

Meetings 2023-24

- 16.01.24
Jack and Alistair Glenny Memorial
Lecture
Bro. Rev. Iain Ramsden
- * 06.02.24
Passing and PGLRW Annual Visit (715 start)
- * 20.02.24
Passing
- *05.03.24
Mark
Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourock No. 626
- * 19.03.24
Lecture
Bro. Janes Gardiner PM
- *02.04.24
Raising
- *16.04.24
Mark
Lodge Renfrew County Kilwinning No. 370
- Saturday 24. 02.24
Burns Supper (630 for 7pm)
Held in 626 Masonic Hall, John Street, Gourock
- Thursday 06.06.24 (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 5

With the Installation of our new Master, Bro. James P Livingstone (left), we have a new look to the front page of Twelve Talk. Usually, Jim gives us his thoughts to make up the opening article. This week, he hands this spot over to the family of our Senior Warden Bro. Robert Marshall. Robert, himself, tells the story of the immense bravery of their daughter Abbie in battling Septicaemia Meningococcal B Meningitis and triumphing against all the odds.

Robert writes: I would like to thank you all for the overwhelming support for Abbie's walking challenge to raise funds for *Meningitis Now*. As part of that thanks, I would like to share our experience and backstory as to how we as a family became supporters of *Meningitis Now*, how awful Meningitis is as an illness, and highlight the kind of work the charity does for those affected by this destructive illness.

Abbie was 13 days old when she started making a whimpering noise



through the night. In the morning Gillian decided, against the advice of the health centre I hasten to add, to take her to A&E. On arriving Abbie was taken straight into a triage room. We knew things were extremely bad as when I arrived at the hospital, I was asked if we wanted anyone to contact a Minister or a Priest on our behalf, we also started to notice the nurses all around us were crying. I'll never forget how cold my blood ran or the helpless panic which set in.

Before we knew it, doctors were called from around the hospital one of whom happened to be a paediatrician down from RAH. They worked tirelessly on her, at one point Gillian held Abbie as they used a small hand drill into her tiny shin bones to administer antibiotics. This was required as she had a heart rate of approximately 260bpm and next to no blood

pressure causing most of her veins to collapse and this was the only remaining way to get any medicine into her system. Abbie was then placed in a “cold air Bear hugger” which was to regulate her extreme temperature. We were then told to leave the room, as a full crash team came from Yorkhill Hospital in a bid to stabilise her long enough to give the antibiotics a chance to do something to help her fight the infection.

We were told to be prepared for the worst as Abbie really had an extremely small chance of survival. The crash team took 7 hours to stabilise her, then move her to Yorkhill Hospital intensive care unit. We couldn't go in the ambulance transfer due to all the medical team and equipment in the back keeping her



alive. I drove up in pursuit of the ambulance which still to this day may be one of the most surreal car journeys I've ever driven. When she got to Yorkhill we learned that she had Septicaemia Meningococcal B Meningitis. She was placed in an induced coma. Abbie would then spend 3 weeks in Intensive Care. In this time Meningitis had become Encephalitis. She suffered a blood clot in her brain because of the intravenous lines in her jugular vein, this caused her to experience seizures causing damage to her brain. As further result of having Meningitis Abbie now lives with Hydrocephalus. We spent a further 5

weeks at Yorkhill until Abbie was thankfully able to come home to her extremely worried 2 year old big sister Evie. This could only happen after we learned how to inject her with medicine to break up her blood clot, and how to give her anti-seizure medication which, strangely became second nature at the time.

Abbie truly is a miracle. We were told by one of the consultants at Yorkhill, that they had never seen such a sick baby survive.

Abbie deals every day with the effects of Meningitis. I was once told by one of the Meningitis now team when Abbie was around a year old that, if someone contracts Meningitis, they must spend the rest of their life dealing with the aftereffects.

We can better understand that piece of advice as Abbie has dealt with delayed speech, memory retention problems and sensory issues. However, she never complains, she just puts one foot in front of the other, all the while realising how Meningitis has affected her life.

Meningitis Now is an excellent charity at supporting families such as ours and raising awareness of this awful disease and campaigning for vaccines.

The Charity states: - *“At Meningitis Now, we understand how tough life after meningitis can be.*

As a centre for aftercare & support with over 35 years of experience, we offer an unrivalled range of information and support services. Our diverse and experienced team are here to provide emotional, practical and financial support for everyone in the UK who has been affected by meningitis, completely free of charge”.

We have met some families whose family weren't as fortunate as us in terms of their loved one's recovery and can truthfully say what they do is so important.



The Money Abbie has raised by **walking 270099 steps in the month of January totalled £2329**, will go towards their many great services of: -

- Contact our Helpline.
- Community support
- Supporting young people
- Peer support
- Bereavement support
- Financial support
- Support events.
- Legal support

and many other great areas of work to attain their mission of *“a future where no-one in the UK loses their life to meningitis and everyone affected gets the support, they need to rebuild their lives”*.

I thank you all from our whole family and on behalf of the charity for supporting Abbie’s fundraising efforts.



As well as donations from many individuals, *Meningitis Now* has been supported by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West, Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII, Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No. 626 and Lodge Ardgowan Inverkip No. 1425.

Our Previous Meeting Tuesday 6th February 2024 Passing and Annual Visit of PGLRW

Our Master, Bro James P. Livingstone was delighted to welcome Bro. H. Campbell Barr PM back into the Lodge. Everyone was delighted to see him amongst the brethren again. Masters of 4 Lodges in the Province were welcomed to the East – 68, 175, 217, 626 - along with Bro. James Goldie of Lodge Montgomerie Kilwinning Skelmorlie No. 624 and Bro John Muir of Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759 from Ayrshire.

The 50 members of No. XII and visiting brethren were joined by a deputation of 24 brethren from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West. The brethren of the Lodge were pleased to be awarded a clear minute for the year 2022-23.

Bro. Alexander McCoist was then Passed. The Degree team was **Prayer:** Bro Bob Bain PM **Obligation:** RWM Bro James P Livingstone **Secrets:** Bro Alan Beck PM **Apron:** WSW Bro Robert Marshall **Working Tools:** Bro Jordan Kincaid **The Tracing Board:** Bro Ken MacDougall PM **The Charge:** Bro Bob Bain PM.

Also on the evening, Bro. Alan D. Beck PM was presented with rank, jewel and certificate of Honorary Assistant Grand Secretary to recognise 5 years spent as Provincial Grand Secretary.

Our Next Meeting Tuesday 20th February 2024 Passing

The next Lodge meeting is again, a Passing, this time of Bro. Alexander Easdale. The meeting will be back to the usual starting time of 730 pm.

No. XII on the Road (1)
Thursday 8th February 2024
Lodge Houston St. Johnstone No. 242

Bro Iain White PM had the honour of Delivering the James Donald Memorial Lecture at 242. His challenging topic “Leadership in the Scottish Craft – A Disaster waiting to Happen” was well received by the large number of brethren present and a lengthy question and answer session and discussion followed the presentation. Indeed, the formal discussion concluded, but was still going on informally, some 45 minutes or so later when Bro. Iain left the building.

As a consequence of this presentation, he has been invited to talk on the same theme at The Trades House of Glasgow Lodge No. 1241 on Wednesday 27th March. This is the evening of the Annual Visitation by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Glasgow.

No. XII on the Road (2)
Saturday 10th February 2024
Burns Supper of Lodge Thistle No. 127

It was a fantastic evening in the Temple of Lodge Thistle in Stewarton, Ayrshire, at its Annual Burns Supper. Bro Iain White PM had been invited by Bro. Archie Chalmers PM Past RWPGM (Ayrshire) to deliver the Immortal Memory. The room was packed, a great meal was had and the audience of brethren, their wives and friends were in good form. After his speech, Bro. Iain was able to sit back and enjoy songs and a hysterically funny toast to the Lassies from Bro. Rev. Alex Shuttleworth (DM of Lodge St. James (Kilwinning) Tarbolton No. 135) and an excellent reply – done in rhyme – by his wife Rev. Margaret Shuttleworth. There were readings from Bro. Bobby Green PM of Lodge St John No. 11 in Maybole. Bro Archie Chalmers delivered the Toast to the Artistes, after having been the butt of many jokes through the evening. The whole event was expertly Chaired by Bro. Angus MacDonald RWM of Lodge Thistle.



Top Table – Lodge Thistle No. 127 – 10th February 2024
Bro Iain White, Mrs Sadie Chalmers, Bro Archie Chalmers, RWM Bro Angus MacDonald, Bro. Rev. Alex. Shuttleworth, Rev. Margaret Shuttleworth, Bro. Bobby Green

No. XII on the Road (3)
Friday 16th February 2024
Burns Supper of Barrhead Bowling Club

Our Senior Deacon, Bro. Colin Reddy, is a Past Champion Bowler and Past President of Barrhead Bowling Club, close to where he lives. In 2023, he resurrected the Club's Burns Supper and carried it on into 2024. This year turned out to be an evening where the entertainment was supplied largely by brethren of No. XII viz. the Address to the Haggis by Colin himself, the Selkirk Grace by our Inner Guard Bro. Cameron White (making his debut on the Burns circuit), readings by Bro. Sandy Reddy HM, the Immortal Memory by Bro. Alan D. Beck PM and piping and The Lasses by Bro. Iain White PM. The only entertainer not a No. XII member was Jimmy Law from Skelmorlie, who is President of Poosie Nancy's Burns Club, and gave a truly hilarious version of Burns's *The Holy Fair* and some shorter humorous poems.



Barrhead Bowling Club Burns Supper
16th February 2024
XII + 1 on Tour

From Left: Cameron White, Iain White, Alan Beck, Colin Reddy, Jimmy Law and Sandy Reddy





Annual Hospitality Levy 2023-24 Final reminder

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, tall the drams and suppers do not come without a cost. Accordingly, each Office Bearer should bring WSW Bro. Paul Branchfield £10 in cash or a bottle of spirits as soon as possible. He is overseeing collection of the Levy. Of course, brethren of No. XII who wait behind and enjoy the harmonies may wish to contribute too and what they give will be very welcome.

Rituals and Tercentenary Jewels

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



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

Lodge Greenock Kilwinning No. XII Burns Club

Annual Charity Burns Supper - Saturday 24th February 2024

Now Sold Out!



The Immortal Memory will be given by Bro. Bobby Shaw (left), Past Master of The Bridgeton and Glasgow Shamrock and Thistle Lodge No. 275 on 2 occasions and Lodge The Prince's No. 607. He is presently one of the Province of Glasgow's Substitute Grand Masters and is a Past President of (at least) 2 Burns Clubs.



The Toast to The Lassies will be delivered by Bro. Martin Cassidy (left), IP Master of Lodge Craigends No. 1042 in Linwood. Bro. Martin has worn many Burns Club Presidential Chains!

It is a Charity Event and amongst those that will benefit this year are Ardgowan Hospice (nominated by Provost Bro. McKenzie) and Children in Poverty Inverclyde.

We are still looking for raffle prizes and items for auction!

Reports on Visits

- Lodge Georgetown No 1170 on 17th January 2024 (Raising conferred by The Lodge of Erskine No 1566) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone and IPM Bro Brian McFadyen
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 18th January 2024 (Passing Exemplification and AV of PGLRW) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone, Bro Hector Macphail PM, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM and Bro Eddie McGill
- Lodge St John Dalmuir No 543 on 20th January 2024 (150th Anniversary and Rededication) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626 on 22nd January 2024 (Passing and AV of PGLRW) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Ken MacDougall PM, Bro David Stevenson and Bro Eddie McGill
- Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East on 27th January 2024 (Annual Meeting) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone

- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 27th January 2024 (Raising) – attended by IPM Bro Brian McFadyen
- Lodge Greenock St John's No 175 on 27th January 2024 (Passing) – attended by Bro Colin Reddy
- Lodge Firth of Clyde Gourrock No 626 and Lodge Inverkip Ardgowan No 1425 on 28th January 2024 (Joint Annual Divine Service) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone who led the service, IPM Bro Brian McFadyen, WSW Bro Robert Marshall, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Bob Crossan PM and Bro Ken MacDougall PM
- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 on 29th January 2024 (Raising) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone and WSW Bro Robert Marshall
- Lodge Burns Dundonald No 1759 on 30th January 2024 (Passing conferred by various invited wardens from other lodges) – attended by WSW Bro Robert Marshall and WJW Bro Paul Branchfield who took part in the degree, IPM Bro Brian McFadyen and Bro Bob Bain PM
- Lodge Gleniffer No. 1219 on 30th January 2024 (Passing conferred by Lodge Largs St. John Kilwinning No 173) - attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone
- Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 1st February 2024 (Entering Exemplification) – attended by IPM Bro Brian McFadyen, Bro Alex Gray and Bro Alexander McCoist
- Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire West on 2nd February 2024 (Annual Installation) – attended by WSW Bro Robert Marshall, Bro Alan Beck PM, Bro Kenneth Morrison PM, Bro Bob Bain PM, Bro Robert Crossan PM, Bro Hector Macphail PM and Bro Ken MacDougall PM
- Lodge Mossspark No 1329 on Saturday 3rd February 2024 (Burns Supper) – attended by Bro Iain White PM (Toast to the Lassies), Bro Cameron White and Bro Sandy Reddy HM (Readings)
- Lodge Doric Kilwinning No 68 and Lodge Cumberland Kilwinning No 217 on 4th February 2024 (Joint Annual Divine Service) – attended by RWM Bro James Livingstone

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

Monthly Draw

The Monthly Draw for 2024 is now under way and if you haven't confirmed your entry yet, please contact our Treasurer Bro. David Stevenson. It is £1 per month per ticket. The good news is that you can buy as many numbers as you like!

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
19.02.24