

Twelve Talk

02.02.18

Issue 105

Meetings 2017-18

* 16.01.18 1.
Business meeting

* 06.02.18
Installation of remaining Office
Bearers and Illustrated Lecture:
*From No XII to the King
Emperor by way of the Scotts and
the Cairds*

* 20.02.18
Raising and Annual Visitation of
the Provincial Grand Lodge

* Thursday 22.02.18
Passing by No XII at Lodge
Renfrew County Kilwinning No
370 in Paisley

* Saturday 24.02.18
Annual Burns Supper at 630 for
7pm Immortal Memory – Bro
David Vennard PM
Lassies – Bro Kenny Wilson

* 06.03.18
Entering

* 20.03.18
Raising

* 03.04.18
Passing by Lodge Renfrew County
Kilwinning No 370

* 17.04.18
No Meeting owing to new floor
being laid in Saloon

* 24.04.18
Visit to The Scots Lodge No 2319
(EC) in London



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)

Our Next Meeting Tuesday 6th February A look at No XII's History

No XII has been around for a long time, with a history stretching back to 1728. It is Inverclyde's oldest organisation and, with its connection to the town of Greenock through meeting in the Municipal Buildings since 1765, forms part of the very fabric of the social history of Inverclyde,

Every working day, I travel by train into Glasgow Central. Emblazoned on a wall, Banksy-style, on the way in, is the message *People Make Glasgow*. This dates back to the Commonwealth Games in 2014. It's true of Glasgow. It's true of Greenock. It's true of any organisation too. So, people make No XII and have made the Lodge all the way to 1728. People have made the history of No XII the rich tapestry that it is and yet so many of us know so little about the Lodge's history and No XII's impact on society. On Tuesday, we have a Lecture that will take a quirky look at one aspect of it. Entitled, *From No XII to the King Emperor by way of the Scotts and the Cairds* it will give insight that I am sure will be news to almost all of those in attendance.

The Lodge is not working a degree by choice – we have candidates. It has been a deliberate decision of the General Committee to begin to focus on more than just degree work; to look at the wider aspect that is freemasonry and, particularly, at the history of the Lodge.

In a sense, we make a start on Tuesday. For some years we have had a Lecture meeting in January but this time we focus on our own history for the first time. Hopefully, the evening will be informative and enjoyable.

More work in the historical context is going on behind the scenes. In the new Bye-Laws there will be a new office of Archivist which will, I am led to believe, be filled by yours truly. I am happy with that because this is one of my great interests. We now have the large fire proof safe to hold many of our vulnerable records in safety. I am busy organising and cataloguing the records so that we will be more aware of what we have and they can be more easily researched. In another development, the General Committee agreed at the meeting this past week that all of the Minute Books and some other records will be digitised to further their safe keeping. We are grateful to Bros Donald McRae and Dougie Warnock of Lodge Crawfordsburn for giving us valuable information about how and where to get this done.

There will be other events that will have a historical angle. The Committee further decided that, at our Regular Meeting in November, we shall have an evening to focus on No XII's contribution to the Great War. Then, in December, we shall have a celebration dinner to mark the 290th Anniversary of the Lodge and the Feast of St John the Evangelist. The latter used to be a significant event in No XII each year, funnily enough coming to an end with the Great War. This will be a Special Meeting.

Presently No XII is thriving. It is our hope that these events will give us greater purpose and energy for the future through a deeper understanding of our past. Iain White PM

Our Previous Meeting - Tuesday 16th January Business Meeting

It was the night of the snow! 21 brave and hardy souls fought their way through the elements to the Saloon, including RWM Bro Allan T Glen who came through all the way from darkest Lanarkshire. There was to have been a lecture but this was postponed because of the weather and the desire to let folk away a bit sharper. We did, nonetheless, have a busy evening.

Bro Kenneth Kennedy Morrison (aka KK), was presented with a commemorative certificate and a handsome jewel to mark his being given the Honorary Rank of Grand Architect by the Grand Master Mason, Bro Charles Iain Robert Wolridge Gordon of Hallhead and Esslemont. This is in recognition for KK's tireless work for No XII over 50+ years of membership, including serving for 2 years as RWM in 1979 - 81 and taking the Chair again in November 2002 to guide the Lodge through its 275th Anniversary in 2003. He has also twice served Provincial Grand Lodge as an Office Bearer and is doing so at present. Bro Allan T Glen RWM gave a very sincere and generous appreciation of Kenny's service, complemented by RWPGM Bro James P Livingstone.



**Bro James P Livingstone RWPGM, Bro Kenneth K Morrison PM Honorary Grand Architect,
Bro Allan T Glen RWM**

The Wilson J McCulloch Trophy Presented to Inverclyde Music Festival for Annual Competition Tuesday 16th January 2018

Donald MacDonald, Vice President of Inverclyde Music Festival came to the Saloon after the business meeting had closed and received the Wilson J McCulloch Trophy and a cheque for £250 from Bro Allan T Glen RWM. The trophy is in memory of Bro Wilson who was RWM between 1977 and 1979 and also served with distinction as Provincial Grand Chaplain. The cheque was a donation to help the work of the Festival in which many hundreds of local people – mostly children – take part in each year. This continues the Lodge's emphasis on outreach into the community.

The trophy was awarded for verse speaking in the Primary 6 age group and the competition was held in 2 parts on 31st January and 1st February. Wilson of course was a very highly qualified and extremely accomplished elocutionist. He was very successful in the Festival competitions in his youth.

Bro Wilson is seen in the photograph on the right in the Provost's Room at his Installation into the Chair of King Solomon in November 1977. He presided, with dignity, expertise and aplomb, over the Lodge 250th Anniversary celebrations in December 1978 when the Grand Master Mason, Bro Captain Robert Wolridge Gordon, 10th of Esslemont and 21st of Hallhead, (father of the present Grand Master), and a deputation visited for a rededication ceremony in the Town Hall Saloon and a Dinner at the Tontine Hotel.

In recognition of Wilson's service to Provincial, Bro James P Livingstone RWPGM was in attendance with a deputation from Provincial Grand Lodge.



**The presentation of the Wilson J
McCulloch Trophy**

**Bro Allan T Glen RWM, Donald
MacDonald (Vice President) Inverclyde
Music Festival, Bro James P Livingstone
RWPGM**

Bro Arthur Young PM

27th March 1928 – 14th March 2017

Bro Arthur Young passed to the Grand Lodge above earlier in the year



Born of a masonic family, Arthur was educated at Glenalmond. At an early age, his musical talent became apparent and, at the age of 16, he commenced musical studies at the Royal Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow. This was a lifelong interest. We benefited from his performing talents in No XII and latterly he was a member of the Cowal Choral Club for many years. Following a short stint at the BBC, and National Service in the Royal Army Medical Corps, he changed career course and developed his interest in the field of medicine by joining the pharmaceutical company, Organon. His abilities were soon recognised and he was appointed the company's representative covering the London teaching hospitals and the specialist doctors of Harley Street.

One of Arthur's many interests was the Boys' Brigade and, having served as Captain of the Govan Baptist Church Company, he founded, and commanded, a company at Erith, in Kent. He was also a keen golfer and no mean shot with a 12 bore!

Arthur married Marion in 1951 and they had a family of 3 – Andrew, Gillian and Marjorie. It was with Marion, after a performance celebrating the centenary of the Royal Choral Society at St James's Palace, that he was presented to HM The Queen.

In the mid-sixties, Arthur followed the family tradition and became a Freemason. After the requisite recommendation, he was initiated into The Scots' Lodge No 2319 (EC) in London. Shortly after this he decided to enter the world of business in his own right and, returning to Scotland, purchased and successfully operated an 80-bed hotel. After a time, the call to medicine had him invest in, and run, a care home.

Arthur, Marion and their family lived happily in Hunter's Quay until the mid-nineties when a dark shadow was cast over the Youngs with the sudden death of Marion. As part of coming to terms with the loss, Arthur resumed his Masonic activities by affiliating to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII supported by his great friend Bro Henry S Tibbles. Arthur had visit No XII with his brethren of The Scots Lodge from where he originally knew Henry.

Bro Arthur first took the Chair in no XII in November 2005 and served for 2 terms. At that time, his son Andrew held the Office of Senior Deacon and his grandson Kevin was Inner Guard. Having served the Lodge at this time, Arthur returned to the Chair in 2009 at a time of need for the Lodge and held the office of RWM, again, for 2 years. His commitment is emphasised by the fact that he was 81! During his second term of office, his grandsons Kevin and Andrew served in Office.

Above all, Bro Arthur Young was a gentleman whose kind and generous disposition was an example to us all. We were all saddened by his passing but he is remembered in a tangible way at all of our meetings when Bro Alan Beck PM plays for us on the handsome keyboard that Arthur gifted to the Lodge in his second term in the Chair. How fitting that Bro Arthur's memory is perpetuated by the strains of music which he so loved filling the Lodge Room in which he derived so much pleasure and satisfaction.

Bro Alistair Glenny's Sojourn in Malaysia

Report on visit to Lodge Scotia 1003 Scottish Constitution



Once again whilst visiting family in Malaysia, I attended the above Lodge which meets twice monthly in Georgetown, Penang. The meeting on 25th January was described as a Visitation Harmony, when invitations are sent out to Lodges in the surrounding areas to attend the Degree and enjoy harmony. The response was well received with visitors from: -

The District Grand Lodge of the Middle East
Royal Prince of Wales Lodge 1555 EC
The Lodge Kedah 3830 EC
Perak Jubilee Lodge 2225 EC
Neptune Lodge 9849 EC
Lodge Angus 1529 SC
Lodge Shamrock 938 IC
.....and Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII SC

The Degree

Mr Shudipta Choudhoury was initiated into the Entered Apprentice Degree in a manner very similar to the workings of our own Lodge, with the floor work and decorum being first class. At the close of the Degree I was allowed to comment and also convey fraternal greetings from RWM, Office Bearers and brethren of No. XII.

The Harmony

After the degree work and all other business had been conducted, the Brethren and Guests were called to Harmony with the inevitable Curry, Rice, and accompanying condiments being served. However, the date being January 25th a suitable tribute was given to our National Bard Robert Burns. A haggis was brought in supported by Whisky carriers, and the address was delivered by Dr Daljit Singh Nagreh, with The Selkirk Grace given by Dr Leslie Kenneth Khoo Chun Eong

Toasts included

His Royal Highness, The Yang Di Pertuan Agung (Monarch and Head Of State of Malaysia)
His Excellency The Governor of Penang
The Grand Lodge of Scotland
The District Grand Lodge of the Middle East
Visitors
Tyler
.....and, of course, the Haggis

Alistair Glenny PM



On the Left,

Brother Dr Daljit Singh Nagreh – P D G M – District Grand Lodge of The Middle East

On the Right

Brother Dato' Dr Santokh Singh – P D G W – District Grand Lodge of The Middle East





Dato' Dr Santokh Singh wearing his EC Regalia
District Grand Lodge of The Eastern Archipelago



Santokh and Neptune Lodge WM Balram Vadivello

The Monthly Draw

Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick won our December 2017 draw. The prize for December (and Jun) was £50 in 2017.

For 2018, our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson, has increased the draw pay out to £25 per month. This will make a total prize payout of £300 which is up on the 2017 amount by £50.

To keep our surplus level the same, we need a few more brethren to contribute so please, if you are not yet a Draw contributor, see Bro David asap and sign up! Also, if you are already in, please consider taking a number or two more. Every wee bit helps! The numbers are building so let's keep up the momentum.

Bro Brian McFadyen WJW in Northern Ireland with The Lodge of Erskine No 1566



L-R Bros Brian McFadyen, Tom Monaghan, Dave Stark, Iain McPhee, RWM Ronnie Armstrong

On Friday 12th January 2018, nine Brethren from The Lodge of Erskine 1566 accompanied by a Bro Joseph McKie MM from Lodge St John's New Cumnock 334 travelled to Bangor, Northern Ireland, to enable them to attend the Installation of Brother John Angel into the Chair of King Solomon in William Sefton Memorial Lodge 842 in the Province of Down.

On Saturday 13th January 2018 the brethren from The Lodge of Erskine, led by their RWM Brother Ronnie Armstrong, PM, were warmly welcomed into the lodge and witnessed a very interesting installation ceremony carried out by the Secretary of William Sefton Memorial Lodge.

When the Installing Master was about to install the Worshipful Master, he invited all but Installed Masters to retire from the lodge room and all installed Masters were invited to form a conclave on to the carpet whilst the WM was installed into the Chair of King Solomon. Once the WM was installed all other brethren were permitted to re-enter the lodge room to witness the office bearers being installed into their respective offices by the newly installed WM.

The Installation ceremony being complete, the brethren retired to the dining room where they enjoyed a very fine Festive Board. On conclusion of the meal, the usual toasts were proposed and a humorous Reply to The Toast to the Visitors was delivered by DPGM Renfrewshire East, Bro Robert McMillan McPhee, PM 1566.

Around midnight the taxis arrived and the brethren of The Lodge of Erskine/St John's New Cumnock repaired to the Ex Servicemen's Club in Bangor where, accompanied by some Brethren from the William Sefton Memorial Lodge, further refreshments were taken well into the wee sma' hours. As a result, the return flight to Glasgow on the Sunday was somewhat more subdued than the outbound flight.

Bro. Brian would like to thank Bro. Tom Monaghan of William Sefton Memorial Lodge and PM of Lodges 104 & 746 in Ireland and PM of Lodge Allegiance 1465 in Brussels (Scottish Constitution) for his invaluable assistance in arranging the accommodation and taxis in Bangor. Interestingly, The William Sefton Memorial Lodge meet in the Crawfordsburn Masonic Temple where Lodge Crawfordsburn No 812 meets— no, not 1121! This link will give you more information

https://pgldown.org/masonic_hall.php?selID=14

Brian McFadyen WJW PM 1566

**Visit to Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No 370
Thursday 22nd February**

We have a long friendship with 370. Although it had somewhat fallen into abeyance for a while, it has successfully been rekindled. No XII will take a deputation to Paisley on 22nd February and confer a Second Degree.

**Visit to the Scots Lodge No 2319 (EC)
Tuesday 24th April 2018**

It is a few years since we had an exchange visit with our friends at 'Scots' in London. That will be remedied when RWM Bro Allan T Glen will lead a deputation to the April meeting.

Any brethren interested in attending please let Bro Bob Crossan WSW know.

From the old Minute Books of No XII

No XII will celebrate the Festival of St John the Evangelist on 27th December 2018. It will also be the Lodge's 290th Anniversary. There are many references to this event in the Minute Books. That which follows is one such. It is interesting to note that, as well as the celebration, a Candidate was Proposed, Balloted and Initiated all on the one evening. Different times!

At a Meeting of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No 12 held in the Saloon of the Town Hall on Thursday 27th Dec 1906 at 7pm [to celebrate the Festival of St John the Evangelist]

Present as per attendance Roll

Bro Col. DFD Neill IPM in the chair

Minutes

The Lodge having been opened in the EA Degree, the Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved of.

Vote of Condolence with RWM

Thereafter Bro Neill made reference in most sympathetic terms to the bereavement which had fallen on the family of the RW Master¹ through the death of his Mother, and it was agreed to record in 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.

Candidate Harmon Proposed, Elected and Initiated

An Application for admission to the Lodge was submitted from Percy Harmon, musician, aged 32 years, born in London and resident in Gourock, Proposed by Bro John F Hodge and seconded by Bro RL Scott RWM. The usual ballot was disposed with and the Candidate was

declared elected. After preparation in the Adjacent he was admitted to the Lodge and was duly Initiated into the mysteries of the EA Degree.

Nomination

Hector Buchanan Roy was nominated as a Candidate.

Circular Read

A Circular was read from Grand Lodge anent the Annuity Fund and thereafter a collection was taken which resulted in a sum of £2 2/- being received in aid thereof.

Letter from PG Secy.

A letter was read from PG Secy. intimating that Grand Lodge will visit PG Lodge on the 18th Jany. next and also that a Dinner will take place on the same date for which he enclosed a number of tickets for sale to the Brethren.

Deputations Despatched (sic) and Received

Deputations were despatched to visit Lodge 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.

Telegram Received

An apology for absence was read from Bro Lachlan McMillan IG and a telegram was read from Bro Major Shanks, Edinburgh², conveying fraternal greetings to the Lodge. The Secy. was instructed to reply to Bro Shanks.

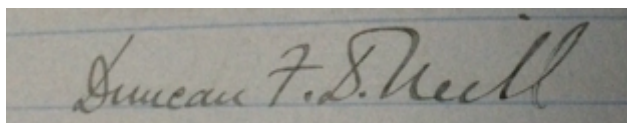
Harmony

The Lodge was called from Labour to Refreshment and the Toasts customary to the occasion were duly given and honoured. The health of Bro Major Playfair³ who was today being installed as the RWM of Lodge No 91, Leven, Fifeshire, was proposed by Bro Neill and was most heartily responded to. Bro Wm. Gray replied on behalf of Bro Playfair as he was RWM when Bro Playfair was initiated. The Secretary as instructed to inform Bro Playfair of what had been done.

Votes of Thanks

Votes of Thanks were passed to the Singers and others who had taken part in the evening's programme, also to the Chief Steward and his assistants.

Thereafter, the Lodge was recalled to Labour and was closed in due and antient form.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Duncan F. S. Neill". The signature is written on a piece of paper with horizontal lines.

IPM

1. The RWM was Bro RL Scott
2. Bro Major George Shanks was an esteemed member of No XII. He joined on 2nd December 1858 when he was a Lieutenant of Marines aboard HMS Hogue at the Tail of the Bank as Guardship. In recognition of his 50 years' service, the minute of Wednesday 2nd December 1908 states 'On the motion of Bro John J Park SW it was unanimously resolved that the Lodge should take advantage of an auspicious occasion

like this to confer Life Membership on Bro Shanks. Bro Major George Shanks now rose and in the course of a racy reminiscent speech referred to the fact that it was 50 years that night since he became a member of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII and that during all these years it had stood him in good stead and was a step which he never had cause to regret.' He received his Certificate of Life membership at the Festival of St John the Evangelist on Monday 28th December 1908. At a Lodge meeting on Friday 29th October 1909, Bro WG Buchanan RWM 'The RWM conveyed the congratulations of the brethren to Bro Major Shanks on his appointment as Proxy Master of Lodge Southern Cross No 398 South Africa.

Bro George Shanks presented the Tracing Boards and bespoke storage case to the Lodge in 1871

3. Bro Major Playfair seems to have been a friend of Bro RL Scott. They joined the Lodge together on 19th November 1901 when Playfair was a Captain in the Royal Garrison Artillery. Born in Edinburgh, and resident in Greenock at the time of his initiation, he was probably stationed at Fort Matilda, a coastal battery in Greenock. Bro Playfair and Bro RL Scott donated the Lodge carpet in 1902 and it is used to this day.

A note to the Minute of the Lodge meeting on Tuesday 29th April 1902 states 'Before closing the Lodge the RW Master [Bro Wm. Gray] called the attention of the Brethren to the Tessellated Carpet which had been placed on the floor of the Lodge Room this evening and he stated that it was the joint gift of Bros. RL Scott and Captain Playfair. The Brethren signified their hearty appreciation of the kindness of the Brethren named, and on the motion of the RWM, it was agreed to minute the cordial thanks of the Lodge'

Reports on Visits

- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 8th December 2017 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, Bro Iain White PM, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison, Bro David Martin and Bro James Livingstone (RWPGM)
- Lodge The Gael No 609 on 9th December 2017 (Annual Installation) – attended by Bro Iain White PM
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 11th December 2017 (Passing) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro David Martin, Bro Paul Stevenson, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick and Bro Eddie McGill
- The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 on 14th December 2017 (Passing conferred by No XII) – attended by RWM Bro Allan Glen, WSW Bro Bob Crossan, WJW Bro Brian McFadyen, IPM Bro Allan MacFeate, Bro Alistair Glenny PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro David Stevenson, Bro Campbell Snoddy, Bro David Martin, Bro Allan Jess, Bro Alex Gray, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Edward Molloy
- Lodge Gleniffer No 1219 on 19th December 2017 (Entering) – attended by WJW Bro Brian McFadyen

- Lodge Inchinnan No 1405 on 7th January 2018 (Passing by Lodge Prince of Wales Renfrew No 426) – attended by WJW Bro Brian McFadyen
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626 on 8th January 2018 (Raising) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick and Bro Eddie McGill
- Lodge The Prince's No 607 on 10th January 2018 (Lecture) – attended by Bro Iain White PM, Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Tony Stewart HM
- Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 11th January 2018 (Entering) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick
- Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No 624 on 12th January 2018 (Annual Installation) – attended by WSW Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick and Bro Eddie McGill
- Lodge Scotia No 1003 in Penang Malaysia on 13th January 2018 (Raising) – attended by Bro Alistair Glenny PM (at the festive board which followed, Bro Alistair replied to the Toast to Visitors during which fraternal greetings were conveyed from the RWM and all at No XII)
- William Sefton Memorial Lodge 842 (Irish Constitution) on 13th January 2018 (Annual Installation) – attended by Bro WJW Bro Brian McFadyen
- Lodge Georgetown No 1170 on 17th January 2018 (Raising by The Lodge of Erskine No 1566) – attended by WJW Bro Brian McFadyen

On all occasions, Fraternal Greetings were exchanged. The RWM thanked the Brethren for their support.

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
04.02.18

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.