

Twelve Talk

18.04.22

Issue 150

Meetings 2021-22

- 15.02.22
Passing
- * 01.03.22
Passing
- * 15.03.22
Entering
- * 05.04.22
Raising
- * 19.04.22
Raising
- *12.05.22
Mark by Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68
- *Thursday 9th June
Special Summer Meeting and The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration
- Saturday 19.02.22
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
Burns Supper – Last Saturday in February

RWM Bro Brian McFadyen 47 Renshaw Road Bishopton PA7 8HL (07810008075)
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 6 Stirling Drive Gourrock PA19 1AH (07810270787)
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

Imagine that!

It occurred to me, only as I was modifying the top of the page today, that this edition is a bit of a milestone. When I suggested to the General Committee back in 2009 that I might do a “wee newsletter” to help publicise our activities amongst the members, little did I think that *Twelve Talk* would mushroom, be seen all over the world and be still going strong at the 150th edition. Edition No. 1 came out on 17th January 2010, some 12 years ago – coincidentally.

The totality of the first *Twelve Talk* is shown below – just a single page and that not even filled. It is amazing how

it has developed and grown since then, to include photographs, information about forthcoming and past meetings, reports on visits, topical matters in and beyond the Craft and historical items about the Lodge and the Craft. *Twelve Talk* is now contributing to recording the social history of Greenock and Inverclyde. This sits alongside the formal contribution made by the Lodge Minutes and other records.

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII has a proud history stretching back almost 300 years to 1728. Throughout that time, it has been very conscious of its place at the heart of the community and has worked in close partnership with successive civic administrations. This, of course, is something about which we are very proud.

Recently, we have made ‘friends’ with organisations through our charitable work, notably *Children in Poverty Inverclyde*, *Erskine Hospital* and support for local sporting clubs like Greenock Wanderers RFC and Greenock Cricket Club. This aspect of freemasonry is at the heart of our values base and cements our place as a charitable, caring organisation to whom the “distressed may prefer their suit” and “whose hand is extended in benevolence”. May it ever be thus.



Twelve Talk 12.01.10
Issue 1

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII
The Saloon of the Town Hall, Greenock

Meetings

- 19.01.10
The Songs of Robert Burns
- 02.02.10
No meeting – Music Festival
- 16.02.10
Annual Divine Service

Tuesday 19th January 2010

The meeting on Tuesday 19th will be a very special one indeed. Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master Bro James W Miller will be made an Honorary Member of No XII in recognition of the great support that he has given to the Lodge of late. The ceremony will be conducted by Bro Iain White, Past Master. We are hopeful that a delegation of Office Bearer from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West will be with us and some brethren from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ayrshire. An invitation has been extended to Jimmy's Mother Lodge, Crawfordburn Greenock No 1121.

After the Honorary Membership ceremony, RWM Bro Arthur Young is going to give a talk on the songs of Bro Robert Burns, our national bard. Arthur is an excellent singer and will sing as well as talk! It promises to be an interesting and entertaining lecture. The evening will finish with a finger buffet.

Invitations

The lodge has issued invitations to Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 and Lodge Feth of Clyde Greenock No 526 to confer degrees later in the session. History will be made as 175 have not worked in No XII previously. 526 did in the early part of the 20th Century. Details of these meetings will be sent out in the future.

Iain White

Bro. Archibald Campbell Snoddy WSW
5th December 1944 – 26th March 2022



We were all very sad when Bro. Campbell Snoddy passed to The Grand Lodge above on 26th March 2022 after a short illness, aged 77 years. He was Initiated on 5th June 2014, Passed on 2nd September 2014, Raised on 20th January 2015 and took his Mark on 21st April 2015. Campbell's late father Bro James Gardiner Snoddy had been a member of No XII, joining in 1953. Bro Alan D Beck PM told me an amusing story about how Campbell came to join No XII. They met in the street in 2014 and Alan was telling Campbell that we had received some Lodge artifacts back from a relative of his. The conversation developed and Campbell asked Alan, "Is 69 too old to join the Lodge?" Alan assured Campbell that you are never too old to become a mason. Alan was at

Campbell's door the next day with an Application Form and the rest, as they say, is history

Although Campbell had been in the Lodge but a short time in relative terms, he made a significant impact. He developed an enthusiasm for the Craft, becoming a regular attender at his Mother Lodge, a frequent visitor and taking up Office. As well as being Senior Warden, and scheduled to be our next Master in 2023, when Bro Alistair Glenny PM passed so suddenly to the Grand Lodge Above, the Lodge Almoner office became vacant. Campbell immediately volunteered and filled the office with the exact same dignity, conscientiousness, empathy and understanding as had Alistair. Campbell was also active in the Royal Arch and Preceptory.

Campbell's life had been characterised by service to others, especially those less fortunate than himself. He was a proud Greenock High School Former Pupil and former member of the 45th Scouts. His career took him into Social Work in Greenock after studies at Jordanhill College. He began his career as a young social worker in Greenock in 1964 and, at his retirement in 1998, he was senior social work manager locally. After his retirement he worked for the Scottish Refugee Council settling families in Scotland from Kosovo during the war in the Balkans. Campbell was an elder in Westburn Church and through that became involved in supporting the Vhutshilo Mountain School in Venda, South Africa about which we heard in a most interesting and moving Zoom presentation from him during the lockdown.

His other hobbies included membership of Greenock Round Table in earlier years and, latterly, Port Glasgow Curling Club and Gourock Burns Club. In 2003 he was elected to Inverclyde Council and served a term as a Liberal Democrat councillor, typically concentrating on helping constituents who were in need.

Campbell's wife of 41 years, Wilma, sadly passed away in 2009 and he latterly found loving companionship with his partner Alison. He is also survived by son Gordon, daughter Jennifer and 4 grandchildren.

Campbell's life was spent in the service of others and there is no greater accolade that can be given to a fellow human. We are missing a staunch and committed member and a true gentleman and Mason. The Grand Lodge Above will be greatly enhanced by his presence.

Bro. Derek Cameron Harvey 1957 - 2022

Bro Derek Harvey was Initiated into the Lodge on 2nd March 1982, Passed on 5th October 1982 and Raised on 2nd November 1982. A fire fighter by occupation, he was an enthusiastic member of the Lodge in his early years filling some junior offices and working hard. Although we had not seen Derek in the Lodge for several years, we were saddened to hear of his passing. He had been unwell, and resident at Erskine Hospital, for the last 2 years.

Lest We Forget

Between 3rd and 8th April, I was away with a group of brethren, mostly from Lodge The Gael No. 609, on a pilgrimage to the Western Front in France and Belgium. We visited the memorials for 4 brethren of No XII, 11 of Lodge The Gael and many more from the Province of Glasgow. The No XII Brethren were Bros Duncan McFarlane, Archibald L Barr, Joseph H. Sanders and Alexander W Russell. I left a poppy cross at each memorial, and they are shown below.



It was a very emotional experience. The magnitude of the loss of life is almost unimaginable. It led me to reflect on all that I had seen and the slaughter of a generation. Our minibus was at times very quiet when we left these memorials and headed for the next one.

On my return I was prompted to write the following:

So many dead

Reflections written after a visit to Commonwealth War Graves in France and Belgium with Lodge The Gael No 609 between 3rd and 8th April 2022. We went to honour the brethren of our Lodges who made the supreme sacrifice in The Great War 1914-1918.

So many dead
So many faceless names
Yet each a son, a brother, sweetheart, friend
So many dead
They tower o'er us in tablets grey
And lie beneath the soil of foreign lands.

So many dead
We visit but a few
Our tributes given in word and note and prayer
So many dead
The pipers played, the bugler blew
Our solemn thoughts chased their notes through the air.

So many dead
They died for Empire and for King
With mud and devastation all around
So many dead
Their sacrifice final, ultimate, complete
Did they ask why, like we do now?

So many dead
We came to pay respects
Were we the first to visit them in death?
So many dead
They lie forever in these fields
A poppy cross from us now marks the place.

So many dead
We go home leaving them behind
Our loved ones safe and well awaiting us
So many dead
They now are in our minds
Ne'er to be forgotten like their sacrifice.

Iain White PM 10th April 2022

As well as the laying the poppy crosses we held a service of remembrance at each memorial with prayer, The Last Post and a lament on the pipes.

There is much more to be said about this trip on which I was accompanied by No. XII Honorary Members Bro Donnie Finlayson PM and Keith A Bowes PM, who organised it all. As an Honorary Member of Lodge The Gael, I joined them in their sorrow for the departed brethren of LTG. I hope to write it all up and share it with you.

The Arras Memorial, France



The Last Post



The Lament



Past Master Iain White remembers, the poppy cross at his right foot and Bro Alexander N Russell (6th Queens Own Cameron Highlanders) among the 34,803 names of the other missing (who have no known grave) behind him.

Meeting of Tuesday 15th March 2022 Entering

A good attendance of 21 Brethren of No XII and 12 visitors was in the Saloon. Bro William Mooney, RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 and Bro Graeme Wallace, RWM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626, accepted an invitation to join RW Master Bro Brian McFadyen in the East.

The Lodge conferred an Entered Apprentice Degree on Mr Jordan James Kincaid and Mr Bryan Guy Adams Campbell-Black.

The Degree Team was **Prayer:** Bro Bob Bain PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Brian McFadyen **Secrets:** Bro AD Beck PM **Apron:** Bro Iain White PM **North-East Corner** Bro Robert Marshall SD **Working Tools:** Bro Bob Bain PM **The Charge:** Bro Ken MacDougall PM. On completion of the ritual, RWM Bro Brian McFadyen and the IPPGM, Bro James P. Livingstone, came from the East to congratulate Bro Jordan Kincaid and Bro Bryan Campbell- Black on their Initiation. The IPPGM also presented a letter of welcome to the new Initiates from the Provincial Grand Master as part of the PGLRW to interact with new Entered Apprentices.

Meeting of Tuesday 5th April 2022 Raising



There was an excellent attendance of 16 Brethren of No XII and 39 visitors, given that several members were missing owing to the start of the Easter holidays. Bro William Mooney, RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, came to the East.

The meeting was a Raising by the brethren of No XII and the candidate was Bro Craig Scott McFadyen, son of the RW Master.

The Degree team was **Prayer:** Bro Bob Bain PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Brian McFadyen **Retrospect:** RWM Bro Brian McFadyen **Raising:** Bro Hector Macphail PM **Secrets:** Bro Kenneth Morrison PM **Apron:** IPM Bro Bob Crossan **Working Tools:** IPM Bro Bob Crossan **Traditional History:** Bro Bob Bain PM **The Charge:** Bro Paul Branchfield.

The photo (left) shows a very happy and proud father and son.

Visit to Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No. 626 11th April 2022

Bro. Brian McFadyen RW Master led a deputation of 17 brethren into Lodge Firth of Clyde having been invited to confer a Raising. We all received a very warm welcome from RW Master Bro. Graeme Wallace. There was a very large attendance with a deputation from Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 also being present.

The Degree Team was the same as that of the meeting of 5th April, save that Bro Iain White Returned as WSW and taught the Secrets and Bro Robert Marshall delivered the Retrospect. One candidate was Raised viz. Bro Andrew Reid who just happens to be our President of Stewards, Bro Tony Buckley's, son in law.

After the meeting, we were entertained to some fine lodge hospitality by Lodge Firth of Clyde

Our Next Meeting Tuesday 19th April 2022 Raising

The next meeting is a Raising, and the Candidate is Bro. Cameron White, son of Bro Iain White PM.

The Degree team is **Prayer:** Bro Bob Bain PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Brian McFadyen **Retrospect:** Bro Robert Marshall **Raising:** Bro Hector Macphail PM **Secrets:** Bro Iain White PM **Apron:** Bro Iain White PM **Working Tools:** Bro Bob Crossan IPM **Traditional History:** Bro Bob Bain PM **The Charge:** Bro Paul Branchfield.

The Summer Meeting 2022

The No XII special summer meeting on Thursday 9th June 2022. The meeting will celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee and will include a lecture from the Right Honourable Lord Lyon King of Arms, Bro. Joe Morrow, Past Grand Master Mason and presently First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland.

The Past Masters of the lodge will also confer an Entered Apprentice degree that evening with the meeting commencing at 7.00pm. Bro. Alan D. Beck PM will be in the Chair.

Provincial Grand Lodge Ball Saturday 21st May 2022 Greenock Town Hall

The Provincial Grand Lodge Summer Ball is back again. It will be the usual grand affair with a sumptuous 4 course meal from Tony Buckley's ICE Catering and dancing thereafter to the Capitol Big Band. Tickets (priced £25) are available from Bro. Alan D. Beck PM, in person, or by calling him on 07739 514242.

No XII usually has 2 tables – this year we have sold nearly 4 tables already so keep the reservations coming. Let's see how many we can get along!

Monthly Draw

Bro David Stevenson, our Treasurer, tells me that the uptake for the Monthly Draw is quite good but we can always do with more participants. It is £1 per number per month, ideally by Standing Order to

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII
Royal Bank of Scotland
Sort Code: 83 22 20
Account Number 10000509

Failing that, cash or cheque is quite acceptable and £12 per number may be given to David.

Recent winners have been

| | |
|----------|------------------------|
| January | Bro Hector Macphail |
| February | Bro James McGregor Jr. |
| March | Bro Paul Stevenson |

Compasses or Compass The Great Debate



During last summer, we had a couple of informal gatherings of No XII members, hosted by the Gourock Bowling Club. During one of these, a spirited discussion occurred around whether the use of the singular term compass was appropriate to use to describe the mathematical instruments that are part of the 3 Great Lights.

No conclusion was reached, and we agreed to differ. After the event, our RW Master Bro. Brian circulated the following:

"In at least four verses of the Old Testament compass appears in its singular form. Isaiah 44:13 "The carpenter stretcheth out his rule; he marketh it out with a line; he fitteth it with planes, and he marketh it out with the compass..." Other references are Exodus 27:5, Exodus 38:4 and Proverbs 8:27. (I remembered this from my days at The Mount Pleasant Church Sunday School Classes).

Early masonic rituals do not show any marked preference for either form. Prichard's *Masonry Dissected* of 1730 uses the singular four times and the plural once. *Three Distinct Knocks* published in 1760 has the plural form seven times and the singular twice. *Jachin and Boaz* which appeared in 1762 shows a slight preference for the singular over the plural by five to four.

In the United States some jurisdictions use compass and there are also masonic clubs known as square and compass clubs.

After reading this far it would be a bold reader who would say one or the other was correct".

However, adding the fact that The Grand Lodge of Scotland Constitution and Lodge uses "compasses" perhaps is the trump card for us. However, the debate is still open...

Robert Burns and the Craft

The connection between our National Bard and the Craft are well known. Sometimes it leads to interesting Top Tables being assembled at Burns Suppers. For example, at The Grosvenor Bowling Club in Greenock on Friday 4th February 2022, the line-up was:

Immortal Memory Bro Iain White Past Master of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII
Toast to the Lassies Bro Iain T Gordon RWM of The Bridgeton and Glasgow Shamrock and Thistle Lodge No. 275 and Immediate Past Master of Lodge The Princes No. 607

Reply Bro Bobby Shaw Past Master of The Bridgeton and Glasgow Shamrock and Thistle Lodge No 275 and Past Master of Lodge The Prince's No. 607

Readings Bro John Hutcheson Immediate Past Master of The Bridgeton and Glasgow Shamrock and Thistle Lodge No 275



**Bros. John Hutcheson, Bobby Shaw, Iain White and Iain T. Gordon
Worthy Freemasons all!**

Test Fees

Lodge Test Fees are overdue and should be paid to Lodge Treasurer Bro David Stevenson asap.

Lodge Memorabilia

In my role as Lodge Librarian, I am still very keen to have any documentary or other links to the past – installation programmes, Orders of Service, postcards, flyers etc. etc. If they are lying in a cupboard or drawer at home, please get them to me to enhance our understanding of No XII's past.

I put this in *Twelve Talk* in each edition, but I don't get as many responses as I would like. I know there is 'stuff' out there! Things that seem, on the face of it, to be trivial can play a vital part in piecing together the history of the Lodge and filling gaps in the Minutes.

Reports on Visits

- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 3rd March 2022 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, IPM Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Kenny Morrison PM and Bro Eddie McGill
- Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No 1121 on 8th March 2022 (Passing Exemplification) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Eddie McGill
- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 9th March 2022 (Passing Exemplification) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Neil Johnstone HM
- Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 10th March 2022 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 14th March 2022 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro David Stevenson and Bro Eddie McGill
- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 14th March 2022 (Passing) – attended by IPM Bro Bob Crossan, Bro Alan Beck PM and Bro Hector Macphail PM
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 17th March 2022 (Entering Exemplification) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen and Bro Eddie McGill
- St David (University Lodge) No 36 (Edinburgh) on 19th March 2022 (Annual Installation) – attended by Bro Allan Glen PM
- Thomas Paycocke Lodge No 8200 (Essex) on 22nd March 2022 (Passing) – attended by Bro Derek Kirkpatrick PM
- The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 on 1st April 2022 (Lecture) – attended by IPM Bro Bob Crossan and Bro Bob Bain PM
- Funeral of WSW Bro Archibald Campbell Snoddy on 5th April 2022 – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen and brethren

Lapel Badges

For many years, the late 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. He passed the mantle on to our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson.



Bro David asked me to start to publicise the badge availability through *Twelve Talk*. It has been, and remains, 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
18.04.22

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.