

PROVINCIAL PATTERN

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty

ISSUE NO 75

MAY 2013



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News from the Lodges

Bits and Pieces including news from Royal Arch, Squaremen,

Rosicrucian and Grand Priory

The Sinclair Bruce Diary

Signed Scotland Rugby shirt Auction – see page 3

Cover picture: Fortrose Harbour as the sun sets in the west

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Editorial

Welcome to the 75th edition of the Patter. I really cannot believe that we have reached edition 75. When I produced edition No 1 in November 1994, it consisted of two A4 pages – we’ve come a long way from then and I’m indebted to all who regularly contribute to the Patter. The first edition was circulated to the then eleven Lodges in the Province by post. Today, over 300 copies are sent out each quarter electronically to Brethren literally all over the world reflecting the fact that our wee Province in the north of Scotland is recognised and respected world wide. I am also aware that many more copies are circulated by the Brethren who receive a copy direct. Thank you to all those who assiduously forward the newsletter – it is greatly appreciated.

However, it would be wrong to become complacent – there is always room for improvement, innovation and creativity and as we now head towards the first Centenary of the Patter, I look forward to receiving your articles but also your ideas and suggestions for the continuing improvement of the newsletter. In the very first issue I stated that – *“the reason behind the quarterly newsletter is quite simple – to provide a medium to keep Brethren throughout the Province up to date with events, information and snippets of news”* – that hasn’t changed and hopefully will continue to be the *raison d’être* behind the publication – but I’m sure it can be done better. Your constructive criticism would be welcomed. In fact for the first time, thanks to a suggestion from Bro Kish Ranai, Lodge St Andrews No 1437 in Singapore, we have a cover page – not sure I’ve got it right but would welcome photographs from around the Province to illustrate the cover page in future editions.

Once again, my sincere thanks to everyone, past and present, who has contributed in any way whatsoever to the success of the “Patter” – without your input, distribution skills and encouragement it just would not have happened – thank you.

Ramsay McGhee, Editor

Grand Lodge of Scotland

The next Grand Lodge Communication will be held in Grand Hall on Thursday 13th June 2013 at 14.00 hours.



Over the next few months Grand Lodge Office-bearers

have a fairly heavy schedule which includes –

4th May – Centenary Celebrations in Lodge Kyles of Bute No 1120 in Tighnabruich

11th May – Installation of Bro Robert Little as PGM of Ayrshire in Troon and on the same day the Centenary Celebrations of Lodge Paisley St James No 1116

18th May – Centenary celebrations of Lodge Ercildoune No 1119 in Earlston and on the same day the Grand Master Mason and Grand Secretary will be in Athens for the yearly communication of the National Grand Lodge of Greece.

From 23rd to 26th May the ICHF Conference will be taking place in Grand Lodge in Edinburgh.

25th May – Centenary celebrations in Lodge Kyle No 1117, Kyle of Lochalsh

3rd June – Consecration of the new District Grand Lodge of Lebanon in Beirut which will be conducted by the Grand Master Mason assisted by Grand Secretary, Grand D of C and Past Senior Grand Chaplain, Bro Rev Andrew E Paterson JP.

5th June – the Grand Master Mason and Grand secretary will attend the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in Dublin.

15th June – Past Depute Grand Master, Bro Hugh Bryson along with Grand Almoner and Grand D of C will carry out the Centenary Celebrations in Lodge Tullibardine in the East No 1118.

17th June – Grand D of C will attend a meeting of Lodge St Andrew No 1437 in Singapore.

29th June – Installation of the Provincial Grand Master of Kilwinning.

Grand Lodge duties quieten down through July but commence again on 10th August when they attend the centenary Celebrations of Lodge Auchtergaven No 1123 in Perth.

Brethren wishing to attend any of the foregoing should contact the local Lodge Secretaries.

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Provincial Grand Lodge:

Congratulations to Brother Ramsay McGhee on producing this, the 75th edition of the Provincial Patter. Over these past many years the Provincial Patter has been warmly welcomed by many Brethren both at home and abroad and gives them an insight to the fellowship and activities within our Province.

As we approach the end of the season, can I advise of important meetings to be held during May.

Firstly, the Provincial Lodge of Sorrow to be held on Sunday 12th May at 3.00 pm within Lodge Fingal No. 318 and will be conducted by Provincial Senior Grand Chaplain Brother Rev Ivan Warwick. This meeting gives us the opportunity to remember all those Brethren from the Lodges within the Province who have passed to the Grand Lodge above

The second meeting is the Centenary Celebration of Lodge Kyle No. 1117 to be held on Saturday 25th May with Brethren to be seated by 1.50 pm.

Finally, I would remind all Brethren of our Annual Meeting and Installation of Elected Office – bearers to be held on Wednesday 29th May at 8.00 pm within Lodge Fingal No 318 and I would encourage as many as possible to attend these meetings.

The majority of Provincial Visitations have been completed and I am delighted to report that in general terms the Daughter Lodges are doing well. Some may be short of candidates and some may be lacking in the attendance of Brethren but hopefully with some genuine effort these matters will improve.

As you proceed to your summer break may I wish you and your families an enjoyable time and may you all return to the new season greatly refreshed for the work in promoting Freemasonry in our Province.

William Ross
Provincial Grand Master

STAR AUCTION – in Lodge Rosehaugh – 3rd May

This Friday night at the Regular meeting of Lodge Rosehaugh, I will be auctioning a signed Scotland rugby shirt on behalf of the grand-daughter of PM John Patience. She is heading to Africa under the "First Aid Africa" scheme and has to raise a considerable amount of money to do so. If anyone would like to submit a "computer bid" before 6.00 pm on Friday night I'll happily put it in the ring - all bids welcome - just drop me a line on face book, email me on w.r.mcgee@btinternet.com or phone me on 07770 37 37 72 - many thanks and I look forward to receiving your bids - *Ramsay*

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From The Provincial Almoner

Once again there is, fortunately, not a lot to report, but unfortunately I must start again on a sad note. We learned recently of the passing to the Grand Lodge above of Brother Iain Matheson, Lodge Kyle (brother of PM Colin Matheson, Lodge Fingal). Iain had suffered a severe stroke and for some time had not been well. He is survived by his wife Rose and a grown up son and daughter.

On a similar note we should record the sad and untimely passing of Dawn MacDonald, daughter of PM Bill Beavis, Lodge Averon, and his wife Emily. Dawn passed away after a long illness and leaves her husband, Wesley, and a young family, Tyler and Missy.

Appropriate cards have been sent to both families conveying the deepest sympathies of the Provincial Grand Master and Brethren of the Province.

PM Duncan Munro, Lodge Averon continues to make good progress after his illness and is regularly attending meetings. He no longer has his daily dose of anti-biotics and I understand that he intends to travel to the annual Provincial Visitation to Stornoway where he hopes to sample some more natural anti-biotics! PM Donald George Ross, Lodge St. Duthus has had a change in some of his medication and feels that his health is slightly improving.

PM Dougie MacLeod is currently in Sutor Ward, County and Community Hospital, Invergordon, after having had chemotherapy.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank, most sincerely, all those who enquired about me during my recent stay in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.

Finally, as usual, can I ask that all those who require my services or who wish to inform me of any matter which may require my services please contact me by telephone or e mail.

David MacMaster,
Provincial Grand Almoner
Tel: 01997 421306 email: david@strathpeffer.net



The Master of Lodge Rosehaugh No 1216, Bro Scott Patience, presenting a cheque to the local branch of the Sea Scouts.

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FROM THE LODGES

Lodge St Duthus No 82



Lodge St Duthus No 82 has now entered its closed season after holding its final meeting for the season on the 15th April when we worked a Fellow Craft degree. Our season from Christmas 2012 was fairly quiet in terms of candidates having only had one candidate during the session and I would like to take the opportunity to welcome our newest Brother, Clifford Shearer, into Lodge St Duthus No 82 and wish him well in his Masonic career.

Lodge St Duthus No 82 during the past session held a very successful Annual Divine Service once again carried out By the Rev. Susan Brown who gave a very thought provoking and interactive sermon on David and Goliath. Sadly attendance this year was down on last year and it is felt that this was due to the meeting conflicting with other Masonic dates on the calendar; unfortunately in our planning Rev Brown also had a busy diary.

As is our custom at St Duthus, the first Master Masons Degree after our Installation of Office Bearers is carried out by the Past Masters of Lodge St Duthus. This year it was the turn of PM Robin Cattanach to return to the Chair of King Solomon and preside over the working of the degree. He was ably assisted during the evening by R Patullo PM as WSW, H Fraser PM as WJW, A Waugh PM as SD, H Patience PM as JD, M McGougan PM as IG, and D Patience PM as SM with D McMaster PM as Chaplain. During the evening where the Third degree was conferred upon Bro Clifford Shearer the first lecture was given by Bro I Sinclair DM, the Emblems by RWM A Pett, the Signs by PM H Patience, the Apron was presented by PM R Patullo, the tools by PM M McGougan, the 2nd Lecture by PM D Macrae and the charge by PM A Waugh.

On the social front the Lodge building was used the British Legion to hold a sale of work and another successful quiz was held for Clic Sargent. PM Malcolm McGuigan who is chairman of the Tain Branch of the British Legion spoke of his gratitude to Lodge St Duthus for allowing the Lodge rooms to be used for their meetings as without them he was sure that the Legion in Tain would have had to fold.

Well brethren that is all the news from St Duthus No 82 for now, can I wish you all the very best for the summer break (if summer ever arrives!) and hope that you enjoy your holidays. Can I also through the Patter thank those who have sponsored my Trek in Peru which is in aid of Clic Sargent. I am now nearing my target of £7000 and hope to reach it before I fly out on the 24th July. I hope in the next issue to be able to tell you how the trek went.

David Macrae, PM
Secretary

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FORTROSE LODGE No. 108

Not long to go now till the summer break when our meetings reduce to only one a month. We have a full programme until well into the autumn with two candidates waiting for their ballot.

On 23rd April, as part of his visit round the UK, we were visited by Mr Valerii Rysovannyi; you may have seen him on the TV. He was one of the first people to go into Chernobyl after the explosion to help with the clean up. He was extremely interesting to talk to and readily answered every question put to him, with the help of Olga his translator. These brave men who ventured into this extremely radioactive site are known as "liquidators", it is exactly the same word in Russian but there it means something more like a person who goes into a bad situation to make it better. I asked him how he looked so well 27 years later and apparently not harmed by the severe radiation, he said that he didn't know why only that we are all different.

Valerii was full of praise for the many people in Western Europe who host the children each year (over 2million so far) and give them a chance to improve their health and see what life is like outside their own very restricted environment. The children are not permitted to stray off the cleaned areas, i.e. their own homes, the pathways to school and the school itself.



From the left, Dennis Hopkins, Chairman of the Inverness branch of Chernobyl Lifeline who brings the kids to Stornoway annually, Olga, interpreter, and Valerii.

Excerpts from the Past – Issue No 3 – May 1995

A Key Role at Aultbea – The Provincial Grand Master was in such a hurry to get into the Masonic Hall in Aultbea on the occasion of the Provincial visit, that he managed to lock his car keys in the car. However, PM Colin Forbes came to the rescue with a nifty piece of breaking and entering thereby saving Bro Bisset the need to hitch a lift back to Conon.

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Robertson's Lodge No 134

Hi All

Like most lodges we are now in recess, our last meeting having been on Wednesday 17 April 2013 and our next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 September 2013 when we will be working a Third Degree. We will say more about that later. Like many Lodges we struggled at some meetings with numbers of members in attendance but we were well supported by visitors with many taking up Office at very short notice and our sincere thanks go out to them. I like to think that this is what Masonry is all about and our core of regular attendees think the same way and it is our pleasure to visit and support lodges within our Province and other Provinces.

We announced that our Master, Brother Neil Cooper had recruited a good catch for our lodge when he produced an application form by his father, Douglas Cooper from Cromarty (incidentally 73 years of age, but does not look it). We felt that this was a bit of a first and was very much a family occasion as Douglas's brother is our own Past Mast Master Ronnie Cooper. We worked a First Degree for Douglas at our Provincial Visitation on Wednesday 21 March 2013 and having previously announced it, we got great support from visitors in and out of our area. This gave a good impression to the candidate of the true harmony of our Craft. It gave Neil our Master a confidence and I am sure helped overcome his nerves as he led the Degree team in the working of an excellent First Degree with P.M. Ronnie as part of the team, aided by visitors from other lodges. One visitor, the Master of Lodge Averon, Bro Calum MacKenzie, who did the Working Tools was there for a special reason, again keeping it in the family, as he is Douglas's son in law. I am sure Neil felt great pride in seeing his father going through and I am sure Douglas felt the same pride in his son. It seemed like a bit of history and I am sorry that more of our Cromarty Brethren could not have been present to see it.

We worked a Second Degree for Bro Douglas Cooper on Wednesday 17 April 2013 again with the family taking part and I know that Douglas has already been involved in visiting other lodges with the family. I am sure he will keep this up with family encouragement.

Our meeting of 18 September 2013 will be the working of a 3rd Degree for Bro Douglas with the same family involvement. I hope this will be a date for your diaries, particularly for our own members who have been absent recently.

This is the type of harmony we need to keep our lodge vibrant.

During the recess we are planning to do some decoration and renovation to our Building. We have formed a small sub committee but it does not mean that they have to do all the work so if you have a paint brush or some spare paint but mainly some spare time let us know and we will work out dates and times to carry out the work.

Hopefully we will get a Cooper family photograph at our September meeting for publication in a future issue.

I hope we can all enjoy a good break and come back refreshed and with ideas to keep our lodge going from strength to strength

I hope that this finds all who have been in ill health on the mend and look forward to seeing you in September.

Regards

James A Tait, PM
Secretary

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Lodge Fingal No 318



February meeting: 12th was a FC degree for Bro Robert Cassie, with twenty one of our own brethren and fifteen visiting brethren present.

March meeting: 12th was an EA degree for Mr David Robertson, with nineteen of our own brethren and five visiting brethren present. As this was our annual Provincial Visitation, the deputation was introduced into the Lodge. Presentations were then conveyed by the Provincial D of C Bro Rory Mackenzie; RWPGM Bro William Ross / IPPGM Bro Ramsay McGhee / PPGM Bro Ian Fraser / SPGM Bro Jim Tait, all took their rightful seats in the East, with the remaining twelve office bearers taking their seats in the body of the Lodge.

April meeting: 9th was a FC degree for Bro David Robertson, with twenty one of our own brethren and sixteen visiting brethren present.

May special meeting:

On Saturday 11th Lodge St. Peters Operative No 284 will be working a Mark°. The Lodge will Tyle at 6pm, the candidate Bro Stephen Richard Gair, who Affiliated to Fingal on 11/12/2013, was initiated in the Civil & Military Lodge No 726, but never received his Mark. To finish the day off there is to be a wee Jig at 8pm, music by Mike Samms.

May I on behalf of the RWM, Office Bearers and the Brethren of the Lodge wish you all a relaxing break, and hope to see you on October 8th, when we are back in action, all being well, the first meeting of the season is to be a MM degree.

Events Logie Lounge:

A Mr and Mrs competition was held on Saturday 16th February. Once again the question master was Bro John Hanson who was assisted by his wife Margaret. Margaret had the difficult task of keeping the score. It turned out to be a close run competition. The previous winners, Angus and June Beaton, failed to make the grade on this occasion. In this instant the winners were Bro Henry Cameron and his wife Maureen. They knew everything about each other and played a blinder. Second place was awarded to Bro Freddy Reid and his wife Anne. It is maintained by Anne, that if her Fred had stayed off the rum they could have won. She also claims Henry bought the last rum for Freddy!

The annual Ladies Night was held in the Logie Lounge on the evening of Friday 22nd March. An excellent meal was provided by the Marches Restaurant, High Street, Dingwall, for the party of forty present. Entertainment was provided by the local band "Two's Company", and the floor was full of dancers from start to finish. Their choice of music was very much appreciated by all present. A large and wonderful raffle took place at half time and all donated items raffled away. The magnificent sum of £255 was raised for local charities. A special thanks is extended to all those that attended the evening, gave donations and gave assistance in anyway to make the event such a success. Thank you.

Saturday 11th May, dance at 8pm, entertainment by Mike Samms.

That's all Folks, watch this Space.

D. Gunn P.M.
Secretary

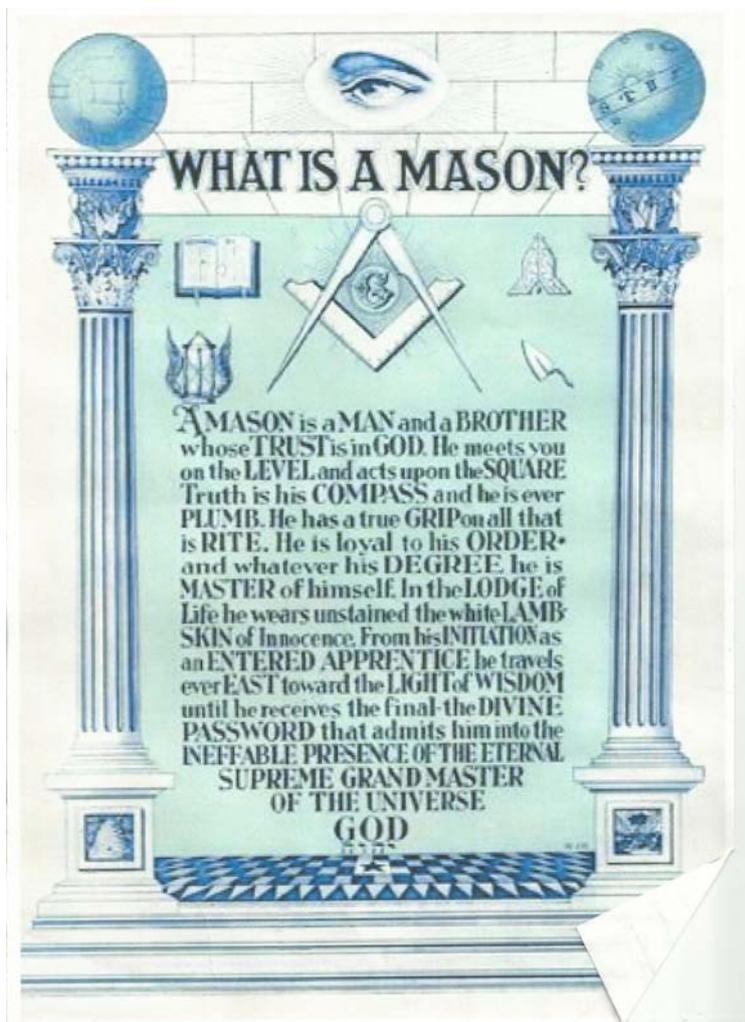
Colin Mackintosh J.D.
Entertainment Manager

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This picture was provided by Margaret Walmsley, a daughter of Fingalian, Bro Jimmy Walmsley, who is now at home after being in the Golden Jubilee hospital, Clydebank and latterly in Raigmore. Andy Henderson tells me that Jimmy is pretty much confined to the house due to his respiratory and lung problems. We wish Jimmy a speedy return to better health and my sincere thanks to him for submitting the picture.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE WEBSITE

For up to the Minute information and back copies of the Provincial Patter – access the Provincial Website on - <http://www.pgrossandcromarty.org.uk/>

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Highland Hospice

May I record my sincere thanks to all Brethren, family and friends who assisted with the Black Isle Cycle Challenge on Sat 27th April. Over 350 cyclists took part and thanks to your involvement, they all got round in one piece. Last year, the event raised well over £20k for the Hospice and this year we can hopefully repeat that result.

Lodge Allan Wilson No 851

Lodge Allan Wilson meetings resume on Tuesday 11th June when Bro Robin Cattenach, DPGM, will be installed as Master.

"Along with the veterans' organisations, Americans have developed scores of orders, lodges, and encampments, courts- some simple insurance organisations, some burial agreements, some charitable associations, but all, all noble. Anyone who has lived long enough will remember some of these as an enrichment of his youth. Elks, Masons, Knight Templar's, Woodmen of the World, Redmen, Eagles, Eastern Star, Foresters, Concatenated Order of Whowho, International-the World Almanac lists hundreds of such societies and associations, military and religious, philosophic, scholarly, charitable, mystic, political, and some just plain nuts. All were and perhaps still are aristocratic and mostly secret and therefore exclusive. They seemed to fulfil a need for grandeur against a background of commonness, for aristocracy in the midst of democracy. And the ritual perhaps satisfied the nostalgia of the Protestant for the fulsome litany and ritual of the denounced Catholic Church. A great many orders had rules against admitting any Catholic. And then the Catholics formed their own orders, their own knighthoods and clubs, and that kind of ruined the whole thing.

We are very strange people; we love organizations, and hate them....."

~ John Steinbeck.

The foregoing article has been kindly submitted by Bro Kenneth Jack, Lodge Allan Wilson No 851.

The best people possess a feeling for beauty, the courage to take risks, the discipline to tell the truth, the capacity for sacrifice.

—Ernest Hemingway

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Lodge Seaforth No 854

It's hard to believe that this will be the 75th Edition of the Patter. It's also hard to believe we have come to the end of another Masonic Season. This year our Master has had the pleasure of initiating, passing and raising his Son to the Master Mason Degree. Our Season then culminated in a visit by Lodge Averon who did lectures on the 3 Tracing Boards.

During the summer – on the 1st of June we have our Bi-Annual visit to Lodge John 'O Groats where we are conducting a Mark Degree and we would welcome anyone who cares to join us on our trip north. This is always a very enjoyable day which we look forward to.

We are in the fortunate position of having a candidate for the start of next season as well as having another going forward to the enquiry committee so hopefully we are well set up for the next Season.

I would like to finish of this time with a pleasing story of Masonic Co-operation and a special message of thanks to Bro. Allan Hutton, WJW of Lodge Caldercruix St John 1314. This was my late Father's Mother Lodge and I found their website whilst surfing the web back in December. On the off chance I sent an email asking if they had any information on my Father and Brother Hutton emailed me back saying they had a meeting the following Tuesday (5th December) and he would see what he could find out. True to his word I received an email at 11.00pm on the 5th directly after their meeting with the following information:-
Evening Bro Cochrane

Tonight we managed to have a look through the lodge record books and I'm pleased to inform you that we managed to dig out the information you were looking for.

Alexander Donald
Blacksmith
38 Dunrobin Road Airdrie
Age 27
Application read in lodge 18th January 1955
Balloted 15th February

Initiated 3rd May 1955
Passed 19th May 1955
Raised 11th June 1955
Mark Degree 21st April 1956

Proposer Thomas Kane
Secunder John Muir

Pleased to help, Yours fraternally Bro Allan Hutton WJW Elect .

I would like to thank Bro Hutton for his prompt reply and giving me information I never had before. As I suspected his proposer was his Brother in Law but I do not know his secunder – I am hoping an aunt can enlighten me when I see her.

I hope you all have a happy summer and hope to see you all again in the autumn.

Cochrane Donald
Past Master

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Lodge Averon 866

We have enjoyed a good spell since I last wrote for this column. We had a horse racing night on Friday 8th February and it was a success, so was the quiz night held on 8th March, we had 13 teams taking part. On Saturday 2nd March we held a charity Texas Scramble at Alness Golf Club at which we raised £1,000:00 for the Alness Youth Club. We had a lot of sponsors on the day and they all need to be thanked for their donations to the event. We, in conjunction with Lodge Ness 888 held another successful Ladies Night within Ardross Alness Bowling Club. It is at this event that the annual 150 club draw for £500:00 takes place. It was won this year by a PPGM who lives in Fortrose. On 14th March we had a lecture on **The Usages and Customs of Freemasons have ever borne a near affinity to those of the Ancient Egyptians**. That was the only night we did not have a candidate. We had a visit from Lodge Ness 888 on Thursday 28th March when they worked an excellent MMM Degree for four of our members. We are now in recess but visited Lodge Seaforth 854 on Monday 15th April to do the explanation of the three Tracing Boards. It is our intention to visit Lodge Stormont 1524 in Scone, on Saturday 1st June, anyone who wishes to travel with us please let me know. We are looking at a sponsored cycle from Lodge Averon to Grand Lodge, about 180 miles. This idea is still in its infancy, but, if any other Lodge in the Province (or without) wishes to join us they will be more than welcome. We are looking for any ideas on how to make this cycle run a success. The idea would be to arrive in George Street and then attend the Grand Lodge meeting that day.

I hope you all have a good summer and come back refreshed in autumn.

[I don't want to be technical...but according to chemistry... alcohol is a solution....](#)

Henry W MacInnes
Secretary

Some of the Golfers who took part in the Lodge Texas Scramble



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Lodge Averon Texas Scramble: The left hand picture - Alastair Ross & Jim Hunter with two of the main sponsor banners: the right hand picture - Del Gray, Donnie Mathieson, Harry McCartney and John Macrae all ready for action.

Lodge Ness 888

On the 12th February we had scheduled a FC degree but due to the pressure of business the candidate had to call off at very short notice, so we got Bro Martin Drummond to stand in and from there everything went well. On the 26th February we had our Provincial visitation which was led by Substitute Master, Bro J Tait. The business for the evening was an EA degree for J Vass, where it worked out very well and the substitute PGM congratulated all on their work and the candidate on the attention that he had paid.

At our meeting on 12th March we carried out a MM degree for Bro M Drummond. This went very well and the attention Martin gave, leads us to believe that he will be an asset to the Lodge and freemasonry in general.

Toward the end of the month, on 26th March, we carried out a first degree for Sean Munro. This too, was a well worked Degree with yet another very promising candidate. At this meeting we had three visitors from different Loges in the South of Scotland.

On the 28th March, we visited Lodge Averon and carried out a MMM degree on four of their candidates and were thanked and congratulated on the excellence of the degree.

We, like most other Lodges, are now in recess until our next meeting on the 8th October but somewhere in that period we will fit in a wheel barrow race.... Update soon.

R. W. Morrison.

PM - Secretary.

Excerpts from the Past - Issue 7 – May 1996

The Kyle Brethren are looking forward to welcoming Bro John Hawkins from America on Tuesday 18th June. Bro Hawkins was initiated into Lodge Kyle in 1937 prior to immigrating to America. He recently donated the sum of £1000 to the Lodge to assist in their building fund.

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LODGE KYLE No 1117

The Centenary Celebrations in Lodge Kyle No 1117 will take place on Saturday 25th May 2013 at 2.00 pm. The ceremony will be carried out by Brother Douglas Wallace Duncan, Depute Grand Master and a team from Grand Lodge.

Lodge Rosehaugh No 1216

Our March meeting was a Fellow craft degree with Gary Patience the candidate. Gary works offshore so it has been difficult to get his shifts working in our favour. Speaking of shifts The RWM Scott Patience, was back to work abroad and Allan Carmichael PM took over the chair. Allan's first duty was to announce the death of Bro John Jack Patience who passed to the Grand Lodge above on the 24th February 2013 at his home in Skye. Bro Patience joined the Lodge in 1954 but had left Avoch many years ago to the Forestry College in Skye. Bro John Patience PM said a few words about Bro Patience who joined the Lodge on the same evening as himself.

Scott was back for our April meeting and we had a new candidate from the village Kevin Kelman. We had a very good attendance and they witnessed an excellent degree. One interested visitor was Bro Iain Gemmill of Lodge St James No 125 Newton upon Ayr who is presently trying to visit each lodge in Scotland. Lodge Rosehaugh was no 401 on his list and having met him in Cromarty recently he has added another few to this number. Iain also witnessed the Presentation of Jubilee Certificate along with a 'token' of appreciation from the brethren to Bro Donald Jack.

Donald joined the Lodge on 5th April 1963 got his second degree on 3rd May 1963 and it was almost one year later on 3rd April 1964 before he got his third degree. Donald has been a regular attendee for many years - in fact it is rare for him to miss a meeting. He was a very busy and successful almoner for many years until recently. His good friend PM John Patience was in the chair when Donald joined and he was on hand to pass on a few words of congratulation to Donald.

Our final meeting of the session will be on the 3rd May and we will be working a Fellow craft degree for Bro Kelman. As this is the PGL visitation we will commence at 7.30pm for our business with the rest of the work at 8.00pm. The next day we head up to St Martins Ullapool for the annual 1212-1219 meeting. This is a day for catching up with acquaintances from all over Scotland once again so should be another excellent day.

When the Lodge was left a legacy from the late PM Roddie Cade the Brethren decided to make use of this by getting proper covering for the seating. To progress this we held a soup and sweet lunch in the lodge room on Saturday 30th March. £576 was raised at the event and 50% of this was passed to our chosen local charity which was the Sea Scouts. Along with some donations we are very close to reaching the funds required and the job will be done during the summer recess. Many thanks to all that helped and who came along to make this a success.

We also hosted a coffee morning organised by John and Catherine Patience who were raising funds for their Granddaughter Chloe Haynes who is heading to Tanzania in July to train the locals on first aid. Both John and Catherine wish to thank all who helped make the coffee morning such a success including virtually the same troops who assisted at the soup and sweet. £600 was raised at coffee morning and John has another £600 in sponsorship which helps enormously towards the overall cost of £2500. If you were unable to make this coffee morning and have not yet been accosted by PM Patience and you wish to help out please get in touch with myself at axer69@btinternet.com We also had a good turnout of Brethren from other lodges at both events and we wish also to thank them for their support. John has promised to keep us in touch on Chloe's progress over the next couple of editions of the Patter.

Finally we had to unfortunately postpone our Ladies night planned for April as most of our office-bearers work offshore/shifts and it is very difficult to get a date when most could attend. However we do aim to hold a social evening during the summer recess.

Keith Patience, PM
Secretary

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Lodge St Martin 1217

Lodge St Martin is holding the 6 Lodges consecrated on the 6th May 1920 annual meeting this year and is being held on Saturday 4th May at 2pm where a Mark Master Degree will be worked and then retiring to the Royal Hotel for the harmony.

At the May regular meeting a lecture will be done by RWM Brother Stephen Smith. The Lodge will also be taking part in the Annual Rotary Club Fun Day on Saturday 13th July 2013.

Our first regular meeting after the summer recess will be on 15th October when our AGM and Election of Office-bearers will be held. The Lodge will also be hosting the PGL of Galloway on Saturday 19th October 2013 where a Mark Master Degree will be worked.

Charles MacAulay, PM
Secretary

Never, if possible, lie down at night without being able to say: I have made one human being, at least, a little wiser, a little happier, or a little better this day.

—Charles Kingsley

Lodge Loch Ewe Cake



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Lodge Loch Ewe 1551

On a day when the Black Isle Cycle Challenge was blessed with sunshine and long awaited Spring-like temperatures I am penning this after assisting the Patter editor as one of the marshals on the BICC route – it was a different story in the early hours in Dingwall with the rain fairly ‘stotting’ off the streets.

Earlier in the week we had, in Lodge Loch Ewe, our last meeting in Aultbea with Bro Vladimar Vladivarov back among us and it was a time for reflection:

a) Reflecting on what was a very successful penultimate meeting of the season on 11th April with the RWM Gibby Hassell and his team distinguishing themselves with an excellent E.A. degree for the PGL annual visit – the PGL deputation was led by Robin Cattanaich, Depute PGM on behalf of Billy Ross the RWPGM who is presently recuperating after cataract surgery. Our mock candidate was Alastair Gault, a member of Lodge St. Andrew No. 601 in Ardersier (Province of Inverness-shire) and affiliated to Fingal No 318 in Dingwall who has also been a frequent attendee in 1551 of late accompanying the RWM and Almoner on the 140 mile round trip. We trust that the meeting nights in rehearsal were worth it.

Bro Cattanaich gave a very warm and spirited endorsement of the evening’s proceedings and it is heart-warming to note that, even without candidates at the moment, the lodge can turn its efforts to keeping ritual alive – without singling out any one individual it was very striking to hear WJW Mike Longley delivering the lecture on Preparation, more particularly including the ‘slipper’ content something which is rarely seen in the Province these days but used to be part and parcel of the late Colin Forbes’ contribution to Lodge Loch Ewe floor work while RWM and even earlier in his Masonic career.

Bro. Ian Gemmell from Ayr lodge No. 125 also mentioned how much he had enjoyed the evening.

On retiring to the Aultbea hotel for the excellent buffet of soup and sandwiches provided by Joyce and staff there was another delight waiting and it came unselfishly from the candidate himself – in the form of a cake specially prepared, in respect of the PGL visit, by a family member and beautifully iced with apt adornment in the confectionery department as portrayed by the photographic evidence on the night- after those in attendance had sampled the cake Alastair even had freezer bags on hand so that the brethren could take home some for partners / family at home – a gesture eagerly snapped up!

b) Reflecting on a successful Quiz Night on 22nd February once again ably conducted by Depute Master and Organist (Acting) Bro Ken McMorrnan. Ken must have been mightily pleased at the number of teams participating (nine) and we were all very pleasantly chuffed with the sum realised on the night of £ 230 for Poolewe Swimming Pool which demonstrates the strength of community mindedness the brethren think about in and around their area!

We look forward to February 2014 but Ken has intimated his desire to retire from being QM; perhaps he can be persuaded otherwise as the years he has been doing it have been very much appreciated.

c) Reflecting on what lies ahead; the lodge members are keen to do another degree, probably a FC, the next in sequence.

Over the past year we have been graced with a number of visiting brethren like the RWPGM Bro Billy Ross and PPGM Morris Downie and brethren from neighbouring Wester Ross lodges in Kyle and Ullapool; it is always nice to have visitors and we look forward to the next session and more of you coming west.

d) Reflecting on last, but not least, the success of the Provincial Patter on its 75 issues to date and its ability to generate some good Masonic cement in the Province – and beyond with its wide circulation thanks to the work and endeavours put in by our editor and PPGM Bro Ramsay.

Andrew M. Henderson

Almoner

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The Sinclair Bruce Diary

My first entry for this edition is a report on The Guild meeting held this time in Lodge Seaforth as a result of a double booking in our usual venue Lodge Averon, The lodge was opened and all business updated before the Deputy Master handed over the Skutch to the installing Master (Sinclair Bruce) to continue with the Installation ceremony

The installing master commenced by extending the congratulations to the Deputy Master and all retiring officers for their contributions in the previous year. After the obligation all officers were placed firmly in their respective offices by Bro Kenny Wilson from Forres who assisted the installing master. As in previous years the lodge was closed and we retired to the club rooms for a short Harmony

Its now the 11th of March and this morning we have an over all covering of snow approximately two inches in depth, I suppose we could say that march by tradition this year has come in like a Lion so lets hope it will go out like a Lamb,

Its now Monday the 11th March and I have just returned from Rosicrucian society where we held our usual March meeting with business plus the Peter Ross Lecture. The Lecture was delivered by Rev DK Prentice and same was enjoyed and greatly appreciated by all present. Our April meeting will be held within the premises of Lodge Seaforth in Fortrose

The following week I attended my mother Lodge, Lodge Seaforth. We were working a master mason degree with the Provincial making their annual visit. All went well with the Master initiating his son into the craft.

I was sorry I missed the Highland Sovereign Council No 44 meeting at 2pm yesterday but I will no longer be able to attend any meetings in Inverness as with my physical situation has extended to not being able to get into a car other than one with wheelchair capabilities but if Margaret has shopping to do in town she can drop me off whilst shopping thus avoiding a long wait for me however when possible I hope to attend.

Last night it was our Rosicrucian meeting with High Council in attendance led by Secretary General, John Stirling. John, on behalf of High Council, was doing the main business of the evening - reinstalling the Celebrant Ramsay McGhee and his Office bearers. This was a reinstallation with only one office change - the Exponent. This was in order to level out the offices for future years hence the Celebrant and his officers will be serving three years.

Its now Monday 15th April and Lodge Seaforth's final meeting until September it was a very interesting meeting with a visitation from Lodge Averon who gave one candidate the lecture in all three Tracing boards. The EA and FC Tracing Boards were delivered by PM George Robinson in an excellent and expressive manner and the Master of Averon, Bro Calum MacKenzie did the third T/board - shorter but equally expressive. It was certainly a meeting enjoyed by all present.

This morning Margaret and I went down to Lodge Rosehaugh to support their coffee morning in aid of Africa. There was a steady turn out of Brethren and their wives. This meant that the kitchen staff and helpers were kept busy serving coffee and tea and keeping the tables well furnished tables with cakes biscuits and sandwiches. The morning's work was organised by John and Catherine Patience whose grand daughter Chloe will be delivering the proceeds to First Aid in Africa.

Sinclair Bruce

BITS AND PIECES

The following article was sent to me by my good friend in the District Grand Lodge of East Africa – Bro Kalpesh Shah. My sincere thanks to Kalpesh for taking the time to submit the article:

Solace in Service

So many times, when we are being of service to others, we find the answer or solution to our own problems.

When we feel bad, often our first instinct is to isolate ourselves and focus on what's upsetting us. Sometimes we really do need some downtime, but many times the best way to get out of the blues quickly is to turn our

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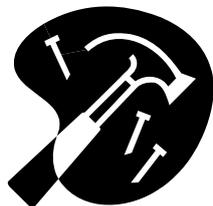
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attention to other people. In being of service to others, paradoxically, we often find answers to our own questions and solutions to our own problems. We also end up feeling more connected to the people around us, as well as empowered by the experience of helping someone.

When we reach out to people we can help, we confirm that we are not alone in our own need for support and inspiration, and we also remind ourselves that we are powerful and capable in certain ways. Even as our own problems or moods get the better of us sometimes, there is always someone else who can use our particular gifts and energy to help them out. They, in turn, remind us that we are not the only people in the world with difficulties or issues. We all struggle with the problems of life, and we all feel overwhelmed from time to time, but we can almost always find solace in service.

In the most ideal situation, the person we are helping sheds light on our own dilemma, sometimes with a direct piece of advice, and sometimes without saying anything at all. Sometimes just the act of getting our minds out of the obsessive mode of trying to figure out what to do about our own life does the trick. Many great inventors and artists have found that the inspiration they need to get to the next level in their work comes not when they're working but when they're walking around the block or doing dishes. We do ourselves and everyone else a great service when we take a break from our sorrows and extend ourselves to someone in need.

Bro Kalpesh Shah



TOOLS for MALAWI

I am delighted to be able to report that the tools collected by Brethren throughout the Province and by Brethren in our Sister Province of Fife and Kinross, have finally arrived in Malawi. The consignment arrived in Ekwandeni Hospital on Wednesday 24th April – some 500 miles north of the Mountain View School for Deaf Children. Bro Gordon Sheppard, Grand Superintendent of Malawi has arranged for Bro Graham Swart, RWM Lodge Viphya No 1571, to arrange for collection from Ekwandeni by one of his firm's trucks at the end of next week, for arrival in Blantyre over the weekend of 4th May which happens to be Lodge Viphya's Installation Meeting.

It has taken longer than we anticipated for the tools to arrive but nevertheless we acknowledge with gratitude the work of the Raven Trust who made it possible to get the nine crates of tools out to Malawi.

A considerable number of tools are now accumulating in my shed in Fortrose and I am aware that Bro Rev Andrew E Paterson, PGM of Fife & Kinross is also collecting more tools from throughout his Province. We hope to be able to send out a second batch in the autumn – so please don't discard any good second hand tools (especially woodworking tools) you may have – hold on to them and we will arrange to collect them shortly after the Lodges resume for the new session.

My sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to the first consignment and I look forward to being able to send out at least the same number of crates later in the year.

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CHARLES MACKAY: FREEMASON, JOURNALIST, WRITER, POET; AUTHOR OF "TUBAL CAIN"



Charles Mackay (1812-1889)

Charles Mackay was born in Perth, Scotland on 26th March, 1812- although for some obscure reason he always gave it as 27th March, 1814. His father, George Mackay was a member of the armed forces, serving at one time with the Royal Artillery. His mother Amelia Cargill died very shortly after his birth.

Mackay spent little time in Scotland, the family moving to England where he spent most of the rest of his life. In 1828 however, his father sent him to school in Brussels where he studied languages. In 1830 he gained employment as a private secretary, at which point he began writing in French and sending English poems to a local newspaper. Returning to England he engaged in journalism working as an occasional contributor to The Sun newspaper, before spending a number of years as Assistant Sub-Editor of the Morning Chronicle. It was during his time at the Chronicle that Mackay met and became firm friends with a young writer just starting out on his literary career - one Charles Dickens!

In the autumn of 1839 Mackay returned to his homeland of Scotland as a visitor, spending a month there, during which time he took in the Eglintoun Tournament - his experience of which he wrote about in the Chronicle; and at the same time, he made a number of acquaintances in Edinburgh. He returned to Scotland on a more permanent basis in 1844 where he served as Editor of the Glasgow Argus for three years before resigning. He returned to London where he worked for the Illustrated London News eventually becoming Editor in 1852.

In addition to his work in newspapers, Mackay was also a very accomplished writer and poet, and amongst his most famous works was: Songs and Poems, published in 1834; and Extraordinary Popular Delusions and Madness of Crowds, published in 1841. He made a trip to North America, and in 1859 published his conclusions in Life and Liberty in America: or Sketches of a Tour of the United States and Canada in 1857-58. He returned there as an American Civil War correspondent for The Times between 1862 and 1865, and was credited with uncovering and reporting on an Irish Republican group known as the Fenian Brotherhood. Mackay's former newspaper: the Illustrated London News carried the following report on the matter:

"The New York correspondent of the Times (Mackay) states that the Fenians are remarkably active in the northern States, and that large funds are being collected and sent to Ireland, or expended in the purchase of arms....The day has been fixed for the establishment of a provisional government: 200,000 men are sworn to sustain it; the American and Irish officers who have joined the movement are silently making their way into Ireland; and operations are to be inaugurated sooner, much sooner, than any of you can believe. Each steamer on

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her arrival at Queenstown from New York or Boston is boarded by the police, who, as a telegram states, search the passengers' luggage for arms or treasonable documents."

Mackay was a Freemason; details of his admission into the Craft are currently sketchy, but he was made Poet Laureate, of Lodge Canongate Kilwinning No. 2, Edinburgh, in 1887, joining the ranks of the likes of Robert Burns and Anthony Oneal Haye- and other Freemasons who gained that singular honour.

As a Poet and Freemason, it would be strange indeed if Brother Mackay did not pen some Masonic- inspired poetry- and indeed he did, writing one of the most famous verses: "Tubal Cain":-

Old Tubal Cain was a man of might
In the days when the Earth was young;
By the fierce red light of his furnace bright
The strokes of his hammer rung;
And he lifted high his brawny hand
On the iron glowing clear,
Till the sparks rushed out in scarlet showers
And he fashioned the sword and spear.
And he sang "Hurrah for the handiwork!
Hurrah for the spear and sword!
Hurrah for the hand that shall wield them well,
For he shall be king and lord!"

To Tubal Cain came many a one,
As he wrought by his roaring fire;
And each one prayed for a strong steel blade
As the crown of his desire.
And he made them weapons sharp and strong,
Till they shouted loud for glee,
And gave him gifts of pearl and gold,
And spoils of the forest free;
And they said, "Hurrah for Tubal Cain,
Who hath given us strength anew!
Hurrah for the smith, Hurrah for the fire,
And Hurrah for the metal true!"

But a sudden change came o'er his heart
Ere the setting of the sun,
And Tubal Cain was filled with pain for
The Evil he had done;
He saw that men, with rage and hate,
Made war upon their kind,
That the land was red with the blood they shed,
In their lust for carnage blind.
And he said, "Alas! that ever I made,
Or the skill of mine should plan,
The spear and the sword for men whose joy
Is to slay their fellow-man."

And for many a day old Tubal Cain
Sat brooding o'er his woe;
And his hand forbore to smite the ore,
And his furnace smouldered low.
But he rose at last with a cheerful face,
And a bright courageous eye,

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And bared his strong right hand for work
While the quick flames mounted high!
And he sang, "Hurrah for my handicraft!"
And the red sparks lit the air;
"Not alone for the blade was the bright steel made!"
And he fashioned the first ploughshare.

And men, taught wisdom from the past,
In friendship joined their hands;
Hung the sword in the hall, the spear on the wall,
And ploughed the willing lands;
And sang, "Hurrah for Tubal Cain!
Our staunch good friend is he;
And for the ploughshare and the plough
To him our praise shall be;
But while oppression lifts its head,
Or a tyrant would be lord
Though we may thank him for the plough
We'll not forget the sword!"

Mackay married twice, first during his time in Glasgow, to Rosa Henrietta Vale, with whom he had three sons and a daughter. His second wife was Mary Elizabeth Mills who he married on 27th February, 1861, and with whom he had a daughter Mary "Minnie" Mackay. Mary is variously described as "illegitimate" or "adopted", and there seems to be some speculation about whether she was born out of wedlock to Charles and his second wife; or whether she was born to Mackay's first wife following their separation, and later adopted by Charles and his second wife, following Rosa's death.

In any event, Charles' daughter "Minnie" later became known publicly as Marie Corelli, and while little known now; like her father, she became a very famous writer in her day, prompting one academic commentator to refer to her as:

"an unparalleled literary phenomenon and it is arguable that during her time she was, after Victoria, the most famous woman in England."

Charles Mackay died on 24th December, 1889.

The foregoing article has been kindly submitted by Bro Kenneth Jack, Lodge Allan Wilson No 851.

Excerpts from the Past – Issue 9 – November 1996

High Society

It is nice to know that we have Brethren in the Province who are moving in high society. The Provincial Grand Junior Chaplain, Bro Victor Shepherd and Bro David Brooks of Lodge Seaforth both attended a garden party at Holyrood Palace earlier in the year. They received the invitation in recognition of the sterling work they both do in their respective Community Councils in Contin and Fortrose.

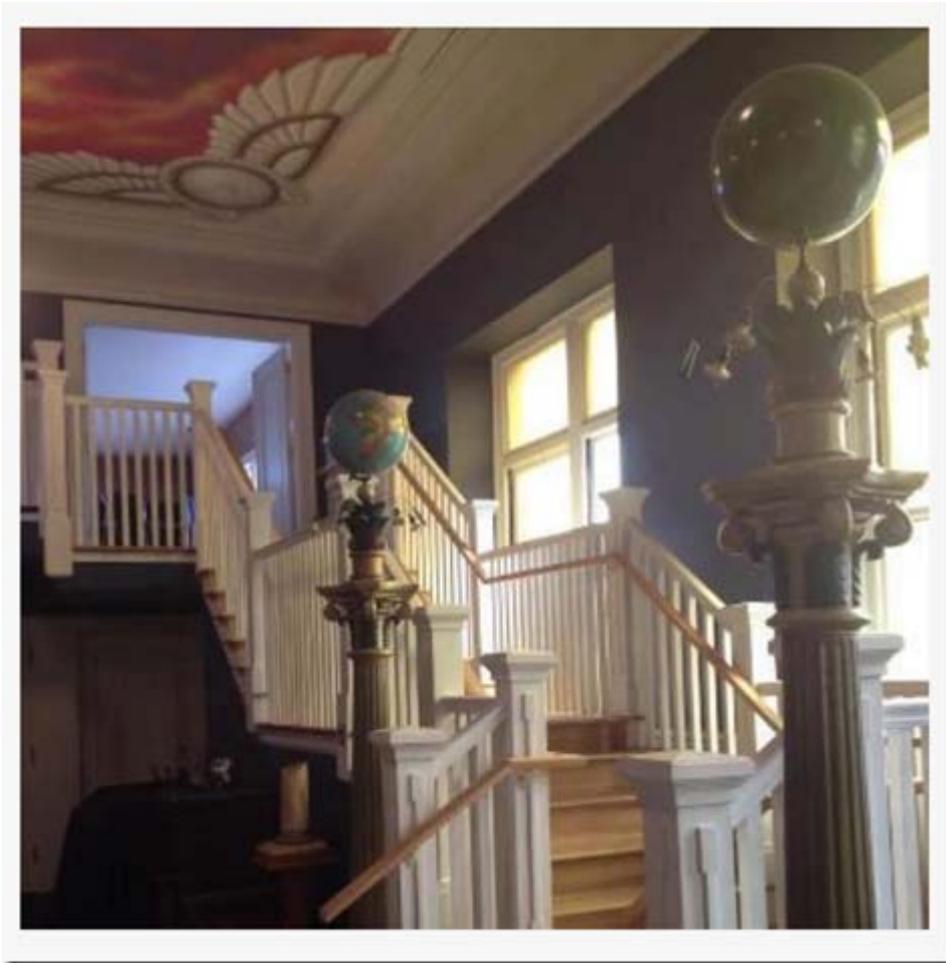
Vicky assured me that the Queen was looking well.

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Bro Kenneth Jack, Lodge Allan Wilson has submitted this interesting photo of a beautiful set of stairs in Kenton Masonic Temple Portland, Oregon, home of Friendship Lodge No.160 A & FM, GL of Oregon.

Do not dwell in the past; do not dream of the future; concentrate the mind on the present moment.

-Buddha

Excerpts from the Past – Issue 10 – February 1997

History in the Making

History was in the making on Saturday 21st December prior to the Installation at Lodge Averon. A trusty band of Brethren from Robertson's Lodge decided to have a pre-Installation drink. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience having gone, just for a change and out of respect for their worthy driver, to a nice wee tea room in Alness. Nobody believes them – but it is true – Jim Tait told me himself.

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Royal Arch

St Clement RAC No 244 –

St Clement RAC No 244 had its last meeting of the season on Friday 26th April.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 25th October.

ROYAL ARCH HEBRIDES No. 364

Date for your diary: Saturday 7th September in the Masonic Hall Stornoway at 3pm. The Installation of the Provincial Grand Superintendent Elect Donnie Macleod.

DISTRICT GRAND PRIORY OF THE NORTH IN SCOTLAND



At Stornoway on 26th April 2013, the last official visit of Donald Macleod as District Grand Prior of The North in Scotland.

Andrew Morrison will be installed as DGP in Lossiemouth on Saturday 25th May.

Donnie Macleod

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The Squaremen – Hielan' Shed No 6



"Pictured above is the new Worthy Deacon of Hielan' Shed No 6, Bri James Williamson who is accompanied by the latest two candidates, (Daz) Steel and Stephen Calder. Both were initiated into the Shed on Saturday 6th April and have already proved to be excellent new additions to the Shed. The afternoons work was carried out with dignity to the enjoyment of all. The Auld Deacon/Boxie John G Mackay, excelled in the Limners lecture and the Working Tools to help out with the non-attending office bearers. Likewise, the Shed is indebted to Auld Deacon, Bri. Derek Milne, whose sterling floor work, over many years, has to be commended. He also excelled on Saturday, by undertaking the responsibilities of the Sub Deacon.

The next Shed meeting will be held on Saturday 4th May in Alness and the June meeting on Saturday the 1st, when they will entertain 'Grand Shed' on their annual visit, in Inverness.

The new Worthy Deacon thanked everybody for their attendance and wished them all a safe journey home as did all the participating horses in the Grand National."

Morris M Downie

Guild Lodges

The next meeting of the **Moray Firth Guild Lodge** will take place in The Masonic Temple, Lodge St John No 193, Rothes on 14th May 2013 at 7.30pm. The Lodge will work a First or Indentured Apprentice Degree

Highland Guild Lodge will meet Friday 10th May at 7.45 in Lodge Averon, Alness to work 1st degree

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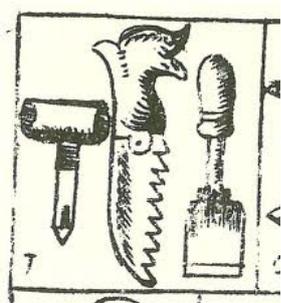
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The following article from Bro Kenneth Jack sits nicely in the Guild Lodge section of the "Patter".

WRIGHTS OR CARPENTERS



The wrights formed themselves into a society in 1792, but it was not until 1814 that the society became fully-fledged. The preamble of its "Articles," dated in the latter year, sets forth:-"Of all the sublunary beings man being the best adapted to society, and having the seeds of justice, kindness, and benignity- which are the sinews of concord and brotherly love-born within him, and implanted in his breast; and having the gift of speech, whereby he can express his thoughts- impart his joys, his sorrows, and secrets- communicate his counsels- and participate in Societies beneficial to himself and his fellow-creatures, grateful for these and many other blessings enjoyed under Divine Providence, - a number of wrights in and around Crieff formed themselves into a Society on the 14th June 1792, under the denomination of St Paul's Golden Lodge of Carpenters, Crieff. This friendly association was formed with a view to mutual assistance, and not as a charitable institution as some means denominate Societies, but out of brotherly love to one another, and likewise each providing for himself."

The laws of the Society declared that each member must have a good moral character; must be free from every bodily infirmity; must be able to support himself; and must be above fifteen, and below forty, years of age,. The entry money was fixed at one guinea. One of the laws declared that the Society should not be "dissolved as long as there are three members willing to keep up the same," and this was declared to be "unalterable."

The Society was under the control of a deacon, deacon-deputy, two directors, a senior and junior warden, a clerk, a treasurer, and eight managers. An important law was as follows:- "If any indecent or improper noise shall happen during the time of the Society's business, the Deacon shall give three loud and distinct knocks with his maul, which is always to be understood to be a signal for general silence; and if any member interrupt the Society after such signal, he shall for the first offence be reprimanded from the chair; for the second, pay a fine of sixpence; and if he obstinately persist, the fine shall be doubled; and so on, doubling for every future transgression." Another law gave power to the Society to "fine and expel" any found guilty of the following offences: - "Upbraiding brethren who receive the Society's aliment, maliciously, or injuriously traducing his character - this to be punished by imposing a fine of 5s. sterling, and considering the offender excluded until the same be paid; but expulsion and subsequent forfeiture of all claims upon the Society shall be the fate of those who are guilty of habitual swearing, drunkenness, gross violation of the Sabbath, theft, or reset of theft, gross immorality, dissolute living, and thereby bringing trouble and disease upon themselves, and dishonour upon the Society."

The benefits accruing from membership were very considerable, graduated sums being paid, according to the status of the member, in cases of illness or unavoidable misfortune. After a career of usefulness and prosperity, this Society, like its contemporaries, came to an end.

[Extracted and transcribed by Brother Kenneth Jack from: - "The History of Crieff" by Alexander Porteous, (Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier; Edinburgh & London, 1912).

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Royal Order Installation Saturday 13th April 2013.

On Saturday 13th April Brother Stephen John Smith was installed as RWPGM of the PGL of Inverness and the Highlands Royal Order of Scotland. The Installation was skill-fully carried out by the Deputy Grand Master and Governor Sir Archibald D Orr Ewing Bart., M.A., ably assisted by the Grand Secretary Brother C Martin McGibbon and the Grand Marischal Brother Ewan Rutherford. The day went quickly and well with visitors from all parts of Scotland, North Wales and Transvaal in South Africa, incidentally the Brother from Transvaal was a Brother David Kirkness whose Mother Lodge is Lodge Fortrose in Stornoway. There was a big turnout of members from our own province to see the now IPPGM Brother Peter work his last Degree from the Chair, and to see the Installation of our new RWPGM, who assisted Brother Peter in working the degree, along with the PGL office-bearers for the year 2013/14. Brother Peter Fannon served the PGL of Inverness and the Highlands well for many years, and all wish a quiet retirement but no doubt Peter will be there to assist the RWPGM when needed, and all wish the new RWPGM and his Office-bearers all the best in his 5 year tenure of office.



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Rosicrucian College – Inverness

The Annual Installation of the College took place in Lodge Seaforth's premises in Fortrose on Monday 8th April when the VW Frater Ramsay McGhee was installed for the third time as Celebrant. The ceremony was very ably carried out by the Secretary General John Stirling who also installed the remainder of the Office-bearers.



At the conclusion of the ceremony the Fraters retired to the Club rooms where they enjoyed an excellent plate of stovies prepared by the Eilean Dubh Restaurant after which the normal Toasts were proposed and responded to. It was an excellent night thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

The College will resume working on Monday 14th October.

Hope you all enjoyed this, the 75th edition of the Patter. May you all have a very pleasant and relaxing summer break and return to your Lodges refreshed in the autumn.

Once again, my sincere thanks to all those who contribute to the Patter and all those who support it in various ways.

*Ramsay McGhee
Editor*