

# Twelve Talk

02.06.18

Issue 110

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays – September to April  
Summer Meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> 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)

## Summer Meeting Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Our next meeting is the Special Summer Meeting and is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 730pm. A Thursday is chosen because our regular Tuesday slot would be difficult for the keen boollers to attend, as Tuesday is the night for the Greenock and District League matches between the various clubs.

The first special meeting was in June 2012 and was called to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. From 2013, the meeting became an Entering, conferred by the Past Masters and thus it has been since. Each year, the RWM has approached a Past Master to take the Chair and set up the team. The Past Masters in the Chair have been: 2013 Bro Iain White, 2014 Bro KK Morrison, 2015 Bro Alistair Glenny, 2016 Bro Derek A. Kirkpatrick, 2017 Bro Robert J Bain.

This year, the team will be led by Bro Hector Macphail PM and it is **WSW** Bro KK Morrison **WJW** Bro Alistair Glenny **SD** Bro Iain White **JD** Bro Kenneth C MacDougall **IG** Bro Robert J Bain. The floor workers are **Obligation** Bro Hector Macphail PM **Secrets** Bro Alan D Beck PM **Apron** Bro KK Morrison PM **NEC** Bro Bob Bain PM

**Working Tools** Bro Allan I. MacFeate  
**IPM Charge** Bro Kenneth C MacDougall PM.

At this rate the Past Masters' Entering at the Special Summer meeting will soon be a 'tradition' of the Lodge. I can almost hear people saying, "And it's always been an Entering." But we know different, don't we? But such is the nature of 'traditions' in the Craft and how they come to pass!!

Also on Thursday, our new Hymn Books will be dedicated to the memory of the late Bro Wilson J McCulloch PM by Bro Jack Glenny PM. Jack knew Wilson very well and this knowledge combined with Jack being a Church of Scotland reader will make the act of dedication very special.

Further, we have Bro Gordon Michie, Past SPGM of Fife and Kinross and a Past Master of Lodge Earl Haig No 1260, along on behalf of PoppyScotland to receive a cheque for £1918 from the No XII Charity Drive. This is No XII's contribution to the 1918 Poppy Pledge, commemorating the Centenary of the end of the Great War and, of course, the 10 brethren of No XII who made the supreme sacrifice in that awful conflict who are named on our Memorial Altar.

And finally, watch out for the Special Royal Occasion at this meeting...



## **General Data Protection Regulations**

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) are upon us. These regulations have been a focus for me in my professional life and I thought it best to say a word about GDPR in the context of *Twelve Talk*. If you are reading this edition having received it by email from me, obviously it is because I have your email address. This is the only piece of data that I hold for you and, unless you are a member, it is not held by No XII because *Twelve Talk* is not formally an official communication from the Lodge. It more my own personal musings designed to keep members and friends up to date. As is always stated, the views expressed are not necessarily those of No XII. They belong solely to the author. That is mostly me, but I am assisted by others from time to time, for example Bros Alistair Glenney PM and Bob Crossan WSW in this edition. The source of all material is always acknowledged.

Your email address is kept from other subscribers because I email all editions to myself and they get to you via the BCC function. I would not share your email address, if asked for it, without your permission.

I shall only keep you email address for as long as you wish to keep receiving *Twelve Talk*. Should you, now or at any future time, wish to cease being a subscriber, simply email me and I shall remove you from the list.

I trust that this information is useful.

## **Old Installation Programmes**

To build our archives, I am looking for Installation programmes from the following years: anything before, and including 1955, 1957, 1958, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1993, 2008 and 2010. So, brethren, look in the loft, that foostie old case or the cupboards and presses in the house and see what you are able to come up with.

## **Our Previous Meeting Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Passing by Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No 370**

What a wonderful degree was conferred by our old friends from 370! It was of the highest quality, had the benefit of sincerity and precision throughout and was a reminder to us all of the importance of maintaining the relationship between our two Lodges and the similarities that bind us together.

Bro Brian Munday RWM was in the Chair and the degree team included Past Masters Craig Tulloch, Jim Anderson, Richard Montgomery. The icing on the cake was Bro Tom Nixon, our old friend of many years standing, giving a Charge that was electrifying, drawing together his own life experiences, his professional career – some of which was spent working in the Scott Lithgow Training School in James Watt Dock – his knowledge of No XII, its links with 370 and sound advice and encouragement to our young candidate, Jamie McEwan.

We look forward to our reciprocal visit to Paisley in September.

## Monthly Draw 2018

We are off and running with the 2018 Draw. Please remember the prize is £25 each month in 2018.

The numbers have come up to a healthier level now, 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!

## Visit to Lodge Leven St John's No 170 Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018



*I am indebted to Bro Bob Crossan WSW for this piece.*

“Five Brethren of No XII visited Lodge Leven St John's No 170 on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018, where we witnessed a fantastic rendition of the 'McBride' ritual - Passing.

Completely different from anything I have seen before and they make use of their winding staircase, unique to this lodge as far as I know, during the ritual.”

The photograph on the left shows No XII Brethren on the staircase shortly after the meeting which was followed by a lovely harmony. Well worth the visit... The brethren are, from the left. Bro Bob Crossan WSW, Bro Iain White PM, Bro Edward Molloy, Bro Robert Marshall IG, Bro Norrie Frizzell and Bro Allan T Glen RWM.

*The McBride Ritual was the brainchild of Bro A.S. McBride whom some argue was the most celebrated of all Scottish Masons. He was a member and Past Master of Lodge Leven St John and had a connection with No XII. I shall return to this in a subsequent edition of Twelve Talk when I have done a bit more research.*

The photograph on the



## No XII and Lodge Crawfordsburn Bowling Challenge Match Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May

*Again, I am grateful to Bro Bob Crossan WSW for this piece on the events of 5<sup>th</sup> May at Ardgowan ...*



Bro Allan T Glen (left) receives the trophy from Bro Sam Hunter PM

“What a great morning we had on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018 when Brethren from No XII, with a few guest appearances by the usual Brethren from other lodges, lined up against the mighty bowling stars of Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121.

Since its inception in 1990 the Trophy has been contested 25 times with No 1121 well in the lead winning 17 to No XII's 8 times. This is despite the fact that in the first 6 years it was turn about each year. 1121 then went on an impressive 6 in a row in 1998 - 2003 until 7 in a row was averted by No XII in 2004. Since then No XII won the trophy in 2004, 2007, 2008 (yes 2 in a row) and 2015 (to stop 4 in a row). 1121 hit back winning it again in 2016 and 2017.

And now for this year. We had a terrific day and the rain stayed off to let No XII regain the trophy for the first time since 2015. I will not give you the overall score, because I don't want to embarrass our friends ..... we're just happy we weren't getting thrashed for a change.....

Thanks to everyone for setting up and for playing. Thanks also to Ardgowan Bowling Club and to our dear friend Cathy Morrison, just back from Australia with Kenny, but still there to support us all, for doing the raffle and for serving up a great roll n' pie at the end of the match.....

All-in-all, we all really enjoyed our day together with our friends from Lodge Crawfordsburn and look forward to an attempt to retain the trophy next year.”

## The Inaugural Masters' Dinner Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018 in the Tontine Hotel

An invitation was extended to all living members of No XII who have sat in the Chair as RW Master to attend a dinner at the Tontine Hotel on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May. From my knowledge of the history of the Lodge, I do not believe that such an occasion has been held before. It was the brainchild of Bro Alan D Beck PM and we are grateful to him for organising the evening.

We had a very enjoyable evening with a lovely meal and great fellowship as the conversation flowed and we spoke of our happy times in the Lodge. One question that was posed was, “How did you come to be a member of No XII?” It is interesting to note that not one of us who was in attendance had his father as a member of No XII.



**At dinner**

**Clockwise from front left: Bros Alan D Beck, John C Glenly, Alistair Glenly, Kenneth K Morrison, Hector Macphail, Allan T Glen, Robert J Bain, Kenneth C MacDougall, Iain White, Allan I MacFeate.**



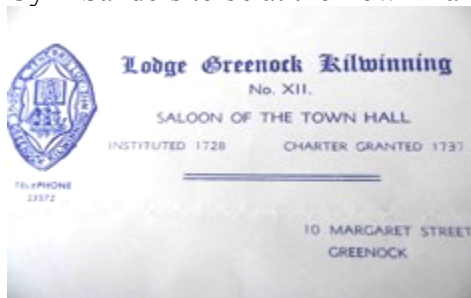
**The Photie taken at ALL Tontine  
Dinners – on the stairs!  
The senior men have their rightful  
places at the front!!**

## The Way We Were

*I am grateful to Bro Alistair Glenly PM again, this time for a piece about his Installation and time in the Chair of No XII. I asked him to write it after he showed me the Provost's message as described below.*

### MASONIC MEMORIES – INSTALLATION OF RWM ALISTAIR GLENNY – 15-11-1983

I recall my Installation as Right Worshipful Master 35 years ago this year, on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 1983. It was the highlight of my Masonic experiences to date, which all started back at an Enquiry Meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> 1972, when I was summoned by Lodge Secretary, Brother Cyril Sanders to be at the Town Hall for 7pm prompt.



Once through the Offices, and arriving at the position of Inner Guard, it was obvious that when in that position there was no turning back. The rest as they say is history! The Installing Masters I chose to install me were, my Brother Jack, JOHN C GLENNY; JOHN ADAMSON and KENNETH K MORRISON. Jack was also my Immediate Past Master and yet again History was made in a Lodge, already steeped in legend and historical events, being the first time that two brothers followed one another through the Chair of King Solomon.

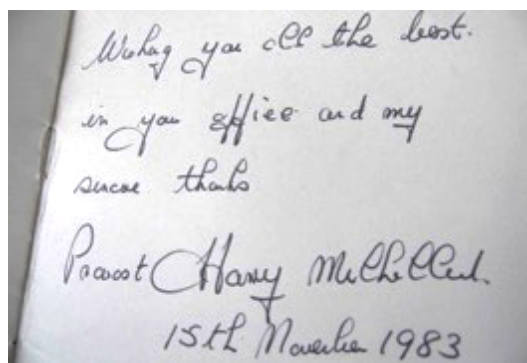


Bro John C Glenly IPM Provost Harry Mulholland Bro Alistair Glenly RWM

The Installation ceremony was the usual dignified occasion attended by Lodges and Brethren from within and out with our Province. Amongst the guests at the Dinner which followed, was one Harry Mulholland, our Town Provost at the time. Harry was delighted that a wee boy from



his Area had risen to the dizzy heights of Number XII. That area was Ward 9 in the Political scene in Greenock, which included the “Bow Farm” where we lived. Harry was so chuffed that he wrote this treasured message inside the back cover of my copy of the Installation Programme.



Memories of those two years in the chair fade away with age, but the characters I had the pleasure of working with will never, even those who are now Office Bearers in that Grand Lodge above. I'll never forget the grand entrance of our beloved Treasurer John C Stirrat from the adjacent, where he had just explained the financial obligations to our Candidate. John would shuffle in, leave his briefcase on the floor at the feet of the Secretary, salute Three Chairs, and receive a fitting welcome from the RWM. I remember one evening having the courage to instruct the IG to ascertain the “Stir at the door” when the alarm was raised for John's entry. This went down like a Ladbrokes coupon! However we made up and I gave him the now customary “run home”. John always got dropped off on the Bow Road, although he lived in Gael Street, surrounded by a fence to keep out those Bow boys, but he leapt over it like Arkle to reach his back stairs. Our Treasurer was home!

James McVicar Wylie was my Secretary and “Minder” who took the blame for anything missed out on the Agenda. Jimmy had been a Soldier and Military precision ensured that omissions were few and far between.

As Depute Master, I nominated my friend Carl Humphreys, who backed me in all that I did even introducing his Brother whom I obligated then promptly drew his attention to the Master's Chair which was re-upholstered with John's own hand. I often wonder – where is that Chair?

Visitations were fine affairs (although not so often – as from somewhere a “Tradition” appeared that Number XII did not allow visiting Lodges to confer degrees!) and one memorable visit was by The Scots Lodge in London who presented a cheque to me, which we decided to pass on to Sir Gabriel Wood's Mariners' Home. Bro Henry Tibbles who has become a legend in our fraternity was the RWM of Scots Lodge at that time. The Deacons who manned the Rods for their entry were my Pipe Band colleagues Bros White and MacPhail.

The usual visit between us and Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning 370 who were based in the George A Clark Hall in the superb edifice of Paisley Town Hall. A relationship some say was kindled by Bob Drainer who was a Teacher and “Heidie” in Paisley for many years. The name Drainer also reminds me of the wonderful skill demonstrated by Roy his son in getting No XII's ancient Organ to produce beautiful music adding dignity to our Degrees.

Other memories include Wilson McCulloch PM, our beloved Chaplain, passing wee bits of info from behind me in the East. Information I recall was a simple note saying “That guy in the West with such an such Apron on, forget who he is, but given the chance he'll tell you how important he is.” It took me time to compose myself and welcome the visitor in the usual manner.

And who could forget the Lodge Mr Fixit, our Jack's Depute, John McFadyen, who was Substitute Master and an absolute stalwart if you need help or anything – yes anything! Thankfully, the McFadyen name and nature is still evident in the Lodge today in his son Brian, our WJW.

Balancing work and Lodge was a juggling act, as most Tuesdays I attended a sales meeting at work. I tip toed up to my Regional Manager one day, not knowing whether he was in the craft or not, and told him of my obligations. After that and during each meeting it was announced at the appropriate time, RWM Glenny do you wish to retire!

*It is interesting to read Bro Alistair's reflections on his time in the Chair. I would welcome similar input from other Past Masters.*

## 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](mailto: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**  
**04.06.18**

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.