

# Twelve Talk

29.09.23

Issue 163

## Meetings 2023-24

- 05.09.23  
Mark
- \* 19.09.23  
Entering by Past Masters of the  
Lodge
- \* 03.10.23  
Mark
- \*17.10.23  
Annual Meeting and Nomination  
and Election of Office Bearers  
Members only
- \* 07.11.23  
Entering
- \*21.11.23  
Annual Installation of Office  
Bearers
- \*05.12.23  
Annual Divine Service
- \*19.12.23  
No meeting as per Bye Laws
  
- TBC 02.24  
Burns Supper (630 for 7pm)
  
- Thursday TBC.06.24  
Special Summer Meeting  
Entering by PMs 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**  
**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 Gourrock PA19 1AH (07810270787)**  
**Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)**

## Weather and stuff...

I had to smile at our meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September. It was our first back after the recess and the attendance was good. What made me smile was the RW Master, Bro. Brian, saying that he was pleased to see so many of us there given the weather. Over the years, I have heard this said many times: in gales at Lodge The Gael; in rain and flood at Lodge Firth of Clyde. I was even at a meeting in No. XII one winter's evening when the snow was deep in the streets. I had walked down to the Town Hall as had another half a dozen brave souls and that was just enough to allow us to open and close the Lodge and then have a generous dram to heat us up.

However, on this occasion the RW Master was referring to the exceptionally warm and sunny evening that it was - in fact, having been 23°C outside earlier in the day, it was 20°C at 6pm. Warm indeed! He was delighted that so many of us had given up a seat in the garden for a seat in the Lodge; the swimming suit for the morning suit; a glass of cool white wine at home for a dram after the meeting. Mind you, it so happens that the Saloon is a pleasant place to be when the weather is warm outside as its ambient temperature is pleasantly cool. Similarly, it is a very cosy place to be in the winter given the very efficient heating system installed by the Council. Mind you, in years gone by that could not have been said and regulars knew the draughty seats to avoid.

I often think that perhaps details of the weather might be included in the minutes of our meetings as an indication of the prevailing conditions and how that might impact on the attendance. (Not that I did any such thing when I was Secretary some years ago, so no criticism intended Bro. Secretary).

Whilst reflecting along these lines, I wonder whether some of our Lodges in the Province should consider having some meetings and activities during the day in winter when it is still light? Many of our older members might be happier coming out in the afternoon rather than a dark night; driving to the meeting in daylight rather than the dark. Have you heard of brethren who have stopped coming along in the evenings because of the timing and the darkness? I have. Even a sprightly youngster like me is much less happy driving in the dark than I used to be.

Also, we have enough brethren available in the daytime to make something possible. It might be an opportunity for Masonic Education, lectures, talks, panels and the like rather than degree work.

I am a Past President of Greenock Burns Club (The Mother Club). During my time in the Presidency, a couple of members came up with the idea of having Blethers afternoons with a cuppa, a wee bit of entertainment and the opportunity to meet friends. They have been almost as successful as the evening gatherings. Just saying...

## Our Previous Meeting Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Entering by the Lodge Past Masters

The Past Masters' Degree was a 'Tour de Force' by the most experienced Lodge members. They came to a meeting where they were under the pressure of great expectations and how they responded! The floor work was precise and composed; the perambulations were inch perfect; you could have heard a pin drop throughout the Degree. The Candidate, Alexander McCoist, responded in like manner – attentive, clear spoken and not over-awed.

There was a big attendance. Obviously, the word must have got out that the A Team was going to be performing or might some who came have been hoping for a glimpse of, and a selfie with, the Candidate's Dad? Either way or both, it was great to see the Lodge so well filled, even if the Super One wasn't there! Champions League punditry was the conclusion reached.

When Bro Allan T. Glen PM accepted the gavel from RW Master Brian McFadyen, he thanked him and added that it was a privilege to wield the gavel once again.

When the lodge office bearers vacated their offices in favour of the Past Masters of the lodge, the team members were

**WSW** - Brother Alan D. Beck PM **WJW** - Brother Kenneth C. MacDougall PM **SD** - Brother Hector Macphail PM **JD** - Brother Kenneth K. Morrison PM **IG** - Brother Robert J. Bain PM

The ritual was delivered by - **Prayer:** RWM Bro Brian McFadyen **Obligation:** Bro Allan Glen PM **Secrets:** Bro Alan Beck PM **Apron:** Bro Alan Beck PM **NEC:** Bro Hector Macphail PM **Working Tools:** Bro Bob Bain PM **The Charge:** Bro Ken MacDougall PM.

Amongst the visiting brethren were the following Masters: Bro William Mooney, RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, Bro John McKenzie, RWM of Lodge Greenock St John's No 175, Bro Jeff Taulbut, RWM of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217, Bro Brian McClure, RWM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626, Bro Alec Henderson, RWM of Lodge The Gael No 609, Bro James Goldie, RWM of Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No 624, Bro Christopher Bagley, RWM of Lodge Knightswood Glasgow No 1445 and Bro John Muir, RWM of Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759.

A great night was had by all...



RWPGMD Bro. Paul Docherty Bro Alexander N.  
McCoist RWM Bro. Brian McFadyen



**RWM and the Deputation of our friends from Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759**



**19<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Bro William Mooney, RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, Bro Brian McClure, RWM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626, Bro Jeff Taulbut, RWM of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217, RWM Bro Brian McFadyen RWM, Bro Paul Docherty RWPGMD, Bro John Muir, RWM of Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759, Bro John McKenzie, RWM of Lodge Greenock St John's No 175, Bro Alec Henderson, RWM of Lodge The Gael No 609, Bro Christopher Bagley, RWM of Lodge Knightswood Glasgow No 1445 and Bro James Goldie, RWM of Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No 624**

## Our Next Meeting Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 Mark Degree

The meeting will be a Mark Degree conferred by our own Brethren, with Bro. J. Robert Crossan IPM taking the Chair as RWM Master for the occasion. Bro. Bob is presently First Principal of Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII.

The Candidate is Bro. Marc Raphael Sherland

This time around, the degree team is **Conductor:** Bro. Alan D. Beck PM **Junior Overseer:** Bro Ken MacDougall PM **Senior Overseer:** Bro Brian McFadyen RWM **Master Overseer:** Bro KK Morrison PM **Obligation:** Bro. J Robert Crossan RWMM **Secrets & Lecture:** Bro James Livingstone DM **Working Tools & Badge:** Bro Colin Reddy JD **The Charge:** Bro J Robert Crossan RWMM.

## The Annual Charity Drive Donations Made!



Our Annual Charity drive has again been successful with the Charity Burns Supper back in February again being the main means by which funds were raised. Children in Poverty Inverclyde (left) and Ardgowan Hospice (below) were principal beneficiaries each receiving cheques for £1000. Pat Burke of Children in Poverty Inverclyde said, “We are indebted to Lodge no. XII for this generous £1000 donation. The Lodge has contributed thousands of pounds to us since our foundation in 2014 which is of great merit with hundreds of local children, in families experiencing hard times, benefiting greatly. Our trustees are grateful for such sustained engagement with us and commend No. XII for the implementation of their charitable ethos across the

whole community.” £200 was also given to Kyla McKinlay for her *Baldy Walk* fundraiser for Cancer charities (below) as she fights the disease. Kyla is the daughter of our President of Stewards, Tony Buckley. Other presentations are in the pipeline.



(Right and Below) Kyla on the Baldy Walk from Gourrock to Inverkip Marina



Ardgowan Hospice receives cheque from RWM Bro Brian

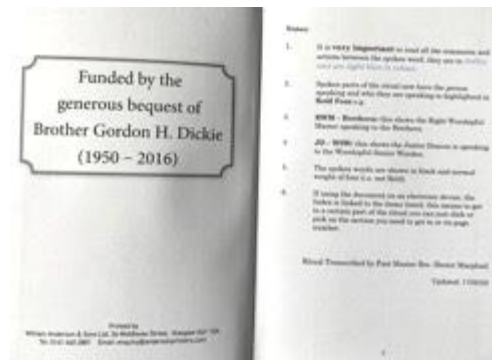


## Memorabilia

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.

## The Definitive No. XII Ritual Now Available

Bro. Hector Macphail's *Magnum opus*, begun back in 2009, is now available for purchase from Lodge Treasurer Bro. David Stevenson by bank transfer (preferred) or by cash or cheque. The cost is £15. Bro David has kindly agreed to look after the stock of rituals and their sale. Consequently, they are available from him only.



The development was supported by the generous bequest from Bro Gordon H. Dickie to the Lodge when he passed to the Grand Lodge Above in 2016.

The ritual is available to Mark Master Masons of No. XII only.

Bro. David can be contacted by email

to arrange purchase at [treasurno12@aol.co.uk](mailto:treasurno12@aol.co.uk)

Bank details are

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

Cheques should be made out to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII (Social Fund).

## No. XII Tercentenary Jewel - Now Available



Lodge Greenock Kilwinning was established on 27<sup>th</sup> December 1728. It is the oldest organisation in Inverclyde.

We shall celebrate the Tercentenary of the Lodge in 2028 and, Tercentenary Jewels (left) are now available for purchase by Lodge Members and brethren of the Sister Lodges.

The jewel is available from Lodge Treasurer Bro. David Stevenson. Payment may be by bank transfer (preferred) or by cash or cheque. The cost is £15. Bro David has kindly agreed to look after the stock of Jewels and their sale. Consequently, they are available from him only.

Bro. David can be contacted by email to arrange purchase at [treasurno12@aol.co.uk](mailto:treasurno12@aol.co.uk) Bank details are the same as for the rituals.

Jewels may be purchased by all Freemasons

## From Bygone Days The Lodge Artefacts (6) Photographed by Bro. Derek A. Kirkpatrick PM

We return to the photos of Bro Derek Kirkpatrick PM to display some of the historical artefacts of the Lodge. Derek is a wonderful photographer and we are grateful to him for his work

We are lucky as a Lodge to have so many links to the past through our artefacts and whilst few are of any monetary value, they mean a lot to the Lodge and to Freemasonry in general terms.

Derek has taken a legion of photos of our artefacts and I am sharing them with you a few at a time. He did another session in June of this year when many more photos were taken.



Two Commemorative Pennies from Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217, our neighbours in Port Glasgow. On the left, is the penny to celebrate the Lodge's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1996; on the right celebrates the antiquity and uniqueness of the Lodge Temple whose foundations were laid in 1757. Significant refurbishment has been taking place recently.



**A Lodge Stamp which would have been used in the days when important documents would have a wax seal. This stamp would imprint the Lodge's identity upon the sealing wax.**

## **A Message from the Lodge Treasurer Test Fees are now due!**

You should already have this by email, but no harm in a wee reminder...

*Brethren,*

*It's that time of year again!!!!*

*I am writing to everyone to request payment of this sessions Test Fees - this year it is £45*

*If you pay by standing order and the monthly amount is sufficient to cover £45 then you can stop reading now.*

*OR If you must, please adjust your S/O accordingly*

*For those of you who pay as a lump sum please do so in one of the following ways -*

*direct to me by cash or cheque at a meeting - or  
post cheques to 5 Broomberry Drive, Gourock PA19 1JY -  
cheques payable to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning X11*

*The preferred way is to bank transfer the money to -*

*Royal Bank of Scotland  
Sort Code 83 22 20  
Account no. 10000495  
Payment Ref - your name /Fees*

*'Lifers' are requested to **voluntarily** pay an amount equivalent to the capitation fee i.e., £40*

*Any problems with this, please let me know.*

*Regards,  
David*

**David Stevenson**  
*Treasurer XII*

### **Reports on Visits**

- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Neil Johnstone HM
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (Lodge of Sorrow) – attended by Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (Raising) – attended by Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Eddie McGill
- Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No 624 on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (Business Meeting) – attended by Bro Bob Bain PM
- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (Raising by Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217) – attended by Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (Business Meeting) – attended by Bro James Livingstone



- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen

On all occasions, Fraternal Greetings were exchanged.

## Bro 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant James Hannah No. XII Great War Casualty Gravestone Repair and Reinstatement



Our regular readers will remember that it was reported that the gravestone in Greenock Cemetery for Bro. James had been badly vandalised and that the Lodge determined to have it fixed. We have had the go ahead from the Cemetery authorities and the process has begun.

As reported in Issue 161, Fraser Downie (Stokes Memorials of Dunoon) has begun the job of restoring the stone to its former glory

As may be seen from the photos below, the bottom part had new holes bored; the middle part had been freed from the ground and new stainless steel screwed rods fitted; the top part had been freed from the ground.

This was from a visit at the beginning of September



I returned on 22<sup>nd</sup> September and further progress was evident as may be seen from the photos.



Isn't it super that we shall soon see Bro. James's memorial restored to its original and former glory?

## 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](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**  
**29.09.23**

**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.**