

Meetings 2019-20

*07.01.20

Lecture by Bro. Alan D. Beck PM
(Mozart, Freemasonry and the
Magic Flute)

* 21.01.20

No meeting – Inverclyde Music
Festival

* 04.02.20

Passing

* 18.02.20

Entering and PGLRW Annual
Visitation (715 pm)

* Saturday 29.02.20

Annual Charity Burns Supper (630
for 7pm)

* 03.03.20

Raising

*17.03.20

Passing

*07.04.20

Raising - **Cancelled**

*21.04.20

Mark - **Cancelled**

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 J Robert Crossan 22 Dungourney Drive Greenock PA16 7UW (07788923074)
Secretary Bro Ken McDougall PM 8 Mount Stuart Drive Wemyss Bay PA18 6DX (07810270787)
Treasurer Bro David Stevenson 5 Broomberry Drive Gourrock PA19 1JY (07887904910)

COVID-19/Corona Virus Pandemic

Obviously, we are all aware of the impact that this pandemic is having across the world. No XII is not exempt. I have the following text from our RW Master, Bro Bob Crossan:

Good afternoon Brethren,

Our meeting on Tuesday 17th March will be going ahead as planned. The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 have confirmed that they will be there to confer the degree and I have checked that the Town Hall is available. However, due to the current Coronavirus situation and advice from NHS and Grand Lodge of Scotland, dispensation has been granted to lodges to cancel meetings as they see fit. As the Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West, Bro Robin McIntyre, reinforced this, only yesterday at 989, and given that all lodges in our Province, and many Provinces in Scotland have taken the decision to cancel meetings, in order to help protect our Brethren, especially elderly Brethren. I have taken the decision that Tuesday 17th March will be our last meeting going forward to at least the end of the current session up

until the recess. Everyone please take care and look out for future updates which I will post here, by text messages and on the Lodge website.

Fraternal and kindest regards

Bob Crossan RWM No XII

This marks something that is unprecedented in the history of No XII.

Our Previous Meetings

Tuesday 18th February Entering

Two Lewis candidates – Mr Alan Stuart Hunter and Mr Cameron White – were initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient freemasonry by the Office Bearers and Brethren of No XII in a packed Lodge Room. The Degree Team was **Prayer** Bro Robert J Bain PM **Obligation** Bro J Robert Crossan RWM **Secrets** Bro KK Morrison PM **Apron** Bro Brian McFadyen WSW **NE Corner** Bro Robert Marshall JD **Working Tools** Bro Robert J Bain PM **Tracing Board** Bro Iain White PM **Charge** Bro Kenneth C MacDougall PM.

The evening also marked the Annual Visitation of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West. The Lodge received a clear minute and the executive members were congratulated for their efficient work.



Tuesday 3rd March Raising

The Office Bearers and Brethren of No XII worked a Raising. The Candidate was Bro Innes Ross Nelson. Joining the RW Master in the East were Bro James Hamilton, RWM of Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68, Bro Eric Sweeney, RWM of Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217, and Bro Adam McKenzie, RWM of Lodge Crawfordsburn Greenock No 1121.

The Degree Team was **Prayer:** Bro Paul Branchfield **Obligation:** RWM Bro J. Robert Crossan **Retrospect:** Bro Iain White PM **Raising:** IPM Bro Allan Glen **Secrets:** Bro Alan Beck PM **Apron:** WSW Bro Brian McFadyen **Working Tools:** IG Bro Alex Johnson **Traditional History:** Bro Bob Bain PM **The Charge:** Bro David Stevenson

Our Next Meeting Tuesday 17th March Passing

On Tuesday we have a Passing which will be conferred by the Office Bearers and Brethren of The Lodge of Erskine No. 1566. The links between the Lodges have been growing ever stronger since our Senior Warden, Bro Brian McFadyen, was in the Chair there in 2014-15. We look forward to receiving the Deputation, especially under the prevailing circumstances. There will be 2 candidates: Bros. Alan Stuart Hunter and Cameron White.

Bro Alistair Glenny PM 24th July 1949 – 9th February 2020



As you are all aware, Alistair took ill on his way home from Penang where he had been visiting his daughter and her family. He made many masonic friends in Malaysia over the years. One such is Dr. Kenneth Khoo who sent a beautiful message to Lynette when Alistair passed to The Grand Lodge Above. I asked his permission to reproduce it in Twelve Talk. He has readily given this. It follows here:

Dear Lynette,

Both Albert and I are indeed so very sorry and heartbroken to hear of the passing of our dear Brother Alistair on 9th February 2020.

Kindly please accept our deepest sympathies and heart-felt condolences to you and your beloved family.

Alistair was truly the best Brother a Freemason can ever hope to meet and to learn from. He was always so very supportive of our Lodge Scotia No. 1003 SC, The Royal Prince of Wales Lodge No. 1555 EC, Neptune Lodge No. 9849 EC and Lodge Shamrock in Penang No. 938 IC and ever since we all had the opportunity to meet him on 18th December 2014 at the Regular

Meeting of Lodge Scotia No. 1003 SC, we have always looked forward most enthusiastically to the end of the year and the start of the new year to once again catch with Alistair.

His kindly presence and humorous disposition would always light us all up with happiness and laughter, and his in-depth knowledge about Freemasonry, which he so enthusiastically shared with each and all of us, always inspired us to learn and to find out more of our own Masonic history. His contribution to both mine and Albert's lives, and to the lives of our Brethren whom he had touched over the many years, as an inspiring example of the finest of humanity will always be cherished by each and all of our Brethren here in Penang.

We are truly so very shocked and deeply saddened to hear of his sudden passing. Alistair had informed me in January 2020 that he was looking to catch up with both Albert and I and with all of our Brethren during the Regular Meetings of The Royal Prince of Wales Lodge No. 1555 EC and Lodge Scotia No. 1003 SC that were held on 8th January 2020 and 16th January 2020 respectively. Quite unfortunately, I had to travel during those moments and had apologised to him that I would have to wait till the next year of 2021 to catch up with him when he next returns. Now I do sincerely regret having made those trips and for having missed out on those invaluable chances of meeting him once again.

As requested, please permit me to attach herewith the photos taken of Alistair during his presence at the Burns Supper on 16th January 2020:



Scotia Lodge No 1003 Scottish Constitution 16th Jan. 2020



We are all truly so very sorry for your very sad loss, Lynette. Our prayers of comfort and thoughts of commiseration will always be there with you and with your family during this moment of mourning and sadness.

Sincerely,

Kenneth

**Left: Bro Alistair having Addressed the Haggis
Scotia Lodge No 1003
16th January 2020**

When in touch with Bro Dr Kenneth myself, he told me “Our Brethren of Penang and our good ladies last had the privilege of sharing a dinner of our Bro. Alistair and Lynette on 22nd January 2019 at a Chinese restaurant here in

Penang, to celebrate our Bro. Alistair's return to all of us, as well as the festivities of the Chinese New Year celebrations then. He attached the photo below.



Maple Palace, 22nd Jan. 2019

(Seated from Left to Right) - Madam Soo See, Myself-Bro. Kenneth Khoo, Bro. Khoo Soo Hay, Bro. Alistair, Bro. Daljit Singh Nagreh (Past District Grand Master of the District Grand Lodge of the Middle East (SC), Hon. SGW (GL Scotland) PM Lodge Scotia No. 1003 SC), (Standing from Left to Right) - Lynette, Madam Li Fong, Bro. Yong Yik King (Bro. IG Lodge Shamrock in Penang No. 938 IC), V. W. Bro. Joseph Tio Khek Leong, V.W. Hon. Past Provincial Junior Grand Chaplain of the Provincial Grand Lodge of South East Asia (GL Ireland) and PM Lodge Shamrock in Penang No. 938 IC, Bro. Sean Ooi Pei Zhong (Bro. JW, Lodge Shamrock in Penang No. 988 IC) and Bro. Albert Lai Tuck Yew (PM Lodge Scotia No. 1003 SC, Hon. JDG Deacon (DGLME - SC)

What a truly happy photo it is too. Alistair had obviously made great friends in the Penang Masonic community and they were all certainly enjoying themselves at dinner. What a wonderful organisation we are privileged to belong to.

Remembering Jack and Alistair Glenny

Whilst we cannot begin to imagine the devastating impact on Jack and Alistair's families of their passing, No XII too has been greatly saddened by the loss of these two stalwart Past Masters within such a short time.

At our meeting on Tuesday 3rd March, a proposal was put to the Lodge by Past Master Bro Iain White. He said that both Alistair and Jack had been great communicators, and Alistair, in particular, had a deep interest in the history of the Lodge and Freemasonry. No XII has an Annual Lecture, usually held in January, which has a focus on the history and workings of the Craft. Bro. Iain's proposal was that, from 2021 on, this lecture be named the Jack and Alistair Glenny Memorial Lecture. In this way, these two much loved, and well-respected, brethren would be formally remembered in the Lodge in all time to come. The proposal was seconded by Bro. Alan D Beck PM and received the unanimous approbation of the brethren.

Test Fees now Overdue!

If you do not pay your Test Fees by standing order, they are now due to be paid to our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson. Similarly, those Brethren who are Life Members and support the Lodge by covering the Annual Capitation Fee to the Grand Lodge of Scotland should also speak to Bro David about payment as soon as possible. It is important that we all meet our financial obligations to the Lodge. Test Fees are now £45, and the Annual Capitation Fee is £35.

Digitising the Lodge Records

The scanning and digitising of the Lodge Minute Books by Anderson Printing in Govan is well under way. The first two volumes (from 1932-41 and 1941-49) have been completed and another lodged with the printers. There will be 2 CD copies of each and on completion one full copy set will be deposited in Grand Lodge in Edinburgh. The digital discs are suitably inscribed as follows: "Digitisation made possible through the generous bequest of Bro. Gordon H. Dickie (1950-2016)"

Annual Charity Burns Supper Saturday 29th February

The Annual Charity Burns Supper now held under the auspices of the Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII Burns Club took place in the Saloon of the Town Hall on the last day of February.

The following report and photograph were submitted to the *Greenock Telegraph* and published on Tuesday 10th March.

Over 90 guests were in the Greenock Town Hall Saloon for the Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII Burns Club's Annual Charity Burns Supper on Saturday with President Bro J Robert Crossan, RW Master of No XII in the Chair. The evening was greatly enjoyed by those who attended and just over £4000 was raised for the 2020 charities, Children in Poverty Inverclyde and Moving On Inverclyde. RWM Bro J Robert Crossan nominated the first charity, whilst the second was the choice of Provost Martin Brennan. A forces' charity, as yet to be



decided, will also benefit. No XII will again sponsor The Greenock Cricket Club and Greenock Wanderers Rugby Football Club.

Cllr Innes Nelson represented the Provost at the Burns Supper and spoke of the long friendship between No XII and Greenock Corporation and, nowadays, Inverclyde Council. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West, Bro Robin McIntyre, again attended.

After the haggis had been piped in by Bro Iain White PM and addressed by Bro Colin B Reddy, Lodge Greenock St John's No 175, Rev Jonathan Fleming said Grace. After a splendid meal supplied by ICE Catering, the Chair for the evening, President Bro Bob Crossan RWM proposed the Loyal Toast. Bro Alan D. Beck PM of No XII delivered an amusing and thought - provoking Immortal Memory. Bro Alan is presently President of The Greenock Burns Club (The Mother Club). Bro Brian McFadyen, Worshipful Senior Warden of No XII and Past Master of The Lodge of Erskine No 1566, proposed the Toast to the Lasses in an amusing and complimentary fashion. Bro Sandy Reddy (HM No XII) recited Holy Willie's Prayer by Burns. The accompanist for the evening was Craig Dunsmore. He was joined on trumpet by Jamie Stables and Bro Alan Beck PM sang.

The success of the fund-raising was undoubtedly due to the persuasive powers of No XII's auctioneer, Bro Alan Beck PM. The Lodge was delighted with support given by other local organisations. Of course, numerous other Lodges within and out with the area were represented and many friends of No XII attended.

The company singing the Star of Rabbie Burns and Auld Lang Syne rounded off the evening. Inverclyde's oldest organisation (instituted in 1728) will continue its charity drive with further activities throughout the year.

Of course, this was the second Burns Supper of the area's newest Burns Club which was constituted on 23rd February last year. At that special moment, Greenock had the oldest and youngest Burns Clubs in the world. Of course, the Greenock Burns Club (The Mother Club) is the oldest having been founded in 1801.



**Back Row: Bro Sandy Reddy Cllr Innes Nelson Bro Colin B Reddy Rev Jonathan Fleming Bro Iain White PM
Front Row: Bros Robin McIntyre RWPGM Alan D Beck PM Bro President Bob Crossan RWM Brian McFadyen**

Charitable Support

Again, at our meeting on Tuesday 3rd March, our Bro Treasurer, Bro. David D. Stevenson, proposed that the Lodge make a donation of £500 from the Charity funds to Bro James Livingstone's abseil challenge at the Forth Rail Bridge in support of Prostate Scotland. The RWM seconded the proposal. No Brother was otherwise minded. Bro Livingstone responded by thanking the Lodge for such a kind and generous donation.

We salute his courage and await the photographs with interest!!

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 at home, please bring them in to enhance our understanding of No XII's past. I was very grateful to Bro Robert J. Bain PM who passed me a biscuit tin filled with Masonic programmes and brochures. An Installation Programme previously missing (1993) is now in the archive folder as are several other programmes of interest from other Lodges and the Provincial Grand Lodge. Thanks Bob!

The Summer Meeting

Bro Alan Beck PM advised that he has been asked by the RW Master to lead the Past Masters' Degree Team this year at the Special Meeting on Thursday 4th June 2020. The Degree will be an Entering. Bro Alan will be in touch with the Past Masters to let them know their place in his grand scheme. Hopefully, it will be able to go ahead.

Reports on Visits

- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 10 February 2020 (Entering) – attended by Bro Iain White PM, Bro Cameron White and Bro Iain MacLeod HM
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 20th February 2020 (Passing) – attended by WSW Bro Brian McFadyen
- Lodge Firth of Clyde, Gourrock No 626 on 24th February 2020 (Raising) - attended by RWM Bro Bob Crossan, WSW Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Crawford Kirkpatrick and Bro Eddie McGill

From the Old Minute Books – and Beyond

As I have said several times now, I am currently involved in some research regarding the Lodge in the 1850s for a contribution to another journal, and, as part of the task, I have been reading, and transcribing, the minutes for all 6 meetings of the Lodge that were held in 1859. Concurrently, Bro Brian McFadyen WSW has been doing some online research in Masonic periodicals from the 19th Century. He has come up with some fascinating information and has shared it with me. I, in turn, have looked to the Minute Books for further enlightenment.

The first feature from our joint endeavours follows

month, but there being no amendment, the motion was carried unanimously; the R.W.M. then ordered him to withdraw. Mr. Stratford before doing so, said he had one request to make, and that was that they would not erase his name from the roll till they heard from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, as he intended to appeal, and they would yet be sorry for the motion they had passed. He then left the lodge. The lodge was then reduced to the apprentice degree, and after some further lodge business, three candidates, Messrs. John Fulton, James Creilman, and Robert Gault, were introduced and regularly initiated into Freemasonry. The ceremony was admirably wrought, and we have seldom heard the "charge" given in more expressive terms than by Bro. Jackson. There was other work to be done, but as the extraordinary business had taken up so much time, it was determined to have an emergency meeting on the 18th inst.

GLASGOW.—*The Star Lodge*.—This lodge met on Monday, Feb. 6th. In the unavoidable absence of Bro. L. Wilson, R.W.M., the chair was taken by Bro. Alston, S.M.; there was a very large attendance both of brethren and visitors, amongst the latter present were—Bro. Bain, P.M. 32; E. Wright, R.W.M. 103; J. Phillips 275; J. Shaw, R.W.M. 354; and D. Reid, R.W.M. 465. The work consisted of three initiations and two passings. At the request of the Acting Master, the first ceremony was performed by Bro. Bain, and the second by Bro. Wright, R.W.M. 103. Bro. Wilson, who had now arrived, tendered the thanks of the lodge to both those brethren, not only for their kindness in attending, but also for the very able way in which they had conducted the ceremonies.

GLASGOW.—*The Scotia Lodge* (No. 219).—This lodge held their monthly meeting on the 10th, Bro. Matheson in the chair, when two candidates were present; arrangements were then made for carrying out the annual festival of the lodge, which will be held next week.

GLASGOW.—*St. Andrew's Chapter* (No. 69).—This lodge met on Tuesday, the 10th, Bros. J. D. Humphries, Z.; D. Campbell, H.; J. Herne, J.; D. B. Fleming, 1st S.; Comp. Oliver, S.E.; there were three candidates for exaltation, the ceremony being worked by Comp. F. Halket, Z. of 113; assisted by J. Halfour, Scribe E. and P.Z. of 73.

GLASGOW.—*Glasgow Chapter* (No. 50).—This chapter assembled on the 12th inst., Comp. John Miller, Z., presiding. A lodge of Mark Masters was opened—J. Miller, W.M.M.; J. Brownlie, S.W.; G. W. Wheeler, acting J.W.; Comp. J. Halket, 213, conducted the ceremony, Comp. F. O. Park acting as S.D. At the conclusion of the ceremonies the 1st Principal proposed that thanks be given to Comps. Halket, Parks, and Wheeler, for their services on this as well as on previous occasions. The three companions briefly returned thanks, expressing the pleasure it afforded them to be of service to any Chapter in the province.

GLASGOW.—*St. Rollor Chapter* (No. 144).—This young chapter met on Friday, the 13th, under the able presidency of its new Z., Comp. R. Bell. Propositions were received for four candidates for exaltation at the next monthly meeting.

GREENOCK.—*Kilwinning Lodge* (No. 12).—A special meeting of this old and very flourishing lodge took place on the 10th inst., when a large number of the brethren assembled to do honour to the occasion, the business of the evening being the presentation to the lodge of a beautiful and costly set of tracing boards by Bro. Captain Shanks, Knight of the Imperial Order of the Medjidie, P. Prov. Grand Warden of Devon, &c. When the lodge had been opened in the first degree, the W.M. called on Bro. Shanks, who then addressed the meeting as follows:—Worshipful Master, Wardens, and brethren, a little more than fifteen years ago I had the honour and privilege of being initiated into Freemasonry in the body of this lodge, and although I have been separated from it for some time in consequence of being in Her Majesty's Service, although I have met with a truly fraternal welcome in every lodge I have visited or belonged to; although elsewhere I have attained a high position in all the degrees; yet I have

never for one moment forgotten that place where I first saw the light, and to this, my Mother Lodge, my thoughts have ever reverted with feelings of the greatest pride and affection, but in saying this I must be simply echoing the sentiments of all the brethren present, for every one who understands Freemasonry properly, everyone who goes deeply into its sublime teachings, must see that the privileges conferred upon us at our own initiation are very great, and he must therefore have this thought ever present in his mind, "What can I do for the lodge which has done so much for me!" He must be constantly saying to himself—

"I never enough can honour her

"Who, past all bounds, has honoured me."

Some few, indeed, there may be who will say "we pay for what we get, and there is no need to do more than that;" but, brethren, I hold that if the sum demanded from candidates for admission to our mysteries was a hundred fold more than it is, that amount even would be no equivalent for the inestimable advantage of being Freemasons; and I therefore, think we all ought to do as much as possible for our lodge. With these views in my mind, and after long consideration, I came to the conclusion that a set of tracing boards was most urgently needed in this lodge for the instruction of the brethren, and I now beg to offer these for your acceptance. [The boards were here unveiled and their splendid appearance drew forth long and loud plaudits from the brethren]. Bro. Shanks continued—I trust these tracing boards may be considered worthy of this lodge, and that their presence here will induce some of the brethren to study the science of Freemasonry more than they have hitherto done, and to search more deeply into the beautiful mysteries of its esoteric teachings, for we should ever remember that one may be thoroughly well versed in the ritual, may be well-informed in our secret means of communication, and yet be only on the very threshold of the science. All the beauty, all the knowledge being within, but still freely open to that Master who would search for them properly, aided by the light of the sacred volume; and it has ever been found that the more we know of Freemasonry, the better we understand its wonderful power for good, the more do we appreciate and love it. In the hope then that these tracing boards may conduce (even in a small degree) to the welfare of this lodge, I now ask your acceptance of them. A hearty and cordial vote of thanks was given to Bro. Shanks for his handsome present; and he then, by request of the W.M., delivered the lecture on the first tracing board in a manner highly gratifying to his audience, and was listened to with that close and interested attention which the Masonic lectures always command when ably delivered. This is the first time a lecture of this kind has ever been given in this lodge; the task being by no means an easy one, very few are willing to undertake it. At the close of the lecture Bro. Shanks was greeted with prolonged and rapturous applause. On one of the tracing boards is fixed an elegant silver plate, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to his Mother Lodge, Greenock Kilwinning, No. 12, by Bro. Captain Shanks, K.M., Royal Marines Light Infantry, Past Master of 139, E.R.; Past Prov. Grand Warden of Devon, 1874."

MASONIC BALLS IN WEST LANCA-
SHIRE.

LIVERPOOL.

The annual ball of the Pembroke Lodge, No. 1299, which holds its meetings at West Derby, near Liverpool, came off with the greatest eclat, and to the delight of every one concerned, at the Assembly Rooms, Hardman-street, Liverpool, on Thursday, the 12th inst. The attendance was large and fashionable, and included a goodly muster of the rulers of the Craft. The arrangements, which were of the most complete and satisfactory character, making the whole festive gathering like a happy family party, were admirably carried out by the following officers and members of the lodge:—Bro. J. Clegg, W.M., President; Bro. G. Aspinall, Treasurer; Bro. A. Jones, Hon. Sec.; and the following committee:

The article from The
Freemason, of February
21st, 1874 sourced by Bro
Brian McFadyen

Further Information from Bro Iain White PM

The Tracing Boards are very much part and parcel of the working of No XII and have been so, intermittently, over the years. When I joined the Lodge in 1974, there was no sign of the Tracing Boards being worked. Some of the youngsters spoke about this and did something about it. Bro Peter R Sinclair, who became RW Master in 1987, was first up doing the Tracing Board in the Second. He was followed in quick time by yours truly, Murray Thomson and Bob Bain. Ken MacDougall joined us in later years. I later found out, when I started devouring the minutes, that the Tracing Board lecture had been delivered, over the years, by Bro Peter R Jacobs, RW Master in 1934 - 36 and subsequently Provincial Grand Treasurer, Secretary, Substitute and Depute. In addition to this he won the MC in the Northumberland Fusiliers in the Great War and was Provost of Gourrock in 1953 -56. Jacobs Drive in Midton is named after him. He was a solicitor by profession. I think he was a partner in Plant, Hill and Jacobs and that the 'Plant' was Alexander Plant who was Master of 175 and, I believe somebody told me, Senior Grand Warden in Grand Lodge at one time. Bro WG Buchanan PM delivered it also in 1913.

In time, yours truly learned the First Degree Tracing Board and Ken MacDougall followed later. I am not aware of it being delivered very often apart from Bro Shanks as per the article and Bro WG Buchanan PM in 1912.

Thus far, it is only Bob Bain who delivers the Third Degree Tracing Board

We knew about the source of the Tracing Boards from the plaque on the black box commemorating the gift by Bro George Shanks. Shanks was a prominent Freemason as the article indicates and as may be seen from the No XII minutes. He first appears in 1858 and 50 years later is still being mentioned and occasionally present.

The "elegant silver plate" mentioned in the article is missing but there is, as we know, a brass plaque on the box.

The extracts from the No XII Minutes that follow are those that feature Bro Shanks.

At a meeting of the Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No 11/12 held in the Royal Hotel Greenock on the evening of Thursday the ninth of December 1858 at eight o'clock

Present Brother John Scott Jr PM acting
 John F McKay Senr Warden
 Robert Grieve Junr Warden
 D Macintyre JW
 John Scott Yst Senr Deacon
 James Newton Junr Deacon
 John Sicklemore Inner Guard
 Adam Leitch Steward
 Wm. Newton Steward

A number of Brothers from The Lodge Greenock Kilwinning

The Lodge having been opened in due Masonic form proceeded to the Initiation after being proposed by Brother Herriot and seconded by Brother McKay of Capt. Peter Maxton and Lieut Joseph Shanks RM of HMS Hogue who were duly entered apprentices and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Masons. It was then proposed by Brother John Scott Jnr, seconded Br McKay and unanimously carried that as the period had now arrived for the election of office

Bearers for next year that a meeting of this Lodge shall be called by circular for that purpose for the evening of Tuesday 14th inst. At eight o'clock in the Royal Hotel after the usual Loyal and Brotherly toasts, the Lodge was closed in due Masonic Form.

(Note the dual numbering of the Lodge)

At a meeting of the Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No 12 held in the Royal Hotel Greenock on the evening of the 27th December 1859 at 8 O'clock

Present Brother John J Mackay RWM

James Ballantine SW
John Scott Yst JW
Thos. Ballantine acting SD
JC Sicklemore JD

Alexr. Anderson IG
Andrew Tasker
John B Crawhall
Alexr. McFarlane
Albert Lewis
Martell
J Elliott
Shanks
JM Ironson

(Again, Shanks signed in but not otherwise mentioned)

For John J Mackay R.W.M. John Scott Yst S.W.

Thursday 27th December 1906

Bro Col. DFD Neill IPM, in the Chair

(Festival of St John the Evangelist)

Telegram Received

... and a telegram was received from Bro Major Shanks, Edinburgh, conveying fraternal greetings to the Lodge. The Secy. was instructed to reply to Major Shanks.

Tuesday 22nd January 1907

Bro RL Scott, RW Master, in the Chair

Letters Read

The Secretary also read an interesting letter from Bro Major Shanks, Edinburgh.

(It would be great to have the letter, but I fear that we do not).

Wednesday 2nd December 1908

Bro WG Buchanan, RW Master, in the Chair

Life membership conferred on Bro Major G Shanks

Bro Major George Shanks now rose and in the course of a racy reminiscent speech referred to the fact that it was 50 years that night since he became a member of Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII and that during all these years it had stood him in good stead and was a step which he never had cause to regret.

On the motion of Bro John J Park SW it was unanimously resolved that the Lodge should take advantage of an auspicious occasion like this to confer Life Membership on Bro Shanks.

Monday 28th December 1908

Bro WG Buchanan, RW Master, in the Chair

Certificate of Life Membership presented to Bro Major G Shanks

During the evening, the RW Master presented a Certificate of Life Membership, on behalf of the brethren, to Bro Major Shanks who has been a member of the Lodge for 50 years having joined when he was a Lieutenant of Marines aboard HMS Hogue the at the Tail of the Bank as Guardship

In appreciative terms, Bro Shanks returned thanks for the honour conferred on him

Monday 31st May 1909

Bro WG Buchanan, RW Master, in the Chair

A telegram was read from Bro Major G Shanks Edinburgh stating that, owing to illness, he was unable to be present. The RWM expressed regret at the cause of his absence and hoped that he would make a speedy recovery.

Friday 29th October 1909

Bro WG Buchanan, RW Master, in the Chair

Appointment of Major Shanks as Proxy Master of a South African Lodge

The RWM conveyed the congratulations of the brethren to Bro Major Shanks on his appointment as Proxy Master of Lodge Southern Cross No 398 South Africa.

(As far as I can see, this is the last mention of Bro Shanks in the Minutes).

We know from the article that Bro Shanks presented the Tracing Boards on 10th February 1874. We have a Minute Book which runs from 1874 till 1889. However, it starts at 30th November 1874. The Minute Book from 1866 till 1874 that precedes this one is missing, so we do not have the Minute of the presentation on 10th February 1874.

There is a mention of the Tracing Boards in the Minute of 23rd December 1874.

At a meeting of the Lodge Greenock Kilwinning held in the Council Chambers 7.30 pm of the evening of 23rd December 1874

James Newton RW Master in the Chair

Tablets Presented by Bro Shanks to be Cased for Preservation

Bro Fox then rose and said he thought he only echoed the sentiments of all the Brethren when he expressed his regret to see the Tablets which Bro Shanks had so generously presented to his Mother Lodge standing exposed to damp and dust and at the risk of being injured by any untoward accident and he suggested that the tablets be cased and put away in a safe and convenient place to be brought out only on approved occasions. Several of the Brethren having spoken to the same effect, Brother Fox's proposal was unanimously and readily agreed to and ordered to be carried out.

From this the black box would have resulted and probably the brass plaque (left) would have been affixed to it at that time.



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. Recently, he passed the mantle on to our Treasurer, Bro David Stevenson. Bro David asked me to start to publicise the badge availability through *XII Talk*. This will now be 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 treasurno12@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
14.03.20

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