

## Meetings 2022-23

- 06.09.22  
Passing
- \* 20.09.22  
Entering
- \* 04.10.22  
Passing
- \* 18.10.22  
AGM and Nomination and  
Election (Members Only)
- \* 01.11.22  
Passing
- \*15.11.22  
Annual Installation (615 pm)
- \*06.12.22  
Annual Divine Service
- \*20.12.22  
No meeting
  
- Saturday 25.02.23  
Burns Supper (630 for 7pm)



**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 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)**

## Installations

Well, it's 'Steak Pie Season' again or, put another way, the run of Annual Installations is under way. From October to December, we have the succession of Friday nights, the occasional Saturday, and in our case in No XII Tuesday evening ceremonies. I went to my first Installation way back, just after my Raising in 1974 and it's been all downhill since then!

It's a strange ritual really. You go along to a meeting and then, often at some unearthly hour, sit down to kind and generous hospitality in the shape of a three-course meal that you certainly don't need. If you are weak-willed like me, this is often accompanied by more refreshments than is sensible and a slower than usual start to the following day.

Already this year I have been to 3 – 2 in the Craft and 1 in the Royal Arch. I have witnessed worthy masons being installed into the Chair by very good Installing Teams whose precision in, and understanding of, the Ritual associated with the Ceremonies has been commendable. I plan to be at another 6 at least – and I am not a Master, Warden nor an active Provincial Office Bearer, all of whom have many more on their schedules. It takes a fair degree of stamina.

Over the years, I can remember having to buy (at least) 4 morning suits as the excesses of food and refreshment resulted in my girth forever expanding. Even if I had attended just 3 installations, on average, each year that is around 144 steak pie dinners I didn't need. How much money would I have saved in morning suits if I had had a fewer steak pie dinners? Ah well, as a famous radio pundit would say, "It's all ifs and buts!"

One thing has struck me increasingly as the years have gone on is the amount of time that many Installations take. Don't get me wrong, as so many of you have experienced, I can blether with the best of them! However, I am trying to do better and you can let me know how I do this year!

I do have some questions to ask that may be a bit contentious. (1) Do Installing Boards need to be out for so long? Could they not be ready and waiting to return as soon as the work inside is finished? (2) How about a 'bullet point approach' to *The Aims and Relationships of the Craft* instead of the present encyclopaedic version with its out-of-date language? (3) Should more consideration be given to Re-installations being done completely in the Lodge with no Board? This was the historical approach in No. XII and we shall use it again this year.

Answers in a plain brown envelope please...

## Meeting of Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 AGM and Election of Office Bearers

We had a reasonable turn out of No. XII brethren for the AGM and Election. Office Bearers for 2022-23 elected were

- Right Worshipful Master – Bro Brian McFadyen
- Substitute Master – Brother Iain White PM
- Worshipful Senior Warden – Brother Alexander R. Johnson
- Worshipful Junior Warden – Brother Robert Marshall
- 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 Paul Branchfield
- Junior Deacon – Brother Colin B. Reddy
- Architect – Brother Craig S. McFadyen
- Jeweller – Brother John W. Dyer
- Sword Bearer – Brother James McGregor Jnr
- Director of Music – Brother Alan D. Beck PM
- Marshal – Brother Ian Moffat
- Inner Guard – Brother Scott Branchfield
- President of Stewards – Brother Anthony Buckley
- 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Steward – Brother Fraser N. Cameron
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Steward – Brother Edward Molloy
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Steward – Brother Cameron White
- Tyler – Brother Ewen A. MacLean

## Our Next Meeting Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Act of Remembrance and Passing

As Tuesday is the meeting before Remembrance Sunday, it will be the Lodge Annual Act of Remembrance for the 10 brethren of No. XII who fell in The Great War and who are named on the Lodge's War Memorial Altar.

This year is the Centenary of the Altar's unveiling on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 1922. Members had supplied donations for its creation.



**War Memorial Altar  
after its refurbishment by  
Bro. Alistair Glenny PM  
in 2020.**



## Lodge Greenock Hillwinning,

No. XII.

Instituted 1728.

Charter Granted 1737.

### WAR MEMORIAL.

At a meeting of the Lodge on 25th January last it was agreed that the War Memorial to our fallen members should take the form of an Altar, with their names inscribed thereon.

So that the names may be completed, all members are again urged to ascertain for themselves the correctness or otherwise of the undernoted list, which includes members who fell while serving in His Majesty's Forces between 4th August, 1914, and 11th November, 1918.

It is earnestly requested that any member who knows of a name, with Branch of Service, not included in the list, will hand it to the Secretary on an early date.

#### The Names are as follows :—

CAMPBELL, GEORGE WILLIAM *R.N.R.*  
HANNAH, JAMES *Highland Mountain Brigade, R.G.A.*  
HAY, HENRY *R.E.*  
JOHNSTONE, ARTHUR *R.N.R.*  
MACFARLANE, DUNCAN *A. & S.H.*  
MACKAIL, DAVID *R.N.R.*  
RUSSELL, ALEXR. NIVEN *Cameron Highlanders.*  
SMITH, JAMES RITCHIE *A. & S.H.*

### War Memorial Altar.

Donations for above may now be made to any of the Office-bearers.

Brethren in communication with absent Members are requested to acquaint them of this matter, so that they may have an opportunity of subscribing.

The No. XII Members who made the supreme sacrifice were 10 in number as opposed to the 8 named above:

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

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn  
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning  
We will remember them.*

On Tuesday there is also a Passing and the Candidate is Bro. Finlay Campbell. The Degree Team is **Prayer:** Bro Bob Bain PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro Brian McFadyen **Secrets:** Bro Bob Crossan IPM **Apron: Working Tools:** Bro Paul Branchfield SD **Tracing Board** Bro Ken MacDougall PM **Charge:** Bob Bain PM.

## The Monthly Draw

Bro David Stevenson, our Treasurer, tells me that the uptake for the Monthly Draw is quite good but we can always do with more participants. It is £1 per number per month, ideally by Standing Order to

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII  
Royal Bank of Scotland  
Sort Code: 83 22 20  
Account Number 10000509

Recent lucky winners have been

September	Alex Gray (No. 9)
October	Paul Stevenson (No. 26)

## Test Fees

From Bro. Treasurer

“We are now in a new financial year and that means that all Test Fees are now due.

**Cost this year is, again, £45.**

I would be obliged if you would arrange to pay in one of the usual ways -

**By cash or cheque** to me on a meeting night. - or post cheque to me at - 5 Broomberry Drive , Gourrock PA19 1JY - cheque made payable to Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No X11

**By bank transfer -**

Transfer to Royal Bank of Scotland  
Sort code 83 22 20  
Account 10000495

Payment Reference - your name & Test

If you wish to set up a **standing order** then please pay £45 NOW and then start your monthly payment from Oct (this is because the Lodge has to pay all fees to GLOS in November )

Use same bank info as above.”

**Life Members -** Any donation you care to make would be appreciated as your Lodge has to pay GL a capitation fee for you.

## Annual Charity Drive Recipients receive Cheques



**From left: Bro Alex Gray (XII) Pat Burke (CiPI) Adam Wines (Foodbank) Iain Stevenson (Foodbank) Bro Brian McFadyen RWM (XII)**

The Annual Charity Drive is a very important part of our work in No. XII. This year, from the Burns Supper and other activities, the Lodge raised £4,500 to distribute. As usual, Inverclyde's Provost (Martin Brennan at the time) was invited to nominate a Charity. We were delighted when he chose our old friends at Children in Poverty Inverclyde and Pat Burke came along to receive the cheque for £1500. In the present situation in our society unfortunately more and more people are becoming dependent upon support from foodbanks. We responded to this by giving £1000 to Inverclyde Foodbank. These presentations are shown in the photo above.

Every year we support a Veterans' Charity and, this year, Erskine received £500. On the right we see the presentation. This took place after the Installation of Office Bearers at The Lodge of Erskine No. 1566.

**From Left: Bros. Brian McFadyen RWM (XII) and Bro. Jim Watret PM (Lodge Blythswood 817) Community Fund Raiser at Erskine**

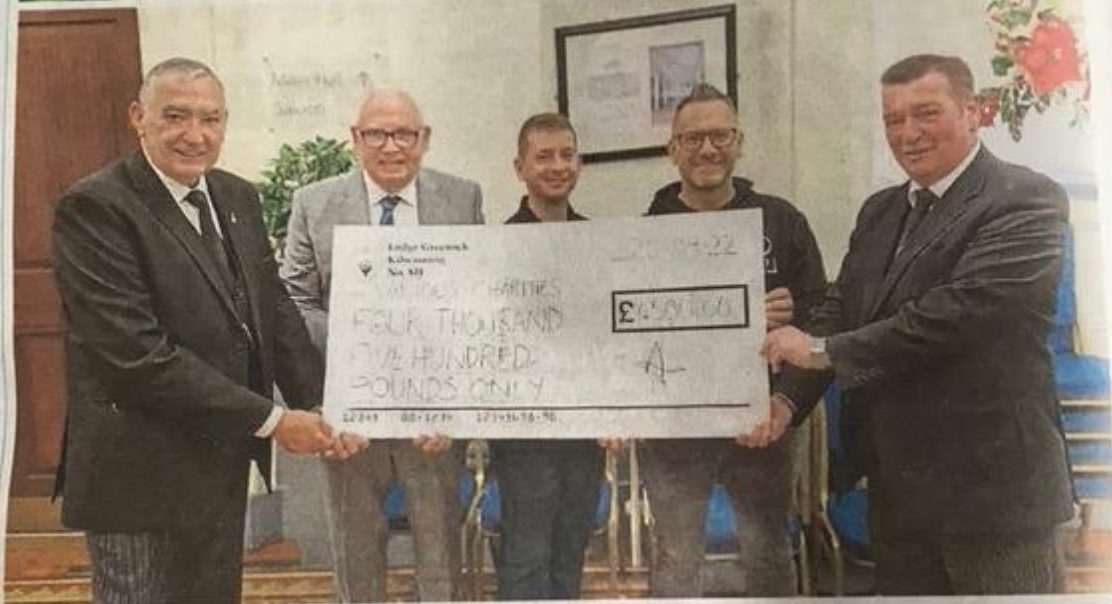
Later in the year, donations will be made to the Robert Burns World Federation for its youth competitions and Prostate Scotland as part of the Grand Master's Appeal. Bro. Jim Livingstone risked life and limb on the zip wire for the latter. Other local charities will also be supported.



This report on our Charitable activities appeared in the *Greenock Telegraph*

editorial@greenocktelegraph.co.uk

# Viator's Talk of the Towns



## LODGE'S BROTHERLY LOVE

**SUPPORTING** charities plays an important part in the work of Masonic lodges such as Greenock Kilwinning No XII.

Inverclyde's oldest organisation - it was instituted in 1728 - raised £4,500 for distribution among worthy causes in 2022.

It came from various fundraising activities, the most significant being the annual Charity Burns Supper in the Town Hall.

The close links between No XII, Greenock Corporation and now Inverclyde Council go back to 1765.

Each year the Provost is asked by the lodge to nominate a charity in recognition of this

special relationship. In 2021, Provost Martin Brennan's choice for this year was Children in Poverty Inverclyde (CIPi).

Right Worshipful Master Bro Brian McFadyen recently handed over a cheque for £1,500 to the organisation's Pat Burke.

Bro McFadyen said: "In No XII we are anxious to make a difference in our community.

"The brethren of No XII were delighted that the Provost picked CIPi because it is a charity with which we have developed a long association and were pleased to see our friend Pat Burke here to receive it."

Also, a cheque for £1,000 was presented to

Adam Wines and Pastor Ian Stevenson of Hope Church, who received it on behalf of Inverclyde Foodbank.

Bro McFadyen said: "We are very grateful in No XII of the work done on behalf of the community by all associated with the foodbank and are glad to be able to assist them in their work."

The accompanying image shows, from left, lodge member Alex Gray, Pat Burke, Adam Wines, Pastor Stevenson and Bro McFadyen.

Lodge No XII will present cheques to Erskine Hospital and other local groups before the year is out.

### Memory Lane...

20 years ago - TWO quick-thinking firefighters rescued an elderly man who was hanging by his fingertips from a Greenock high rise.

60 years ago - AMONG infections diseases reported in Greenock were two cases of scarlet fever, five of chickenpox and one of food poisoning. Port Glasgow had one case of scarlet fever.



### Weather

WE can expect an unsettled day across Inverclyde, with grey skies and scattered showers.

Temperatures will reach 13C this afternoon and there will be a brisk easterly breeze.

Overnight conditions should remain overcast and dry.



**Honour for Bro J Robert Crossan IPM  
Installed as First Principal of  
Greenock Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII**

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October Bro. Bob Crossan took the Chair and, on the evening, several of the brethren of No XII were there to support him in their capacity as Companions of Royal Arch Chapter No. XVII viz. Brian McFadyen, KK Morrison, Iain White, Crawford Kirkpatrick, Eddie McGill, Colin Reddy, Sandy Reddy HM and Kenny McCrae HM. He is supported in his role by MEC Colin Reddy of No. XII who is Third Principal. Second Principal is MEC Graeme Wallace IPM of Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No.626.



**The Installation at RAC No. XVII**

**From Left: MEH Graeme Wallace MEZ Bob Crossan GS Kevin Pollock MEJ Colin Reddy**

## An Invitation for No. XII

The Lodge of Erskine No 1566 has invited No. XII to confer a Master Mason degree at its meeting on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The RW Master Bro. Brian received the support of the brethren to accept the invitation and we look forward to working in the RWM's affiliate Lodge again - where, of course, he is a Past Master.

## From Bygone Days - Bro R.J. Drainer Jr. PM

Some time ago, I bumped into Roy Drainer's widow Barbara in the Co-op in Fox Street and we a nice blether. She is in good order. I was asking if she had any photos or other memorabilia from Roy's time in No XII. Roy of course was a very highly regarded mason. He was a local dentist. His Dad Bob Drainer was also a highly esteemed Past Master of No. XII. Bob was a teacher of Classics by profession and went on to become Headteacher at Gourock High School and then Camphill High in Paisley.

Roy used to provide the music at our ceremonials. He played an old-fashioned American Organ that operated through the medium of big foot pedals – hard and challenging work! Roy was the consummate floor worker. Clarity, precision and sincerity were his hallmarks. He was also a

Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden of The Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West.



Anyway, back to Barbara. The COVID crisis had intervened but recently she called me to say that she had found some photos. I went up to collect them from her and we had a great chat over old times and how the Lodge is doing going into the future. It turned out that Barbara had unearthed a bit of a treasure chest for us.

### The Installation of Bro Alex More as RWM 1973

Back: Bros William W Irving WSW Wilson J McCulloch WJW KK Morrison SD John C Glenny JD  
Front; RJ Drainer PM RJ Drainer Jr IPM Provost James Boyd Alex More RWM David M Leith PM  
Bros. Drainer (Sr and Jr) and Bro Leith are the Installing Masters

Over the years, Roy was an Installing Master on very many occasions, including being twice part of my team. In the photo above, it is the Installation of Bro. Alex More as Master in 1973.

Provost Jimmy Boyd may be seen in the front centre of the photograph which was taken in the Provost's Room. A careful look at the Provost will tell that his Chain of Office is the original which was mysteriously stolen from the Town Buildings sometime later. Never recovered, it had to be replaced. In these days, it was the custom that the Provost, as the First Citizen, would invite



the RW Master and his Installing Masters for hospitality in his room immediately after the Installation Ceremony. We are delighted that this practice is to be reinstated this year.

Of those in the photo, Bro Alex More is our Senior Past Master but being resident in Helmsdale is unable to be at our meetings; Bro KK Morrison PM is still a stalwart, of course. Sadly, all the others have passed to the Grand Lodge Above.

*Footnote: Barbara Drainer is, of course, "Auntie Babs" to IPM Bro. Graeme Wallace of Firth of Clyde Gourock No.626 and WJW Bro Iain Wallace!*

## **Reports on Visits**

- The Anchor Lodge of Research No 1814 on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro James Livingstone and Bro Bryan Campbell-Black
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 (Mark Master Mason) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro James Livingstone, Bro Eddie McGill and Bro Cameron White
- Lodge The Gael No 609 on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022 (Entering – The Pipers' Degree) – attended by Bro Iain White PM (part of degree team), Bro Hamish McLachlan PM HM, Bro Keith Bowes PM HM and Bro William Bryce PM HM
- The Bridgeton and Glasgow Shamrock & Thistle Lodge No 275 on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022 (Raising) – attended by Bro Iain White PM and Bro Cameron White
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No 626 on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2022 (Annual Installation) – attended by RWM Bro Brian McFadyen, IPM Bro Robert Crossan, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Iain White PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro James Livingstone, Bro Eddie McGill, Bro David Stevenson and Bro Cameron White

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

## **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.

## **Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No XII Burns Club - Annual Burns Supper 2023**

The Burns Supper will be held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023 in The Saloon of the Town Hall, Greenock. As ever, a great night will be in store. Bro. Bobby Kane, Past President of The Robert Burns World Federation will propose The Immortal Memory.

It will, as usual, be a fund raiser for our Charity Drive.

## 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 [treasurno12@aol.com](mailto: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**  
**31.10.22**

**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.**