

Meetings 2015-16

- * 01.09.15
Raising

- * 15.09.15
Nomination and Election of
Office Bearers
Passing by Lodge Renfrew
County Kilwinning No
370

- * 06.10.15
Raising

- * 20.10.15
Passing

- * 03.11.15
Annual Meeting and
Passing

- 17.11.15
Annual Installation of
Office Bearers (615pm)

- * 01.12.15
Annual Divine Service



Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII
The Saloon of the Town Hall, Greenock
Regular Meetings – 7.30pm 1st and 3rd Tuesdays – September to April
Special Meeting – 1st Thursday in June

RWM Bro Capt. Allan I. MacFeate 40 The Esplanade Greenock PA16 7RY (07855332738)
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 8 Mount Stuart Drive Wemyss Bay (07810270787)
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

Next Meeting Tuesday 6th October 2015

On Tuesday coming we have a Raising. The degree will be worked by the Office Bearers and brethren of No XII.

The degree team is: **Obligation** Bro Allan MacFeate RWM **Retrospect** Bro Iain White PM **Raising** Bro Alan Beck IPM **Secrets** Bro Alistair Glenny PM IG **Working Tools** Bro Bob Crossan WJW **Traditional History** Bro Ken MacDougall PM Sec. **Charge** Bro David Stevenson Treasurer.

No XII in New York

Bro Barry Banks' lodge in New York is to invite No XII to exemplify a degree (dispensations pending from PGL and GLoS, of course) on July 13th 2016. This is just a heads up to you all to gauge interest. The RWM will probably organise a meeting with those interested in going on this trip now that the holidays are over.

Charity Burns Supper

The 2015 Charity Burns Supper will be in the Town Hall on Saturday 27th February. Details to follow.

XII Annual Installation Tuesday 17th November 2015

Bro Capt. Allan I MacFeate has been nominated and elected into the office of RWM for 2015-16. His Installing Masters will be Bros Iain White, Kenneth K Morrison and Hector Macphail, all Past Masters of No XII. They are pictured with the RWM (opposite) in 2014. The Installation will have the full ceremonial and an Installing Board will be constituted in an adjacent apartment. Dinner in the Town Hall will follow the ceremonial.



Bros KK Morrison PM Allan I MacFeate
RWM Iain White PM Hector Macphail PM
Annual Installation 2014

Our Previous Meeting – Tuesday 15th September 2015
A Deputation from Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No 370
confers a Passing



RWM Bro Allan I MacFeate of No XII with the deputation from Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No 370 whose RWM Bro James Parker Wilson is on his right hand side. The brethren of 370's degree was enjoyed by the large attendance in the Saloon. Particularly appreciated was the Charge delivered by Bro Tom Nixon PM which was based on the symbolism of the Coats of Arms of Greenock and the Shaw Stewart family, the history of Greenock. The history of No XII was intertwined throughout. It was a wonderful Charge.

When I joined No XII in 1974, there was a very strong link between the two Lodges. At that time, 370 met in the Town Hall in Paisley and No XII used to travel there at the Mark degree each year, and similarly at the No XII Mark a deputation would visit from 370. As I said in a previous issue of XII Talk, the urban myth at the time was that this relationship had arisen because Bro Robert J Drainer PM had been Rector of Camphill Senior Secondary School in Paisley in the 1950s, a post he held after being head at Gourrock High. Bob was a teacher of Classics originally. Indeed, he was RWM of No XII in 1951-53 at the time when he was Rector at Camphill.



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I remember Bro Bob well as a Past Master with a gravelly, imperious voice, flawless floor work and always a kind word of encouragement for 'youngsters' like Hector Macphail, Jim Adams and me as we made our first tentative steps on to the floor. Bob is described in the Camphill website as having the 'reputation of a visionary, gentleman and a scholar'. These are words that are peculiarly appropriate and well deserved.

Bob Drainer as Rector of Camphill Senior Secondary

That all made sense to me until before the recess when I was, sad man that I am, looking thorough some old minute books and found the following evidence of a strong relationship with Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning some 50 years before Bob became Camphill's Rector. I published this before but it bears repetition.

Thursday 27th December 1906

Bro Col. DFD Neill IPM, in the Chair

(Festival of St John the Evangelist)

Vote of Condolence with RWM

Thereupon Bro Neill made reference in most sympathetic terms to the bereavement which fallen on the family of the RW Master (Bro RL Scott), through the death of his Mother, and it was agreed to recording the Minutes the deep sympathy felt by the Brethren for the RW Master and his Brother Mr. Chas C Scott and the Secretary was instructed to intimate same to them. Deputations Dispatched and received.

*Deputations were dispatched to visit Lodges No 68, Doric Kilwinning, No 175, Gnk St John, No 217, Cumberland Kilwinning, No 626, Firth of Clyde, and No 989, 'Sir Michael' Kilmacolm. In the course of the evening Deputations were received from the same lodges and also from **No 370, Renfrew County Kilwinning** and No 624 Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie.*

Friday 27th December 1907

At a Meeting of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No 12, held in the Saloon of the Town hall on Friday 27th Dec 1907 at 730pm to celebrate the Festival of St John the Evangelist

Bro RL Scott, RW Master, in the Chair

Deputations Dispatched

Deputations conveying the fraternal greetings of the Lodge were dispatched to the following sister Lodges; Doric Kilwinning No 68, Greenock St John No 175, Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 and Firth of Clyde No 626.

Harmony

The Lodge was then called from Labour to Refreshment and the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony.

Deputations Received

*Deputations were received and welcomed from the above-mentioned Lodges and also from **Lodge No 370 Renfrew County Kilwinning Paisley** and Lodge Sir Michael No 989 Kilmacolm. The Brethren of these Deputations ably assisted the Brethren of the Lodge in providing a varied and enjoyable programme of vocal and instrumental music.*

I believe that the relationship must have been strong back then for the brethren to travel, presumably by steam train, in the depths of winter, and two days after Christmas, from Paisley, in the days before the almost universal ownership of the motor car.

So perhaps yet another No XII urban myth is exposed! There is no doubt that the relationship MAY have strengthened through Bro Bob Drainer working in Paisley but he does not seem to have been its instigator. Unfortunately, by the time I was asking the question back in the 80s, Bro Bob had passed to the Grand Lodge Above and I never took it up with his son Bro Roy Drainer (also a Past Master of No XII and one of my Installing Masters in 1989 and 1990) because I took what I was told at face value and I know that the Past Master concerned spoke to me in all sincerity.

Alan D Beck IPM is honoured by Lodge The Prince's No 607

On Monday 2nd of November, our IPM, Bro Alan D Beck, will be installed into the Chair of King Solomon in his affiliate lodge, The Prince's, 607 at their home in the Masonic Temple, 3 Mafeking St, Glasgow (off Copeland Rd, just behind Ibrox Stadium). The meeting starts at 530pm.

Bro Alan was already an honorary member of The Prince's when he affiliated to the lodge just over a year ago to "help out". As we understand it, Bro Alan is the third member of No XII to affiliate to 607, following in the footsteps of Bro Robert Lyons Scott PM in the 1920s and Bro Iain White PM in 2013. Bro Alan will be installed into the Chair by Bro Iain, assisted by Bro Bobby Shaw PM. On the evening of installation, our own RWPGM, Bro James P Livingstone, will deliver the Toast to the Lodge and RWM, Bro Allan I MacFeate will lead the deputation of the visiting brethren. It is hoped that as many brethren as possible will support Bros, Alan, Iain, Jim and Allan on the evening.

The World Famous No XII Raffles



No XII is famous for its raffles, run by the Bros. McGregor. Some of the old Past Masters occasionally observe that the Lodge is guilty of over generosity with its raffle prizes. The raffle reached new, dizzy, unprecedented heights at the meeting on 15th September as may be seen in the photograph where Bro Calum Samuel, Bible Bearer of Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No 370 is seen with his prize.

Yes, it is indeed a genuine didgeridoo from down under! Whether Bro Calum gave the brethren a tune on his new instrument, I do not know as I had left by the time the prize was presented

Test and Capitation Fees

Test Fees are now due and £40 should be paid either by standing order or direct to Bro David Stevenson, Treasurer. Capitation Fees are £30 for Life Members (at their discretion) and again these may be paid by standing order or direct. For details either see the recent email from Bro Stevenson or speak to him.

Success for the No XII Boolers



**Orr Trophy Champions 2015 – Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII
Bros George Felgate KK Morrison (Skip) David Stevenson**

The Annual Bowling Competition for the Lodges of the Province of Renfrewshire West was held on Saturday 13th June. As ever, it was ably organised by IPPGM and keen booler Bro James W Miller. There was a good turn out of brethren and the competition was played in uncharacteristically pleasant weather for the summer of 2015 in these parts. The No XII team pictured above lifted the Trophy to become champions of the Province for 2015. The Trophy was donated by Bro Dan Orr who was Substitute Master of No XII in 1909. The competition dates back to at least that time.

This Orr Trophy success followed an unusually competent performance by the boolers of No XII as they won the annual challenge match with Lodge Crawfordsburn in May. The Challenge Trophy may be seen in the cabinet in the Saloon at our regular meetings.

Freemasonry in Washington DC

Bro James McGregor (the Elder) has given me some great information and photos from his visit to the USA. Pressure of space has kept it out of this issue but it will be published soon.

Visit to Lodge Stinchar Valley No 1705 27th August 2015



**From Left: Bros Campbell Snoddy Crawford Kirkpatrick Bob Crossan WJW Allan I MacFeate RWM
Tony Stewart HM Alan D Beck IPM Fraser Cameron**

The brethren travelled to Girvan to hear a lecture by Bro Archie Chalmers IPPGM of Ayrshire. The handsome deputation is shown in the Lodge Room

Reports on Visits

- ✦ Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 3rd September 2015 (Entering) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, IPM Bro Alan Beck, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Paul Stevenson and Bro James Strachan HM
- ✦ The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 on 4th September 2015 (Lecture) – attended by IPM Bro Alan Beck, WJW Bro Bob Crossan and Bro James McGregor
- ✦ Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 on 8th September 2015 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, IPM Bro Alan Beck, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bro Paul Stevenson, Bro James Miller HM, Bro Neil Forbes HM, Bro James Strachan HM and Bro James Lever HM
- ✦ Lodge The Gael No 609 on 10th September 2015 (Passing Exemplification conferred by No XII) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, WSW Bro Allan Glen, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, IPM Bro Alan Beck, IG Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Secretary Bro Ken MacDougall PM, DOC Bro Iain White PM, Piper Bro Alasdair Beaton, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bro Fraser Cameron, Bro Paul Stevenson, Bro Gary Lewis, Bro Donald Finlayson HM, Bro Hamish MacLachlan HM and Bro Keith Bowes HM
- ✦ Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626 on 14th September 2015 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bro Paul Stevenson, Bro Kenneth McCrae HM and Bro James Strachan HM

From the Old Minute Books of No XII

Before in this issue, the boolers get a mention. Time for the golfers now!

Wednesday 23rd January 1912

Bro John J Park, RW Master, in the Chair

Masonic Golfers Cup

A letter was read from Lodge Sir Michael No 989 asking that two members of the Lodge be appointed to a Committee to draw up Rules and Regulations in connection with the Silver Cup presented by Bro Thos. Duncan PM to be played for annually by Masonic Golfers in the West Province. Bros. Alex Malcolm and Geo B Grieve were appointed to represent the Lodge.

Lapel Badges

For many years, 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. Recently, he passed the mantle on to our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson. Bro David asked me to start to publicise the badge availability through *XII Talk*. This will now be 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
28.08.15

Views expressed by individuals within XII 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.