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Meetings 2017-18

- * 05.09.17
Passing
- * 19.09.17
Nomination and Election of
Office Bearers
Members only
- * 03.10.17
TBC
- * 17.10.17
TBC
- * 07.11.17
TBC
- * 21.11.17
Annual Installation at
615pm
- *05.12.17
Annual Divine Service

- *Saturday 24.02.18
Annual Burns Supper



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

RWM Bro Allan T. Glen 41 Morris Crescent Blantyre Glasgow G72 0DA (07736060280)
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 8 Mount Stuart Drive Wemyss Bay (07810270787)
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

Monthly Draw

The 2017 Monthly Draw is well under way and payment is now being accepted. Treasurer Bro David Stevenson is keen that we support this handy fund raiser that is a great help with the day-to-day running costs of the Lodge

Number(s) are available at £1 per number per month and there is no limit to the number and each entrant can have as many as they like! Payment can be made (1) by cash to Bro David (2) by cheque made payable to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII - Social Fund (3) by internet banking to Bank RBS Sort Code 83-22-20 Account Number 10000509 as a one off payment in multiples of £12 with the entrants name shown in the payment reference box or (4) by standing order to same bank details as above for your chosen monthly amount.

Where possible Bro David will use the same numbers as in previous years unless asked otherwise.

Test and Capitation Fees

Test Fees are now due and £40 should be paid by any of the means above. Capitation Fees are £30 for Life Members (at their discretion). These may be paid by any of the means stated above for the Monthly Draw. Please note that the payment is to a different account if you are doing it online – 10000495. All other bank details are the same.

Our Next Meeting Tuesday 5th September – Passing

So it's back in the old routine again as we meet for the first time after the recess. The degree team for Tuesday is **Prayer** Bro Alistair Glen PM **Obligation** RWM Bro Allan T Glen **Secrets** Bro Alan D Beck PM **Apron** Bro J Robert Crossan WSW **Working Tools** Bro David Stevenson Treas **Tracing Board** Bro Ken MacDougall PM **Charge** Bro Iain White PM

Bro Warnock Aitchison Park (1923-2017)

During the recess, we received an email from Bro Peter R Sinclair PM, now residing down south. Peter said, 'I noticed today in the online Tele the death of Warnock Park. Warnock Was 94 and I have a very distant memory when I went into the Chair (in 1987) Warnock had mentioned to me that he was a No XII man, but had not been in many a long year. I thought I'd let you know in case nobody else noticed'. I did notice the death and was drawn by the unusual name but had no knowledge of a No XII connection. On checking, Bro Warnock was Initiated on 26th June 1944. He was 21 at the time of his Initiation and his occupation was given as Storehouse Assistant. Bro Warnock was passed on 7th September 1944 and Raised on 26th October 1944.

Peter remembered Warnock as 'a real gent, was always dapper whenever you met him and had a wicked sense of humour plus a general disdain for management'. Although we didn't see him around the Lodge, he does sound like our type of guy!!

Bro Rev Donald Beaton (1932 – 2017)

Rev Donald Beaton was minister in The Gaelic Parish Church when he joined No XII in 1962. He was initiated on 6th February, Passed on 20th February 1962 and Raised on March 6th 1962. Residing at the Gaelic Parish manse – 63 Brisbane Street – he had been born in Staffin on the Isle of Skye in 1933. Bro Rev Beaton was fluent in Gaelic as was necessary for a minister of the Gaelic Parish which had services in Gaelic as well as English. Rev Beaton left Greenock in 1965 to become an Army Chaplain. He was known as 'the Climbing Padre' in the Black Watch because of his love of mountaineering which he promoted in the regiment.

Sadly, Rev Beaton was the last minister of the Gaelic Parish which united with the West Kirk in Nelson Street to form the Old Kirk in 1966. After subsequent unions the church is now the Westburn. Bro Beaton passed away in his native Skye in June.

The Gaelic Parish had strong links with No XII as its ministers in the early part of the 20th Century were members and Divine Services were held there. The church was demolished and Greenock's very first Tesco built on the site at the corner of Jamaica Street and West Stewart Street. The old Tesco store is now occupied by Iceland.

I have an affinity with this obituary as my family attended The Gaelic Parish and I was baptised there in 1954. I can remember Rev Beaton as minister when I was a wee boy.

Bro Rev Alexander McIsaac (1926 – 2017)

Bro Alex McIsaac joined No XII in 1986 when he was 60 years of age! Although 'wee Alex' came to Freemasonry relatively late in life, he flung himself into it enthusiastically becoming a member of the General Committee and then an Office Bearer in No XII. Bro Alex was a draughtsman by profession and was Initiated on 7th October 1986, Passed on 16th December 1986 and Raised on 17th February 1987. Bro Alex was a keen booler and played at that hotbed of freemasonry, the Ardgowan Club. A cheerful, generous man he attended the Lodge very regularly until, in later years, his health prevented it. He passed to the Grand Lodge Above on 6th July 2017 and was in his 92nd year.

Our Previous Meetings (1) **Tuesday 18th April – Mark Degree**

Under the care of Bro KK Morrison PM as Conductor (for the umpteenth time), the Mark Degree was conferred upon 6 candidates - Bros Allan Jess, Alexander Johnson, Barry Rodger, Andrew Muir, Mark Robertson and Ian Moffat -with the usual No XII Mark mix of light heartedness and precision combining to give a dignified experience for the Candidates. The team was **Conductor:** Bro Kenneth K. Morrison PM **Junior Overseer:** Bro Ken MacDougall PM **Senior Overseer:** Bro Alistair Glenny PM **Master Overseer:** Bro Allan MacFeate IPM: Bro Alistair Glenny PM **Obligation:** RWMM Bro Allan Glen **Secrets & Lecture:** Bro James P Livingstone **Working Tools & Badge:** Bro Kenneth K. Morrison PM **The Charge:** WSW Bro Bob Crossan

Our Previous Meetings (2) **The Summer Meeting** **Thursday 1st June – Entering**

RWM Bro Allan Glen invited all the Right Worshipful Masters to join him in the East. The RW Masters of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 and Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 from the Province of Renfrewshire West accepted the invitation. The RW Masters of Lodge St John Kilwinning No 173, The Bridgeton & Glasgow Shamrock & Thistle Lodge No 275, The Prince's Lodge No 607 and The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 from out with the Province also accepted the invitation. RWM Bro Allan Glen then welcomed a deputation of 7 Brethren from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West, headed by the PG Secretary, Bro Robin McIntyre, who was invited to the East. Once settled, 78 brethren filled the Lodge.

RWM Bro Allan Glen then presented the James S Adams Memorial Gavel to Brother Robert J. Bain PM for the purpose of conferring the Degree this evening. Bro Bain thankfully received the gavel from the RWM and intimated that it was his honour and privilege to take the chair of No XII on this occasion.

Bro Bain advised that the Degree for the evening was an Entered Apprentice Degree and that the candidate was Mr Michael Alan Pierpoint. The Past Masters of the Lodge then proceeded to confer the Entered Apprentice Degree. The Degree Team was: **Chair** – Bro Robert J. Bain PM **WSW** – Bro Kenneth K. Morrison PM **WJW** – Bro Alistair Glenny PM **SD** Bro Allan I. MacFeate IPM **JD** – Bro Kenneth C. MacDougall PM **IG** – Bro Alan D. Beck PM

The Floorworkers were: **Prayer** – Bro Alistair Glenny PM **Obligation** – Bro Robert J. Bain PM **Secrets** – Bro Alan D. Beck PM **NEC** – Bro Alistair Glenny PM **Apron** – Bro Kenneth K. Morrison PM **Working Tools** – IPM Bro Allan I. MacFeate **Charge** – Bro Kenneth C. MacDougall PM

A handsome collection of £164 was taken for the No XII Charity Drive

No XII Burns Supper

The Annual No XII Charity Burns Supper will be held in the Town Hall on Saturday 23rd February 2018. More details will follow but get the date in your diaries, please!

Refurbishment of The Lodge Memorial Altar

A memorial to members who fell in The Great War

Bro Alistair Glenn PM has been devoting his considerable skills and talents to the upgrading of a number of the No XII artefacts. His most recent project has been the No XII Memorial Altar. Bro Alistair sent me the following:

As we enter the final half of 2017 and the first part of 2018 our attention is likely to be drawn on many occasions to the inscription and names on our Memorial Altar. It was unveiled and dedicated on Friday 31st March 1922 and used since then by candidates, as they take their oaths in our various degrees.

In readiness for such attention, the Altar, of Gothic design, and made of fine Scottish Oak, has been cleaned and refurbished, including the lettering, to reflect the dignity placed upon it by Lodge Office Bearers and Brethren.



From Arras to Alamein, Passchendaele to Palermo, the Scottish Soldier has been famous, prompting many verses dedicated to his bravery and love for his kinsmen. One such verse on the 51st Highland Division being:-

*Ye canna mak' a sojer wi' braid an' trappin's braw,
Nor gie him fightin' spirit when his back's ag'in the wa'
It's the breedin' in the callants that winna let them whine'
the bluid o' generations frae lang, lang syne*

Patrick Delaforce/Monty's Highlanders

We are grateful to Alistair for the many hours he is spending on his programme

From the old Minute Books of No XII

The text above has a report about the No XII Mark Degree. The Minute extract below details the gift of Mark Tools from Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121. No XII has received several gifts from Lodge Crawfurdsburn over the years.

Wednesday 22nd March 1916

Bro J Grieve Graham, RW Master, in the Chair

Presentation of Mark Tools from Lodge Crawfurdsburn No1121

The RW Master expressed the pleasure it gave him to acknowledge another gift from Lodge Crawfurdsburn No 1121. On this occasion it took the form of Mark Tools consisting of 4 Gavels, 3 Chisels, 3 Set Squares and 1 T Square.

The tools are used to this day.

Reports on Visits

- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 10th April 2017 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Paul Stevenson and Bro David Martin
- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 12th April 2017 (Passing and AV of PGLRW) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro James Livingstone (RWPGM), Bro Allan Jess, Bro Mark Robertson and Bro David Wilson HM
- Lodge Blantyre Kilwinning No 557 on 13th April 2017 (Passing conferred by St Clements Rickarton Kilwinning Kilmarnock No 202) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen
- Lodge Dramatic No 571 on 13th April 2017 (Passing) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Tony Stewart HM
- Lodge St John Whiteinch No 683 on 14th April 2017 (Raising exemplified by Lodge The Gael No 609) – attended by Bro Iain White PM
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 20th April 2017 (Passing and Annual Visit of PGLRW) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Paul Stevenson, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM and Bro Alistair Glenny PM

On all occasions Fraternal Greetings were exchanged.

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 treasurno12@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
03.09.17

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.