

Twelve Talk

16.04.16

Issue 84

1. Meetings 2015-16

* 05.01.16

Lecture

The History of
Freemasonry in
Renfrewshire West by Bro
Alex Galbraith SM PSGM
PPGM

* 19.01.16

Raising

* 02.02.16

No Meeting – Music festival

* 16.02.16

Entering

* 01.03.16

Passing

* 15.03.16

Raising

* 05.04.16

Raising

* 19.04.16

Mark

* Thursday 02.06.16

Summer Meeting

Entering by the Past
Masters of the Lodge



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)

Previous Meeting Tuesday 5th April Raising

The Lodge was well filled with 39 brethren in attendance and RWM Bro Allan MacFeate invited all reigning Masters and Past Masters to the East. Bro William Lawson, RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, Bro Nicky Stetz, RWM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626 and Bro Paul Docherty, RWM of Lodge Sir Michael No 989 accepted the invitation. The Lodge proceeded to carry out the Third Degree ritual on Bro Allan Jess. The floor workers were: **Prayer:** Almoner Bro Alistair Glenly PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Allan MacFeate **Retrospect** Bro Allan Glen WSW **The Raising:** IPM Bro Alan Beck **Secrets:** Almoner Bro Alistair Glenly PM **Apron:** Secretary Bro Ken MacDougall PM **Working Tools:** WJW Bro Bob Crossan **Traditional History:** Chaplain Bro Robert Bain **The Charge:** Secretary Bro Ken MacDougall PM. A warm welcome was given to Bro Ivan Scott who has now settled in well at Sir Gabriel Wood's Mariners' Home. The brethren also heard from Almoner Bro Alistair

Glenny that Bro Arthur Young PM had been in hospital and that Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick had visited him to pass on the best wishes of the Lodge. Bro Alistair was pleased to report that Bro Arthur was now back at home. The Almoner also reported that Bro Albert MacLean had undergone knee surgery and that he was recovering well.

Booing News – Players Required!

The annual Bowling Challenge match with Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121 to be held this year on 30th April 2016 at the Ardgowan Bowling Club and also of the Province of Renfrewshire West's Competition for the Orr Bowling Trophy which will be held this year on 11th June 2016 at the Grosvenor Bowling Club. Of course, a rink from No XII) Bros George Felgate, David Stevenson and Kenny Morrison himself) won the Orr Trophy in 2015 and 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. Any Brother wishing to participate should advise Bro Kenny.or Bro David Stevenson.

Our Next Meeting Tuesday 19th April Mark Degree

Tuesday's meeting is the annual Mark Degree and there will be 8 Candidates. The degree will be worked by the brethren of No XII. This is the last meeting of this part of the session. The healthy number of candidates takes me back to the days when I joined No XII in the early 1970s. The Mark degree was always unique in No XII. Apart from being worked only once a year, it came at the meeting before the Summer recess and was the time that we always had a large deputation from our friends in Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No 370 down from Paisley. No XII would reciprocate a couple of weeks later.

The Mark also had a large input from the Past Masters of the Lodge. Back in these early days of my freemasonry, I vividly remember the input from Bro Archie Millar PM, the retired butcher with a pawky sense of humour who told the most awful, risqué jokes and got away with it; Bro Bob Drainer brought his dry, gravelly voice and his schoolmaster's approach; his son, Roy Drainer PM, had quiet assurance, precision in his work and a wonderful dry sense of humour; Bro Alex More PM brought his real technical knowledge of building and construction and the ability to weave this into the script in an amusing way; Bro John Adamson PM, the retired senior polis officer, would issue veiled threats of terrible consequences with just the hint of that mischievous smile he had. The Mark in No XII has always been light hearted and long may that continue!

Back in these days, the Mark Degree was the usually only time that No XII would hold a



No XII Mark Degree stalwarts at the Installation of Bro Wilson J McCulloch as RWM in 1978. From Left: Bro RJ Drainer Jr. PM Bro Wilson J McCulloch RWM Bro Archie Millar PM Bro Alex More PM

Harmony after the meeting. The tables would be set, the pies brought in, a toast or two delivered and some 'turns' would entertain us from the body of the hall. Bro Archie Millar PM would be back again with the jokes and Bro Wilson McCulloch, later to be RWM at the 250th Anniversary of the Lodge, who was a trained elocutionist, would deliver monologues by the music hall artist Nosmo King and' his piece de resistance, 'The Touch of the Master's Hand' the Christian poem by Myra Brooks Welch. I also remember Bro Jack Glenny, now a Past Master, singing Watt Nicol's 'Plumbers and Jiners' and 'Calamine Lotion is good for your skin', a parody of doubtful merit on Calum Kennedy's Gaelic song 'Cailin mo ruinsa'

which we hear often nowadays from our Honorary Member from Lodge The Gael, Bro Donnie Finlayson PM.



Left: Bro RJ Drainer PM as Rector of Camphill High School in Paisley in 1950



Right: Bro John Adamson PM as an Installing Master at the Re-installation of Bro Ian M Ross in 1994

I remember these as happy days and much of the No XII Mark Degree remains the way that it was. This is reassuring for old codgers like me and I hope the brethren in years to come will continue to appreciate the value of the No XII Mark.

Finally, isn't it great that the relationship with Lodge 370 has been rekindled under the leadership of Bro Alan Beck IPM and RWM Bro Allan MacFeate? This is a source of great pleasure to those of us who remember these halcyon days – particularly Bro Hector Macphail PM and me!

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 directly.

Come fly with me ...



Bros Bob Bain PM (photo above) and Allan Glen WSW (photo below) are going to fly across the Clyde next month from the top of the iconic Finnieston Crane to the BBC Headquarters in Glasgow. Their breathtaking act bravery is in aid of the Province's work to support the work of the Grand Lodge to raise money for the charity Prostate Cancer Scotland.

I have this from the Provincial Grand Master Bro Jim Livingstone,

We will be promoting this event over the next few weeks, which is being jointly organised by a number of the neighbouring Provinces, including Renfrewshire West in order to raise funds for the chosen charity of Grand Lodge, Prostate Cancer Scotland. This is a Scottish charity set up to provide information, advice and help on prostate health and diseases of the prostate. Nearly 1 in 2 men in Scotland will be affected by prostate disease at some stage in their lives and 1 in 11 are likely to develop prostate cancer. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men in Scotland. To bring this into perspective, of the nearly 500 brethren now on the direct distribution list for this edition of the West Column, around 40, will suffer from prostate cancer and I urge you to give your earnest consideration to supporting this charitable effort.



All sponsorship monies will be gratefully received by the brethren and faithfully applied by the recipients. My personal response to the opportunity to participate was the famous West of Scotland 'double positive negative'- "Aye right!" My admiration for all the brethren participating knows no bounds.

Reports on Visits

- ✦ Glasgow Kilwinning Lodge No 4 on 16th March 2016 (PGL Glasgow Annual Visitation) – attended by IPM Bro Alan Beck
- ✦ Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 17th March 2016 (Raising) – attended by Bro Eddie McGill
- ✦ Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 21st March 2016 (Entering) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, IPM Bro Alan Beck, Bro James Livingstone, Bro David Wilson HM and Bro Iain MacLeod HM
- ✦ Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 on 22nd March 2016 (Passing conferred by Lodge Greenock St John's No 175) – attended by Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick and Bro Eddie McGill
- ✦ Lodge Eaglesham No 1265 on 23rd March 2016 (Entering) – attended by IPM Bro Alan Beck
- ✦ Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 on 25th March 2016 (Entering) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, SD Bro Paul Galbraith, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro Alexander Galbraith, Bro Sandy Reddy HM, Bro Kenneth McCrae HM and Bro James Strachan HM
- ✦ Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 28th March 2016 (Mark) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate and IPM Bro Alan Beck
- ✦ Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 28th March 2016 (Entering) – attended by SD Bro Paul Galbraith, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick and Bro Eddie McGill
- ✦ The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 on 1st April 2016 (Lecture) – attended by WJW Bro Bob Crossan, IPM Bro Alan Beck, SD Bro Paul Galbraith, Bro James Livingstone and Bro James Miller HM
- ✦ Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 & Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 3rd April 2016 (Joint Annual Divine Service) – attended by RWM Bro Allan MacFeate, IPM Bro Alan Beck, WJW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro James Livingstone, Bro Kenneth McCrae HM, Bro James Miller HM and Bro David Wilson HM
- ✦ The Prince's Lodge No 607 on 4th April 2016 (Passing) – attended by WJW Bro Bob Crossan, IG Bro Paul Stevenson, IPM Bro Alan Beck (RWM No 607) and Bro Tony Stewart HM (WJW No 607)

From the old No XII Minute Books

Tuesday 5th February 1913

At a Meeting of the Executive held at the end of the Lodge Meeting

Bro RC Smith, RW Master, presided

Curtaining the windows at the end of the Saloon

It was agreed that the question of curtaining the windows at the end of the Saloon should be left with Bros John Ritchie and Archd McCowat to arrange for what was necessary, and that an estimate of cost for same be submitted at the next meeting of the Executive by Bro John Ritchie, Architect.

Monday 28th April 1913

At a Meeting of the Executive held in the Adjacent

Curtaining the windows

The question of curtaining the windows at the end of the Saloon was considered but as the patterns of serge submitted by Messrs. Blair and Sons, and M Hodge and Sons, were not considered suitable it was agreed to do nothing further regarding this in the meantime.

As has been the case in recent times, obviously our brethren in 1913 were feeling the cold! So much so that they were considering getting curtains fitted at the big windows. The irony here is that they would have been covering up the Victorian stained glass windows that we have recently campaigned so hard to have replaced! The very idea!

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
16.04.16

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.