

Twelve Talk

22.12.23

Issue 166

Meetings 2023-24

- 05.09.23
Mark
- * 19.09.23
Entering by Past Masters of the Lodge
- * 03.10.23
Mark
- *17.10.23
Annual Meeting and Nomination and
Election of Office Bearers
Members only
- * 07.11.23
Entering
- *21.11.23
Annual Installation of Office Bearers
- *05.12.23
Annual Divine Service
- *19.12.23
No meeting as per Bye Laws

- Saturday 24. 02.24
Burns Supper (630 for 7pm)
Held in 626 Masonic Hall, John Street,
Gourock

- Thursday TBC.06.24
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 Jim Livingstone 60 Stuart Road Bishopton PA7 5BY (07800629999)
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 6 Stirling Drive Gourock PA19 1AH (07810270787)
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourock PA19 1JY (07887904910)



Master's Musings (2)



Is it just me or where has the time gone? It seems like only a few days since the Installation and yet a month has flown past. It is simply a reminder of just how quickly time passes and that we should make the most of our time on earth; “the moving finger writes and having writ moves on, nor all thy piety nor wit can lure it back to cancel half a line nor tears wash out one word of it”!

That said it has been a busy month, the Lodge has been represented at the following meetings,

Friday 24th November – Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217 – Installation.
Monday 27th November – Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourock No. 626 - Entering.
Tuesday 28th November – Lodge Crawfurdsburn Greenock No. 1121 – Raising.
Thursday 30th – Funeral of Brother Ewen Maclean.
Friday 1st December – Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No. 1425 - Installation.
Tuesday 5th – Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII – Annual Divine Service.
Thursday 7th December – Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No. 370 – Annual Installation.
Friday 8th December – Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 - Annual Installation.
Monday 11th December – Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourock No. 626 – Entering.
Tuesday 12th December – Lodge Prince of Wales, Renfrew No. 426 – Annual Installation.
Wednesday 13th December – Lodge Sir Michael No. 989 – Raising.
Sunday 17th December – Provincial Grand Lodge Renfrewshire East Carol Service.
Monday 18th December – Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68 – Passing.
Thursday 21st December – Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No. 217 – Carol Service.

My thanks go to all who attended any of the above meetings and in some cases, the numbers flying the Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII colours were impressive. As I said in my opening paragraph, I sincerely appreciate the support and do not underestimate the pressures that will be on everyone now. Could I particularly thank those who took part in the degree at “989”, including those who simply came along to support the team delivering the ritual. Considering it was a first time for many of us, I believe we did Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII proud.

(Continued over)

Over the next week or so, I will try and compile a visiting plan so that we can perhaps continue to support our sister Lodges in numbers over the coming year.

However, prior to that, we have a couple of dates to put in our diaries. On Thursday 4th January, I have managed to secure the use of the premises at Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No. 626 at 7.00 pm for the purpose of a meeting of the General Committee to be followed by a rehearsal for the Entered Apprentice degree which we will be carrying out at Lodge Burns Dundonald No. 1759 on Tuesday 9th January. I know that the Master of 1759, Brother John Muir is really looking forward to our visit so we will do our best to rise to the occasion!

Later in January for our Regular Meeting on the 16th, I have persuaded Brother Reverend Iain Ramsden, Past Grand Chaplain and author of “Tales of a Highland Minister” to come along and talk about his first two books. The best way I can describe his books is that they are a cross between Para Handy and Hamish McBeth and I hope that as many of you can come along and support the Lodge on that evening and perhaps persuade some visitors to come along as well.

Returning to my earlier theme of time going quickly, Christmas and the New Year celebrations will soon be upon us and I hope that we can all find some time to let a little of the true spirit of Christmas into our hearts and especially spare a thought for those who are not so blessed as we.

In the meantime, I would pray for God’s richest blessing upon you and your families and all that you love and hope that you have a very blessed Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful 2024.

Kind regards,

Jim

JPL RWM
22.12.24

Our Last Regular Meeting Annual Divine Service Tuesday 5th December 2023

There was a good turnout of Brethren, their families and friends for the Annual Divine Service conducted by our Master, Bro. Jim Livingstone in the Saloon of the Town Hall. Jim had as his theme “It’s Only Words – Part 2” and shared some thoughts on the world as we see it today and how he felt it might develop for the better. The scripture readings were delivered by the Wardens - Bros. Robert Marshall WSW and Paul Branchfield WJW. Bro. Alan D. Beck PM officiated on the keyboard.

At the conclusion of the Service Brethren, families and friends enjoyed a cuppa and a finger buffet.

No. XII 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.

Bro. Eddie McGill has some old Installation Programmes for me. This is exactly the sort of thing that I am looking for.

Similarly, if you see anything relating to No. XII on sale – anywhere – please advise us so that a purchase may be organised.

Bro 2nd Lieutenant James Hannah No. XII Great War Casualty Gravestone Repair and Reinstatement



Our regular readers will remember that it was reported that the gravestone in Greenock Cemetery for Bro. James had been badly vandalised (left) and that the Lodge was determined to have it fixed. Fraser Downie (Stokes Memorials of Dunoon) has been working over a period of months on the job of restoring the stone to its former glory. He has done so, with great success (below)! Well done, Fraser.



The Twaddles of No. XII More Information

It was sad to have to report that we had lost 2 of our members who had passed to the Grand Lodge above within 2 days of each other in October, viz. James and George Twaddle. 4 Twaddle brothers were members of No. XII viz.

Bro. Hugh Paton Twaddle	Initiated 12th January 1965
Bro. Thomas Twaddle	Initiated 11th January 1966
Bro. George P. Twaddle	Initiated 7th March 1969
Bro. James Croll Twaddle	Initiated 16th February 1971

I asked in the previous edition if anyone could help me with information about Bro. Thomas Twaddle whom I did not know personally. My old pal **Bro. Glenn Greenway of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No. 626** came up with the following within 2 days, all neatly written out to make things easy for me – and not just information about Tommy!

“I was very close friends with both George and Jim Twaddle. They lived first in the East End of Greenock and then, until they married, in Auchmead Road. They both attended Lady Alice Primary and the Mount School. They had 3 brothers – Tommy, Hugh and Andrew - I first met George when we started serving our time as gardeners together with the Burgh of Gourock. Tommy, Hugh and Jim all trained as gardeners with Greenock Corporation. Tommy became a foreman and Hugh the Superintendent at Largs. Andrew served his apprenticeship as a butcher.

Tommy emigrated to the USA in the late 1970s; Hugh’s work took him to Largs; Andrew moved to England; Jim worked as a gardener until moving to IBM but resumed gardening after he retired from there; George also continued gardening after his retirement.

Hugh, George and Jim were all accomplished bowlers and darts players. Hugh won the Renfrewshire Championship at the Paisley Town Hall around 1964.

Greenock Town Hall was instrumental in the Twaddle brothers joining the Craft. All being gardeners, they were involved in floral decorations. Setting up of the Town Hall was always special. (Back in these days the Council Officer had, as part of his job-related duties, the Office of Tyler at No. XII and, as a result, set up the Lodge in the Saloon for all the meetings. When Willie Ogg got the job, he was a member of Lodge Greenock St. John’s No. 175 and affiliated to No. XII. When Dougie Rankin became Willie’s assistant, he was not a Mason but joined No. XII soon thereafter).

Both Willie and Dougie were real gentlemen and when the Twaddle boys were working in the Town Hall, they had many conversations. That’s where the curiosity started! Willie and Dougie started it off and Hugh, Tommy, George and Jim all joined No. XII. It didn’t stop there. Two further gardeners, brothers Eddie and Brian O’Hara, also joined No. XII thanks to the two Council Officers.”

So, thanks to Bro. Glenn for all this information which has allowed us to remember his friends much more effectively.

May they all find their deserved peace and reward in The Grand Lodge Above.

From the Treasurer

(As if we don't have enough expense at Christmas).

1. Monthly Draw

As we inch towards 2024 it is time to renew your subscription to the monthly draw. The annual surplus from the draw goes to our Tercentenary Fund.

Most of you are aware of the draw but for the new Brethren it works as follows -

Anyone can choose 1 or more numbers, at a cost of £1 per number per month - ie £12, £24 . £36 etc per annum

There is a draw made monthly and the winner will receive £25 (could be more if more numbers are taken)

For those of you who pay by standing order there is no need to do anything so long as your s/o is still active and the payment carries on into 2024.

You can pay in the usual ways -

By bank transfer to -

RBS
Sort Code 83 22 20
Account No. 10000509

Payment Ref should be -- your name, DRAW

By cheque, made payable to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning X11 - either hand to me or post to me at 5 Broomberry Drive , Gourock PA19 1JY

By cash, to me

If you already subscribe and wish to continue, I shall try to keep your same number(s) as 2023. If you want any 'lucky' number let me know and I will see what I can do

I hope the above is all clear but mail me if you have any questions.

Regards

David

2. Ritual Books, Tercentenary Badges and Anniversary Badges

These are all available from me with payment by the same means as above. Please contact me for prices etc.

3. Test Fees

These are now **overdue**. If you pay by standing order and the monthly amount is sufficient to cover £45 then you can stop reading now OR if you must, please adjust your S/O accordingly. For those of you who pay as a lump sum please do so in one of the following ways:

Bank transfer, direct to me by cash or cheque at a meeting - cheques payable to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning XII.

'Lifers' are requested to **voluntarily** pay an amount equivalent to the capitation fee i.e., £40.

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.

IW
23.12.23