

Twelve Talk

13.11.22

Issue 154

Meetings 2022-23

• 06.09.22 Passing

* 20.09.22 Entering

* 04.10.22 Passing

* 18.10.22 AGM and Nomination and Election (Members Only)

* 01.11.22 Passing

*15.11.22 Annual Installation (615 pm)

*06.12.22 Annual Divine Service

*20.12.22 No meeting

Saturday 25.02.23 Burns Supper (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
Burns Supper – Last Saturday in February

RWM Bro Brian McFadyen 47 Renshaw Road Bishopton PA7 8HL (07810008075) Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 6 Stirling Drive Gourock PA19 1AH (07810270787) Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

Our Previous Meeting Tuesday 1st November 2022 Passing and Act of Remembrance

A good turnout of brethren saw the office bearers of the Lodge confer a Passing. The Candidate was Bro. Finlay Campbell and the Degree Team was

Prayer: Bro Bob Bain PM **Obligation**: RWM Bro Brian

McFadyen

Secrets: IPM Bro Robert Crossan Apron: IPM Bro Robert Crossan Working Tools: Bro Paul Branchfield

The Tracing Board: Bro Ken

MacDougall PM

The Charge: Bro Bob Bain PM

The RWM informed the brethren that Bro John Black, Past Master of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 and current Depute Master of Provincial Grand Lodge, had been confirmed and elected as the next Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West by Grand Lodge at the recent communication. The RWM advised that Bro Black has confirmed that Bro Alan Beck PM will be the new Substitute Provincial Grand Master. The **RWM** and brethren congratulated Bro Alan Beck PM on his appointment.

The Act of Remembrance for the 10 members of No. XII who made the ultimate sacrifice in the Great War was conducted by Bro. Alan D. Beck PM. The Brethren were

Private Archibald Lindsay Barr 2nd Battalion Scots Guards

Engine Room Artificer. George William Campbell Royal Naval Reserve Lieutenant James Hannah Royal Garrison

Artillery
Pioneer Henry Hay Royal Engineers
1st Engineer Arthur Johnston Mercantile
Marine

Private John Duncan Macfarlane 2nd
Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders
Engineer Sub Lieutenant David Rankin
Fleming MacKail Royal Navy
Lance Corporal Alexander Niven Russell 6th
Battalion Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders
2nd Lieutenant Joseph Henry Sanders 10th
Battalion Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)

Serjeant James Ritchie Smith 1st/5th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders

Our Next Meeting Tuesday 15th November 2022 Annual Installation of Office Bearers

The Installation Meeting will begin at the earlier time of 615pm. This year's Installing Masters are Bro Iain White PM, Bro Kenneth C. MacDougall PM and Bro. Hector Macphail PM and the RW Master-elect is Bro Brian McFadyen. This is a re-installation for Brian and, because of that, the ceremony will be conducted entirely in the Saloon. There will be no Installing Board. A complimentary dinner will follow the meeting.

No. XII office bearers are invited to a pre-installation buffet at 5pm. 1

Remembrance Sunday 13th November 2022 The Service at Greenock Cenotaph in Well Park

The Lodge was very well represented at the Remembrance Sunday parade and wreath laying. In the parade were Bros. Brian McFadyen RW Master and Bro. Bob Bain PM; waiting in the park were Bros. Iain White PM, Hector Macphail PM, Alex Johnston WSW, Paul Branchfield JD. Cameron White and James Lever HM. The RW Master laid a wreath on behalf of the Lodge. RW Master John McKenzie of Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175 and RW Master Ian Hair of Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No. 1121 also laid wreaths.

Unusually for remembrance Sunday the day was beautiful and warm. Of course, the Remembrance was led by Inverclyde's first citizen, Provost Bro. Drew McKenzie PM of Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121.



Left: the RWMs approach the Cenotaph

Right: The RWMs lay the wreaths

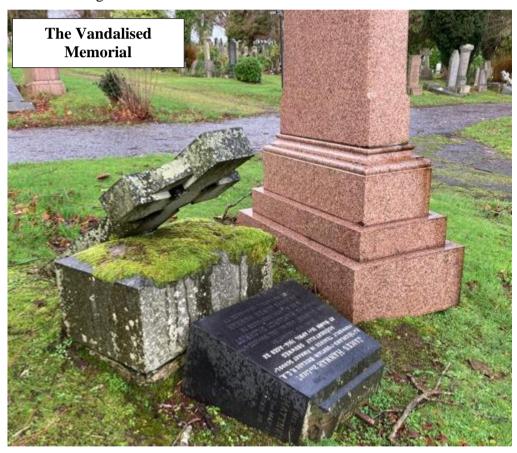


2nd Lieutenant Bro. James Hannah Royal Garrison Artillery

Bro. James Hannah is one of the No. XII brethren lost during the Great War. He was accidentally drowned whilst serving at Nairn.

Having visited memorials to No. XII members who made the supreme sacrifice in the Great War in London and in Flanders, I thought it time that I go to visit 2nde Lieutenant James Hannah, Royal Garrison Artillery, who lies in Greenock Cemetery. My intention was to place a Poppy Cross on 11th November, but I thought it best to have a preliminary sortie to locate the grave first. I failed at my first attempt and, since it was on Wednesday past, I got well and truly soaked for my efforts. I returned on Thursday. The weather was kinder and I found the place at last, up near the Ness Road entrance and close to the wall.

Funnily enough, although Bro. James is commemorated on the Commonwealth War Graves Website, his memorial stone is a family one and not, as you would expect, one of the grey, rectangular CWGC ones.



I was very upset when I found him. His gravestone has been vandalised and now lies in 3 pieces. I cannot begin to understand what people get from committing such sheer wanton acts vandalism. It depressing to see how many stones have been similarly treated and you makes wonder about the society we live in.

However, when I circulated the images to Lodge Members, we quickly determined that we should get the stone restored so that it becomes a fitting

memorial for our departed brother. During my Presidency of Greenock Burns Club (The Mother Club), we restored the Rae Brown family memorial in the grounds of the Old West Kirk. It too had been broken into 3 pieces Today, I shall be contacting the monumental sculptor who did the work in the hope that he will come to have a look at Br. James's stone and see what can be done.

Undeterred, I revisited the grave on Friday for the silence at 1100 am. What a day it was! Whilst bright and sunny it was blowing a gale, almost enough to blow me off my feet. The plot where Bro. James lies is in a high, very exposed part of the Cemetery. Before observing the silence, I placed a suitably inscribed Poppy Cross on the grave and recited the words of the Exhortation

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, We will remember them.

Robert Laurence Binyon For the Fallen

and the message from the Kohima Epitaph

When you go home, tell them of us and say, For your tomorrow, we gave our today John Maxwell Edmonds

After the silence, I played *The Dark Island* on the pipes, a lovely slow air which happens to be the favourite pipe tune of our RW Master.



The Memorial Stone



After The Remembrance

The story of 2nd Lieutenant Bro. James Hannah is a particularly sad one and one which resonates with me. He was a well-qualified man with many interests. This led him not only to support various organisations in the area but also to be involved in their management. Like myself, he was a teacher by profession, working in Finnart School whose building survives today as Ardgowan Primary School in Newton Street Greenock. I visited the school the other day on Burns Club business. It was amazing to think that Bro. James Hannah's feet trod the corridors in that building, just as they did the Saloon of the Town Hall in the same way that mine now do. A member of the Burns Club, as I am, he was its secretary. He played golf at the Club – Greenock – where I was Captain and played for most of my life. Bro James was a bowler at the Grosvenor Bowling Club in Dempster Street where I was, for a time a member, many years ago. His life and mine have so many similarities but sadly his was tragically cut short at the age of just 32. So much promise, so much more to offer and yet given so little time.

More detail on bro. James follows on the next page, including Greenock Telegraph cuttings from April 2016..

In Memory of

Second Lieutenant

James Hannah

2nd/4th Highland Mountain Bde., Royal Garrison Artillery who died on 21 April 1916 Age 32

Son of James and Margaret Gilchrist Hannah, of 99, Dempster St., Greenock

Remembered with Honour Greenock Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

CWGC Certificate

INDEX No. DAVIS, Serp. H., priyet. 4th Re. The Commun. SCOTLAND inn. (Sox. Ref.). 1st Nov., 1938. Agr. 27, 6vy.-688 Hashood of loues Surposs. Wishout Street, (RENFERW) Davis), 1st 6, Defec Thore, Lower Large, Fife.

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DONALD, Pot. A., 4312; 1112 Br. Boyal Ston. 25th April, 1919. April, 1919. April, 1918. 25th April, 1919. 25th Me. Northamberland Fundam. 19th Aug., 1916. DO: 133-FERGUISON, Spr. F.J. M., 114. Beyal Engineers. 28th April, 1915. LLL. 888.

PERGUSON, Ldg. Trimmer J., 2001/ST. R.N.R. H.M. Whaler Medl Whale ath April, 1926. MMM. 191

PORSYTH, Pie Br. 2176. (1th Ba. Acgyli and Sometimal Highlanders, ph. Feb., 1915. LLL. 690.

GRILAN, Pro. W., 27418. 102 Bo. Highland Light Inf., 4th Inn., 1929. Agr 20. Horbond of R. Grillan, vid. K. Greenock, QQ, 97. GIVEN, Pro. S., S. 20907. 2nd Bo. Sanfords Highlanders. 16th March, 1918. TT. 2. 612.

GREGG, Trimmer John, 220g, ST. R.N.R. H.M. Trissfor "Vale of Leven." Drowned oth July 1917. Agr St. Herbend of Nacid George, of 2 forpermine Walk, Georgical, MAMA. 486.

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PRURN, Gar. Heavy, 17206s. Course Office, Royal Garrison, Artillery, formerly 520 Stegs Bly. Died of wounds (gas) 6th Nov., 151 Age 33. Son of Mr. and Mrs. John Heptuerhusband of the late Cerberine Mallon Heptuer

Born at Gramman. TT. 202.

HERRON, Lor. Cept J., 1948a. Depos, Seeden-Highdenders. 44th Jan., 1948. MAM. 147.

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HILL, Per Thomas, 5.12396, 4th He. Angellins.

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LANE, A.B. G. B., 127004, R.N. HARN "Fundation." (Th Jan., 6105. I. Recom. in LEE, Pin. Robert, Scryot. and Rr. Augili an Surherland. Highlanders. auth Aquil., 13cd Age 23. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee, o 3. Rossmithl. Sec, Grossock. III. 136.

Grave Record Index

GREENOCK OFFICER'S DEATH.

Finnart School Teacher Accidentally Killed.

At the week-end news reached Greenock of the death, as the result of an accident, of Lieut. Jas. Hannah, R.G.A., who was a well-known member of the teaching profession in Greenock. About a year ago deceased joined the Cameron Highlanders, and, receiving his commission some months later, was posted to the Bute Mountain Battery. Latterly he was attached to the Ross Battery, R.G.A., at Invergordon, and was proving an efficient officer, taking up the duties of his new life with enthusiasm. The mishap by which he lost his life occurred at Nairn.

Mr Hannah had been in the service of Greenock School Board for a number of years, and at the time of his enlistment was on the staff of Finnart School. He was a capable teacher, and possessed likeable qualities which endeared him to the young people under his care. A member of Greenock Burns Club, he for some time acted as joint hon. secretary, and did much to promote the interests of the club. He was a keen golfer, was connected with the Grosvenor Bowling Club, and was also a member of Lodge Kilwinning, No. 12. A pathetic circumstance is that he was coming home this week to be married.

From the Greenock Telegraph of 24th April 1916 announcing the death of 2nd Lieutenant Bro. James Hannah

HANNAH, 2nd Lt. James. 2nd/4th Highland Mountain Bde. Royal Garrison Artillery. Drowned at Nairn 21st April, 1916. Age 32. Son of James and Margaret Gilchrist Hannah, of 99, Dempster St., Greenock. MMM. 2.

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MILITARY FUNERAL

LATE LIEUT, HANNAH

The funeral of Lieutenant James Hannah, of 4th Highland (Mountain) Brigade, R.G.A., took place yesterday afternoon from the residence of his parents, 99 Dempster Street, to the local cemetery. A military contingent from Bute attended, and the certage, breeded by a pipe bend and a firing party of fifty, slowly passed down Orangelied into Inverkip Street, the playing of "The Land o' the Leal" adding to the impressiveness of the scene. Finnart School, in which deceased taught prior to culisting, was represented by the headmaster and other members of the staff, and the general body of mourners included representatives of the Schon Board, Burns Club, Lodge Greensek Kilwinning, and golf and bowling alube. Rev. V. J. Nichol of Service was the efficiating minuter. The cain coffin was wrapt in the Union Ja k, and many beautiful wreaths were places on the grave. The fureral arrangements we w carried out by Mewra J. D. M'Gregor & Co.

The and circumstances of the eccurrence touched the sympathics of the people of Nairn, as the party of four-the late Lieut. Hannah with his brother officer and two friends, who had gone to Nairn for a motor spin-appeared to those who saw them such a perfectly happy little company. Hannah had left them to take a short strell until the others get the lamps lighted and things fixed up for the return run. The lighting restrictions, the blackness of the night, and the treacherous nature of the road, which as a stranger be unfortunately took, terminated in what to those who have a knowledge of the place was almost an inevitable fate.

A service was conducted in Nairn Parish and Church at 19:30 on Monday night by Rev. Dr Piccie, and was attended by prominent local professional men, and members of the congregation, as well as by the Citizen Teain. ing Corps. Members of the latter body carried the coffin from the church to the station.

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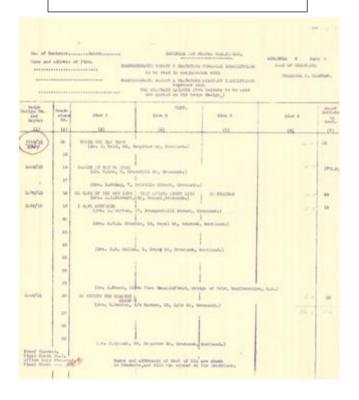
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JUVENILE COSTUME BALL.

The funeral of 2nd Lieutenant Bro James Hannah as reported in the Greenock Telegraph on 27th **April 1916**

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Gravestone Details



Lodge St Vincent Sandyford No. 553 Thursday 3rd November 2022 Presentation by Bro. Robin Shields PM Glasgow Freemasons in Flanders Fields

Bro Robin Shields has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the contribution of Glasgow Masons to the Great War and, in particular, those who paid the supreme sacrifice. I became aware of its



From left: Bros. Cameron White, Robin Shields PM and Iain White PM

extent when we were roommates on the Lodge The Gael pilgrimage to the Flanders cemeteries in April this year. Therefore, we were expecting a treat when we went to his Lodge Remembrance meeting in Ardery Street on Thursday 3rd November. We were not disappointed. He took us on a tour of the area mentioning many Glasgow Lodges and the brethren they had lost. Using Google Maps, he took us to the memorials and cemeteries and his background research enabled him to tell the stories behind many of the names.

The Lodge also held a very solemn and poignant Act of Remembrance for its own brethren with the last post sounded by Bro. Robin himself. There was a very large attendance, including a Deputation from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow headed by RWPGM Andy Mushet.

Charity Drive Beneficiary The Robert Burns World Federation



Bro. Alan D. Beck PM is President of the Robert Burns World Federation (RBWF). In the photo on the left he is seen receiving a cheque for £500 from No. XII on behalf of the RBWF. It will be used to support the work that the Federation does with young people.

From Bygone Days - Bro R.J. Drainer Jr. PM



Part 2

The photo from Barbara this time is of Bro. Roy's own Installation as RW Master which took place on Tuesday 17th November 1970. Bro. Roy's Installing Team was unusual in that it had 4 Past Masters of the Lodge and not the usual 3. They were Bros. RJ Drainer (his Dad), Archie Miller, James L. Black and David M. Leith.

In the photo below, the back tow, from the left, has Past Masters Archie Miller, Bob Drainer and Jimmy Black; in he front are the new RW Master Roy Drainer, shaking the hand of Bro. Bailie James McVicar Wylie and David Leith. The photo is taken in the Provost's Room in Greenock Municipal Buildings and Bro Bailie Wylie (a member of No. XII) would be representing the Provost of the time [who was William TC Riddell, (owner of Hastie's Steering Gear)].



An Invitation for No. XII

The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 has invited No. XII to confer a Master Mason Degree at its meeting on Thursday 8th December 2022. The RW Master Bro. Brian received the support of the brethren to accept the invitation and we look forward to working in the RWM's affiliate Lodge again - where, of course, he is a Past Master.

The Monthly Draw

Bro David Stevenson, our Treasurer, tells me that the uptake for the Monthly Draw is quite good but we can always do with more participants. It is £1 per number per month, ideally by Standing Order to

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII Royal Bank of Scotland Sort Code: 83 22 20 Account Number 10000509

Recent lucky winners have been

September Alex Gray (No. 9)
October Paul Stevenson (No. 26)

Test Fees

From Bro. Treasurer

"We are now in a new financial year and that means that all Test Fees are now due.

Cost this year is, again, £45.

I would be obliged if you would arrange to pay in one of the usual ways -

By cash or cheque to me on a meeting night. - or post cheque to me at - 5 Broomberry Drive, Gourock PA19 1JY - cheque made payable to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No X11

By bank transfer -

Transfer to Royal Bank of Scotland Sort code 83 22 20 Account 10000495

Payment Reference - your name & Test

If you wish to set up a **standing order** then please pay £45 NOW and then start your monthly payment from Oct (this is because the Lodge has to pay all fees to GLOS in November) Use same bank info as above."

Life Members - Any donation you care to make would be appreciated as your Lodge has to pay GL a capitation fee for you.

Reports on Visits

Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No 624 on 12th October 2022 (Regular Meeting) – attended by Bro Bob Bain PM

Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No 17 on 19th October 2022 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Iain White PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Alex Gray to witness IPM Bro Robert Crossan being installed as First Principal

Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121 on 25th October 2022 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Robert Crossan PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM and Bro Eddie McGill

Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No 370 on 26th October 2022 (Entering) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen

Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 on 28th October 2022 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Iain White PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, IPM Bro Robert Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro James Livingstone, Bro Cameron White and Bro Edward Molloy

Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 31St October 2022 (Raising conferred by Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen

On all occasions, Fraternal Greetings were exchanged. The RWM thanked those brethren for their support.

Lodge Memorabilia

In my role as Lodge Librarian, I am still very keen to have any documentary or other links to the past – installation programmes, Orders of Service, postcards, flyers etc. etc. If they are lying in a cupboard or drawer at home, please get them to me to enhance our understanding of No XII's past.

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII Burns Club - Annual Burns Supper 2023

The Burns Supper will be held on Saturday 25th February 2023 in The Saloon of the Town Hall, Greenock. As ever, a great night will be in store. Bro. Bobby Kane, Past President of The Robert Burns World Federation will propose The Immortal Memory.

It will, as usual, be a fund raiser for our Charity Drive.

Lapel Badges

For many years, the late 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. He passed the mantle on to our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson.



Bro David asked me to start to publicise the badge availability through *Twelve Talk*. It has been, and remains, 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 14.11.22

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.