph will know, his work being published regularly. He makes good use of the vista from his home on the site of the old Gantock Hotel on the Cloch Road to grab shots of sunsets and passing ships of the line.

A large deputation supported our RWM Allan T Glen on a visit to Ayrshire to the Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759. The deputation, which consisted of 16 Brethren, including HM Tony Stewart, RWM of Lodge The Princes No 607, was Piped in by Lodge Piper, Brother Andrew Muir.



The No XII Deputation at Dundonald

In Front: Bros Ken MacDougall PM Bob Bain PM

Behind: Bros Alex Gray Alan Beck PM Robert Marshall KK Morrison PM Bob Crossan WSW Tony Stewart (RWM The Prince's No 607) Allan Glen RWM David Martin Brian McFadyen WJW Fraser Cameron Allan MacFeate PM Allan Jess Andrew Muir

For reasons, known only to those students of Constitutions and Laws, we were there to carry out an exemplification of the First or Entered Apprentice Degree.

After the customary Masonic welcome from Bro John Law PM, the Office Bearers of Lodge Burns Dundonald vacated their stations in the Lodge in favour of our own Office Bearers. Deacons for the Evening, Past Masters Kenneth Morrison and Alistair Glenly, retired to prepare the candidate for initiation. After the candidate was admitted by Inner Guard Brother David Martin,

The three Alans set to work: -
Allan MacFeate called us to prayer
Allan Glen performed the Obligation
Alan Beck Delivered the Secrets

Then it was the turn of the three Roberts

Robert Crossan presented the Apron
Robert Marshall related the lecture of the North-East Corner
Robert Bain delivered the Working Tools

The ceremonial was brought to a close by Bro Kenneth McDougall who delivered a flawless Charge!



At the close, a fine array of pies and sandwiches were served prior to the journey back home. The evening once again was a fine example of Freemasonry at work and our Lodge should be proud of the turnout and professionalism of the brethren. On behalf of RWM Allan Glen many thanks to the 6 Past Masters, and Bob Crossan, Brian McFadyen, David Martin, Allan Jess, Robert Marshall, Alex Gray, Fraser Cameron, Tony Stewart, and Andrew Muir for their support and input on the evening.

Bro Alistair Glenny PM



Monthly Draw

The 2017 Monthly Draw is well under way and payment is now being accepted. Treasurer Bro David Stevenson is keen that we support this handy fund raiser that is a great help with the day-to-day running costs of the Lodge.

Number(s) are available at £1 per number per month and there is no limit to the number and each entrant can have as many as they like! Payment can be made (1) by cash to Bro David (2) by cheque made payable to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII - Social Fund (3) by internet banking to Bank RBS Sort Code 83-22-20 Account Number 10000509 as a one off payment in multiples of £12 with the entrants name shown in the payment reference box or (4) by standing order to same bank details as above for your chosen monthly amount.

Where possible Bro David will use the same numbers as in previous years unless asked otherwise.

Test and Capitation Fees

Test Fees are now due and £40 should be paid by any of the means above. **Capitation Fees** are £30 for Life Members (at their discretion). These may be paid by any of the means stated above for the Monthly Draw. Please note that the payment is to a different account if you are doing it online – 10000495. All other bank details are the same

From the old Minute Books of No XII

In the last edition of Twelve Talk, reference was made to talks and lectures of different types being given in No XII 'back in the day'. Some illustrative examples were given and here are some more ...

Tuesday 4th February 1936

Bro Peter R Jacobs, RW Master, in the Chair

Lecture by Bro Dr RT Halliday on 'Early Masons and their Work'

The Lodge was then reduced to the EA Degree and thereafter called from Labour when Bro Dr RT Halliday JP, the Grand Lodge Senior Grand Deacon gave a most interesting lecture on "Early masons and their work" which was illustrated by lantern slides. The lecturer had the attention of a large audience in his visits to abbeys, cathedrals and ancient buildings and his descriptions of different forms of architecture was most instructive.

At the close of the lecture Bro Jacobs conveyed the thanks of the Lodge to Bro Halliday for the pleasure he had given, not only to the brethren of the Lodge, but those of sister lodges whose presence he cordially welcomed.

Bros Sir Hugh Shaw Stewart, RL Scott and RC Smith also congratulate Bro Halliday, and he in his acknowledgement expressed his indebtedness to Bro WS Jamieson the lanternist.

(Provincial Grand Lodge Visitation)

Tuesday 18th February 1936

Bro Peter R Jacobs, RW Master, in the Chair

On the invitation of the RW Master, Bro John McCubbin PM, who has visited many Lodges in different parts of the world gave an interesting resume of the ceremony carried out at an Initiation in a loge he visited in America.

(After an Entering)

Tuesday 3rd March 1936

Bro Peter R Jacobs, RW Master, in the Chair

The Lodge was then reduced to the EA Degree and thereafter called from Labour when Bro Dr D Marlais Davies gave an interesting address on 'Religion and Humour'. Bro Davies had an appreciative audience its thanks was conveyed by our RW Master, Bro McCartney PM of Cumberland Kilwinning and Bro Firth RW Master of Lodge Crawfurdsburn for the delightful

manner in which Bro Davies had shown how humour could be used to brighten our everyday life.

(After a Passing)

Meeting on Monday 1st February 1937

RWM Bro Arthur FR Caird in the Chair

Visit of Provincial Grand Lodge

During the working of the Degree the annual visitation of Provincial Grand Lodge was made. The Deputation was headed by Bro RA Clapperton-Stewart, PG Secretary who, with his officers, took over the conduct of the Lodge. After taking the Chair, Bro Clapperton-Stewart indicated that it had been the intention of Bro RL Scott, PG Depute Master, to represent Bro Sir Hugh Shaw Stewart PG Master, but that owing to illness neither he nor Bro RS Murray PG Grand Sub Master was able to be present.

Lecture on the Queen Mary by Bro Cadenhead

Thereafter the Lodge was called to Harmony in the course of which Bro John W Cadenhead gave a lecture on the 'Queen Mary' which was illustrated by slides with Bro WS Jamieson as lanternist. The lecture was listened to with pleasure and Bro Cadenhead was complimented in being able in a little over 30 minutes, to show us the vessel from the laying of the keel to its arrival in Southampton.

Meeting on Tuesday 21st September 1937

RWM Bro Arthur FR Caird in the Chair

A Meeting of the General Committee

RW Master's Proposal re Second Degrees

Consideration was given to a proposal of the RW Master to have short lectures at the close of the Second Degree. It was suggested that Bros DC Kerr, RC Smith and PR Jacobs be approached in this connection and that the names of Brethren suitable for this purpose be kept before us.

Meeting on Tuesday 5th October 1937

RWM Bro Arthur FR Caird in the Chair

The Lodge was then reduced to Harmony during which the RW Master gave a very interesting lecture teaching on the history of Masonry. From the dim past, Bro Caird traced the origin of many of the symbols and signs which have been passed on through the ages and the relation of their foundations to modern psychology

Meeting on Tuesday 15th March 1938

RWM Bro William W Buchanan in the Chair

Lecture by Bro Captain James Murray

At the close of the Degree the Lodge went into Harmony and Bro Captain James Murray, Governor of HM Prison, gave a very interesting address based on 'Prison Reform'. Bro Murray gave comparisons between the old and modern method of prison treatment, showing how much better results could be obtained under the present system. The lecture was much appreciated by the brethren.

Meeting on Tuesday 18th October 1938

RWM Bro William W Buchanan in the Chair

At a Meeting of the General Committee

Lectures

The question of having one or more lectures during the winter was considered and it was agreed that an endeavor should be made to approach Bro John Adam, RC Smith and DC Kerr in this connection.

Meeting on Tuesday 29th November 1938

RWM Bro William W Buchanan in the Chair

Lecture by Bro Ex-Provost JM Adam Gourock on 'Gourock Looking Backward'

After closing the meeting, as a Lodge in due and ancient form, Bro Buchanan called upon Bro Ex-Provost Adam to give his lecture on 'Gourock Looking Backward'. Bro Adam, in an interesting manner, traced the history of Gourock from the 14th Century and, with an excellent collection of slides, illustrated its growth from a tiny fishing village to the prosperous burgh of today. To many of the older brethren the scenes depicted of bygone days, brought back to them happy memories.

On the call of the RW Master, Bro Adam was accorded a hearty vote of thanks and with it was included Bro John Liddell, the lanternist, also of Gourock.

Meeting on Tuesday 3rd January 1939

Bro Arthur FR Caird IPM in the Chair

Appointment of William McKechnie as MBE

Bro Caird referred to the honour of MBE which had been conferred by HM The King on Bro Wm M McKechnie, Deputy Chief Constable. It was resolved that this tribute to a worthy brother be recorded in the Minutes and that our warm congratulations be conveyed to Bro McKechnie

Fellowcraft Tracing Board by Bro PR Jacobs

The Lodge was then called to Harmony when Bro PR Jacobs PM gave a lucid explanation of the words and signs pertaining to the Fellowcraft degree and their relation to the symbols depicted on the Tracing Board. Bro Jacobs was commended on the manner in which he dealt with his subject by Bros. Caird IPM, JW Turner PM and John Sinclair PM of Lodge Crawfordsburn and the brethren expressed appreciation in their vote of thanks.

Meeting on Tuesday 17th January 1939

RWM Bro William W Buchanan in the Chair

It was intimated that arrangements had been made with Past Master Andrew MacBride of Glasgow to give a lecture on "The First Scottish Provincial Grand Lodge" which was instituted on 7th February 1739. This date will coincide with the night of the lecture 200 years later. Bro MacBride in his paper deals with the pioneer work for Masonry carried out by the Drummond family whose association with Lodge Greenock Kilwinning forms part of our history.

Meeting on Tuesday 7th February 1939

RWM Bro William W Buchanan in the Chair

Lecture by Bro Andrew MacBride PM Glasgow on “The First Scottish Provincial Grand Lodge”

After according a welcome to visiting brethren, an expressing his appreciation for the large attendance, the RW Master called upon Bro Andrew MacBride Past president of the Glasgow Masters’ and Past Masters’ Association for his lecture. The subject was “The First Scottish Provincial Grand Lodge” which was instituted on this date 200 years ago. It is of special interest to our members that the first Provincial Grand Master was Alexander Drummond, Collector of Customs in Greenock, and RW Master of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning. His commission from John, The Earl of Kintore, Grand Master Mason of Scotland was to visit the lodges in Argyll, Clydesdale, Dumbarton, Renfrew and Stirling and he continue to hold this office till 1742. the area may seem widespread but account has to be taken that in those days there were few Lodges. A comparison may be made with Glasgow which then had 3 Lodges and now has 62.

Bro MacBride read extracts from the various Lodges as far as Inverness which were visited by Bro Drummond whose commission was to act as Deputy for the Grand Master Mason. In these visits Greenock Kilwinning is included and there are several interesting records in our minutes of his visits to this Lodge which then met in the house of David Govan, Vintner.

Bro MacBride in an interesting manner traced the history of Masonry from the 16th Century and paid tribute to the pioneer work carried out by Bro Drummond whose zeal and devotion for the Craft in those days, helped to lay the foundation of Masonry in Scotland.

(From a cutting from the *Greenock Telegraph*

Bro Drummond had also the honour of forming the first Scottish Lodge abroad which was instituted in Aleppo in 1744, when he was appointed HM Consul there. He called the Lodge Drummond Kilwinning from Greenock.

Bro MacBride was greatly interested in the first minute book of Greenock Kilwinning which records the institution of the Lodge in the house of Robert Moore, Postmaster, on 27th December 1727.)

After remarks by Bro RA Clapperton-Stewart, PG Secy., Bro RC Smith PM and others, on the call of the RW Master a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro MacBride.

It’s back to the future right enough! Perhaps even more thought should be given to the promotion of this type of activity as a means to enrich the Masonic experiences of the Brethren.

Reports on Visits

- The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 on 1st September 2017 (Lecture) – attended by Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Hector Macphail PM
- Lodge St John Kilwinning, Haddington, No 57 on 4th September 2017 (Business Meeting) – attended by Bro Campbell Snoddy
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 7th September 2017 (Business Meeting) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM and Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Greenock St Johns No 175 on 8th September 2017 (Passing) –

attended by Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM and Bro James Livingstone

- Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 on 12th September 2017 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, WSW Bro Bob Crossan, IPM Bro Allan MacFeate, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro David Stevenson, Bro David Martin and Bro Campbell Snoddy
- Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No 624 on 13th September 2017 (Business Meeting) – attended by Bro Bob Bain PM
- Lodge Shalom No 1600 on 14th September 2017 (Passing) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Iain White PM and Bro Tony Stewart HM

On all occasions, Fraternal Greetings were exchanged. The RWM thanked the Brethren for their support.

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 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
30.09.17

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.