

Twelve Talk

19.03.23

Issue 159

Meetings 2022-23

- 03.01.23
No meeting

- * 17.01.23
Jack and Alistair Glenny Memorial
Lecture
Victorian Characters of No. XII by
RWM Bro. Brian McFadyen
and Bro. Iain White PM

- * 07.02.23
Raising

- * 21.02.23
Passing

- * 07.03.23
Raising

- * 21.03.23
Raising

- * 04.04.23
Raising

- * 18.04.23
Mark

- Saturday 25.02.23
Burns Supper (630 for 7pm)

- Thursday 01.06.23
Special Summer Meeting
Entering by PMs 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
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)

Time Flies

Time can be both a friend and a foe. I remember as a 9-year-old sitting in the Gaelic Parish Church in Greenock listening to a minister - Rev. Whitehead – giving his children’s address. That was 60 years ago! He wasn’t our regular minister; ours was Rev. Donald Beaton, a Gael from Staffin in Skye, who was, incidentally, a member of No. XII. Rev. Whitehead was doing pulpit supply. His topic for us was the passage of time. He asked us all to think of the noise made by a clock – they weren’t silent and digital in those days – as it told us the time. “Tick-tock, tick-tock,” he said, “but to and old man like me it is really saying, time files, time flies. And the older I get, the quicker it flies!” How true!

Last week, whilst those at home were apparently enduring some rotten weather, I was lucky enough to be in Lanzarote where temperatures of between 21 and 24°C, blue skies and a cooling breeze from the ocean made each day very pleasant indeed. The only drawback was my 8-year-old daughter Susie making me join her in the pool. The water was freezing cold; Susie didn’t feel it, but I did!!

When I was able to spend time on the sun lounger, I had time to reflect. No.

XII is never too far from my mind, and I thought of Rev. Whitehead’s words and the time that I have spent in the Lodge since I joined in 1974. It is cracking on for 50 years which have flown by and which, these days, are flying ever more quickly. This is all the truer for those, like me, who have futures that are mostly behind them.

However, my (almost) 50 years pales into insignificance compared to the history of No. XII. Of course, it stretches back to 1728 and consequently on 27th December this year the Lodge will celebrate its 295th Anniversary.

This means that the Lodge celebrates its 300th Birthday or Tercentenary in 2028. Ach, 5 years is a long time – but it isn’t. Preparations have already begun. At our recent General Committee Meeting were discussing the final version of the Jewel that will be struck to commemorate the occasion. I have been authorised to get the drawing of this final version and to get the Jewels ordered.

We have decided that we shall have a new Lodge carpet in the run up to the occasion, the present one having been bought some 60 years ago in the late 1950s and having seen better days. Its time has flown too! You will hear more and more about this Grand Occasion in the weeks and months to come. Get that date in your diary – 27th December 2028. What a birthday party that will be...

(to be continued)

Our Previous Meeting Tuesday 7th March 2023 Passing and Annual Visitation of PGLRW

There was a very fine attendance of 41 Brethren of No XII and Visiting Brethren. A special welcome was extended to Brother Ndukwe Ibe from Benevolence Lodge No 100 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Ghana.

RW Master Bro Brian McFadyen invited all Masters and Past Masters to the East. RW Masters Bro William Mooney, RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, Bro Brian McClure, RWM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626 and Bro James Donnelly, RWM of The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 accepted the invitation.

A Deputation of 16 brethren from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West, headed by the RWPGM Bro John W. Black entered the Lodge. The RWPGM was conducted to the East along with DPGM Bro Paul Docherty, PG Secretary Bro James Porter, PG Treasurer Bro Andrew Pigott and PG Chaplain Bro William McLarty. The purpose was the Annual Visitation. The Secretary and Treasurer were complimented for their sterling work on behalf of the Lodge and a clear minute was granted. As is customary in No. XII, the RWPGM was presented with a cheque for £100 for use in PGL benevolence.

The degree for the evening was a Passing. The team conferring the Degree was **Prayer:** Bro Bob Bain PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Brian McFadyen **Secrets:** Bro Alan Beck PM **Apron:** WSW Bro Alex Johnson **Working Tools:** Bro Bob Bain PM **The Tracing Board:** Bro Ken MacDougall PM **The Charge:** Bro Allan Glen PM

PGL Comment on Degree: PG Senior Warden, Bro Thomas Trotter, then commented on the degree work by the Lodge this evening. The candidate, Bro Blair Fisher, was first congratulated on his Passing and the way he came prepared. The RWM and degree team were also congratulated for their high standard of floorwork and for an excellent Fellowcraft Degree ritual which he had found most enjoyable.

Our Next Meeting Tuesday 21st March 2023 Raising

Again, the degree will be a Raising conferred by our own Brethren. The team is **Prayer** Bro. Robert J. Bain PM; **Obligation** Bro. Brian McFadyen RWM; **Retrospect** Bro. Colin B. Reddy JD; **Raising** Bro H. Macphail PM; **Secrets** Bro. Alan D. Beck PM; **Apron** Bro. Alex Johnson WSW; **Working Tools** Bro. Iain White PM; **Traditional History** Bro Kenneth C. MacDougall PM; **Charge** Bro. Paul Branchfield SD.

The Candidate is Bro. Marc Raphael Sherland.

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII Burns Club

Annual Burns Supper 2023

The Burns Supper was held on Saturday 25th February 2023 in The Saloon of the Town Hall, Greenock. Expertly Chaired by President Bro. Brian McFadyen RWM, just over 90 brethren and friends attended. Bro. Bobby Kane, PM Lodge Polkemmet No. 927, Past President of The Robert

Burns World Federation proposed a very thoughtful and sincere Immortal Memory, with a wee sprinkle of humour thrown in. A quirky, unique, and hilarious Toast to the Lasses was by Bro. Willie Dick PM Lodge Sanquhar Kilwinning No. 194. Provost Bro. Drew McKenzie, Past Master of Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No. 1121 reflected on the antiquity of the No. XII, its place in the social fabric of the district and its ongoing support for good causes through its charitable works. As ever, Bro. Alan Beck PM sang accompanied by Craig Dunsmore and Jamie Stables with all three giving us a professional quality of performance heard at few such gatherings. RWIPPGM Bro. Robin McIntyre said Grace while Bro. Colin Reddy addressed the Haggis, his dad, Bro. Sandy Reddy gave us *Tam o' Shanter* in fine and spirited fashion and the piper was Bro. Iain White. PM. A wonderful meal was provided by Bro. Tony Buckley and ICE catering.

Additional top table guests were RW Master Bro Billy Mooney (Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68), Bro George McGaughey PM (President, Alexandria Burns Club) and Bro John McKenzie (President, St. John's Burns Club)

The evening was, as usual, be a fund raiser for our Charity Drive. Just over £4000 was raised from donations, raffles, and the auction. Provost Drew McKenzie PM has chosen Ardgowan Hospice as his nomination this year and the General Committee decided that our friends at Children in Poverty Inverclyde will also benefit.

Our thanks got to all our sponsors for the evening including Blairs Windows, ICE catering, Gleneagles Hotel, Western Gales Golf Club, Gourock Golf Club, Greenock Golf Club, and Skelmorlie Golf Club.



Performers and Guests

**Back (from left) Bros. Robin McIntyre George McGaughey Billy Mooney John McKenzie Colin B Reddy
Sandy Reddy Iain White**
Front (from left) Bros. Provost Drew McKenzie Bobby Kane Brian McFadyen Willie Dick Alan D Beck



**New Cumnock Burns Club Members
Bros. Brian McFadyen Joe McKie and Willie Dick**



Haggis piped in by Bro Iain White PM

**Deputation to Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68
Monday 27th February 2023
Conferring a Raising**



The No. XII Deputation at LDK 68

From left: Bros. Bob Crossan Colin Reddy Ken MacDougall Alan Beck Iain White Alex Gray Brian McFadyen Bryan Campbell-Black Robert Marshall Hector Macphail Kenny Morrison Ian Dyer David Stevenson Paul Branchfield

We were delighted to receive an invitation from our friends at Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 to visit and confer a Raising. The No. XII Brethren are shown in the photo above. We had a most enjoyable evening and the work of the team members was well received. No. 68's candidate was a credit to his Mother Lodge.

**From Bygone Days
The Lodge Artefacts (3)
Photographed by Bro. Derek A. Kirkpatrick PM**

We return to the photos of Bro Derek Kirkpatrick PM to display some of the historical artefacts of the Lodge. Derek is a wonderful photographer and we are grateful to him for his work

We are lucky as a Lodge to have so many links to the past through our artefacts and whilst few are of any monetary value, they mean a lot to the Lodge and to Freemasonry in general terms.



**Copper Printing Plate
Used for headed paper
back in the day**



Small Gavel
Source/origin unknown

Lodge Seal
Used in bygone times to make an impression on sealing wax on documents, mail etc.



2 Small Mauls
Source/origin unknown

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.

The Monthly Draw A note from the Treasurer, Bro David D Stevenson

As we are now in March it is past time to renew the subscriptions to the Monthly Draw. The January and February Draws were won by Bros Hector Macphail PM and Iain White PM.

Usual format - £12 per annum per number, payable between Jan and Dec. - so £12, £24, £36 etc

- For those of you paying by standing order - thank you and no need to do anything
- For those of you wishing to renew your subscription or start a subscription please send me the appropriate amount by one of the following ways -

by cash, when I see you, or cheque, to 5 Broomberry Drive Gourock PA19 1JY, or

by bank transfer to – RBS Sort Code 83 22 20 Account No. 10000509 Payment Ref - your name and 'Draw'

Where I can and appropriate, I will allocate the same numbers as previous years

Any questions please drop me a mail.

DDS Treasurer

Reports on Visits

- Lodge Sir Michael No 989 on 8th February 2023 (Entering) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, WJW Bro Robert Marshall, IPM Bro Robert Crossan and Bro Hector Macphail PM
- Lodge Montgomerie Skelmorlie No 624 on 8th February 2023 (Mark Degree conferred by Lodge Burns St Mary No 505) – attended by Bro Bob Bain PM
- Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 on 10th February 2023 (Entering Exemplification) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, WSW Bro Alex Johnson, WJW Bro Robert Marshall, Bro Hector Macphail PM and Bro Bob Bain PM
- Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 11th February 2023 (75th Anniversary & Rededication) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, IPM Bro Robert Crossan, Bro Iain White PM, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM and Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 13th February 2023 (Entering) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, WJW Bro Robert Marshall and Bro Bryan Campbell-Black
- Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121 on 14th February 2023 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro David Stevenson, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Ken MacDougall PM

- Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel) No 1 on 14th February 2023 (Raising) – attended by Bro Allan Glen PM
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 16th February 2023 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Bryan Campbell-Black
- St David (University Lodge) No 36 on 18th February 2023 (Raising) – attended by Bro Allan Glen PM
- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 26th February 2023 (Joint Annual Divine Service with Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM and Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 27th February 2023 (Raising conferred by Deputation from No XII) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, IPM Bro Robert Crossan, WJW Bro Robert Marshall, SD Bro Paul Branchfield, JD Bro Colin Reddy, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Iain White PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro James Livingstone, Bro David Stevenson, Bro Alex Gray, Bro Ian Dyer, Bro Bryan Campbell-Black
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 2nd March 2023 (Raising Exemplification) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen and Bro James Livingstone
- The funeral and burial of Brother Angus Neil MacInnes, Past PGM of Dunbartonshire and Past Substitute Grand Master for Scotland, on 2nd March 2023 – attended by Bro Hector Macphail PM on behalf of No XII

On all occasions, Fraternal Greetings were exchanged. The RWM thanked those brethren for their support.

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 treasurer12@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
19.03.23

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.