



Twelve Talk

Issue No. 175
03.11.24

Meetings 2024-25

- 03.09.24
Raising
- * 17.09.24
Mark by Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68
- * 06.10.24
Lecture by Bro. Jim Gardiner PM
- * 20.10.24
Passing
- 05.11.24
Entering by the brethren of No XII
- * 19.11.24
Annual Installation of Office Bearers
- *02.12.24
Annual Divine Service
- *16.12.24
No Meeting

- Saturday 22.02.2
Burns Supper (630 for 7pm)
Held in 626 Masonic Hall, John Street, Gourock
Immortal Memory by Bro. Alex Shuttleworth Senior Grand Chaplain
- Thursday 06.06.25 (TBC)
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 9

Since the Installation of our new Master, Bro. James P Livingstone (left), we have a new look to the front page of Twelve Talk. Jim has again given us his thoughts in the opening article.

Attend your Lodge - please!

Looking back over the month of October, I realise what a busy month it has been and according to my diary (yes, I still keep an old-fashioned diary – none of your phone calendars for me), I note that I attended a total of eighteen meetings during the month, including Installations in 1814, 1566, 1219, 626, 1121 and 173. Five of the six ceremonies witnessed new Masters being placed in the chair of their respective Lodges. However, I was particularly moved by the words of my good friend, Brother Les Pearson, who was being installed into the chair at Lodge Largs St. John, Kilwinning No. 173 yesterday (2nd November), when he gave an undertaking that although he was being installed into the chair for the third time, he assured the Lodge that he would treat every meeting as if it was his first. A great sentiment as it showed that he still had that fire and enthusiasm for the Craft which has been evident throughout his Masonic career.

The quality of ritual work did perhaps vary from Lodge to Lodge but the one constant was the enthusiasm and sincerity with which brethren were installed into their various offices. I hope that all who were installed will demonstrate the same level of commitment as Brother Pearson expressed during his installation as Master in Largs.

In No. XII, we are fortunate to be able to welcome a new member to the Lodge this week and I hope that there will be a full turnout of office-bearers and brethren to welcome him into the Lodge and into the Craft. The intention is to work a very full degree in terms of ritual and I would

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encourage everyone, especially those brethren who for various circumstances haven't managed along for a while, to make every effort to attend. Brethren, from my experience, when a Brother takes a night off, then another night and before you know it, the absence becomes prolonged, it is sometimes very hard to get back into the good habit of attending your Mother Lodge – DON'T BE A STRANGER!!

I would also intend being at Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourock No. 626 on Monday 9th which is conferring a Master Mason's degree (I believe I'm down for the "Emblems") and then on Wednesday 11th, I'm attending a meeting at Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No. 624 which is conferring an Entered Apprentice degree and, apparently, I'm delivering the "signs and secrets." Considering I think that the last time I did that would have been around 35-years ago, that might be an interesting night! It would be good to see any friendly faces from No XII at any of the aforementioned meetings.

Hopefully Brother White will be producing another *Twelve-Talk* before the Installation meeting and I will take the opportunity then of thanking everyone for their support over the last twelve months. (*He will indeed – IW*)

In the meantime, thanks for your continued support and I hope to see you on Tuesday. Let's make the evening a special one for the final hurrah of the "old guard" and for our newest candidate!

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Jim (Right Worshipful Master).

Our Newest Affiliate Member



Bro Ndukwe Ibe, our newest affiliate member is shown with our Master, Bro. Jim Livingstone, in the photo on the left. Bro. Ndukwe had been attending No. XII regularly for a period of time. He affiliated on 17th September 2024.

Bro. Ndukwe will be able to support the Lodge with his musical talents when he becomes Director of Music at the forthcoming Installation.

Bro. Ndukwe's Mother Lodge is Benevolence Lodge No. 100 in the Grand Lodge of Ghana.

Our Previous Meeting Tuesday 22nd October 2024 AGM and Nomination and Election

Our previous meeting was the Annual General Meeting and Nomination and Election of Office Bearers. It was for members only. The usual business and reports were disposed of and then the following Office Bearers were elected for 2024-25

- Right Worshipful Master – Brother Robert Marshall
- Substitute Master – Brother Alan D. Beck PM
- Worshipful Senior Warden – Brother Paul J. Branchfield
- Worshipful Junior Warden – Brother Colin B. Reddy
- Secretary – Brother Kenneth C. MacDougall PM
- Treasurer – Brother David D. Stevenson
- Almoner – Brother Alexander Gray
- Director of Ceremonies – Brother Hector Macphail PM
- Chaplain – Brother Robert J. Bain PM
- Senior Deacon – Brother Iain White PM
- Junior Deacon – Brother Cameron White
- Architect – Brother Craig S. McFadyen
- Jeweller – Brother John W. Dyer
- Sword Bearer – Brother James McGregor Jnr
- Director of Music – Brother Ndukwe Ibe
- Marshal – Brother Ian Moffat
- Inner Guard – Brother Jordan Kincaid
- President of Stewards – Brother Anthony Buckley
- 1st Assistant Steward – Brother Blair D. Fisher
- 2nd Assistant Steward – Brother Edward Molloy
- 3rd Assistant Steward – Brother Alexander Easdale
- 4th Assistant Steward – Brother Alexander McCoist
- Tyler – Brother Bryan G. A. Campbell-Black

Our Next Meeting Tuesday 5th November 2024 Act of Remembrance and Entering



As this is the nearest meeting to Remembrance Sunday, No. XII will hold its annual Act of Remembrance. It marks our appreciation for all who served but particularly those who made the supreme sacrifice. 10 brethren of No. XII died in the Great War and are commemorated on the Lodge's War Memorial Altar (below) which was dedicated in 1922. The 10 who fell are:

Private Archibald Lindsay Barr 2nd Battalion Scots Guards
Engine Room Artificer. George William Campbell Royal Naval Reserve
Lieutenant James Hannah Royal Garrison Artillery
Pioneer Henry Hay Royal Engineers
1st Engineer Arthur Johnston Mercantile Marine
Private John Duncan Macfarlane 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland
Highlanders
Engineer Sub Lieutenant David Rankin Fleming MacKail Royal Navy
Lance Corporal Alexander Niven Russell 6th Battalion Queen's Own
Cameron Highlanders
2nd Lieutenant Joseph Henry Sanders 10th Battalion Cameronians
(Scottish Rifles)
Serjeant James Ritchie Smith 1st/5th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders



These brethren are always remembered in their Mother Lodge.

After the Act of Remembrance, we shall have the last degree worked under the leadership of our present Master, Bro. James P. Livingstone. It is an Entering and will be worked by the brethren of No. XII. The degree team is **Prayer and Obligation** Bro. James P. Livingstone RWM **Secrets** Bob Crossan PM **Apron** Robert Marshall WSW **Northeast Corner** Cameron White IG **Working Tools** Jordan Kincaid **Tracing Board** Ken MacDougall PM **Charge** Colin Reddy SD.

The Candidate for the evening is Mr. Julien James Andre Allee.

Our Master – elect Bro. Robert Marshall



Robert Marshall was initiated into Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII on the 4th of November 2014 and since that time, he has filled a variety of offices, starting at Director of Music, then into progressive office at Inner Guard, working up through each office until most recently Worshipful Senior Warden. He was delighted to be elected to the Office of Right Worshipful Master and looks forward to the year ahead.

Robert, who is from Gourock, is a devoted family man. He has been proudly married to his wife Gillian since 2008, and they have two daughters, Evie and Abbie.

Robert completed an apprenticeship as a mechanical engineer before earning an Honours Degree in Engineering from Glasgow Caledonian University. He later obtained a postgraduate teaching qualification in Further Education from Dundee University.

Currently employed as a Lecturer at West College Scotland, he is integral to the support and rebuilding of the apprenticeship program in Inverclyde and is also involved in various industrial training initiatives.

Outside of work, Robert is a passionate golfer and has been a member of Gourock Golf Club for over 35 years.

Robert hopes to bring his experience of educational methodology and management experience, along with a supportive nature, to further the good work of the Lodge while engaging with all generations of brethren.

Jack and Alistair Glenny Memorial Lecture The 1st/5th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders In Gallipoli Tuesday 7th January 2025

The 5th Argylls was the local Territorial Battalion of the Argylls. It was based in the Drill Hall that used to stand between Finnart Street and Newton Street behind the old Greenock Academy

building. When the Great War came, its members were called up to serve King Country and Empire. Many more volunteered.



The battalion was sent to Gallipoli in 1915 and took part in the Battle of Achi Baba on 12th July 1915. Over 100 officers and men were lost in the charge on the Turkish trenches. The lecture will be delivered by local historian and Gallipoli expert Alan Cumming. His presentation will be followed by a complementary one from Bro Iain White PM which will focus on local freemasons, from No. XII and Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175, who served with the 1st/5th in Gallipoli including Bros. Duncan C Kerr MC, James Reid Kerr and Robert Alan Clapperton-Stewart.

It is planned that the Lodge will open and close and then the Lecture will be open to members of the public. Relevant local societies and individuals will be invited. We hope for a decent turnout to cement our involvement in the local community.

2015 marks the 110th anniversary of the Argylls' Charge at Achi Baba.

Visitors from HMS Warspite in 1921

		No	Lodge	Where	
Bro.	Stobbs.	M. M. 230.	Fidelity	Devonport	E.C.
Bro.	Symons.	- do - 3337	Royal Naval	---	E.C.
Bro.	Diamond	- do - 3337	- do -	---	E.C.
Bro.	Couleon	- do - 3473	United Service	Portland	E.C.
Bro.	Edwards	- do - 1429	- " -	Portsmouth	E.C.
Bro.	Blaydon	- do - 2258	- " -	Slymouth	E.C.
Bro.	Hammelt	- do - 954	St. Aubyn	Devonport	E.C.
Bro.	Skertut	- do - 1110	Lyons & Concord	Leam.	E.C.

The above masonic members from HMS Warspite visited the Lodge on above date

The Visitors Book entry for 10th May 1921 has an interesting section. No. XII received a visit (left) from 7 seamen who were serving on *HMS Warspite* at the time. One must assume that she was visiting Greenock and this was entirely possible as she was on the edge of transferring from the 2nd Battle Squadron of the Atlantic Fleet. She was in the 2nd Squadron from 1918 - May 1921 She paid off on 31st October 1924 for a major refit.

HMS Warspite was one of five *Queen Elizabeth*-class battleships built for the Royal Navy. Her sister ships were *Queen Elizabeth*, *Barham*, *Malaya* and *Valiant*. She was completed during the First World War in 1915, HMS Warspite earned the affectionate nickname "The Grand Old Lady" due to her longevity and the extensive service she provided during both World War I and World War II. Over the decades, she had been through numerous battles, faced several refits, and demonstrated her resilience repeatedly, thereby earning her status and nickname as a venerable and trusted warship.



HMS Warspite in bombardment action on D-Day

Her battle honours were:

Jutland	1916
Atlantic	1939
Narvik	1940
Norway	1940
Calabria	1940
Mediterranean	1940-43
Matapan	1941
Crete	1941
Malta Convoys	1941
Sicily	1943
Salerno	1943
Normandy	1944
Walcheren	1944
English Channel	1944
Biscay	1944



HMS WARSPITE AGROUND AT PRUSSIA COVE, MOUNT'S BAY

Photograph courtesy of Kathryn Atkin

After all her heroics, Warspite came to rather a sad end. On 1 February 1945 she was paid off and reduced to C reserve until 31 July 1946 when she was approved for scrapping. Transferred to BISCO and allocated to Metal Industries at Faslane on 12 March 1947 for breaking up, she left Portsmouth under tow in April but was wrecked in Prussia Cove on the Cornish coast on the 23rd and was subsequently moved and broken up on the beach by St Michael's Mount.



**HMS Warspite
being broken up on
the beach by St
Michael's Mount
1950-1951, photo
courtesy of the
Morrab Photo
Archive**

So back to the brethren who visited. They all had Mother Lodges in naval towns viz. 4 in Devonport, 1 in Plymouth, 1 in Portland and 1 in Portsmouth. 5 were in Lodges with obvious service connections viz. 3 in United Services and 2 Royal Naval. We might wonder if they served in World War II and, if so, did they survive?

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII Burns Club Annual Charity Burns Supper Saturday 22nd February 2025

Following the success of last year's Burns Supper, held in the premises of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No. 626 in John Street, the 2025 Burns Supper will be held there again at 630 for 7pm.



The toast to the Immortal Memory will be delivered by Bro. Rev. Alex Shuttleworth (left) who is an eminent Burns Speaker and is Senior Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

More details will be contained in future issues.

Tercentenary Jewels and No. XII rituals



The Tercentenary Jewel (left) commemorating the Lodge's 300th birthday on 27th December 2028 is available to ALL brethren from the Bro. Treasurer and the price is £12 per jewel.

The new rituals are available to all qualified brethren of No. XII at the price of £15 from Treasurer Bro. David Stevenson. Over half the Rituals have been sold already!

No XII on the Road (1) Bro Hector Macphail PM in Western USA



Earlier this year, Bro Hector and wife Elaine travelled extensively in the west of the United States. Amongst the many places he visited was Mount Rushmore in South Dakota.

The sculpture features the 60-foot-tall (18 m) heads of four United States presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln, chosen to represent the nation's birth, growth, development, and preservation.

I have this from Hector:

During my recent tour around bits of the US, I took this photo of Mount Rushmore, which is in Keystone, South Dakota. Not only was George Washington and Theodore Roosevelt Freemasons but the sculptor of the monument Gutzon Borglum was a Past Master of Howard Lodge No. 35, and his son, Lincoln Borglum who continued the sculpture on his father's death, was a member of Battle River Lodge No. 92. Unfortunately, I couldn't see any mention of this at the monument.

No. XII on the Road (2) Bro. Alexander McCoist in Royal Company



Our Steward-elect, Bro. Alexander McCoist was in Royal company recently when he saw his Dad, Bro. Alistair McCoist, become an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to association football and to broadcasting at the hand of The Prince of Wales. Bro. Alexander said, "What a day it was. Very proud of my Dad and to be in the same room as HRH."

You will see Bro. Alexander in the background, sporting a beard with his family. He is second from the left in his family group.

No. XII on the Road (3) Our Master at Beamish

Earlier in the autumn our Master, Bro. James P. Livingstone, had a wee break and visited Beamish, near Stanley in Co. Durham in the Northeast of England. The Beamish Museum's guiding principle is to preserve an example of everyday life in urban and rural North East England at the climax of industrialisation in the early 20th century. Much of the restoration and interpretation is specific to the late Victorian and Edwardian eras, together with portions of countryside under the influence of Industrial Revolution from 1825. Jim visited the Masonic Temple which is pictured on the right.



The Masonic Hall was opened in 2006 by the Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, The Duke of Kent and features the frontage from a former masonic hall sited in Park Terrace, Sunderland. Reflecting the popularity of the masons in North East England, as well as the main hall, which takes up the full height of the structure, in a small two story arrangement to the front of the hall is also a Robing Room and the Tyler's Room on the ground floor, and a Museum Room upstairs, featuring display cabinets of masonic regalia donated from various lodges. Upstairs is also a class room, with large stained glass window.

No. XII on the Road (4) Our Master at Local Installations

Our Master is a very conscientious visitor and attender at Lodges near and far. Of course, at the moment, we are right in the middle of the Installation season with a meal of steak pie for supper being de rigeur! Bro. Jim has been attending all the Installations in our own Province and a number beyond. He is seen with a few well kent faces in the photos below.



Anchor
Lodge of
Research
No. 1814
RWM Bro.
Kevin
Pollock



Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No. 1121 RWM Bro. Hugh Docherty

**No. XII on the Road (5)
Installation of Lodge The Prince's No. 607
4th November 2024**

Bros. Iain White PM and Alan D. Beck PM will be on duty at Lodge The Prince's No. 607 as part of RWM-elect Bro. Edward Thomson Meek's Installing Team. Both Iain and Alan are affiliate members of The Prince's and indeed Alan is one of its Past Masters. They will be assisted by Bro. Alistair Hughes PM of Lodge Mosspark No. 1329 who is an Honorary Member of The Prince's.

**No. XII on the Road (6)
The Duke of Normandy Lodge No. 245 (EC), St Helier, Jersey
17th October 2024**



Past Master Bro. Iain White is an Honorary Member of Lodge The Gael No. 609 and he may be seen in the photo above with the LTG deputation at the front of the Masonic Centre in St. Helier

where all Jersey Lodges and other orders meet. The Raising witnessed at the Duke of Normandy Lodge was almost exactly the same as the way it is done in No. XII.

If you think that you see Bro. John Le Brocq PM, of Lodge Greenock St. John's No. 175 two along from Bro. Iain you are not mistaken. He too was on the visit. His dad was a native of Jersey and John's son-in-law, Bro. Andrew McLean is Master of Lodge The Gael just now.

A more detailed report will be in the next edition.

No. XII on the Road (7) Lodge Ellangowan No. 716 Milngavie October 2024

The Bros. White had a wee golfing day out to Dougalston Golf Club in Milngavie last month. They were accompanied by Bro Drew McKenzie PM of Lodge Crawfurdsburn and Bro. Frank Molloy of 175. After a stamina sapping round, the 4 were devastated to find the bar closed at the Golf Club. Undeterred, Bro. Drew took them into the centre of Milngavie and to the Social Club of Lodge Ellangowan No. 716 where they were all made most welcome.



Clockwise: The Bros. White; Bro. Molloy; Bro. McKenzie

Information from the Treasurer

Lodge Ties are back in stock and are available from the Bro. Treasurer priced £16 each

Anniversary Badges These are £7 and are also available from the Bro. Treasurer. There are badges for various years' anniversary, from 25 years to 70 years plus the always popular Grumpy Past Master. £2 from each badge sale goes to Grand Lodge Benevolence

Test Fees are now overdue. Owing to increases levied by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the No. XII Test Fees are now £65. If you have not paid your Test Fees you cannot take or hold office, visit other Lodges or vote in the Lodge.

Capitation Fees The Lodge has to pay Grand Lodge £45 for each Life Member. Life Members are encouraged to support the Lodge by covering this sum. They have no Test Fees to pay, but the Grand Lodge still requires payment for them.

Reports on Visits

- The PGL of Renfrewshire West on 2nd October 2024 (Regular Communication) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone, IPM Bro Brian McFadyen, WSW Bro Robert Marshall, WJW Bro Paul Branchfield, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Robert Crossan PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM and Bro Bryan Campbell-Black
- The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 on 4th October 2024 (Annual Installation and Lecture) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Robert Crossan PM, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM and Bro Bryan Campbell-Black
- The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 on 5th October 2024 (Annual Installation) – attended by IPM Bro Brian McFadyen (Installing Master)
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626 on 14th October 2024 (Entering) – attended by Bro David Stevenson

On these occasions, Fraternal Greetings were exchanged. The RWM thanks the brethren for their support on those visits.

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
04.11.24