

# Twelve Talk

14.01.24

Issue 167

## Meetings 2023-24

- 16.01.24  
Jack and Alistair Glenny Memorial  
Lecture  
Bro. Rev. Iain Ramsden
- \* 06.02.24  
Passing and PGLRW Annual Visit
- \* 20.02.24  
Passing
- \*05.03.24  
Mark  
Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No. 626
- \* 19.03.24  
Lecture  
Bro. Janes Gardiner PM
- \*02.04.24  
Raising
- \*16.04.24  
Mark  
Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No. 370
- Saturday 24. 02.24  
Burns Supper (630 for 7pm)  
Held in 626 Masonic Hall, John Street,  
Gourock
- Thursday 06.06.24 (TBC)  
Special Summer Meeting  
Entering by PMs of the Lodge



Happy New Year!



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 Jim Livingstone 60 Stuart Road Bishopton PA7 5BY (07800629999)  
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 6 Stirling Drive Gourock PA19 1AH (07810270787)  
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourock PA19 1JY (07887904910)



## Master's Musings 3

*With the Installation of our new Master, Bro. James P Livingstone (left), we have a new look to the front page of Twelve Talk. Jim is giving us his thoughts to be included in each edition and these make up the opening article. We hope you are liking this new approach.*

I'm not sure if it is simply a sign of getting on a bit but is time flying past quicker these days. It seems like no time at all since the Installation and yet, almost two months have passed. It just emphasises how much we must take advantage of every day that God grants us.

My thanks to all the brethren who represented the Lodge during our visit to 1759 last week and especially to those office-bearers who conferred the degree. I thought that you were exceptional and the words used by the visiting Past Master commenting on the degree work, showed how much our work was appreciated.

He spoke about the clarity of the degree work and it is something which I have been aware of in recent weeks during my visits to other Lodges. Without naming any Lodges, I have been very conscious of the way that ritual is delivered. In some cases, it is spoken "machine-gun" fashion and in some cases my ageing brain cannot even keep up with the speed with which the words are aimed at the candidate. A new candidate will struggle at the best of times to take in what is being said but when he is faced with simply a babble of strange words it must be even harder to make any kind of sense out of proceedings. It's almost as if the office-bearer delivering the ritual is so desperate to get it over with that he just speaks as quickly as possible to return to a place of safety in the "columns"!

Better to take your time and get the story over to the candidate, for after all, that is what we are doing, we are telling a story and just as if we are telling our children a "goodnight" story, it is important that we put feeling into the ritual. So, what if you need a prompt or get a couple of words wrong, the world will still be turning the next morning.

So, to those young office-bearers in No. XII, have a go, perhaps have a look at the words contained in the lecture on the working tools, have a wee practice in the car going to work. The Lodge cannot continue to rely on Past Masters conferring the ritual, it needs new blood.

But above, let's make sure that our candidates hear and UNDERSTAND the story that we are telling.

Our next meeting in the annual Glenny Lecture when I have arranged for Brother Reverend Iain Ramsden to come along and speak about his series of books, "*Tales of a Highland Minister*".

Please come along and try to encourage your friends in the Craft to join us for what will be a very entertaining talk.

Kind regards,

Jim

### **Bro. Hamish MacLachlan (1941-2023)**

**Past Master Lodge The Gael No. 609**  
**Past Provincial Grand Piper (Glasgow)**  
**Honorary Grand Piper**  
**Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden (Glasgow)**  
**Honorary Member Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII**



It is with the greatest of sadness that I inform you that 'Big Hamish' passed to the Grand Lodge Above, at home, last month at the age of 82, surrounded by his family. His grandson, Bro Keith J. Bowes PM (609) observed, "*He was a 'Gael man' right to the end.*"

An obituary will appear in the next edition of Twelve Talk.

### **Jack and Alistair Glenny Memorial Lecture** **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024** **Bro. Rev. Iain Ramsden**



This annual lecture is held in memory of Bros. Jack and Alistair Glenny, Past Masters of No. XII who were called to the Grand Lodge Above within a few weeks of one another in the winter of 2019-20. Our Master has invited Bro. Rev. Iain Ramsden, Past Grand Chaplain, to deliver the Glenny Memorial Lecture for 2024. Bro. Iain is a retired Church of Scotland minister. Born in Kinlochleven, he ministered in The Black Isle for some 15 years and from these experiences has written an amusing book called *Tales of a Highland Minister*.

His lecture will be based on his experiences as a Highland minister and of life in the Highlands. It promises to be very entertaining.

## No. XII on its Travels Degrees worked for Lodges 989 and 1759

### Lodge Sir Michael No. 989 – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

We travelled up to Kilmacolm on a cold December evening to confer a Raising.

Any thoughts of the cold were banished by the warmth of the welcome from Bro. Alistair Keith, the Master of 989, and his brethren. It was such a joy to work in the relatively new Temple upstairs beautifully masterminded by Bro. Robert Marshall, Past Master of that Lodge.

It was our new Master's first degree worked with his new team of Office Bearers and we were all delighted by how it went. The team was:

**Obligation** Bro Jim Livingstone RWM; **Retrospect** Bro. Brian McFadyen IPM; **Raising** Bro. Hector Macphail PM; **Secrets** Bro Alan D. Beck PM; **Apron** Bro. Robert Marshall WSW; **Working Tools** Bro. Jordan Kincaid; **Traditional History** Bro. Iain White PM; **Charge** Bro. Paul Branchfield WJW.

After the meeting, we were well entertained downstairs and had a tasty meal – on a personal level one of my favourites, mince round!

The brethren who made the journey may be seen below.



### The No. XII Deputation at 989

From Left: Bros. Eddie McGill, Jordan Kincaid, Bob Crossan PM, Hector Macphail PM, Paul Branchfield, Cameron White, James P Livingstone RWM, Colin Reddy, Robert Marshall, Craig McFadyen, Brian McFadyen IPM, Alan D. Beck PM and Iain White PM

### Lodge Burns Dundonald No. 1759 – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January

This time we made a foray into darkest Ayrshire. 1759 is presently meeting at Troon Navigation No. 86's Temple. If the night was cold at Kilmacolm, it was even colder for our trip to Troon but it was dry – and it remained dry in Troon throughout the whole evening, although the pies were amazing. The brethren of 1759 were very appreciative of our work and we were pleased with

how it went ourselves especially since, yet again, we were working a degree – an Entering this time – for the first time with the new team. The No. XII brethren were joined by IPM Bro. Graeme Wallace of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No. 626. The team was:

**Obligation** Bro Jim Livingstone RWM; **Secrets** Bro Alan D. Beck PM; **Apron** Bro. Robert Marshall WSW **North-East Corner** Bro. Cameron White; **Working Tools** Bro. Jordan Kincaid; **Charge** Bro. Ken MacDougall PM.



### **The Deputation at 1759**

**Front (from left): Bros. Alan D. Beck PM; Brian McFadyen IPM Robert Marshall WSW; Iain White PM; Bob Bain PM; KK Morrison PM**

**Back (from left): Bros. Jordan Kincaid; Graeme Wallace PM (626) Cameron White; Craig McFadyen; Colin Reddy; Jim Livingstone RWM; Paul Branchfield (keeking); Sandy Reddy; Bob Crossan PM; Ken MacDougall PM**

### **Annual Hospitality Levy 2023-24**

We all know that the hospitality at No. XII's post meeting harmonies is famed far and wide for its generosity and, of course, President of Stewards Tony Buckley's superb food. However, all the drams and suppers do not come without a cost. Accordingly, each Office Bearer should bring WSW Bro. Paul Branchfield £10 in cash or a bottle of spirits as soon as possible. He is overseeing collection of the Levy. Of course, brethren of No. XII who wait behind and enjoy the harmonies may wish to contribute too and what they give will be very welcome.

Paul has been very pleased with the response thus far and would welcome the remainder of the donations.

### **Monthly Draw**

The Monthly Draw for 2024 is now under way and if you haven't confirmed your entry yet, please contact our Treasurer Bro. David Stevenson. It is £1 per month per ticket. The good news is that you can buy as many numbers as you like!

## Rituals and Tercentenary Jewels

The new rituals are available to all qualified brethren of No. XII at the price of £15 from Treasurer Bro. David Stevenson. Over half have been sold already!



The Tercentenary Jewels (left) commemorating the Lodge's 300<sup>th</sup> birthday on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2028. These are available to ALL brethren from the Bro. Treasurer and the price is £12 per jewel.

## Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII Burns Club

### Annual Charity Burns Supper - Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024

It is only a few weeks now until the Annual Charity Burns Supper. It will be on the usual Saturday (above). However, the Town Hall is getting some roof repairs done and so is unavailable. Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No. 626 has been kind enough to make its premises available to us, so it will take place in John Street.

**Tickets (priced £25) are now available from Bro. Alan Beck PM at 07739 6514242. Get your tickets ordered now, please so that we may get an idea of potential numbers. Please note that the tickets are in shorter supply because of hall capacity limitations – so act fast!**



The Immortal Memory will be given by Bro. Bobby Shaw (left), Past Master of The Bridgeton and Glasgow Shamrock and Thistle Lodge No. 275 on 2 occasions and Lodge The Prince's No. 607. He is presently one of the Province of Glasgow's Substitute Grand Masters and is a Past President of (at least) 2 Burns Clubs.



The Toast to The Lassies will be delivered by Bro. Martin Cassidy (left), IP Master of Lodge Craighends No. 1042 in Linwood. Bro. Martin has worn many Burns Club Presidential Chains!

## Reports on Visits

- Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (Entering) – attended by Bro Alex Johnson
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (Entering) – attended by RWM Bro James P. Livingstone, WJW Bro Robert Marshall, IPM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Paul Branchfield, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro David Stevenson, Bro Craig McFadyen, Bro Alex Gray, Bro Ian Moffat, Bro Alexander McCoist, Bro Alexander Easdale and Bro Eddie McGill
- The Funeral of Brother Ewen Maclean on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at Clyde Coast and Garnock Valley Crematorium – attended by RWM Bro James P. Livingstone and a number of brethren from the lodge.
- Grand Lodge of Scotland on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (Annual Installation of Office Bearers including Brother Dr Joseph J. Morrow HM as the new Grand Master Mason) – attended by WJW Bro Paul Branchfield
- Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM and Brother David Stevenson
- No XII Xmas Social Outing at Greenock Wanderers RFC on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023 – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone, IPM Brother Brian McFadyen, WSW Brother Robert Marshall, WJW Bro Paul Branchfield, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro David Stevenson, Bro Craig McFadyen, Bro Finlay Campbell and Bro Neil Johnstone HM

**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.**

IW  
14.01.24