

Twelve Talk

30.11.18

Issue 116

Meetings 2018-19

*04.09.18

Raising

* 18.09.18

Nomination and Election of Office Bearers

Passing by Greenock High School Former Pupils of No XII

* 02.10.18

Entering

* 16.10.18

Entering

* 06.11.18

Annual Meeting and Great War Commemoration

* 20.11.18

Annual Installation at 615

*04.12.18

Divine Service

*Thursday 27.12.18

290th Anniversary and Festival of St John The Evangelist

* Saturday 23 .02.19

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 J Robert Crossan 22 Dungourney Drive Greenock PA16 (07788923074)
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 20th November Annual Installation

This report and the photo of the new RWM with the Installing Masters, RWPGM and the Depute Provost has been submitted to the Greenock Telegraph.

Instituted on 27th December 1728, Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII is the oldest and longest surviving organisation in Inverclyde. Recently, No XII held its 291st Installation Ceremony. Bro J. Robert (Bob) Crossan was installed into the Chair as Right Worshipful Master in front of a large number of brethren from within and out with the province of Renfrewshire West in a packed Town Hall Saloon. The RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 led the deputation of visiting brethren, as always. In this case the man at the head was Bro Alexander Bloomfield Wilson. The Installing masters were Bro Iain White PM PPSGW, Bro Kenneth C. MacDougall PM and Bro Alan D. Beck PM PGS, all Past Masters of No XII.

Originally from Lanarkshire, Bro Bob studied at Bell College of Technology and Glasgow College of Building and Printing where he qualified as a full Member of the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (MCIAT). Since retiring from an international firm of architects, where he held the position of IT Systems Manager and Associate Director, he has designed and created the current Lodge website, which he continues to update, along with its Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Bro Bob moved to the area after meeting his wife, Fiona, who is a native of Greenock. Together they have a daughter, Joanna, who is currently studying Musical Theatre.

At the Harmony in the main Town Hall a large number of brethren enjoyed supper and the usual Loyal and Masonic Toasts were observed. Bro Bob Crossan RWM toasted Her Majesty the Queen. His Toasts to The Grand Lodge of Scotland and The Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West were replied to by Bro Robin McIntyre, Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master. Past Master Bro Captain Allan I. MacFeate, himself a former Master Mariner in the Merchant Navy, delivered a heartfelt toast to Her Majesty's Forces. The Right Worshipful Master, Bro Crossan toasted the Installing Masters and the Immediate Past Master. The replies to these came from Principal Installing Master Bro. Iain White PM PPSGW and Bro Allan T. Glen IPM, respectively. (Cont'd over)



Our new RWM



Bro Brian McFadyen WSW toasted the Visiting Brethren and, as is traditional in No XII, the reply was given by Bro Alexander Bloomfield Wilson RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68. The artistes were toasted by Bro Robert J Bain PM PG Arch WJW.

As is the custom in No XII, Inverclyde Council was represented at the Installation Dinner and Harmony. On this occasion, Depute Provost Bro David Wilson, a member of Lodge Sir Michael 989 and Honorary Member of No XII, represented the Provost. Depute Provost Bro Wilson addressed the assembled brethren and spoke of the long and close connection between No XII and the town of Greenock and the Lodge's historic right to meet in the Saloon of the Town Hall. He highlighted that this room was specifically created for No XII with its design having a clearly identifiable masonic theme. The association between the town and No XII dates back to April 1765, when an agreement was made with the magistrates and council of the Burgh of Greenock that by contributing financial assistance to the project (equivalent to over £2 million today) the Lodge would hold a share in the property, and would thereafter secure the right in perpetuity to conduct its meetings and business in the new Town House and its replacement, the current Town Hall. The first meeting in the new venue was on 10th September 1766, and but for a short space between 1858 and 1865 while the current Town Hall was being built, all meetings were, and still are, held in the Municipal Buildings.

Bro Wilson concluded as he extended his good wishes to the new RWM and Lodge for the forthcoming session and expressed thanks for all its charitable works and support for the community. Bro Bob Crossan RWM spoke of his pleasure at taking the chair and of the plans that he had for the Lodge in the year ahead. A major charity drive is again under way. Musical contributions from Joanna Crossan and Reuben Beck, accompanied by Polly Beck on piano were much enjoyed by the company and gave a real family feel to the evening, Joanna being the daughter of the new Right Worshipful Master and Reuben and Polly being the son and the wife of Bro Alan D. Beck PM. The extremely happy evening finished with the singing of Auld Lang Syne and three hearty cheers!



From left: Bros. Alan D Beck PM PGS (Installing Master) Robin McIntyre RWPGM Bro Iain White PM PPSGW (Installing Master) Bro J Robert Crossan RWM Bro Kenneth C MacDougall PM Secy. (Installing Master) Bro David Wilson Depute Provost HM No XII



The Office Bearers 2018-19

Back Row: Bros. Paul Stevenson *Depute Master* James McGregor Jnr. *Sword Bearer* Alexander Gray *Bible Bearer* A. Campbell Snoddy *Senior Deacon* Allan I. Jess *Chaplain* KK Morrison *PM* PGJ Fraser *Cameron 1st Assistant Steward* Alexander R. Johnston *Inner Guard* Edward Molloy *3rd Assistant Steward* Allan I. MacFeate *PM Director of Ceremonies* David Stevenson *Treasurer* Anthony Buckley *President of Stewards*

Front Row: Bros. Robert J. Bain *PM* PG Arch *Worshipful Junior Warden* Alistair Glenney *PGA Almoner* Robin McIntyre *Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master* Alan D Beck *PM* PGS *Substitute Master* Iain White *PM PPSGW Librarian* J. Robert Crossan *Right Worshipful Master* Kenneth C. MacDougall *Secretary* David Wilson *Depute Provost* HM XII Allan T. Glen *IPM* Brian McFadyen *WSW*



What a Half Back Line!

**Bros Brian McFadyen WSW,
Bob Crossan RWM and Bob
Bain PM WJW**

Our Next Meeting The Annual Divine Service Tuesday 4th December

The Annual Divine Service will be held in the Saloon on Tuesday coming at 730pm. It will be conducted by Bro. Alistair Glenney PM, his first time discharging that duty. As is normal, all will be welcome including family and friends who are not in the Craft. The Lodge will be in recess for the Service. The theme for Bro Alistair's sermon is "On Earth, peace and goodwill towards men". The Christmas focus is reflected in the hymns and the readings which are both from Luke's Gospel Chapter 2. That will be very familiar to those of us who are of a certain age and were brought up with the King James version of the Bible, beginning the Christmas story in these terms, *And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed ...* The Worshipful Wardens will deliver the Gospel Readings.

The Prince's Royal Arch Chapter No 189 Dinner Pollok Golf Club Friday 9th November



I had the great pleasure of being the guest speaker at the Annual Dinner of the Prince's Royal Arch Chapter No 189. It was chaired by its First Principal, Ian Hislop, who is also a Past Master of the Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge No 4. It was a very pleasant evening, held in beautiful surroundings in the lounge of the Pollok Golf Club on Glasgow's Southside. The food was splendid, and the company was most convivial. I was sitting between MEC Ian and Bro Jim Peddie RWPGM of Glasgow, so the craic was good. Also, at the top table was MEC James Orr, Depute Grand Superintendent for the Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Glasgow and MEC Raymond Innes, Depute First Principal of The Prince's Royal Arch Chapter.

I knew many who were present, either because they were members of Lodge The Prince's No 607 with me or of its Sister Lodges. The photo on the left shows the author with MEC Ian Hislop who is paying the wages of appreciation.

Honour for Bro. Alistair Glenny PM



Bro Alistair Glenny PM was honoured by the Grand Master Mason at The Annual Installation of Grand Lodge on Thursday 29th November 2017 when he bestowed Honorary Grand Rank of Grand Almoner upon him. In masonic parlance, this recognition of Alistair is “peculiarly appropriate and well deserved.” As well as serving as a conscientious, empathetic and efficient Almoner for No XII, Bro Alistair discharges the same role for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West. Bro Alistair follows Bro KK Morrison PM in 2017, Bro John Adamson PM in the 1990s and Bro Archie Campbell PM in the 1970s in receiving Honorary Grand Rank.

Bro Alistair was Initiated into No XII on 19th September 1972, Passed on 3rd October 1972 and Raised on 7th November 1972. He served as Right Worshipful Master between 1983 and 1985.

Forthcoming Special Meeting 290th Anniversary and Festival of St John the Evangelist 27th December 2018

In another ‘Back to the Future’ initiative No XII will have a Special Meeting on 27th December to celebrate the 290th Anniversary of the Lodge and also the Festival of St John the Evangelist. The Lodge will be opened and then quickly go into harmony. There will be a 3-course dinner, provided by ICE Scotland and the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts will be observed. In addition, Bro Iain White PM will present a short paper entitled “No XII and the Festival of St John the Evangelist” and Bro. Alan D Beck PM will speak on the theme “Looking forward to the Tercentenary in 2028.”

Freemasonry historically acknowledges St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist as its patron saints, reveres their memory, points to their exemplary lives in its ritualistic work, and dedicates its Lodges to them. The Feast of St. John, the Baptist, is celebrated on June 24th and the Feast of St. John, the Evangelist, on December 27th. St John the Evangelist has been particularly associated with lodges in Scotland.

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII had its first meeting on the day of St John the Evangelist, January 27th, 1728. This date was marked in No XII for this practice was observed in No XII for decades in the 19th and early 20th Centuries by a meeting and celebration on 27th December. This practice was also followed in the other local Lodges and visiting Deputations were exchanged. The celebration of the Feast was suspended when our country was plunged into the Great War. There was no celebration in 1914 because, with the onset of the Great War, it was felt by the brethren that this would not be appropriate. The evidence from the Minutes is as follows

At a Meeting of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No 12 held in the Saloon of the Town Hall on Tuesday 15th Dec 1914 at 730pm

Bro RC Smith IPM in the Chair

The Lodge having opened in the EA Degree, the question of the propriety of holding a Meeting on St John's Night was remitted to the Office Bearers

At a Meeting of the Executive held at the end of the foregoing Lodge Meeting on Tuesday 15th Dec 1914 at 730pm

Bro RC Smith IPM presided

St John's Night not to be held this Year

The question of the propriety of holding a meeting on St John's Night was before the meeting. After opinions had been expressed it was unanimously resolved to let this year pass without celebrating that time-honoured Festival in the usual manner.

The Festival remained suspended during the War Years but returned in 1920 as can be seen from the minute extract below.

Tuesday 14th December 1920

Bro John D MacFarlane, RW Master, in the Chair at a Meeting of the General Committee

Festival of St John the Evangelist

After an expression of opinion by members of the Committee, it was agreed that the Lodge should celebrate the Festival of St John the Evangelist on Monday 27th December... the meeting to be held in the Saloon and, that owing to the limited accommodation, it should be restricted to our qualified members and visiting brethren who were members of deputations.

It was stated that the Festival of St John the Evangelist was last celebrated by the Lodge in December 1913.

The Sub Committee appointed to carry out arrangements to consist of the RW Master, Secretary, Dir of Ceremonies, Dir of Music and Chief Steward.

It was resolved that an Offering on behalf of the Greenock War Memorial should be taken that evening.

From the opening paragraph, they were obviously expecting a crowd! The meeting duly took place and deputations were sent out to Lodge Greenock St John's No 175, Cumberland Kilwinning No 217, Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 and Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121. Deputations were received from these Lodges and also from Lodge Sir Michael No 989. The collection for the Greenock War memorial amounted to £8:9:6d augmented by a £20 donation from Lodge funds. (£28-9-6d donated on 25th January 1921 is equivalent to £1201.00 in 2018).

However, the next year saw the country struggling economically in the light of a world trade depression. It was decided not to hold the Festival (extract of Minutes below). From my researches thus far, it did not return - until this year, that is!!

Tuesday 13th December 1921

At a Meeting of the General Committee held at the close of the Lodge Meeting

Bro Duncan C Kerr RWM in the Chair

It was agreed that the Festival of St John should not be celebrated this year. The decision was arrived at in view of the prevailing trade depression and its consequent unemployment
The Programme for the Festival of 1892 is in the Lodge Archives. We shall have a much smaller number of speeches. Bro Tony Buckley is working on the menu!!



**An old Festival
programme – from 1892**

Menu.

Soup.

Palestine. Hare.

Fish.

Boiled Cod and Oyster Sauce.
Filletd Sole.

Removes.

Roast Turkey. Sirloin of Beef.
Boiled Turkey. Corned Beef.
Steak and Kidney Pie. Veal and Ham Pie.
York Ham. Tongue.

Sweets.

Cabinet Pudding. Plum Pudding.
Greengage Souffle. Apple Tart.
Wine Jellies. Vanilla Cream.

DESSERT.

Coast List.

PROPOSED BY	TOAST	REPLY BY
THE CHAIRMAN	The Queen	
	Prince and Princess of Wales and Royal Family	
THE CHAIRMAN		
	Navy, Army, and Reserve Forces	
MR NIMMO		LIEUT.-COLONEL TANNAHILL
	Lord Lieutenant of the County	
MR ALLESON		SIR M. R. SHAW STEWART, BARONET
	Members for Town and County	
MR JNO. P. FYFE		
	Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council	
MR THOM		BAILIE HAIR
	Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West	
REV. A. E. SHAND		SIR M. R. SHAW STEWART, BARONET
	Lodge Greenock Kilwinning, No. 12	
MR JAMES REID		CHAIRMAN
	Sister Lodges	
MR THOMAS STEWART,		
	Town and Trade of Greenock	
MR ALEXANDER MACPHERSON		EX-TREASURER D. M'INNES
	Clergy	
MR W. A. CAIRNEY,		REV. JOHN TREW, B.A.
	Friends and Visitors	
MR D. M'CALLUM		REV. MR CLARK
	Croupiers	
MR JAMES CAMPBELL		MR NIMMO
	Chairman	
BAILIE HAIR		

Monthly Draw

The 2018 Monthly Draw is well under way and payment is now being accepted for 2019!! 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 RBS Sort Code 83-22-20 Account Number 10000509 as a one-off payment in multiples of £12 with the entrant's name shown in the payment reference box or (4) by standing order to same bank details as above for your chosen monthly amount.

Test and Capitation Fees

Test Fees are now due and £40 should be paid by any of the means above. **Capitation Fees** are £35 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.

More from the Old Minute Books

With our next meeting being the Annual Divine Service, I thought the extracts below concerning the Lodge Chaplain Bro. Rev JS McCallum were good to feature. Rev. McCallum was the minister of the Gaelic Parish Church which stood on the North side of West Stewart Street at the corner of Westburn Street, where Iceland now stands. There is an Order of Service in the Lodge Archives for a Divine Service conducted by Bro. Rev. McCallum in 1914.

Tuesday 26th November 1918

Bro J Grieve Graham, IP Master, in the Chair

Resignation as Chaplain by Bro Rev JS McCallum

A letter was read from Bro Rev JS McCallum asking the Lodge to accept his resignation as Chaplain.

It was resolved that an effort should be made to get Bro McCallum to reconsider his decision.

Monday 2nd December 1918

Bro J Grieve Graham, IP Master, in the Chair

Reference to the Death of Bro Rev JS McCallum, Chaplain

After the Lodge had opened in the EA Degree, and with the Brethren upstanding, Bro Graham made appropriate reference to the death of Bro Rev JS McCallum, Chaplain and after paying tribute to his memory, it was resolved that an expression of sorrow for his loss should be recorded in the Minutes and a letter sent from the Lodge expressing the sympathy of the members to Mrs. McCallum and family.

The entries in the Minute Book are curious, in that on Tuesday 26th November the resignation letter was getting a response from the Lodge that Bro. Re. McCallum should be asked to reconsider and by Monday 2nd December – 6 days later – he has passed to the Grand Lodge Above! Bro Robert Smith was an excellent Lodge Secretary. The Minutes tell us that.

However, again I have some frustration in that I have unanswered questions: (a) What was the reason for the Chaplain's resignation? (b) Was the resignation for ill health and then a sudden deterioration ensued (c) Was it for another reason altogether and then sudden illness overtook Rev McCallum? Sadly, we shall never know now.

Old Installation Programmes

To further 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.

Reports on Visits

- Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 8th November 2018 (Raising) – attended by Bro Alan Beck, Bro David Stevenson and Bro Tony Stewart HM
- Greenock Wellpark Cenotaph on 11th November 2018 (Service of Remembrance and wreath laying) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, IPM Bro Allan MacFeate, Bro Iain White PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro David Stevenson, Bro Alex Gray and Bro Edward Molloy. Brethren from Lodges No 68, No 175 and No 1121 also in attendance
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626 on 12th November 2018 (Passing) – attended by Bro Alistair Glen PM, Bro Bob Bain PM and Bro James Strachan HM
- Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 on 13th November 2018 (Raising) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan and Bro Alan Beck PM
- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 14th November 2018 (Raising conferred by Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, WJW Bro Brian McFadyen, IPM Bro Allan MacFeate, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Campbell Snoddy, Bro James Livingstone, Bro Kenneth McCrae HM and Bro David Wilson HM
- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 16th November 2018 (Annual Installation) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alistair Glen PM, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick and Bro Eddie McGill
- St David (University Lodge) No 36 on 17th November 2018 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen
- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 19th November 2018 (Passing conferred by Lodge Almondvale No 1658) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan and Bro Iain White PM

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 treasureno12@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
30.11.18

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.