

Twelve Talk

16.03.18

Issue 108

Meetings 2017-18

* 16.01.18

Business meeting

* 06.02.18

Installation of remaining Office Bearers and Illustrated Lecture: *From No XII to the King Emperor by way of the Scotts and the Cairds*

* 20.02.18

Raising and Annual Visitation of the Provincial Grand Lodge (at 715)

* Saturday 24.02.18

Annual Burns Supper at 630 for 7pm Immortal Memory – Bro David Vennard PM
Lassies – Bro Kenny Wilson

* 06.03.18

Entering

* 20.03.18

Raising

* 03.04.18

Passing by Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No 370

* 17.04.18

No Meeting owing to new floor being laid in Saloon

* 24.04.18

Visit to The Scots Lodge No 2319 (EC) in London

* Thursday 07.06.18

Summer Meeting – Entering by Past Masters 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

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)

Our Previous Meeting

Tuesday 6th March Entering

The Lodge was again well filled when RWM Bro Allan Glen was joined in the East by Bro George Carson, Past Master of Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121, accepted the RWM's invitation. Bro George's Dad sought permission to remain in the body of the Lodge, as did some other Past Masters who were present. It was given!

Candidate Mr. Jamie Samuel McEwan was Initiated into the mysteries and privileges of antient freemasonry by the Lodge Degree Team which was: **Prayer:** Bro Alistair Gleny PM **Almoner:** Bro Allan Glen PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Allan Glen PM **Secrets:** Bro Alan Beck PM **NEC:** Bro Robert Marshall IG **Apron:** Bro Bob Crossan WSW (with the assistance of the Candidate's grandfather, Bro Samuel McEwan No 1121) **Working Tools:** Bro Bob Bain PM **Tracing Board:** Bro Iain White PM SM **The Charge:** Bro Ken MacDougall PM Secretary

Our Next Meeting

Tuesday 20th March Raising

Tuesday's meeting is a Raising, including. The Candidate is Bro Nicol Rhodes. The Degree will be conferred by the brethren of No XII

Monthly Draw 2018

We are off and running with the 2018 Draw. The January winner was Bro Tony Buckley and in February we had Bro Hector Macphail PM. Please remember the prize is £25 each month in 2018.

The numbers have come up to a healthier level now. We currently have 49 issued which is up 5 from last year, so many thanks to all who have contributed.

Please remember the surplus is going to our Tercentenary 'pot' so if you do not currently contribute please see our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson, who get you sorted out with a number or two.

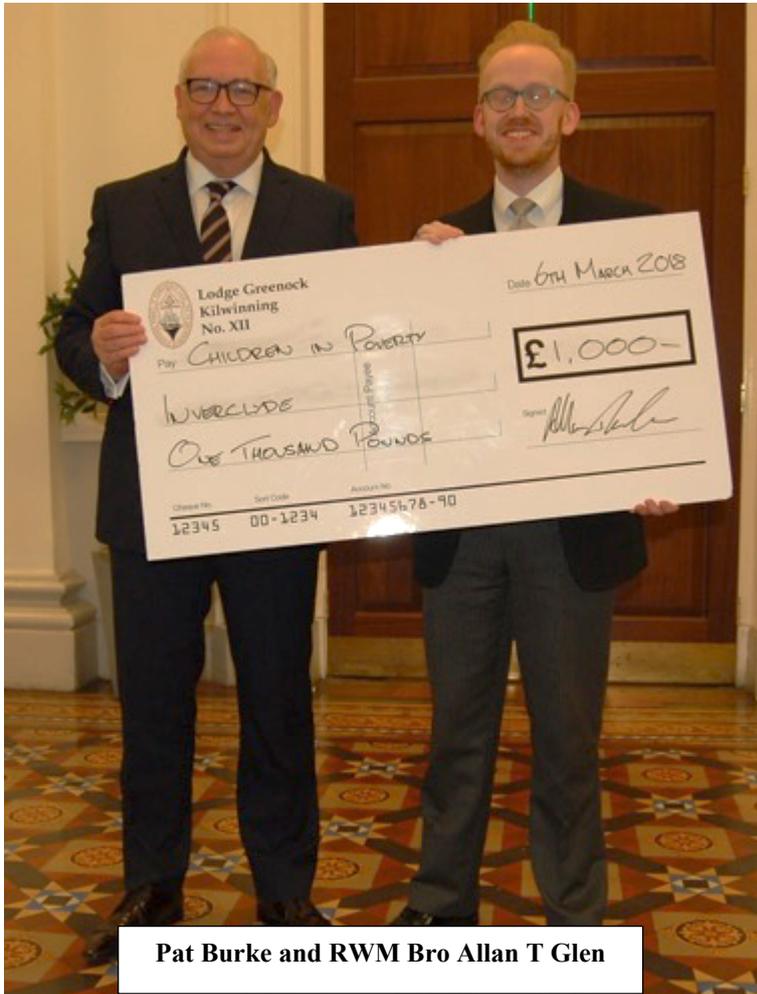
Also remember – you need to be in it to win it!



No XII Charity Drive 2018

We raised over £4,000 at the Burns Supper at the end of February. This figure is, of course, augmented by specific additional Charity collections at our Regular Meetings, the collection at the Special Meeting in June and the collection at the Annual Divine Service.

Already, we are out of the blocks as far as passing the money out to the Charities we have agreed to sponsor this year. On Tuesday 6th March Children in Poverty Inverclyde received a cheque for £1,000 and Jayden's Rainbow received £500.



Pat Burke and RWM Bro Allan T Glen

We were delighted that our old friend Pat Burke, Chairman, came along to receive the cheque on behalf of Children in Poverty Inverclyde. This charity, incorporated and registered by OSCR in January 2014, aims to assist in the alleviation of poverty on impoverished families by providing support through donated new clothing, educational books and toys. However, its main thrust is in the provision of holidays for Inverclyde families in poverty to the beautiful scenic location of Hunters Quay Holiday Park on the Cowal Peninsula. Here, children and their families will enjoy great facilities with recreational and outdoor activities where they can feel stimulated, energised, laugh and get interested in life. Pat Burke said, 'Our charity is indebted to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII for the wonderful donation of £1000 from the Lodge's annual charity dispersal in Inverclyde. Since our foundation in 2014, No.

XII and its members have been prolific contributors to us and indeed are pivotal in providing holidays for many local children and parents. We commend them for such exemplary charitable work in Inverclyde, much of which is unheralded and unnoticed'.

No XII first came to support Children in Poverty Inverclyde because it was the Charity that Provost Robert Moran nominated for us to support on his behalf in 2014. Each year, one of the ways that No XII marks its close and enduring partnership with the local council, stretching back to the Lodge assisting with the funding of the new Town House in 1765, is by asking the Provost to choose a Charity for No XII to help.



Kathleen, Keri Lynn and John Orr with RWM Bro Allan T Glen

This year, our new Provost, Martin Brennan, asked No XII to support Jayden's Rainbow. This Charity was set up by Port Glasgow couple John and Kathleen Orr in honour of their late son Jayden, a popular and gifted 10-year-old who died suddenly while training at ice skating last August. The Charity is raising funds for child friendly defibrillator pads and defibrillator training courses for staff in schools and other public facilities. John and Kathleen said, *We want to help Jayden live on through helping others. As a family we decided that this was the right thing to do. The people of Inverclyde have been fantastic in supporting us. We are grateful to them all and now to the Lodge.*

Members, Partners and Friends Dinner at Gourock Golf Club Saturday 24th March – 7pm for 730



We have 20 people signed up for the dinner at Gourock Golf Club and at the request of *Strictly* fans Allan and Catherine MacFeate, there will be a bit of music in the background for dancing. I'm sure it will be a most enjoyable evening especially as the dancing is not compulsory!

No XII and Lodge Crawfurdsburn (1) Exemplification of Passing Tuesday 27th March

RWM Bro Malcolm Sinclair and the Brethren of Lodge Crawfurdsburn have invited No XII to visit and exemplify a Second Degree on Tuesday 27th March, thus further cementing the strong relationship between the two Lodges that stretches back to the consecration of Lodge Crawfurdsburn in 1913. RWM Bro Allan T Glen urges the brethren to support the Lodge and allow him to lead in a strong deputation on the evening

No XII and Lodge Crawfurdsburn (2) Bowling Challenge Match Saturday 5th May

The annual bowling challenge will be held on the greens of the Ardgowan Club on Saturday 5th May at 1000. We are grateful to the Club for its support again. Our Team Manager, Bro KK Morrison PM is happy to take names for the team as is his partner in crime Bro David Stevenson. No XII came a close second in 2017. Maybe we can go one better this year – for a wee change!

Visit to the Scots Lodge No 2319 (EC) Tuesday 24th April 2018

It is a few years since we had an exchange visit with our friends at 'Scots' in London. That will be remedied when RWM Bro Allan T Glen will lead a deputation to the April meeting.

Any brethren interested in attending please let Bro Bob Crossan WSW know.

Archives Installation Programmes

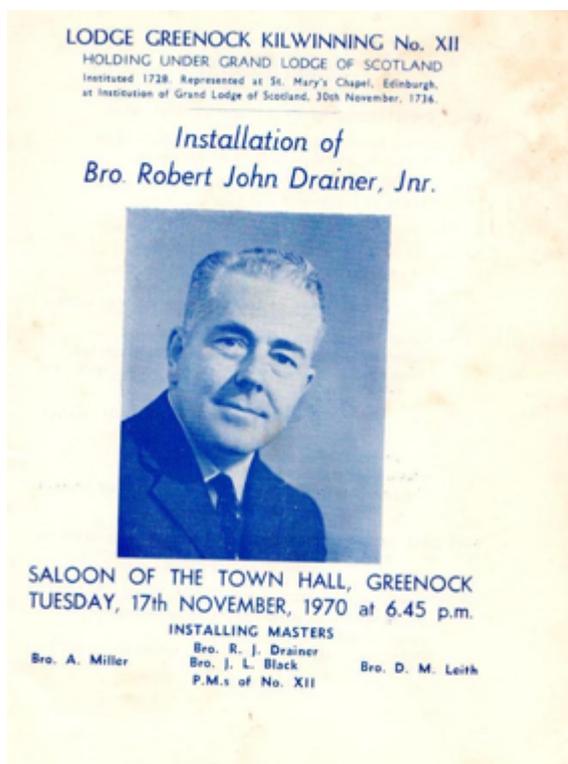
As I said in the last edition, as well as researching the huge amount of archive material that we have in the Lodge, I am starting to make a serious attempt at organizing and cataloguing it all. Some brethren have already been very helpful in providing some of the missing links in the archives. We have started with the Installation programmes. Past Masters Peter Sinclair, Hector Macphail and Ken MacDougall gave me a variety of programmes so now I am looking for programmes from the following years: anything before, and including 1955, 1957, 1958, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1991, 1993, 2008 and 2010.

The Way We Were

With thanks to Bro Iain D MacLeod Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 and Honorary Member of No XII



It was a wee while ago now that my good friend Bro Iain MacLeod and I were out of a Saturday evening on some jape or other. Our National Bard, Bro Robert Burns may have been involved in our sojourn. Anyway, Bro Iain spoke to me of an Installation Programme that he had found in the house. It was from No XII back in 1970. The very next day he duly passed it to me.



As you will see from the image on the left, the Installation was that of Bro Robert John Drainer Jnr or Roy as we all knew him. He was the son of No XII legend, Bro Robert John Drainer Snr, or Bob. As may be seen from the photo Roy cut a dash! A dentist by profession, he was also a talented golfer and musician, being a church organist for many years and, in No XII, he sat behind a selection of old-fashioned 'American' pedal organs and added much to our ceremonial. I remember Roy very well and, indeed, he was one of my Installing Masters in 1989 when I took the Chair and again in 1990. He was also my dentist!

Bro Roy served the Lodge faithfully until his sudden and untimely death some years ago now. He was the consummate floor worker: word perfect, skilled and with a wee touch of humour playing around the periphery of all that he did. Roy it was that I heard deliver the extended Secrets in the First Degree with the Biblical extracts and the story of Ruth and

Naomi that now, in his memory, is a permanent part of the First Degree Ritual. Like his Dad, Roy became a No XII legend and also served the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West diligently, retiring from its ranks as a Past Senior Provincial Grand Warden. While it was pleasant to receive the programme, and have so many happy memories of Roy come flooding back, there was more to Iain's gift.

With it he gave me a hand written, double-sided A4 sheet with his observations around a number of the characters that were mentioned in its pages.

Iain's 'letter' began, "Iain, please find enclosed the Installation Programme I referred to last night. As you can see, it was, in fact, 1970 as I thought. You may find something in it which could give you some food for thought for your 'XII Talk', especially the number of 'POLIS' involved in No XII at that time." (Iain himself was a Detective Sergeant and famously recovered the No XII RWM's regalia, in the middle of the night, from a house in the Upper Port after it had been stolen from the Temple in West Stewart Street where I had been at a meeting when I was RW Master).

OFFICE-BEARERS, 1970-71		OFFICE-BEARERS, 1970-71—Cont.	
RIGHT WORSHIPFUL MASTER, Bro. ROBERT JOHN DRAINER, Jnr.		Bible Bearer	Bro. I. Paterson
Immediate Past Master	Bro. A. A. Kirkpatrick	Director of Ceremonies	J. Adamson, P.M.
Depute Master	(Nominated in Lodge)	Sword Bearer	J. M. Abernethy
Substitute Master	Bro. D. Fletcher	Director of Music	D. Gray
Worshipful Senior Warden	L. M. MacGregor	Marshal	T. H. Wilson
Worshipful Junior Warden	A. More	Chief Steward	G. H. Conn
Secretary	C. A. Sanders	Assistant Steward	A. T. Abernethy
Treasurer	J. C. Stirrat	Do.	R. J. Martin
Almoner	J. M. McEwing, P.M.	Tyler	D. Bell
Chaplain	Rev. D. Morrison, M.A.	Member to General Committee	Bro. E. Butterworth
Senior Deacon	W. Irving	Members of Inquiry Committee	J. M. Abernethy
Junior Deacon	W. McCulloch		J. A. Gammack
Inner Guard	R. G. Campbell	Auditors	J. Adamson
Architect	R. Howie		G. Armstrong
Jeweller	K. K. Morrison		R. Black

"In the list of Office Bearers are Alex More – an ex policeman and still to the fore in Perthshire; Bill Irving – known as 'Bingo Bill' while in the police. This came about as the Community Involvement branch was starting up and, at the time, they had a large display on a van which looked like a bingo book; Bobby Campbell – finished up an Assistant Chief Constable in the old Renfrew and Bute Constabulary; Ralston Howie – as far as I am aware he is still alive and residing in the Dunoon area; TH Wilson – full name Thomas Hewitt Wilson, originally from Northern Ireland, he was known as 'Tacketts' which I assume had something to do with the boots he wore as a young cop; JA Gammack – Jimmy Gammack ended up stationed at Johnstone; John Adamson PM – whom you know.

Obviously, there were others from the local police such as Kenny Macleod. Jim Rodger, known as 'Jolly' for obvious reasons gave the reply to the Toast to the Visiting Brethren. He was RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 at the time."

I am indebted to Bro Iain MacLeod for all this information and the lens he gave us through which we can look back at days gone by in No XII.

John Adamson was, of course, a Past Master and Alex More and Bill Irving followed Roy into the Chair in 1973 and 1975 respectively.



Bro Alex More PM



Bro John Adamson PM



Bro Bill Irving PM

It has just occurred to me that this Installation was 48 years ago, just 4 years before a young university student from the outside world rolled up at the Saloon of the Town Hall for his Initiation in 1974. Iain White was his name. I wonder what ever became of him? ...

Bro William Watson Irving PM

Talking of the late Bro Bill Irving, I have been in touch with one of Bill's daughters, Mhairi, who has kindly given me information about Bro Bill's life and some lovely photos too. I shall get these scanned and I plan to have a feature in *Twelve Talk* using them and Mhairi's thoughts and observations. It has been fun to reconnect with Mhairi as we were in Greenock High School together and, a few years ago, she was my son Cameron's teacher in Ardgowan Primary. It's a small world.

From the old Minute Books of No XII

In the last Edition it was mentioned that 2018 is, of course, the 100th Anniversary of the end of the Great War and that the Lodge is planning a special evening in November to mark No XII's involvement in the conflict. It also gave information about the Lodge Treasurer, Bro George Allan, being called up to the Army. Some more information about Bro George follows ...

Monday 30th September 1918

Bro John D MacFarlane, RW Master, in the Chair

General Committee

It was reported that Bro George Allan, Treasurer, was now serving with the Army in the south of England, and it was agreed to recommend to the Lodge that he should be retained in the Office of Treasurer and that Bro Robt Smith, Secy., should carry out the duties of Treasurer during the absence of Bro Allan.

Tuesday 8th October 1918

Bro John D MacFarlane, RW Master, in the Chair

Bro George Allan, Treasurer, in Military Service

The RW master intimated that owing to the absence of Bro George Allan, Treasurer, on Military service in the south of England, the Committee recommend that he be retained in the Office of Treasurer and that during his absence the duties of Treasurer be carried out by the Secy.

On the motion of Bro J Grieve Graham IPM, seconded by Bro Robert Thexton SW it was agreed to adopt this course.

We'll pick the story up again in due course.

Reports on Visits

- The funeral of the father of Bro Alan Beck PM on 22nd February 2018 – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, WSW Bro Bob Crossan, WJW Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Iain White PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro Allan Jess, Bro Tony Stewart HM, Bro Iain MacLeod HM and Bro Donald Finlayson HM
- Provincial Grand Lodge of Stirlingshire on 24th February 2018 – attended by Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 26th February 2018 (Raising) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro James Livingstone

At all meetings, Fraternal Greetings were exchanged. The RWM thanks 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 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
16.03.18

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.