



The West Column



Brethren,

Most of my comments are contained within the body of this month's West Column but I would take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to the magnificent success of the Installation on Saturday 16th March. Whether, you or your lodge contributed in a tangible way or whether it was simply by your generous and kind expressions of goodwill and support, each was very much appreciated. The hard work of course starts now and it would be my intention to meet with the Lodge trustees in early May and thereafter with the Provincial Grand Lodge office-bearers to plan how we take the Province forward together.

In the meantime, could I take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and blessed Easter.

Contributions to the West Column

Thanks to many of the brethren, for their excellent contributions to this month's edition and a reminder that photographs of events are also welcome but I have to reserve the right to limit their use as it can affect the email transmission speed. However, please continue to send photographs as I can always include them in later editions. Most importantly, it is assumed that any photographs sent to me have the permission of the subjects for publication. If sending articles with accompanying photographs, could I ask that these are not embedded into a word document but send separately as JPEG files.

All contributions should be sent to Jim626Col@aol.com

I am aware that many Lodges have had new initiates or even existing members who may have email addresses but do not receive the West Column. I would be grateful if the Lodge Secretaries could mention the West Column in your respective Lodges and perhaps encourage those who do not yet receive it to drop me a note of their email address and I will add them to the distribution list. The Column goes all over the world but let's make sure that it reaches all possible addresses in the Renfrewshire and Inverclyde area as well! My thanks go to those who have forwarded on new contact details within the last month.

****** - PROVINCIAL NEWS - ******

Provincial Website.

For up to date information on what's happening in the Province, go to www.pglrw.org

On Friday 1st March, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West "tour bus" travelled to the annual meeting and Installation of elective office-bearers at the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lanarkshire Middle Ward.



Brother Tom Davidson with the reigning Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Masters of no less than eight sister Provinces with another 5 Provinces also represented (13 Provinces in total)

Installation on Saturday 16th March 2013.

Of course, the big day for the Province was the 16th March, when we had first to solve the wonderful problem of getting everyone into the Saloon of the Town Hall. The place had been set out in the morning with 210 seats and just prior to the meeting a further 25 seats were added although there was ultimately a few empty seats in the East. The best estimate, as often brethren forget to sign the sheets available to register names is that there was probably around 220 attending the actual ceremony and around 160 remaining for the meal. This included a deputation of 25 brethren from Grand Lodge headed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason.

The Grand Master and his deputation were led into the hall by 7 pipers from Lodge The Gael No. 609, supplemented by Brother Nicky Donnelly of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217. A perfect number and a perfect start.

The Installation itself was carried out in a excellent and very personal manner by Brother Charles who installed myself and the Depute Provincial Grand Master Brother John Robert Spence Keith, while he was assisted by Substitute Grand Master, Brother Alexander Galbraith, PPGM, who, in a delightful surprise, installed Brother Robert McIntyre as Provincial Grand Secretary and Brother Reverend David Mitchell, who was installed for the 5th time as Provincial Grand Chaplain.

The ceremony over, the brethren retired for dinner and a wonderful meal was served up courtesy of the caterer, Brother Tony Buckley, a Fellowcraft of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII.

The usual toasts were made as follows; to The Queen and to the Grand Lodge of Scotland by Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master Brother Livingstone with a very humorous response by the Grand Master.

Brother John S Miller of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East offered a toast to the Province with a reply by the Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master, Brother James W Miller.

The toast to the Daughter Lodges was made by Depute Provincial Grand Master, Brother John Keith with an excellent response by Brother Gerard C Robertson, Right Worshipful Master of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217 and Substitute Provincial Grand Master Brother Robert P Shields proffered the toast to the visiting brethren with a humorous (and surprisingly fairly short) response being provided by Brother Archibald Chalmers, Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire.

The Provincial Grand Secretary, Brother Robin McIntyre offered a vote of thanks and I would reiterate those to all who assisted in so many different ways, some in very tangible offers of assistance, some by their stewarding of the event and some simply by their very best wishes and messages of encouragement.

Over the following couple of days, I received a number of messages from many within and beyond the Province congratulating everyone for a very successful and happy occasion.

I sincerely hope that all who attended were impressed by the ceremonial and found the day to be a very enjoyable and memorable day.

On the day I was presented with a beautiful decanter by the brethren of my own Mother Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourock No. 626 which "topped off" a very emotional day.

The following day, I was sent around 150 photographs by Brother Stewart Cruikshank, the Provincial Grand Photographer of Ayrshire and I was most grateful to Brother Stewart for agreeing to assist with his talents on the day. Rather than take up too much room in this edition of the West Column, I will produce a special edition next month which will include more photographs. In the meantime, I have included just a couple below.



Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master with Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Alexander Galbraith, PPGM and Substitute Grand Master and Reigning Masters of the Province.



Members of Grand Lodge and the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West

Meetings.

Lodge meetings in the Province of Renfrewshire West take place as follows;

Day	Day of month.				
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Monday	68	68	68	68	68
Monday		626		626	
Tuesday	XII	1121	XII	1121	
Wednesday		989			
Thursday	217	1425	217		
Friday	1814 *	175	175	175	175

- The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814 meets on the 1st Friday of the months of September, October, April and May.

Dates for your diaries:

Annual Visitations:

Wednesday 10th April – Lodge Sir Michael No. 989

Wednesday 24th April – Homes Degree

Friday 3rd May – Annual Visit and Installation at The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814.



Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master's Diary:

My own diary commitments for the next few weeks are as follows and reports will be contained in future editions of the West Column;

Monday 1st April – leading deputation of Masters to The Princes Lodge in Glasgow.

Tuesday 2nd April – attending the Master's Dinner as guest of the Provincial Grand Master of Dunbartonshire.

Saturday 20th April – Mentoring Session with Provincial Grand Lodge Renfrewshire West (being attended by DPGM Brother Keith, PGS Brother McIntyre and Brothers Alan Beck and Robert Bain).

Saturday 20th April – Accompanying Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175 to the Grand Lodge of Ireland in Dublin for their bi-annual visit to the brethren of Gibson Lodge No. 87.

* Sunday 21st April – Divine Service of Provincial Grand Lodge Renfrewshire East in Stowe Brae Kirk, Causeyside Street, Paisley (2.30 for 3.00pm)

* Friday 26th April – Quarterly Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge Ayrshire in Masonic Temple, London Road, Kilmarnock 7.30 pm.

* Sunday 28th April – Divine Service of Provincial Grand Lodge Lanarkshire Middle Ward in Uddingston Old Parish Church (6.00 pm for 6.30pm).

* Sunday 28th April – Divine Service of Provincial Grand Lodge Ayrshire in Crosshouse Parich Church, Crosshouse (6.00pm for 6.30pm).

Saturday 4th May – attending centenary celebrations of Lodge Kyles of Bute No. 1120 in Portavadie.

Saturday 11th May – attending the Installation of Brother Robert Little in the Walker Hall, Troon, as Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Ayrshire.

* Friday 17th May – attending the annual meeting and Installation of elective office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Lanarkshire Upper Ward in the Masonic Temple, Carluke (7.00pm for 7.45pm).

* Saturday 25th May – accompanying Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425 on a visit to Lodge Ugie No. 939 to confer the Mark Degree (Province of Aberdeenshire East).

* Should any office-bearer of Provincial Grand Lodge wish to attend any of the meetings marked * please let me know. In some cases, attendance is by invitation or by ticket only.

LODGE NEWS REPORTS and NOTES.

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII

Meetings this month:

Tuesday 2nd – Raising
Tuesday 16th – Mark Degree

The Lodge will be conferring a Mark Degree at Lodge Burns Dundonald No. 1759 on Tuesday 23rd April and a warm welcome is extended to anyone who would wish to accompany the brethren of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No.XII on that occasion.

As last year, the Lodge will be holding an additional special summer meeting on the 11th June – details to follow.

Social

Report on Burns Supper provided by Brother Iain White PM.

Over 150 guests packed into the Greenock Town Hall for the Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII Burns Supper recently. This made it the largest Burns Supper in Inverclyde this year. The evening was greatly enjoyed by those who attended and over £5000 was raised for the 2013 charities, Erskine Home, Youth Theatre at the Beacon and Glenburn School. The first two charities were nominated by RWM Bro Alan Beck, whilst the third was the choice of Provost Robert Moran. The Provost was represented at the Burns Supper by Bro Cllr David Wilson, Deputy Provost of Inverclyde.

It was an evening filled with fun and laughter and there was a great community spirit in the magnificent old hall. After the haggis had been piped in by Bro Alasdair Beaton, RWM of Lodge The Gael No 609, and addressed by RWM Bro Alan Beck, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West, Bro James P Livingstone, led the brethren in grace. The Loyal Toast by RWM Bro Alan Beck was followed by two verses of the *God Save The Queen* heartily sung by those in attendance as Ian McCrorie's accompaniment on the Town Hall organ resounded through the air. Bro Drew McKenzie PM of Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 delivered an amusing and thought - provoking Immortal Memory and Bro Ian Macpherson MBE, RWM of The Prince's Lodge No 607 in Glasgow, gave a funny and clever Toast to the Lassies. Holy Willie's Prayer was recited by Bro Sandy Reddy (HM XII). The accompanist for the evening was Bro Dr Fraser Gray (Lodge Greenock St John's No 175) and RWM Bro Alan Beck sang. A haunting saxophone interlude - *My love's like a red, red rose* – was played by Bro Allan Glen SD of No XII accompanied by Scott Hannah on guitar. Bro Iain White PM (No XII) was chairman for the night. Bro Bob Bain IPM (No XII) proposed a hearty Vote of Thanks. .

The success of the fund-raising was undoubtedly due to the persuasive powers of No XII's auctioneer, Bro Paul Galbraith and croupiers Bros James McGregor Sr. and Jr. The Lodge was delighted with support given by other local organisations that had numbers of guests present, particularly the Greenock Golf Club, the Royal West of Scotland Amateur Boat Club, the Beacon, the Rotary Club of Gourrock, Greenock Wanderers RFC, Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 and Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626. Of course, numerous other Lodges within and outwith the area were represented and many friends of No XII attended.



Back Row: Bros Bob Bain Jim Livingstone Fraser Gray Alasdair Beaton
Front Row: Bros David Wilson Drew McKenzie Alan Beck (RWM) Iain White Ian Macpherson MBE

The evening was rounded off by the company singing the Star of Robbie Burns and Auld Lang Syne. Inverclyde's oldest organisation (instituted in 1728) will continue the charity drive with further activities throughout the year. Next year's event is already organised for Saturday 1st March 2014 when an even bigger event is planned.

The meeting held on Tuesday 5th March was a very busy one indeed for the Lodge. In addition to the annual visit by Provincial Grand Lodge, the conferred an excellent Fellowcraft Degree, followed by an affiliation and finished off by conferring honorary memberships on Brother James M Lever, a Past Master of Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No. 624 and Brother Kenneth M McCrae, a Past Master of Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626.



L – R: Brother William Duncan Right Worshipful Master, Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No. 624, brother Robert J Bain IPM of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII, Brother Kenny McCrae, Brother Alan D Beck, Right Worshipful Master of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII, Brother Jim Lever and Brother Ian McFadyen, Right Worshipful Master of Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626.

If anyone has any difficulty identifying who is who in the above photograph, Brother McCrae is the one in the brown shoes!

Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68

The regular Saturday night dance takes place throughout February from 8.30 pm until midnight.

No meetings in April.

Lodge Greenock St John's No. 175.

Meetings this month:

Monday 8th April – General Committee Meeting

Friday 12th – Passing

Friday 26th – Mark Degree

The Lodge is travelling to Ireland via Belfast firstly and then on to the Grand Lodge of Ireland in Dublin for the bi-annual visit to the brethren of Gibson Lodge. The meeting takes place within the Grand Lodge of Ireland on Saturday 20th April (afternoon), thereafter the brethren travel back up to Belfast to enjoy the local hospitality. It's possible that I will run a "wee" Column around the middle of June to capture the reports from the extra meetings that are taking place.

Charity Appeal.

Brethren the following was provided by Brother Thomas McIntyre of Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175.

For personal reasons I will be doing a fundraising cycle ride around the Isle of Arran to raise money for Ardgowan Hospice on 25 May 2013. Other people will be joining me on this trip and I would be grateful if anyone would like to support this venture by making a charitable donation via myself or directly to Ardgowan Hospice.

Ardgowan Hospice are aware of my plans to do this and I have their full support, having been given their official sponsor forms. There is also a link to donate directly to the Hospice on my Facebook page if desired.

I am one of the many people who are grateful for this type of support and long may it continue for others who may need it.

I was diagnosed with a brain tumour in March 2012, had surgery, radiotherapy and a long rehabilitation to try to get better. Ardgowan Hospice got me to my appointments for radiotherapy and other treatments which are ongoing.

On Monday 14 January 2013 I was told that I do not have a tumour any more although I do have cancerous cells which they cannot get rid of.

If it were not for the Hospice and health professionals at the Beatson and Southern General Hospitals I would not have survived.

It costs approximately £60,000 for the hospice to transport patients to their multiple cancer therapies and appointments using volunteer drivers.

I hope that the Brethren around our Province, and beyond, consider this a worthwhile cause and help me reach my target to raise £1000 for the Ardgowan Hospice. Any donations would be gratefully received. Thank you.

Brother Thomas McIntyre

Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217

Meetings this month:

Thursday 4th – Passing
Thursday 18th – Raising
Friday 26th – Mark Degree

Social events.

On Saturday 6th April, the Lodge hosts another **FAMILY FRIENDLY SATURDAY** from 12 until 4 pm with food served between 12 and 2 pm.

Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning, Skelmorlie No. 624

Meetings this month:

Wednesday 10th – Entering and Notice of Motion.

Lodge Firth of Clyde No. 626

Meetings this month:

Monday 1st – General Committee Meeting
Monday 8th – Passing (conferred by Lodge Cadder Freestone No. 1584).
Monday 22nd – Mark Degree

Lodge Sir Michael No. 989

Meetings this month:

Wednesday 10th – Passing and Annual visit of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West.

Wednesday 24th – Homes Degree (Special Meeting). A Fellowcraft Degree conferred by the reigning Masters of the Province led by Right Worshipful Master Brother Alan D Beck of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII.

Friday 7th June – Master's Charity Degree which will be a Master Mason's Degree by Lodge Gleniffer No. 1219. Tickets for this event are on sale at a cost of £6.00 to cover the collection and the meal.

Friday 27th June – Special Meeting – Master Mason's Degree by Lodge Georgetown No. 1170.

Social night

The Lodge is holding a GENTLEMAN'S CURRY NIGHT on Saturday 20th April 2013 at 7.30pm

The main speakers are John N S Malcolm and Ian Gordon and the event is chaired by David Wilson. Tickets only £ 16.00 and well worth it. Bring a friend too. Call Secretary - 01505-873059



Annual Plant Sale.

The Lodge's annual plant sale will take place on the following dates and times when there will be bedding plants, tubs and planters filled for you at excellent prices.

Friday 10th May – 6pm – 9pm

Saturday 11th May - 9am – 4pm

Sunday 12th May – 10am – 4 pm

Friday 17th May – 6pm – 9pm

Saturday 18th May – 9am – 4pm

Sunday 19th May – 10am – 4pm.

Lodge Crawfurdsburn No. 1121

Meetings this month:

Tuesday 9th – Regular Meeting (Entering (Exemplification) to be confirmed)

Tuesday 23rd – Mark Degree

On the 24th the Lodge will pay its annual visit to Stirling Lodge No 1989 at Cleator Moor and anyone Brother wishing to accompany the Lodge on that occasion would be most welcome.

Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425.

Meetings this month:

Thursday 4th –General Committee Meeting.

Thursday 11th – Passing

Special Meeting

Following the success of last year, the Lodge intends to hold a Special Meeting on Thursday 23rd May, when an Entered Apprentice Degree will be conferred.

Visit to Lodge Ugie No. 939

On the following Saturday, 25th May, it has been provisionally discussed that the Lodge will travel to Lodge Ugie No. 939 in the Province of Aberdeenshire East to confer a Mark Degree. This was a very popular visit last year with the Lodge leaving Gourrock around 9.30, stopping enroute for a little lunch and arriving around 2.00 pm to receive a warm welcome and refreshments from the brethren of Lodge Ugie. The degree was held at 3.00 pm and the brethren later retired to the local hostelry for a meal before setting off back down the road around 7.00 pm. A thoroughly enjoyable day out and if anyone would like to book a place on the bus, please contact either the Master or one of the Wardens as seats on the bus are likely to be limited.

The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814

The session will restart on Friday 5th April 2013 when the speaker will be Brother W Ramsay McGhee, Past Master of Lodge Seaforth No. 854, Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master of Ross and Cromarty and currently Grand Director of Ceremonies. Brother McGhee will present a paper entitled "The Oral History Project" and will refer to a project to encourage brethren to actively record the experiences of elder members of the Craft. Brother McGhee is, of course, well known to the brethren in Renfrewshire West and he was "on duty" only recently in his capacity as Grand Director of Ceremonies at the Installation in the Town Hall. It is with a great deal of confidence that I would recommend this presentation to you.

Other Orders.

Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII

Meetings this session.

Brethren who would wish any details about Greenock Royal Arch Chapter are invited to contact M.E.C Andrew Pigott at andrewpigott69@hotmail.com

Ranfurley Royal Arch Chapter No. 289

Monday 8th April - Royal Arch Degree conferred by Paisley Abbey RAC.

Greenock Royal Ark Mariners Lodge and Council No. 17

2012/13 Syllabus

Greenock Cryptic Council No. 17.

2012/3 Syllabus

St. George's Conclave No. 79

2013 Syllabus

Preceptory of Ardgowan

The Wee Corner

The spot for all the stories that don't fit anywhere else!

CHARITY NEWS

STAMP APPEAL.

Please remember that Brother Bill Crumlsh of Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626 is collecting used stamps in aid of Ardgowan Hospice so please don't throw them away. Put them in an envelope and hand them on to Bill or to any member of 626 who will be pleased to pass them on. This costs nothing, simply a moment of your time and can mean so much to a very worthwhile cause. I'm sure than we all know of someone who has benefited from the care received at Ardgowan Hospice over the years so please help!

Brother Crumlsh has asked me to advise that if donating stamps it is very helpful if approximately 0.25" border is left around the stamp.

ANNIVERSARY LAPEL BADGES.

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 "Henry Tibbles"



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 Henry Tibbles, 6, Waters Edge, Shore Road, Skelmorlie, PA17 5EB. Tel. 01475 520604, or email to h.tibbles@btinternet.com
Please make cheques payable to Henry Tibbles.

Brother John Easdale and the King's Glen Primary School.

As you may recall from previous editions of the West Column, we have been trying to promote Brother John's excellent publication on the history of his old school. As a result of his sterling work, the proceeds of the sale of books along with the money raised at a recent reunion of former pupils raised the magnificent sum of £700.00 which has been donated to Ardgowan Hospice.

A total of 53 former pupils attended the evening held in the Masonic Temple in John Street, Gourrock when John was presented with a plaque to mark his efforts. A lovely cake was

made to mark the occasion and the photographs below show the cake and John being presented with his plaque.



John and May being presented with a plaque to mark the occasion

A cake was specially made (wonder if there's any left?)



Masonic Education.

In the September edition of the West Column, I published a list of suggested reading which many of you appear to have found useful. It would be my intention to continue to keep this list as a standard feature and if anyone finds a website or article which could supplement the list, please let me know and I will be more than happy to add the details.

Reading Material

- The Ashlar
- The Grand Lodge of Scotland Year Book (order through your Lodge Secretary).
- Robert Burns - The Freemason edited by John Weir from Grand Lodge of Scotland
- The Origins of Freemasonry: Scotland's Century, 1590-1710 by David Stevenson
- The First Freemasons by David Stevenson
- The Craft by John Hamill
- The Genesis of Freemasonry by Knoop and Jones
- The Scottish Mason and the Mason Word by Knoop and Jones
- The Temple and the Lodge by Michael Baigent and Richard Leigh
- A Pilgrim's Path by John J. Robinson
- The History of Freemasonry by Robert Freke Gould
- The History of Freemasonry by Albert G. Mackey
- The Secrets of Freemasonry by Robert Lomas
- Workman Unashamed by Christopher Haffner
- Famous Scottish Freemasons published by Grand Lodge of Scotland
- The Freemason at Work by Harry Carr
- A Masonic Miscellany by George Power

New Material.

Right Worshipful Master Brother George Carson advises for those with a Kindle Fire HD you can download for free: The Symbolism of Freemasonry by Albert G MacKey in the 1800's. and comments that it is a very interesting insight into the use of symbols and allegories and how they may have developed from ancient cultures into what we have in "modern" Freemasonry. A little bit heavy in parts but as a free download for the information and ideas it is excellent.

Websites

- <http://www.hawthornefortitude200.com/twtmag.html>
- <http://www.lodge76.wanadoo.co.uk/>
- <http://freemason.pastperfect-online.com/37812cgi/mweb.exe?request=random>
- <http://www.americanmason.org/TheNorthernLight.aspx>
- <http://scottishrite.org/srjournal/>
- <http://www.esmason.com/news.html>
- <http://www.freemason.org/newsEvents/index.htm>
- <http://www.freemasons-freemasonry.com/>
- "Pietre Stones".
- Cinosam
- www.rurallodge.com
- Sadly, the last site is now no longer updated but there are a few back copies still on the site which are worth reading and I think that the lectures and material available at <http://www.lodge76.wanadoo.co.uk/> are particularly good.

Lodge Websites.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland - <http://www.grandlodgescotland.com/>

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West - <http://www.pglrw.org/>

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII – www.lgk12.masons-lodge.org

Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 - <http://www.lodgedorickilwinning68.org.uk/>

Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 - <http://www.greenock-st-johns-175.masonic-lodge.org.uk/>

Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217 - <http://www.lck217.org.uk/links.html>

Lodge Firth of Clyde No. 626 - <http://www.firthofclyde.org>

Lodge Crawfordsburn No. 1121 – www.lodgecrawfurdsburn.org.uk

Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425 - <http://www.Lodge1425.org>

Grand Lodge Guidelines for the creation of Lodge Websites

if anyone is considering the development of a lodge website please bear in mind that the Grand Lodge of Scotland have issued guidelines for the creation of such sites and I would be happy to provide a copy.

The Ashlar:

Of particular interest to all freemasons in the Ashlar edited and produced locally, it is one of the most informative publications that you could read and is available either through your Lodge or through Brother Alex Galbraith, Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master, for the relatively modest sum of £4.00. Often with articles written by brethren known to us locally, it comes highly recommended.

DO YOU ORDER GOODS AND SERVICE THROUGH THE INTERNET – READ ON -----

GRAND LODGE – BENEVOLENT FUNDS - Easyfundraising

Brethren, I draw to your attention the attached fundraising scheme for the Benevolent funds of Grand Lodge and I commend it to you. It is the easiest, most painless way to raise money for the Benevolent funds.

I have used it on a number of occasions and it is incredible the amount that can be sourced by simply buying online at your usual supplier - all the big names are there. e.g. simply renew your car insurance with your Insurance Company and the normal fee sent by the Company to your nominated charity or good cause is £35 other suppliers send a percentage anything from 1.1/2 -2.3/4%.

It is so simple it is brilliant. Please read the attached and consider using if you buy online.

Many thanks

Alex Galbraith

Extract from Grand Lodge of Scotland Yearbook 9th September 2010.

The EASY FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE – AN EXCELLENT AND SIMPLE WAY OF RAISING MONEY FOR THE BENEVOLENT FUNDS OF GRAND LODGE.

The chairman and members of the Benevolence and Care Committee invite you to join them in supporting the above initiative which enables much needed monies to be raised for the Benevolent Funds at **NO** cost either to you or to Grand Lodge.

Please take the time to visit the website to find out more at: www.easyfundraising.org.uk

How it works:

The scheme operates by the registration of organisations and individuals with the service and when they shop online with a participating retailer, a donation is made to their nominated recipient. So many of us now shop online that it is an excellent way of raising funds just by doing something which we would anyway. Since the committee first approved participation in this initiative, Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund has been registered and now has a unique identification number which means that we can receive money from the scheme. Therefore, the more people who register and nominate Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund as their benefactor, the more funds we can raise simply by making online purchases in the normal way but using the links from the above site first.

To go directly to the unique web address for Grand Lodge type: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/glsbf and follow the links to register. The website is easy to use and gives a step by step guide. Different retailers give different percentage donations – for example, Grand Lodge has already received the sum of £35.00 which was donated by Direct Line when a member of staff renewed their car insurance. It is very difficult to raise funds in these challenging economic times so this initiative is worthy of consideration. Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West
Calendar of Events and Meetings – April 2013

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 st	2 nd XII - Raising	3 rd	4 th 217 - Passing	5 th 1814 – Lecture (see News).	6 th 217 – Family Friendly Saturday	7 th
8 th 626 – Passing (conferred by Lodge 1584). RAC289 – RAC Degree by Paisley Abbey.	9 th 1121 – Entering (E) (to be confirmed)	10 th 624 – Entering (NoM) 989 – Passing and AVPGLRW.	11 th 1425 - Passing	12 th 175 - Passing	13 th	14 th
15 th	16 th XII – Mark Degree	17 th	18 th 217 - Raising	19 th	20 th	21 st
22 nd 626 – Mark Degree	23 rd 1121 – Mark degree.	24 th	25 th	26 th 175 – Mark Degree 217 – Mark Degree	27 th	28 th
29 th	30 th	31 st	1 st May	2 nd May 1814 - Installation	3 rd May	4 th May

(E) denotes an Exemplification

For up to date details of meetings and news and information please log on to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West website at www.pglrw.org