

# Twelve Talk

30.09.12

Issue 36

## Meetings 2012-13

\* 04.09.12  
Entering and Notice of Motion

\* 18.09.12  
Business Meeting:  
Nomination and Election of Office Bearers (Members Only); Ballot

\* 02.10.12  
Passing by Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68

\* 16.10.12  
Entering

\* 06.11.12  
Raising

\* 20.11.12  
Annual Meeting and Installation of Office Bearers

\* 04.12.12  
Annual Divine Service

**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**

RWM Bro Bob Bain PM 22 Bellesdale Avenue Largs KA30 9EF (07753108979)  
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 8 Mount Stuart Drive Wemyss Bay (07810270787)

### Our next meeting

### Passing by Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2012**

We are delighted to welcome the brethren of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 to confer a Fellowcraft Degree on Tuesday. Through my time in the Lodge there has always been a close association between 68

and No XII. This has been exemplified by the fact that the RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 always leads the deputation of visiting brethren at the Installation of No XII and always relies to the Toast to the Visiting Brethren. I myself had the great privilege of being made an Honorary Member of 68 after proposing the Toast to the Immortal Memory at the 68 Burns Supper a number of years ago.

Tuesday's meeting will be the first time that Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 will have worked a degree in No XII and it promises to be a great night.

### Annual Divine Service

The Annual Divine Service on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December will be conducted by Rev. David Young in the Saloon of the Town Hall at 730 pm.

### Financial Matters

Test Fees and Life Members' donations in lieu of Capitation Fees are now due for 2012-13. Test Fees are very reasonably set at £30 in No XII. We did really well in 2011-12 as we worked hard to maximise our income from members and aim to continue in the same way this session!

All fees and donations should be passed to Bro Iain White (Acting Treasurer) either at the Lodge or mailed to him at 23 Manor Crescent, Gourock PA19 1UZ.

### Business Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September

We always have the Nomination and Election of Office Bears schedule for the third Tuesday in September and generally have a Business Meeting on that evening too. This year, the healthy state of the Lodge was illustrated by the largest attendance of our own brethren that I can recall in many a year. We had a lot of Committee Minutes and other bits of business to dispose of and this was one successfully. So to was the Nomination and Election of Office

Bearers. The recommendations of the General Committee were all ratified by the brethren of the Lodge. Consequently, Bro Alan D Beck is the RWM-elect., Bros Martin Anderson and Paul Galbraith are the Senior and Junior Wardens, Bro Kenneth C MacDougall PM is the Secretary and Bro Iain White PM is Treasurer. Bro Bob Bain has done a terrific job in his year back in the Chair and Bro Alan Beck will carry this work on into session 2012-13 supported by the brethren of the Lodge.



## Charity Drive – Presentation to Sands



The brethren of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII worked hard during the 2011-12 session on their charity drive. Through various events and initiatives £3500 was raised. A cheque for £500 was presented to Sands - the Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity - to assist with its work in supporting parents who have lost a baby during pregnancy or after birth. Bro Ken MacDougall PM (right) is seen receiving the cheque on behalf of Sands from RWM Bro Bob Bain of No XII (left).

## Bro Henry S Tibbles PM



2012 is the year of the Jubilees. In No XII we have already celebrated Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee with the special meeting in June. We have another one up and coming. Our esteemed Past Master, Bro Henry S Tibbles, joined No XII on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1942 whilst he was based here on active service with the Royal Navy. Henry's home was in Kent. So Henry celebrates his 70 years in No XII in a couple of months. This will be his Platinum Jubilee. It is a wonderful record and Henry has packed in a great deal of Freemasonry over these years. Of course he is a Past Worshipful Master of Scots Lodge No 2319 (EC), to which he affiliated whilst working in the South, as well as having been Right Worshipful Master in No XII.

We plan to have a celebration for Henry at our meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> December so put this date in your diary please to help us give Henry the evening which his contribution to the Craft deserves.

## Visit to Lodge Fleet Wood No 4556 (EC)

A deputation from No XII visited London to exemplify a First Degree. It seems to have been a great success. Two accounts are published below and it is interesting to see the different slants that RWM Bro Bob Bain and Bro Allan Glen give on the ongoing. I was disappointed to miss the visit myself as it clashed with a celebratory holiday and I am grateful to Bob and Allan for their contributions to XII Talk.

### RWM Bro Bob Bain



On the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012 five Brethren from the Lodge journeyed south to Freemasons Hall, Great Queen Street, London to perform an exemplification of the first degree at the invitation from Fleet Wood Lodge 4556 (E.C.). WSW Bro Alan Beck grew up with Bro Robert Richardson, the Secretary of Fleet Wood Lodge, in Coatbridge. It was through this friendship that the invitation was sent and accepted.

W. Bro Gavin Hopkins welcomed the deputation from No XII and after some words of welcome, handed the Gavel to Bro Bob Bain to commence the Degree. The

Obligation and Secrets were delivered by the RWM Bro Bob Bain, The Apron and the lecture on the N.E.C. was carried out by WSW Bro Alan Beck, Bro Allan Glen presented an excellent presentation of 'The Tools'. Bro Hector Macphail PM presented and conducted the candidate through-out the proceedings. Bro Ken McDougall PM must be congratulated for, not only delivering the final Charge, but with an hours notice, also presented the Lecture on the Tracing Board which had never been seen by most of the assembled Brethren. Bro Bob Bain presented W. Bro Gavin Hopkins with a small gift suitably engraved before returning the Gavel.

At the close of the meeting 35 Brethren of Fleet Wood Lodge and the deputation from Greenock Kilwinning No XII adjourned to The Imperial Hotel, Russell Square for Dinner. After the toasts normally carried out under the English Constitution, the visiting Brethren of No XII were thanked and congratulated for the expert manner in which they demonstrated an Entering under the Scottish Constitution.

WSW Bro Alan Beck replied on behalf of the visitors and thanked the brethren of Lodge Fleet Wood for their kind words and hospitality. Winding dinner up at around 9pm, we then retired to the lounge where a well earned drink was waiting for the visitors before catching the 'Red Eye' from Euston at 11:50pm. It was a memorable day for Greenock Freemasonry.

### **Bro Allan Glen**

It must have been the night of my initiation in February that I heard No XII would be visiting Freemasons Hall, London in September to exemplify a 1<sup>st</sup> degree for Lodge Fleet Wood 4556 (EC). Thinking that it would be a great experience to visit such a beautiful building and to lend my support to the brethren who would be performing the degree, I expressed interest to WSW Bro Alan Beck on attending. I never would have guessed that when we travelled to London, I would be providing more than just support. You, therefore, find me sitting in Costa Coffee in Central Station on the morning of our trip to London, reciting the 1<sup>st</sup> degree working tools to myself.

This was going to be only the second time I had ever been on the floor and my first in the role of Senior Deacon. Nerves were starting to kick in. Thankfully I didn't have to wait long before RWM Bro Bob Bain, WSW Bro Alan Beck and Bro Hector Macphail PM arrived. Bro Hector was on form, as usual, and soon I was laughing and sharing a joke with them, the thought of task ahead put firmly to the back of my mind. We boarded the train and began our journey to London.

The trip seemed to fly by, thanks mainly to the jokes and stories told, and before I knew it, we were standing outside the beautiful building that is Freemasons Hall where we met up with Bro Ken McDougall PM who had flown down. Bros Alan, Hector and I headed upstairs to the temple and RWM Bro Bob and Bro Ken went for some food.

It wasn't so much the Working Tools that was making me nervous, it was being Senior Deacon. However, I needn't have worried. Bro Hector walked me through everything in about ten minutes and I changed feeling much more relaxed that I had been all day.

If I'm honest, the actual meeting passed by in a blur. That was probably down to the fact that I was concentrating so hard on keeping in sync with Bro Hector! I do remember feeling very privileged to be part of such an experienced degree team. Watching Bros Bob, Alan, Ken and Hector do their thing gave me a lot of confidence and soon it was my turn to deliver the lecture on the Working Tools. I think I must have went onto auto-pilot, as one minute I was picking up the tools from the dais, the next I was replacing them. All too soon the meeting was over. Several of the brethren came up to congratulate me on delivering an excellent lecture. One asked, "How long have you been Senior Deacon?"

"Oh, about three hours", was my reply.

"You must have done a lot of rehearsal for today's meeting."

"Well, Hector and I did about ten minutes before the meeting started."

I have since been told that these are typical No XII answers!

The brethren of Lodge Fleet Wood made us most welcome and we headed to a nearby hotel where we enjoyed a great meal. I was slightly disappointed that Bro Alan didn't entertain us with a song (maybe he was worried that news would get back to the Great Caruso!). It would have been nice to spend longer with the brethren, but we had to catch the sleeper train home.

Hopefully I'll get a chance to visit other Lodges outside Scotland with No. XII. Maybe Bro Hector could arrange for No. XII to confer a degree in Azerbaijan (my passport is up to date!).

One of the things I did learn from the visit was that, if I ever travel by sleeper train again, I plan on getting a berth instead of one of the reclining seats. I think I still have a crick in my neck!

### Visits – Some Diary Dates

Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2012 at 2 pm	Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626	Annual Installation
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2012 at 2 pm	Lodge Greenock St John's No 175	Annual Installation
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2012 at 645 pm	Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121	Annual Installation
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 645 pm	Lodge Sir Michael No 989	Annual Installation
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 645 pm	Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217	Annual Installation
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2012 at 730 pm	Lodge Greenock St John's No 175	XII conferring 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 645 pm	Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425	Annual Installation
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 2 pm	Lodge Rothesay St John No 292	Annual Installation
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 645 pm	Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68	Annual Installation
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 630 pm	Lodge St John Whiteinch No 683	Annual Installation
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 730 pm	Lodge Shalom No 1600	XII conferring 2 <sup>nd</sup>

### Reports on Visits

The RWM, Office Bearers and brethren of No XII continue to do a power of work visiting sister Lodges.

- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (1<sup>st</sup> Degree Exemplification) – attended by WSW Bro Alan Beck and Bro Eddie McGill
- The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Lecture) – attended by WSW Bro Alan Beck, PM Bro James Adams, PM Bro Iain White, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick and HM Bro James Strachan
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Raising) – attended by WSW Bro Alan Beck, PM Bro James Adams, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro Joseph Foggarty and Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick.
- Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Robert Bain and Bro Paul Galbraith
- Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No 624 on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Entering) – attended by PM Bro James Adams, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick
- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Passing conferred by Lodge St George No 333) – attended by RWM Bro Robert Bain
- Lodge Shalom No 1600 on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Mark Degree) – attended by RWM Bro Robert Bain and WSW Bro Alan Beck
- Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Raising) – attended by Bro Paul Galbraith, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick and HM Bro James Strachan
- Lodge The Gael No 609 on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Passing) conferred by Lodge Knightswood No 1445– attended by PM Bro Iain White
- Lodge St John's Greenock No 175 on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Robert Bain and WSW Bro Alan Beck
- Lodge St John Kilwinning Largs No 173 on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Dramatisation of an old 1<sup>st</sup> Degree by Lodge Union & Crown No 307) – attended by RWM Bro Robert Bain
- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (Entering) – attended by WSW Bro Alan Beck, James McGregor Snr and James McGregor Jnr

On all occasions Fraternal Greetings were exchanged.



## **A little from the History of No XII**

Recently I have spent some time looking deeper into the history of the Lodge. I particular I have been paying close attention to the workings and business of the Lodge between 1932 and 1941 by closely reading the Minute book for that period.

In the West Column issued yesterday, there is a fair old emphasis on masonic education. RWPGM Bro James W Miller (Hon Member of No XII) talks about new masons and asks 'Have their hopes and aspirations become dulled and in need of refreshing to help them to understand the many allegories and lessons within the Craft?' and RWPGM-elect Bro James P Livingstone (Affiliate member of No XII) describes masonic education as one of his priorities for the 5 years of his commission.

In the 1930s, there was much more emphasis on wider masonic education in No XII than there is to-day. It was not uncommon for the lodge to be called from labour after a degree had been worked to hear papers or talks on subjects, directly or indirectly, related to the Craft. Just a few examples are given below...

### **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 1935**

Bro Peter R Jacobs, RW Master, in the Chair

*The Lodge was then called to Harmony and Bro George Ness, PM of Lodge Pollok No 772, Pollokshields, and also a member of Grand Committee delivered an interesting Lecture on "Symbols and Mysteries in Freemasonry". Bro Ness is an enthusiast concerning his subject and the manner in which he traced our ancient history, and the derivation of certain signs and words listened to with marked attention.*

(After an affiliation and passing)

### **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> 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 calle 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 lodge 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.*

Bro Rev Dr D Marlais Davies was the Chaplain of the Lodge at the time.

(After a Passing)

## **Burns Supper 2013**

Bros Iain White and Alan Beck will meet with Paul Galbraith soon to begin to formalise the arrangements for the **No XII Burns Supper** which will be held in the Greenock Town Hall on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2013**. The 2012 event was terrific. The aim is to make the 2013 affair bigger and better! It will be held in aid of the 2012-13 Charity Drive.

Already we have been promised sponsorship by Tony Buckley, the Town Hall caterer, and he has taken the first table for 10. That means there are only 18 tables left! Get your table reserved for Inverclyde's biggest Burns Supper by calling Allan Beck on 07739514242 or Iain White on 07575752570.

Watch future editions of XII Talk for more details...

**Iain White PM**