



# Twelve Talk

Issue No. 181  
17.03.25

## Meetings 2024-25

\*07.01.25

The Jack and Alistair Glenny Memorial Lecture

*The local (1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>) Argylls in Gallipoli*

*Alan Cumming and Iain White*

21.01.25

No Meeting – Inverclyde Music Festival

04.02.25

Passing

18.02.25

Entering

Saturday 22.02.24

Burns Supper (630 for 7pm)

Held in 626 Masonic Hall, John Street, Gourock

*Immortal Memory* by Bro. Alex

*Shuttleworth Senior Grand Chaplain*

*Toast to the Lassies* by Bro. Graham Hill

04.03.25

Raising

18.03.25

Passing

01.04.25

Raising

15.04.25

Mark Ceremonial by Lodge Doric Kilwinning No. 68

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays – September to April  
Summer Meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in June  
Burns Supper – Last Saturday in February

RWM Bro Robert Marshall 3 Victoria Road Gourock PA7 5BY (078958158628)  
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 6 Stirling Drive Gourock PA19 1AH (07810270787)  
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

## Our Previous Meeting Raising Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025



There was a good turnout of brethren for the meeting and we were particularly pleased to welcome Bro. Kevin Barton, RWM of Lodge St. Munn Ardnadam No. 496. He brought a deputation along which included Bro. David Smith, the RWM of Lodge Innellan and Toward No. 1435 as well as brethren from Lodge Dunoon Argyll No. 335 and his own Lodge. Bro. Kevin, of course, has No. XII as his Mother Lodge. He has been in the Chair of 496 since 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 and will be re-installed this Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Kevin's grandfather, Bro Arthur Young was a much loved and respected Master and Past Master of this Lodge. He sat in the Chair of No. XII on 2 occasions from 2005-2007 and 2009-2011. If you look carefully in the photo above you can see Bro. Arthur's name on the Masters' Board.

The candidate was Bro. Julien Allee and the Degree Team was **Prayer:** Bro Robert Bain PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Robert Marshall **Retrospect:** Bro Allan Glen PM **Raising:** Bro Hector Macphail PM **Secrets:** Bro Alan Beck PM **Apron:** WSW Bro Paul Branchfield **Working Tools:** Bro Jordan Kincaid **Traditional History:** Bro Ken MacDougall PM **The Charge:** WSW Bro Paul Branchfield

## Our Next Meeting Passing Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Bro. James P Livingstone IPM will be in the Chair as Bro. Robert Marshall RWM will be in Denmark on business

The candidate is Bro. Tom Phillips. The Degree Team will be **Obligation:** Bro. James P. Livingstone IPM **Secrets:** Bro. Alan D. Beck PM **Working Tools:** Bro. Colin B. Reddy WJW **Tracing Board:** Bro. Ken MacDougall PM Secy. **Charge** Bro. Robert J. Bain PM.

## Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII Burns Club Annual Charity Burns Supper Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025

### The 2025 Burns Supper went ahead!

Although numbers, at 51, were a bit lower than usual, we still enjoyed a great evening with a smashing atmosphere in the 626 hall in Gourrock. Bro. Rev. Alec Shuttleworth gave an amusing and thought-provoking toast to the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns. Bro Alec is an eminent Burns Speaker and is Senior Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Scotland as well as being Master of the Lodge in which Robert Burns was Depute Master – Lodge St. James (Kilwinning) Tarbolton No. 135. Bro. Graham Hill, a member of The Prince's Lodge No. 607 in the Province of Glasgow, gave us the Toast the Lasses and while he gave us a laugh, he also highlighted the works of Burns that are in admiration of the Lassies. Like Bro Alex, Graham is a well-known Burns Speaker. As usual, we had songs from Bro. Alan Beck PM and a reading of Holy Willie's Prayer by Bro. Sandy Reddy HM. Bro. Colin Reddy addressed the haggis and Bro. Cameron White led us in the Selkirk Grace. The piper was Ethan Campbell Black, son of Bro. Bryan.

Of course, one of the main purposes of the Burns Supper is to raise money for Charity through raffles and auctions. Whilst the reduced numbers impaired our ability in this direction, we still managed to raise just over £2000 – a sterling effort in the circumstances!



The workers who set up the hall in the afternoon – Bros. Livingstone, White and McCrae



Bro. Rev Alec Shuttleworth – Immortal Memory



**National Anthem from the Top Table**



**Holy Willie's Prayer  
By Bro. Sandy Reddy**



**Bro. Graham Hill toasts The Lassies**

**Bro. Alan Beck 'gies it laldy'!**

**A few words from Bro. Provost McKenzie**



**The company sings  
"The Star o' Rabbie Burns**



**Top Table guests and Performers**

## **Bro. William Bryce**

**21<sup>st</sup> June 1948 – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025**

**Past Master of Lodge The Gael No. 609 and Honorary Member of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII**



It was with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Bill Bryce, Past Master of Lodge The Gael No. 609 and Honorary Member of No. XII. Bill was the cherished husband of Catriona and loving father to Douglas. His family was at the heart of everything he did, and he will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Indeed, as well as being father and son, Bill and Douglas were the best of pals sharing many interests including sitting side by side at Ibrox Stadium as season ticket holders at The Rangers.

Bill was born in Giffnock, and brought up there, in Cardonald and Drumchapel. After leaving Kingsridge Secondary School, Bill's professional journey began in accountancy, where he trained and worked both at home and in London. However, after a few years, Bill realized that his true passion lay elsewhere. He retrained as an Environmental Health Officer, a role in which he served the communities of Glasgow and West Dunbartonshire with dedication and care.

A proud Scotsman, Bill had a deep love for Scottish music and culture. He was a talented bagpiper, playing with both the Clydebank and Johnstone Pipe Bands, where he formed lasting friendships and became a familiar face at local events. Bill also took great pride in teaching young people in the Boys Brigade how to play the bagpipes, passing on his passion and skill to the next generation.

Beyond the bagpipes, Bill was an accomplished guitarist and singer, performing in celebrated local venues such as the Park Bar. His musical talents were matched by his warmth and generosity, always ready to share a song or a story with friends and strangers alike. Bill's love for music was a cornerstone of his life, and it was a gift he shared freely with those around him. An accomplished raconteur, he was great company, especially when a dram was on the go.

Bill was, of course, a dedicated Freemason, serving as Master of Lodge the Gael No. 609 on two occasions, in 2005 and 2011. His commitment to the Lodge and to the values of Freemasonry was evident throughout his life. In 2012, his son, Douglas, followed in his footsteps, becoming Master of the Lodge, a proud moment for both father and son. Bill's contributions to the fraternity were further recognized in October 2011 when he was made an Honorary Member of No. XII, upon leading a large deputation of his brethren to Greenock to perform the Pipers' Degree. This was most supportive of No. XII. Over 120 brethren attended the meeting and helped the Lodge turn a corner.

Bill's passing leaves a huge chasm in the hearts of his loved ones, but his memory will live on through the many lives he touched. A funeral service was held at Clydebank Crematorium on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March where friends, family and brethren gathered to celebrate Bill's life. Both the presiding Minister and his son Douglas gave moving, yet amusing, eulogies appropriate to Bill's zest for life and his love of a good laugh. There were readings in the Gaelic and English by members of Bill's church, St. Columba Gaelic, where he was an elder. He was led from the cemetery gate to the Crematorium by 9 pipers from Lodge The Gael and the Johnstone Pipe Band. I was proud to be one of them. It was a fitting tribute to Bill.

Bill's music, kindness, humanity and dedication to the Craft will not be forgotten by those of us who were privileged to know him and he will greatly enhance The Grand Lodge Above by his presence there, especially as he meets those from Lodge The Gael who have gone before him.

Iain White PM

## 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.

### Monthly Draw

The Draw has restarted. Contact the Bro. Treasurer to take part. Tickets are £1 per month and multiples may be purchased. The January winner was No. 36 Iain White; February was No. 68 Andrew Winter (per Crawford Kirkpatrick)

The Monthly Draw provides your Lodge with an important source of income and this year I have been able to transfer £420 to the Tercentenary Fund. It is time to renew your subscription. If you pay by Standing Order then you have nothing to do and thank you for your continued support.

To renew or join the Monthly Draw please send £1 per number per month - i.e., £12/£24/£36 etc as you wish -

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RBS

Sort code 83 22 20

account 10000509

Name - Greenock Kilwinning No X11 Social

Ref - your name /draw

Alternatively, set up a Standing Order for the required monthly amount - same bank info

Where I can, I shall use the same numbers you had for 2024. Good luck to all participants,,,,,

I would like to thank various Brethren who, upon being told of their monthly win, very kindly donate the money back to the Lodge. Typically, these Brethren do not want their name publicised but their contribution is very much appreciated. *DS Treasurer No. XII*

## Tercentenary Rededication – Date Confirmed

Grand Secretary has confirmed in an email that the date we requested for the Tercentenary Rededication has been confirmed as Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2028. The Feast of St John the Evangelist will also be celebrated as it was at the Bicentenary on 27<sup>th</sup> December 1928 and, in 2018. 27<sup>th</sup> December is the exact 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Rededications are normally done on Saturdays only, but our Wednesday date is confirmed because No. XII is considered a special case by Grand Lodge.

## Tercentenary Jewels and No. XII rituals



The Tercentenary Jewel (left) commemorating the Lodge's 300<sup>th</sup> birthday on 27<sup>th</sup> 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 Norrie Frizzell - Ratho, Midlothian



Bro Norrie came upon this Masonic Hall in the village of Ratho, near Dalmahoy and Edinburgh Airport. The Lodge now meets in the Ratho Bowling Club and it seems that these premises are to be sold.

## No XII on the Road (2) Bro Alex Johnson Anstruther, Fife

When Bro. Alex sent us this image, we thought he had been visiting Lodge St. Ayle No. 95 in Anstruther. Sadly, this was not the case. He was heading for a fish supper at the famous chippy!



## No XII on the Road (3) Lodge Mosspark Glasgow No. 1329 Centenary Rededication Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Bro Cameron White and I had the pleasure of being the guests of our friend, Bro. Alistair Hughes PM, at the rededication ceremony of his Mother Lodge. Held in the Wynd Centre in Paisley, it was a magnificent ceremony conducted, with great style and aplomb, by the Office Bearers of The Grand Lodge of Scotland. Playing a principal role was Bro. Rev. Alec Shuttleworth who had delivered the Principal Toast at the No XII Burns Supper just 2 weeks before. The role was completely different but Bro. Alec was equally impressive. Our pal Bro. Alistair Hughes was also involved, giving a 7-minute summary of the history of the Lodge in an amusing and interesting delivery.

After the ceremony, we adjourned to enjoy a tasty and plentiful dinner at which the usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were observed.



The Mosspark Centenary Cake

From left: Bros. George Johnston PM  
1414, Alistair Hughes PM 1329, Iain  
White PM XII and Cameron White JD  
XII



**Bro. Alex More PM  
99 Years Young!  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

At our last meeting, Bro. Hector Macphail PM gave us the good news that he had been speaking to our Senior Past Master, Bro Alex More on the telephone in his home in Helmsdale that very morning. He said that Alex was in good form. This was great news but all the better given that it was Alex's 99<sup>th</sup> birthday! Many happy returns! Alex gets a hard copy of each *Twelve Talk* mailed to him.

Alex was in the Chair of No. XII between 1973 and 1975. He was Master for all of my 3 degrees.

**Reports on Visits**

- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626 on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 (Passing) – attended by RWM Bro Robert Marshall and Bro David Stevenson
- Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro Robert Marshall
- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 and Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025 (Joint Annual Divine Service) – attended by RWM Bro Robert Marshall
- The Prince's Lodge No 607 on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 (Burns Supper) – attended by Bro Alan D Beck PM XII PM 607 and Bro Iain White PM XII SD 607

**Annual Hospitality Levy 2024-25**

We all know that the hospitality at No. XII's post meeting harmonies is famed far and wide for its generosity and, of course, President of Stewards Tony Buckley's superb food. However, all the drams and suppers do not come without a cost. Accordingly, each Office Bearer should bring WJW Bro. Colin Reddy a bottle of spirits as soon as possible. He is overseeing collection of the Levy. Of course, brethren of No. XII who wait behind who are not Office Bearers and enjoy the harmonies may wish to contribute too. What they give will be very welcome.

Bro. Colin would also welcome raffle prize donations too from all members.

**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 17.03.25