

Twelve Talk

22.12.18

Issue 117

Meetings 2018-19

*04.09.18

Raising

* 18.09.18

Nomination and Election of Office Bearers

Passing by Greenock High School
Former Pupils of No XII

* 02.10.18

Entering

* 16.10.18

Entering

* 06.11.18

Annual Meeting and Great War
Commemoration

* 20.11.18

Annual Installation at 615

*04.12.18

Divine Service

*Thursday 27.12.18

290th Anniversary and Festival of
St John The Evangelist

* Saturday 23 .02.19

Annual Burns Supper at 630 for
7pm

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
Burns Supper – Last Saturday in February

RWM Bro J Robert Crossan 22 Dungourney Drive Greenock PA16 7UW (07788923074)
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 8 Mount Stuart Drive Wemyss Bay PA18 6DX (07810270787)
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

Our Previous Meeting Tuesday 4th December Annual Divine Service

Bro Alistair Glenney PM PG Almoner HGAmoner made his debut officiating at the Annual Divine Service. Bro. Alistair chose to tell the brethren about the influence two Swans had on my life explaining that he did not mean whoopers or bewicks but the Rev. Andrew Swan and of course JJ, the District Commissioner for Scouts and Scout Master of the 45th. This led to the opening prayer they both used to say. "Teach us good Lord to serve Thee..." The old boys of the 45th were chuffed, particular Jim McGregor! The address was based on the Birth of Christ, its effect on truces in the Great War, and the message of peace and goodwill. Our new RW Master, Bro Bob Crossan's Installation, was rendered complete by the Annual Divine Service.

Our Next Meeting Thursday 27th December Special Meeting Festival of St John the Evangelist and 290th Anniversary

The next meeting is part of the Lodge's *Back to the Future* Initiative. It mirrors the Festivals of the past with a short meeting, followed by dinner and a few Toasts and Speeches. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts will be observed. In addition, Brother Iain White PM will present a short

paper entitled 'No XII and the Festival of St John the Evangelist' and Brother Alan D. Beck PM will speak on the theme 'Looking forward to the Tercentenary in 2028'. We'll even have a song or two.

These meetings were held regularly on December 27th from the very formation of the Lodge in 1728 till the Great War. Holding this meeting will celebrate the 290th Birthday of the Lodge to the day – 27th December 1728 was a Thursday too! A feature of these meetings in the past was the welcome given to visiting brethren, so all visitors will be made most welcome. The dinner is complimentary for all attending.

The Provincial Grand Master, Brother Robin McIntyre, and the Provincial Grand Lodge commissioned office bearers will be in attendance.

There will also be a raffle with a star prize of a hospitality package for four at Cappielow (value £400) generously donated by ICE Scotland.



Monthly Draw

I have this from our Treasurer, Bro. David Stevenson.

The November winning no. went to Bro. Jim McGregor Snr and December to Bro. Crawford Kirkpatrick. That ends the 2018 draw and allows us to move £288 to the Tercentenary Fund.

Already there are 37 numbers taken up for the 2019 Draw. This is a bit short of the 49 numbers we had last year. Bro David would be pleased to receive further enquiries about taking part. It all helps towards making the Lodge Tercentenary special in 2028.

Installation of Lodge The Gael No 609 Saturday 1st December 2018



From left: Bro William Bryce PM Bro Hamish McLachlan PM Bro Iain White HM 609 Bro Donald Finlayson PM Bro Keith A. Bowes PM

The Installation of Lodge The Gael was held in the Blackie Street Hall in Partick and RWM Bro Stewart J Walker was re-installed into the Chair. Bro Iain White PM attended in his capacity as an Honorary Member of The Gael and is seen in the photograph above with the 4 Lodge The Gael Past Masters who are Honorary Members of No XII. Bro Keith A. Bowes was Principal Installing Master and did a very fine job ably assisted by Bro Gareth Gardner PM!

Of course, at the No XII Great War Meeting Bro Keith gave us all a tremendous insight into the bagpipe music of the War and the role that pipers played at the front. He was so enthused by the evening that he has since begun to research Lodge The Gael's contribution to the War Effort. He has discovered (to date) 14 brethren of 609 who made the supreme sacrifice and is researching their stories. Lodge The Gael will have a Great War commemoration evening, led by Bro Keith, on Thursday 14th November 2019. Bro Keith served in 1st Battalion Scots Guards.

Old No XII Installation Programmes

To further build our archives, I am looking for Installation programmes from the following years: anything before, and including 1955, 1957, 1958, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1993, 2008 and 2010. So, brethren, look in the loft, that foostie old case or the cupboards and presses in the house and see what you are able to come up with.

I haven't received any for a while, so those brethren who have yet to have a look, please spend a minute or two to help us out. Thank to you all in anticipation.

Visit to The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 Exemplification of Passing Thursday 13th December 2018



The No XII Deputation

Back Row (from left): Bros. Ian Dyer Alex Gray Alan D. Beck PM Fraser Cameron Allan T Glen IPM Campbell Snoddy Kenneth C. MacDougall PM Tony Stewart HM Iain White PM

Front Row (from left) Bros. Allan I. MacFeate PM KK Morrison PM Brian McFadyen WSW J. Robert Crossan RWM Robert J. Bain PM WJW Crawford Kirkpatrick Alistair Glenney PM

Missing from the photo is Bro. James P. Livingstone HM who was in the Lodge playing for a memorial service being held.

I have this report on the evening from RWM Bro Bob.

Having been formally invited by RWM Bro Ronnie Armstrong of The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 to lead a deputation into the Lodge and confer a Second Degree, our new RWM Bro Bob Crossan was only too happy to accept.

On Thursday 13th December 2018, along with a fantastic number of No XII Past Masters, Office Bearers and Brethren, our RWM duly led the deputation into the Lodge. This was actually the 'new team's' first rendition of a degree. After a very sincere welcome by RWM Bro Ronnie Armstrong and the Brethren of the Lodge, our RWM and PMs were invited to the East. The Lodge still had a couple of business items, including the collection, prior to the Gavel being presented to our RWM Bro Bob Crossan to carry out the Passing. After the usual remarks on the presentation of the Gavel our RWM asked for the office bearers to be exchanged in favour of No XII office bearers and immediately put the Lodge into recess to allow us to setup.

As the evening's degree would in fact be an exemplification our HM Bro Tony Stewart volunteered to be the Candidate. After approximately 5 mins, our RWM resumed the session and we began the Passing. The Candidate was received by our IG for the evening Bro Alistair Glenney PM and the Prayer was delivered by our Bible Bearer Bro Alex Gray. RWM Bro Bob Crossan carried out the Obligation. The Secrets of the Second, Square or Fellowcraft Degree were then communicated by Bro Alan D. Beck PM.

The Apron investiture was carried out by our WSW Bro Brian McFadyen, who is a Past Master of The Lodge of Erskine No 1566. The Working Tools were illustrated by Bro Allan MacFeate PM. The Lecture on the Tracing Board was then delivered by our Secretary Bro Ken MacDougall in his usual expert manner. To conclude the ceremony of the Passing the Charge was given by our IPM Bro Allan Glen.

RWM Bro Bob Crossan then thanked all of the Degree team, all of the Brethren of No XII and a special thanks to Bro James P. Livingstone for playing the organ. He then presented RWM Bro Ronnie Armstrong with a small token of the friendship between the Lodges and returned the Gavel to him. RWM Bro Ronnie Armstrong then thanked No XII for coming to confer the degree of the evening and asked if we cared to retire, which of course was duly accepted.

At the close of the meeting, after moving from the cold lounge area back into the Lodge room instead, we enjoyed a great Harmony together which include lovely minestrone soup, pies and sausage rolls. We all then had to face the cold of the night and most of us made it back home on the same day as we left, only just!!

Thanks again to all of the No XII Brethren who came up to Erskine and to Bro Alistair Glenney PM and IPM Allan Glen for filling in as IG and JD respectfully. Huge thanks also to Bro Jim Livingstone for his musical accompaniment, to Bro Ian Dyer for bringing along/giving out/collecting back in the No XII hymn books and to HM Bro Tony Stewart for standing in as the Candidate for the evening.

From the Old Minute Books Bro. Rev. JS McCallum – Part 2 More Information

In the last edition of Twelve Talk, I featured the curious story of Bro. Rev. JS McCallum, for whom the entries in the Minute Book are curious. On Tuesday 26th November 1918, a resignation letter he had sent was getting a response from the Lodge that he should be asked to reconsider. By Monday 2nd December – 6 days later – he had passed to the Grand Lodge Above! I mentioned some unanswered questions viz: (a) What was the reason for the Chaplain's resignation? (b) Was the resignation for ill health and then a sudden deterioration ensued (c) Was it for another reason altogether and then sudden illness overtook Rev McCallum? Further I said that sadly, we shall never know now.

However, I had not reckoned on the sleuth-like approach of Bro Peter Sinclair PM. As I have said before, Peter lives way down South now, and he is not able to get to the Lodge very often. However, he is an avid Twelve Talk reader and loves to keep up with what we are doing through this medium.

I had this message (below) from Peter by email.

Iain, a thoroughly enjoyable read, as always. It's great that such a venerable institution as XII continues to prosper in this manic and uncertain world we live in.

Like you, I was intrigued with the story of Rev. JS McCallum, so I decided to poke around a bit. I'm a bit of a student of genealogy and have done a lot of work on my family tree. I have a good knowledge of Scotland's People - perhaps you know of it, but it's where all the public record births, deaths and marriage records are held. I found the registration of Rev. McCallum's death in there and have attached it below - look at the last record in this register. It states that the cause of death was Carcinoma Vesical (Bladder Cancer) so I think it's quite possible he would have known of the diagnosis and probable prognosis at the time of his resignation. But as you point out, we'll never know for sure.

The death certificate is shown below.

<i>John Stewart</i>	<i>191 S.</i>	<i>Mr</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>Donald McCallum</i>	<i>Carcinoma</i>	<i>Donald McCallum</i>	<i>191 S.</i>
<i>McCallum</i>	<i>December</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>1900</i>	<i>Road Contractor</i>	<i>Vesical</i>	<i>Brother</i>	<i>December</i>
<i>Minister of the</i>	<i>Church</i>			<i>(deceased)</i>			<i>At Gurnock</i>
<i>Established Church</i>	<i>1st Stn</i>			<i>Janet McCallum</i>		<i>Rose Ann Mac</i>	<i>Spent time</i>
<i>of Scotland</i>	<i>42</i>			<i>McCallum</i>	<i>deceased</i>	<i>Investigator</i>	<i>Resident Registrar</i>
<i>Maxwell St</i>	<i>Gurnock</i>			<i>(deceased)</i>	<i>Gurnock</i>		<i>Gurnock</i>
<i>Isabella Smith</i>							
<i>Thomson</i>							

Many thanks to Peter for this insight. One has to assume that while Bro Rev. JS McCallum may have known the diagnosis, he did not communicate it in his letter of resignation. All in all, sad times for him, his family and the Lodge.

Test and Capitation Fees

Test Fees are now due and £40 should be paid by any of the means above. **Capitation Fees** are £35 for Life Members (at their discretion). These may be paid by a number of means – please see our Treasurer Bro David Stevenson for details.

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 treasureno12@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
22.12.18

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