PROVINCIAL PATTER

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty

ISSUE NO 129 **NOVEMBER 2026**

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty



Lodges of the Province - Lodge Rosehaugh No 1216

Chartered 6th May 1920

PROVINCIAL PATTER

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Editorial

Some of the anti-Masonic nonsense that appears on social media and is instantly believed by those who have no idea what Freemasonry stands for, really annoys me. That is why I believe that we need to be more pro-active in letting the world at large know what we do and why.

Just a few weeks ago, I received an email from Bro Kalpesh Shah in Nairobi telling me of the efforts of our two Lodges in Uganda to assist those who have lost limbs by providing prosthetic limbs to those who could not otherwise hope to get them. That was a first for me hearing that news.

That prompted me to look at the "Scottish Constitution Freemasonry Supports" page (which I strongly commend to all) and it is truly amazing what Scottish Freemasons are doing at home and overseas.

Supporting Cancer Research in Shetland, assisting earthquake victims in Panama, supporting under privileged children in Sarawak, supporting mountain rescue in Perthshire, organising blood transfusion in Bahamas – just a snapshot of the wonderful and varied work being carried out by Scottish Freemasons.

Here in Ross & Cromarty, we, thanks to Provincial Grand Treasurer, are about to embark on a new initiative to make free Prostate Testing available to men throughout Ross-shire – an excellent initiative which deserves our wholehearted support and which I hope the local media at least, will latch onto and give some good positive coverage in the papers and social media.

Brotherly love, relief and truth truly at work.

Ramsay McGhee, Editor

Grand Lodge of Scotland

THE GRAND LODGE
OF ANTIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF SCOTLAND

While the GMM and Grand Secretary were in India installing Brother Noshir Paghdiwalla as the new District Grand Master, I was delighted to deputise for the GMM at Edinburgh Castle to receive the Armed Forces Covenant Gold Award.

The Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) encourages employers to support defence and inspire others to do the same. The scheme encompasses Bronze, Silver and Gold awards for employer organisations that pledge, demonstrate or advocate support to defence and the armed forces community, and align their values with the Armed Forces Covenant.

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, including the bereaved, are treated fairly.



Editor

PROVINCIAL PATTER

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty

ISSUE NO 129 **NOVEMBER 2026**



The Grand Master Mason, Brother Alexander Charles Graham Moncrieff congratulating the new Provincial Grand Master of Ross and Cromarty, Brother David Alan MacMaster

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Ross and Cromarty

Once again it is my privilege to submit a report for the Patter as Provincial Grand Master.

The highlight since my last report has undoubtedly been the Installation of myself and my Commissioned Office-bearers on Saturday 29th August at the Spa Pavilion in Strathpeffer. This ceremony was a great occasion carried out by the Grand Master Mason, Brother Alexander Moncrieff and his team of Office-bearers from Grand Lodge. The ceremony was a wonderful experience for all concerned and along with the dinner and social evening which followed made for a very special day indeed. The day was undoubtedly enhanced by so many brethren who had come from all over the UK and beyond, with a very special delegation from Trinidad and Tobago & Grenada led by their District Grand Master Brother Warren Sookdar. Thank you all for making this such a special day.

On Saturday 3rd October a Ceremony of Re-Dedication was conducted by Provincial Grand Lodge to commemorate the centenary of the building at Lodge Fingal in Dingwall. This was another very special day as it was only a few months after Lodge Fingal had held their Bi-centenary celebrations. The day ended with a very enjoyable harmony in the Lodge. My sincere thanks to Lodge Fingal for inviting Provincial Grand Lodge to conduct the ceremony and to the team which carried out the ceremony and, in this regard, very special thanks to Past Provincial Grand Master Brother Ramsay McGhee whose expertise and organization really made the day.

The following day, Sunday 4th October, the Annual Provincial Grand Lodge Divine Service was held, again in Lodge Fingal, and conducted by Brother McGhee. There was a large number of brethren and family members present, and all enjoyed a very interesting and thought-provoking address. Congratulations Brother McGhee.

The new Masonic season is now upon us, and it has been my pleasure, so far, to have been to meetings in Lodge Kyle, Lodge Averon and Lodge Fingal. The first Installation in the Province took place on Saturday 12th November at Lodge Lochewe, now operating out of Lodge Fingal, and the next will be on Monday 2nd November at Lodge St Duthus in Tain followed on Tuesday 17th November at Lodge St Martin in Ullapool. Then there are eight installations in December. A busy time.

The other work of the Province goes on apace. The TLC Teddies initiative set up by my predecessor, Brother Raymond MacKeddie has been very successful with teddies being distributed to all Hospital A & E departments in the Highlands. The next charitable initiative involves arranging funding etc. to set up a PSA testing event in Ross and Cromarty. Planning for this is at an early stage. More details will be circulated in due course.

Thank you all for your support so far in my tenure as Provincial Grand Master. It has been very much appreciated.

Fraternal Regards

David A MacMaster Provincial Grand Master

PROVINCIAL PATTER

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty

ISSUE NO 129 **NOVEMBER 2026**





The Commissioned Office-bearers

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

Young Masons Group

The group has continued to meet on a regular basis, for over six years, and following an earlier proposal they continue to meet informally as a group at various lodge meetings in the Province. It has been fairly quiet recently, as the lodges are only now starting to get back to work.

It has been interesting to see several of the lodges in the Province with new candidates joining, which is good for our group going forward. We must get out, visit these lodges and give these new members every support and assistance in their masonic journey.

Once the AGM and Installation season is out of the way, the Young Masons Group on the success of



last year's event, are looking to deliver another degree on a progressive candidate.

Raymond MacKeddie, PPGM

PROVINCIAL PATTER

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty

ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

From the Provincial Almoner

I am delighted to report that no Brethren have been reported to have passed to the Grand Lodge above since our last report.

May I report on the following:

Brother Bob Patullo, PM of St Duthus No. 82, has some problems with his eyesight.

Brother Henry Cameron, PM of Lodge Fingal No. 318, attended a clinic in Raigmore recently and some improvement has been noted.

Brother Les Ross, PM of Lodge Ness No. 888, still has respiratory problems.

Brother Donnie Sutherland, PM of Lodge Seaforth No. 854, has been admitted to Ross Memorial Hospital, Dingwall for recuperation.

I now close by asking once again that should any Brother require my assistance, please get in touch with me. I would also ask that Lodge Almoners and any other Lodge member to please keep me updated on any health issues.

Fred T Fraser PM
Provincial Grand Almoner

fraserft@yahoo.com or **01463 870307**

BLAST FROM THE PAST – FROM – NOVEMBER 2017



Lodge Fortrose 250th Rededication Celebration

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

The Province continues to support our participation in the TLC Teddies for Loving Care (TLC) scheme, aims to donate teddies to the A&E Departments in the Highland A&E Departments, to help assist children who find themselves in traumatic circumstances.
We continue to work with our neighbouring Provinces, in Caithness, Sutherland and Inverness-shire, collaborating to support the five A&E Departments in the Highlands and Western Isles.



In early August, following a crash off my mountain bike, I ended up in the A&E department of Raigmore Hospital, where I was able to make first hand enquiries about how the teddies are being used. I am pleased to report that the teddies are much appreciated and are much valued by the nursing staff to calm distressed children. When I told them that I was involved with the supply and distribution of the teddies, the doctors and nurses were very quick to show their appreciation and asked to pass on their thanks to all involved.

Going forward, we shall be continuing to look to providing TLC teddies to other organisations including remote ambulance services, women's refuges and other children's support groups.

In the next few weeks, Grand Lodge are hosting a meeting for Provincial Grand Lodges throughout Scotland with representatives from the TLC Teddy scheme to discuss the programme and the potential for its implementation across Scotland. It will be interesting to see how many other PGLs get involved in this worthy scheme. At the moment it is only Ayrshire and us in the Highland Area that implement the scheme.

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

Provincial Grand Lodge Prostate Champions

Our Prostate Champion, Steven O'Donnell has been very busy this summer, getting out and about, raising awareness of prostate issues in men, particularly those over 50 years of age, and generally letting the public know what symptoms to look out for and where help can be found.





Steven, assisted by Bro. Tommy Gordon, kicked off the Summer Roadshow at Tesco, Tain, and were quoted, "It was encouraging to hear that so many men have been for their PSA tests……."

The Prostate Champions were also present as part of the Provincial Grand Lodge Stand at the Black Isle Show and at the Moy Game Fair.

Bros. O'Donnell and MacKeddie also recently met with Alison Wright, CEO of Prostate Scotland, and had a good discussion on the future plans for refreshing the prostate awareness presentations, the distribution of Prospack' s for men in treatment stages and reaching out to workplaces to promote the work of prostate awareness.

There also has been further online training for our Prostate Champions, including an update to the Prostate Presentation.

If you know of any external organisations that may be interested in a presentation regarding awareness of prostate issues, please do not hesitate to get in touch with one of the Prostate Champions.

PROVINCIAL PATTER

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty

ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

Around the Lodges

Lodge St Duthus No 82



Brethren,

The summer recess saw Lodge St Duthus host a few events and attend local markets as part of our fundraising activities.

The St Duthac Book and Arts pop-up shop held in the Lodge was a clear success. Over the event period the shop attracted steady local footfall, sold a wide selection of donated books and arts items. The Festival committee are recommending repeating the pop-up next season in the Lodge to build on this year's momentum.

At the first meeting of the new season, Lodge St Duthus No 82 had the pleasure of welcoming Katrina Macleod from Kats 2nd Edition Charity which helps deprived families with clothing, footwear baby equipment etc. Kats 2nd edition was Lodge St Duthus No 82's chosen charity for last year. Funds were raised over the past year by Lodge members and Tain & Ross Royal Arch Chapter No 63 Companions through their joint dedicated efforts at local markets and community events. Lodge St Duthus No 82 were delighted to present Katrina with a cheque for £600.

The Lodge and Chapter extends sincere thanks to all who contributed to the fundraising efforts.



RWM James Morrison Presenting the cheque to Katrina Macleod.

Following the presentations the brethren were given a talk by Gillian Gunn joint Chairperson of the TRACC Campaign which is working hard in the community to save the local swimming pool currently under threat of closure. The TRACC campaign is trying to raise funds to build a new pool in the grounds of Tain Royal Academy Community Complex. The TRACC campaign is this year's chosen charity by Lodge St Duthus No 82 & Tain & Ross Royal Arch Chapter No 63. The Calander for this year will be.

- Monday 2nd November Installation
- Monday 7th December Tracing Board Lectures
- Monday 4th January 2027
- Monday 1st February TBC
- Monday 1st March Provincial Visitation Monday 5th April TBC
- Monday 6th April Lecture Evening – Prostate Cancer lecture to be open to the public.

Well brethren that's all for just now and we at Lodge St Duthus No 82 look forward to seeing you over the season either in Lodge St Duthus or in your own mother Lodge when we visit.

D Macrae - Secretary

BLAST FROM THE PAST – FROM – NOVEMBER 1996

During the last war, a Canadian, Harry Mayson, was stationed in Tain. While there, he joined Lodge St Duthus before eventually returning to Canada. A few years ago, he achieved his 50-year Diploma.

The Tain Brethren were delighted to meet up with him once again when he visited their Lodge of Instruction at the end of September when he presented fraternal greetings from the other side of the 'pond'.

It's always good to hear of old friendships being renewed and Masonic links being maintained.



PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

Lodge Fortrose No 108

Our annual election took place at our September meeting when Alick Graham was re-elected as RWM.

We're now back in full swing after a quiet summer period, but we did collect a couple of application for initiation forms during that time.

Kevin James Macleod was initiated at our October meeting and William Lewis Macdonald's application was read at the same meeting, so his initiation is planned for 6th November.

On 15th August we attended the centenary of Lodge St Clements in the Bays Community Centre, the ceremony was carried out by The Grand Lodge of Scotland in their usual exemplary manner under the auspices of the Grand Master Mason Bro Alexander Moncrieff. We enjoyed St Clements excellent harmony later in the Tarbert Community Centre and later back at the Lodge.



Grand Lodge, Inverness-shire Provincial & St Clements members



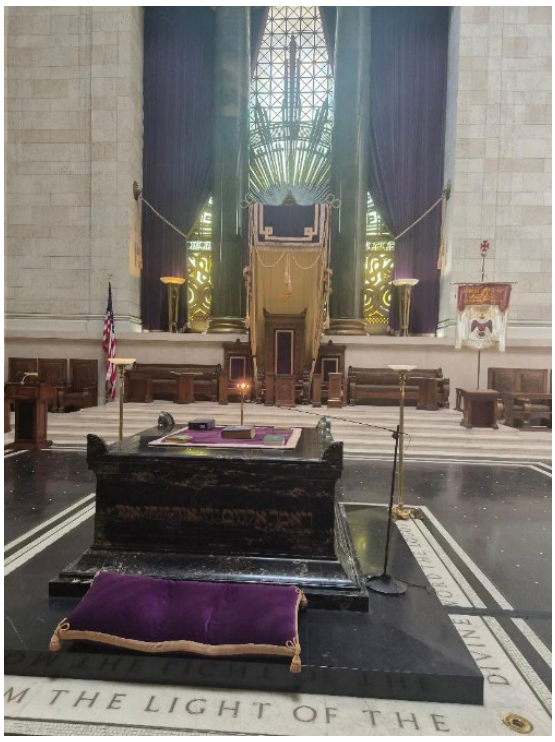


GMM & Donald J Mackay RWM

At the end of August during my visit to the USA I spent 3 nights in Washington so took the opportunity of visiting the masonic museum (Scottish Rite, Supreme Council 33°). We questioned what we thought was the date (1733) carved into the stone at the entrance only to be told it was the street address!



Exterior view of the Scottish Rite Museum



Interior view of Scottish Rite Museum

To update our Lodge premises, we have reduced the size of the ladies toilet by adding a disabled one. We now also have electric car chargers in the car park.



New disabled toilet interior.

The following obituaries were read during the last quarter: Roddy "Suilven" Macdonald, Duncan Macleod. Donald Lewis "DL" Smith and John Macdonald.

Our installation and Festival of St John will take place on Friday 4th December when Alick Graham will be re-installed. The following day we will be travelling to Tarbert for the installation at St Clement's No. 1353.

Donnie Macleod
Donald Macleod PM

BLAST FROM THE PAST – FROM – NOVEMBER 1996

It was a delight to visit Stornoway on 20th September 1996 when the Lodge Fortrose Brethren played host to a Deputation from The Lodge of Dunblane No IX. The Stornoway Brethren worked an excellent EA Degree which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

The Dunblane Brethren pointed out to me an ink drawing in the bar at Stornoway which they had presented during a visit 10 years ago. It was drawn by the renowned artist Bob MacNair who died in Philadelphia in August.

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026



Robertson's Lodge No 134

With Sincere and Fraternal Greetings Brethren, I hope you are all well.

Since our last report some members of the Lodge are going through some health scares and illnesses. Past Master Brother Brian J. Poloczek is working through with his health problems, we send our best wishes for a good and speedy recovery.

Brother Derrick Cronie is recovering, and we understand that he has returned to his clay pigeon shooting.

Our other Members are looking after themselves and following up with their treatment regimes.

Lodge members attended the Ross and Cromarty Provincial Grand Lodge Grand Installation of Brother David A. MacMaster as our new Provincial Grand Master, having a great day out in Strathpeffer. Our own Past Master Brother Andrew J. MacIvor was installed as Substitute Provincial Grand Master, an honour for our Lodge.

We had our first Regular Meeting of the Season 2016 – 2027 on 16th September and the next the second Meeting was on 21st October.

Following that, we have the Lodge Annual General Meeting and Election of Office Bearers on the 18th of November, where we expect some changes.

This to be followed by the Installation Meeting on 16th December 2026.

Robertson's Lodge are looking forward to a brighter future.

Stay Safe and Well Brothers.

Peter K. Ratcliffe, Secretary

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026



Lodge Fingal No 318

On Friday the 7th of August four Past Masters of Lodge Fingal (RWM Stewart Bain PM, Ronnie Sutherland PM, Donnie Gunn PM and Angus Beaton PM) were chosen to meet with His Majesty King Charles III as part of his visit to Dingwall to mark their 800 years as a Royal Burgh. Brother Henry Cameron PM was originally chosen but unfortunately had to pull out due to his ill health.



Unfortunately, only the RWM was finally chosen to meet with the King. Stewart went on to present the King with a bottle of Lodge Fingal Bicentenary Malt Whisky.



PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026



Lodge BBQ – 22nd August 2026

Around 50 people enjoyed a great BBQ and entertainment by Edwins Music.

The Cooks at the recent BBQ.



Clay Pigeon Shoot – 26th September 2026

The inaugural Clay Pigeon Shoot in aid of Bowel Cancer and Stoma Care was held at the Highland Deephaven Clay Target Club. The fantastic amount of £450 was raised with 13 brethren present.



PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

We are delighted to report that the team representing **Lodge Fingal** won the **Best Lodge Trophy**, marking an excellent achievement at the first running of this charity event.



In addition, **Bro. John Fitzgerald (St. Mary's No. 339)** secured the **High Gun Trophy**, delivering an outstanding personal performance on the day.

Congratulations to all involved for their support of a very worthy cause and for showcasing such strong marksmanship and Lodge spirit.

Rededication Ceremony (100 Years) Saturday 3rd October 2026

The Ceremony of the Rededication (100 years of the present building) was conducted by the Provincial Grand Master and his Rededication team: -



(Bros Ramsay McGhee PPGM, James Mc Dougall D of C, John MacKenzie WSW, Angus Beaton WJW, A Waugh Chaplain, C Carrison Asst Chaplain, M Longley Secretary) Carried out the Ceremony.

Upcoming Events.

Tuesday 8th December 2026 @ 7.30pm – MM Degree for Bros. Greig Meikle and George MacDonald.

Tuesday 29th December 2026 – Re-Installation of the RWM Bro. Stewart Bain and his Office Bearers.

Angus Beaton

Lodge Fingal No. 318 Secretary

Email - secretary@fingallodge318.org.uk

Mobile 07775 837998

BLAST FROM THE PAST - FROM - NOVEMBER 1996

High Society

It's nice to know that we have Brethren in the Province who are moving in high society.

The Provincial Grand Junior Chaplain, Brother Victor Shepherd and Brother 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.

LODGE ALLAN WILSON 851

The August meeting was well attended when we welcomed Morven May MacCallum, MSP, to speak about Lymes Disease. Morven is an acknowledged expert on the subject having suffered from it for many years.

Morven gave a most interesting and informative presentation exploring in detail what Lymes Disease is, how ticks operate, what the symptoms of the disease are, how to recognise a tick bite, how best to deal with one and when to seek urgent medical attention.

The presentation led to several questions being raised, especially from Brethren involved in a range of outdoor pursuits, all of which were handled professionally and with sound reasoning.

We are currently looking to organise a Special Meeting before our Regular Meetings start. This would be on Saturday 1st May when a Deputation from Lodge Buchan St John No. 636 will work a demonstration degree.

Ramsay McGhee - Secretary



LODGE SEAFORTH 854

Regular Meetings

The lodge activities have commenced in September with an entertaining presentation by Bro. Alex Craib PM titled Fidelity, Fidelity, Fidelity, which gave the members an opportunity to reflect on the most sacred and foundational mystical number in Freemasonry.

The October Regular Meeting saw one of our members, with many miles on the clock, standing in as an Entered Apprentice candidate in a practise degree for next month's. This meeting also had a ballot for a new application from a son and brother of two well-known Lodge Seaforth members.

Lodge meetings will continue with our Regular Meeting on Monday 16th November 2026 at 7:30pm, which be the AGM and Election of Office-bearers, followed by an Entered Apprentice Degree for a new member.

The Installation of RWM and Office-bearers Meeting will be held on Saturday 12th December 2026 at 3.00pm, which will be followed by the Festival of St John in the Clubrooms.

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

The December Regular Meeting on Monday 21st December 2026 will include our Annual Carol and Reading Service, to which all members and friends are most cordially invited.

Race Night

A successful Race Night was held Friday 11th September 2026, with a good crowd enjoying an evening of competitive fun, and some going home swelling their bank balances with hard-earned winnings.
Many thanks to all our sponsors, particularly McLennan Fencing Ltd and McDougall Plant Hire who helped make the event a fundraising success.



Bingo Nights

The lodge hosted the first Community Bingo Nights of this winter season and saw a good attendance and many new faces coming for the first time.

The next event is on Friday 20th November 2026, 7.00 for 7.30pm start, and hopefully we will continue to see an increase in attendance as we go through the winter season.

All members and visitors most welcome.

Building Repairs



Throughout the past months the exterior and interior of the Lodge has seen substantial improvements, with the vigorously growing boundary hedge now removed from the car parking area, with a new fence and extension to the car parking area completed. Earlier in the year the roof received an overhaul.

Inside, in the clubroom, the floor carpet tiles have been replaced, which has freshened and brightened up the lounge area.

Monumental Restoration Project

Our Inner Guard, Bro. Farquhar Laing, made an interesting trip to Ibrox Park, the home of the famous Glasgow Rangers, to carry out some restoration work on the bronze statues of John Grieg CBE and Walter Smith OBE.

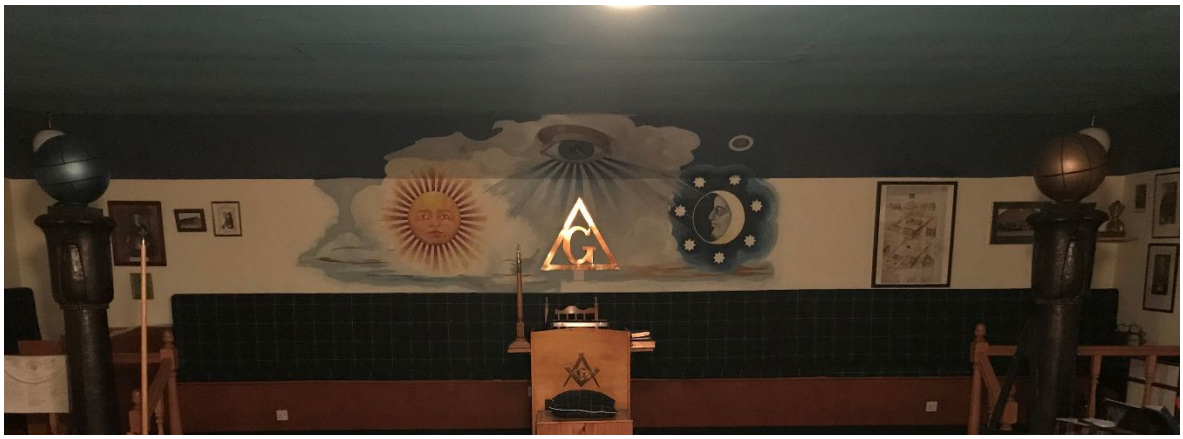
Bro. Farquhar is the son of the late Gerald Ogilvie Laing, one of three Seaforth Brethren who were





responsible for the design and casting of the two bronze pillars which adorn the East of the Lodge.

Bro. Farquhar is the founder and director of Black Isle Bronze Ltd, blackislebronze.co.uk , a specialist bronze foundry, the only purpose built foundry in Europe, which creates sculptures of exceptional and striking quality to diverse clients from all over the world.



View of the pillars and the mural both of which were designed by the late Bro Gerald Ogilvie Laing

Raymond Mackeddie
Lodge Secretary

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

LODGE AVERON No 866

Hi there Brethren, as usual I hope that you are doing fine and keeping well.

Time is moving at a pace not handy, even the editor is noticing it for this edition, how right he is with his first line of his plea for early contributions……'doesn't time fly when you're enjoying yourself'…. well time flew and Lodge Averon enjoyed itself since the last edition in August.

First up was our annual Community Family Barbeque on Saturday the 22nd of August. 65 plus, a mixture of brethren, wives, partners and guests attended along with a load of children who had a great time with the bouncy castle. Thanks must go to Brother Serhat Yavus and his staff for providing and cooking the food on the day it was fantastic and takes the pressure of our volunteers, secondly personally, I must thank my wife Anita who came to give me a hand with the bar and ended up doing it all…. well done



Mrs McD the bar woman



PM DJ

Anita, you passed the interview. PM 'DJ' McBeath for the music great as always and to the many brethren who once again gave up their time to set up take down. And to our guests who kindly supported our raffle, and the Tombola run by Cromarty Firth RAC 310.



PROVINCIAL PATTER

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty

ISSUE NO 129 **NOVEMBER 2026**











Next up was our special meeting on the 28th of August where we worked a master mason degree for Brother Fraser McDougall. What a night this was, A first visit to our Lodge by the Grand Master Mason, a Provincial deputation and a very special deputation from The District Grand Lodge of Trinidad and Tobago & Grenada led by District Grand Master Brother Warren Sookdar, another night off running to the bowling club (massive thanks to Brother Hermitage for arranging at very short notice….5mins) to borrow chairs to seat the 90ish brethren who made the effort to attend our lodge in the close season. Again, I must personally thank our Master Brother McBeath Jnr for allowing me the honour this year of conferring all three of Fraser's Obligations I am indebted to you. Also, thanks must go to all who took part on the night, our brethren from the Caribbean were absolutely delighted to have a part to play. Lastly to Mrs Carrison and Mrs McDougall for the wonderful spread and Brother Brannan for manning the bar.

On to September now and our annual charity golf scramble took place on the 5th. Past Master Donnie Mathieson took the lead this year and took the decision to take the event home to Alness golf club where we were very well looked after by the course staff and Red Ross in the club house. We had a full house of 18 teams and even managed to accommodate another 3 with a bit of jiggery pokery from PM Mathieson. The day started with bacon rolls and tea/coffee, then it got serious with raffles. Longest drive and nearest to the pin challenges ongoing through the day, all the players were kept hydrated with the roving bar manned by Brother Kyle Gordon and Brother Andy Hunter from Lodge Oak who only came for the craic!!! After the Golf came the presentation and the massive raffle and a bit of an auction. We managed to present a cheque for the magnificent sum of £2092.00 to Redwoods for their Resident's charity fund. They were absolutely blown away with this and tell us that they are looking to get a pantomime on at Christmas. Thanks must go to all our sponsors, all who generously donated to the raffle, those who helped before and after and the Golf Club for hosting us.



PM Carrison conquers the hill



4 Young Masons - great friends and brothers

PROVINCIAL PATTER

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty

ISSUE NO 129 **NOVEMBER 2026**







Left - Heart attack hill conquered

Right - Two young St Mary's 339 members with PM Carrison and SM McDougall in descending order

Brother Kyle Gordon says PM Mathieson needs to attend the driving range



The winning team and their medals .... congratulations

PROVINCIAL PATTER

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty

ISSUE NO 129 **NOVEMBER 2026**



Fantastic turnout for our annual charity golf scramble, brethren from as far away as Musselburgh travelled to support us, from Inverness-Shire, Sutherland a bit closer and not forgetting our own province……well done



Presenting a cheque for £2091.00 on the day for Redwoods Residents fund

September the 10th saw us back to work carrying out an entered apprentice degree for now Brother Ryan Ferguson and another Entered apprentice degree at our October meeting on the 8th for now Brother Ali Yesildag both great nights and we wish our newly made brothers all the very best with their masonic journeys.

I made reference to time in the last few editions of the patter and now it seems that this year there hasn't been much time off during our summer recces and now the back end is here, the first frosts have been and gone and the stags have stopped roaring….this can only mean one thing the clocks have gone back and we are careering toward winter and installation season. For Lodge Averon it will be as usual the third Saturday in December the 19th.

That's all the news up to date and as usual, I thought we didn't have very much but here we are on the third page. As I was getting my thoughts together for this edition at 2500ft up in the cairngorm mountains I am looking at fast recovering fire damage from three months ago and I think about time……. too much, not enough, to fast, to slow but we have a time for all seasons. I look forward to the time I will spend with you all at your various lodges and hope that you may find time to visit us here in Alness.

So, until next time I wish you all the very best.

And finally, another couple of photos from the Community Barbeque –





Brother James McDougall SM.

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

LODGE NESS No 888

Lodge Ness No. 888 – A New Masonic Year, Remembering Our Brethren and Looking Ahead

The Brethren of Lodge Ness No. 888 returned to their Masonic labours on Tuesday 13th October 2026, following the summer recess, with renewed enthusiasm, a strong sense of brotherhood and plenty of exciting plans for the year ahead.

The past two years, 2025 and 2026, have been particularly rewarding for the Lodge. Through fundraising events, charitable donations and the continued generosity of our Brethren, families, friends and supporters, we have been privileged to give something back to the local community.

From supporting local charities and community groups to helping organisations that make a real difference to the lives of others, we are immensely proud of what has been achieved. Freemasonry is built upon the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, and we hope our actions continue to demonstrate these values throughout Invergordon and the surrounding area.

Remembering Brother Derek Rodway

It is, however, with great sadness that we reflect upon the passing of our dear Brother, Derek Rodway, who has laid down his working tools and answered the summons of the Great Architect of the Universe.

Brother Derek has now passed from his earthly labours to that Grand Lodge Above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns forever.

While his place amongst us may now be vacant, his memory shall remain within the hearts of the Brethren of Lodge Ness No. 888. The bonds of brotherhood extend far beyond the walls of our Lodge, and those who have walked beside us in friendship and fellowship are never truly forgotten.

At this sad time, the Right Worshipful Master, Office Bearers and Brethren of Lodge Ness No. 888 extend their heartfelt condolences to Derek's family, friends and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

His earthly labours are ended, his working tools laid down, and his memory entrusted to the Great Architect of the Universe.

Sleep peacefully, Brother Derek. Until we meet again upon that level from which no traveller returns.

Invergordon Christmas Street Fair – Bigger Than Ever!

Looking ahead, preparations are already well underway for our much-loved Invergordon Christmas Jingle & Mingle Street Fair, returning to Invergordon High Street on Saturday 12th December 2026.

Now entering its third year, this community celebration is shaping up to be our biggest and best yet!

With plans for festive entertainment, activities and plenty of Christmas cheer, we are looking forward to bringing the town together once again for a wonderful day of celebration.

The event has grown from strength to strength, thanks to the tremendous support of local businesses, community organisations, volunteers and the people of Invergordon.

Our ambition is simple: to create something that the whole town can enjoy, while continuing to strengthen the community spirit that makes Invergordon such a special place.

We encourage everyone to mark Saturday 12th December in their diaries and come along to support what promises to be a fantastic occasion.

Were also reaching out to those that would be willing and able to assist Lodge Ness with the event, please email Bro Rob Donaldson at lodgeness888@outlook.com

Looking to the Future

As Lodge Ness No. 888 begins another Masonic year, we do so with gratitude for what has been achieved, fond memories of those Brethren no longer with us, and great optimism for what lies ahead.

Our Lodge has been part of Invergordon since 1899, and we remain as committed as ever to supporting our community, welcoming friendship and upholding the traditions and values of Scottish Freemasonry.

To everyone who has supported our fundraising, attended our events or contributed to our charitable work, we offer our sincere thanks.

From the Right Worshipful Master, Office Bearers and Brethren of Lodge Ness No. 888, we thank the people of Invergordon for their continued friendship and support.

May Brotherly Love Prevail and Every Moral and Social Virtue Cement Us.

Lodge Ness No. 888, Invergordon
Proudly serving our community since 1899.

Cheers for now, *Robert Donaldson* - Lodge Ness 888

BLAST FROM THE PAST - FROM - NOVEMBER 2021



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.

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

LODGE KYLE No 1117

It's been a busy few months in Lodge Kyle with 3 Third Degrees in 3 months, the last being on Monday 2nd November at 7:30 for Brother Zen Maclennan.

The Treasurer, Brother Roger Cundiff and Master, Brother Steve Whittaker have also been working away behind the scenes to reduce our annual outgoings. They discovered EDF Energy who supply electricity. Their unique selling point is a low (daily) standing charge, with a slightly higher cost per unit. As our Lodge is not open often, this is an ideal partner for electricity. They were contacted and a week later our connection was being managed by EDF. A simple App and Portal, availability of Smart Meter(s) and Priority Services Register completes the package.

As a side note Roger informed us when giving his report that our new bank account is making money, rather than just sitting without interest.

We also had notice from our Insurers that we need another PAT (test) despite having one a year or so ago. It turns out that a qualified PAT (tester) electrician lives just down the road in Dornie and was much cheaper that the one we used last time. Job done and a new contact for the address book.

This year our Installation will be on 14th December 2026 at 7:30pm (i.e. the second Monday in December), when Brother Raymond Abringe will be going into the Chair of King Solomon. We expect it to be a busy evening, so if you intend coming over, please let the Secretary know and we can cater the event accordingly.

Lastly, we would like to thank our visitors from Lodge Macdonald of Sleat 1379, Provincial Lodge of Ross and Cromarty, Lodge Averon 886 and Lodge St Kilda 881 for their excellent 3rd Degree work. We had a few participants for the Degree drop out at the last moment and the aforementioned stalwarts stepped in to assist, making the Degree possible and special for Brother Zen Maclennan without resorting to "The Book". This is a great example of why going out and Visiting Lodges is such a good idea.

With warmest regards,

Ronnie Miller, PM - Secretary

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

TECH UPDATE by Ronnie Miller, PM

As you may be aware the programming language called PHP that powers between 70% and 80% of websites on the internet has been found to be vulnerable to attack, by hackers and state sponsored actors. While news outlets would have us believe that the fix is a simple one, i.e. that of updating PHP to the latest version which closes or patches the vulnerability, updating PHP while simple to do, can cause your website or plugins to fail, making your website crash. This is not an uncommon situation, especially on older websites that are not updated regularly. So before performing the PHP update (or having your hosting company do it for you), make sure the website is fully backed up! Also, a good safety net if someone hacks your website, you can restore the files and get back up and running.

If your website is based on WORDPRESS – you will need to update PHP as soon as possible. Your Hosting Company may have already patched all versions of PHP for you and if this is the case, you technically don't need to update PHP yourself. This saves the worry of updating your website code to be compatible with the latest version of PHP.

You may also have to update themes, plugins and WordPress itself (only do this if the site is fully backed up). If in ANY doubt as how to proceed, ask your hosting company or a web professional for advice.
This is the second serious advisory of this kind in as many months. Be aware and be safe.

Again – many thanks to PM Ronnie Miller for his regular technical contribution – greatly appreciated by everyone. Ed

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

LODGE ROSEHAUGH No 1216

The Lodge resumed after the summer recess with an AGM in October. We started off with an obituary for Bro William Neil Mowat who passed away on 16th February 2026.

We also reported on the PGL Installation of Bro David Macmaster in August. Lodge Rosehaugh are honoured that Bro Donald Mclennan PM had been installed Depute Provincial Grand Master



Our next meeting will be held on Friday 7th November at 7.45pm where we will be working a MM Degree for Bro Fraser Patience.

Our installation meeting will be held on Friday 4th December at 7.45pm. This will be conducted once again by Bro George Robinson PM who will be installing Bro Graeme Brindle into the chair for his 3rd term as master. Bro Stuart Bain PM will be installing the Office bearers. Our January meeting will be held on Friday 8th January.

In the last edition I mentioned that a golf foundation had been set up in memory of Arthur Macarthur a PM of 1216. The event was held on 14th August with 19 teams taking part in a scramble. Lodge Rosehaugh had a team involved and we also sponsored a hole. Donald Mclennan likewise sponsored one. The last report we had was £32000 had been raised which is an exceptional amount. This fund will help under 17 with fees etc. There was also a bottle of malt classed as Arthur's dram which has also gone down well.





Keith Patience, PM

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

Lodge St Martin 1217

The lodge has been very busy during the summer recess, the garden and car park has all been cleared of trees, bushes and an old shed and is looking completely transformed. There is a new fence being erected at the present time and the garden area now looks huge.

Our meeting restarted on 20th October with our AGM and Election of Office-bearers. Our next meeting will be our installation on Tuesday 17th November tyling at 19.30 for normal business and 8.00pm for the installation. Bro. Gordon Mackenzie PM and his office-bearers will be installed that evening. It is hoped that our meeting on Tuesday 15th December will be a 1st degree subject to successful C of E and ballot.

The brethren held a very successful Quiz Night in aid of CHAS and Prostate Screening Ross-shire. The evening raised just over £800, and the lodge made it up to £1000 split between both good causes.

The brethren will be serving mulled wine at the village firework display on Friday 6th November for lodge funds and on Wednesday 16th December the brethren will be accompanying Santa around the village in aid of local children.

All the best to all the lodges on their new season

Charles MacAulay, PM
Secretary

BLAST FROM THE PAST – FROM – NOVEMBER 2009

For many years, one of the best loved columns in the Patter was the Sinclair Bruce Column – this is another snippet from his wide-ranging articles.

I have just returned from the Guild Lodge in its usual venue Lodge Averon in Alness. Another well attended meeting with four candidates getting their second degree. It is indeed very heartening in this economic climate that branches of the craft can still attract more than one candidate per meeting, that surely proves that members are out and about promoting all the different institutions, long may it continue as from a personal understanding they all have their own variations and varieties of styles and works that creates all the different interests for each individual.

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

Lodge Loch Ewe

Despite clashing with the September meeting of the Royal Order, our Installation on Saturday 12th was well attended – and the venison stovies on offer after the meeting were again a hit!

As for the sale of the building in Aultbea, we have unfortunately not heard any more from the English contingent I mentioned in the last edition, but we are now in talks with a German gentleman who seems very keen to turn it into a house. I have not asked him if his interest in Loch Ewe stems from an uncle who once visited Loch Ewe in a U-boat, but he does seem set on acquiring the building, so fingers crossed.

What was not such encouraging news, however, is that our intended Initiation ceremony this Saturday 31st has had to be cancelled as the candidate had been told not to become a Freemason by his church. Clearly, despite all our efforts to the contrary, there are still those who consider us to be a nefarious faction. Long live the revolution!!

Michael Longley, PM – Lodge Loch Ewe

BLAST from the PAST – from – November 1998

Volume of the Sacred Law

I am frequently asked at what Chapter the Volume of the Sacred Law should be open during a Lodge Meeting. The following verses are what I have always acknowledged to be the proper places to have the Good Book open at during the three Degrees.

EA Degree:

Psalm 133, Verse 1:

"Behold how good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity."

FC Degree:

Amos Ch 7, Verse 7:

"Thus, he shewed me: and behold, the Lord stood upon a wall, made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand."

MM Degree:

1st Kings Ch 17, Verse 20:

"And he cried unto the Lord, and said, O Lord my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son."

Ye Corporation O' Squaremen

Hielan Shed

On 8th of August, we visited Lodge 37 in Forres – However it proved to be another disappointment as no one turned up for the Meeting despite it been put back a week as our original date clashed with the Installation of the Royal Arch Grand Superintendent in Dingwall and the Nairn Games – did manage a Committee Meeting and got the bus back to Inverness early

Our last Meeting of the year was to St Clements in Harris on 5th September – when we arrived we were made very welcome and the Lodge had organised for two new Candidates to join the Corporation – We had a great Meeting followed by a grand meal supplied by St Clements of Venison Mince and Tatties followed by Plum Duff and some sweet treats – at the end of the Meeting we held an Auction which proved worthwhile as it covered the cost of the bus from Stornoway plus a little extra for our Charities

Our next Meeting will be on the last Saturday in January and will be a Committee Meeting followed by our AGM on the first Saturday in March – at this time we have not sorted out our visits for 2027 where we hope that our visits will prove a bit more fruitful that 2026 was – despite a bad year we did manage to donate some £900 to local Charities plus £300 to Grand Sheds Charity

Just a small footnote – due to the adverse weather on our return trip on Sunday two Brithers that were flying got concerned when the flight to Glasgow was cancelled – however their plane did eventually arrive but that was not the worst thing to happen to one of them – he had bought some Black and White Pudding to take home and a Bottle of Harris Gin – the Puddings were OK but the Security would not let him take the Gin on the plane as Hand Luggage since it was 7 times the allowable liquid in a container (Stornoway is still on 100ml) – however not to be outdone a couple of phone calls and thanks to fellow Masons “Ganga” and Donnie Video it meant he got the Bottle a couple of weeks later.

John G MacKay
Boxie

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

News from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland



Picture taken at the Tri Order meeting held in Dundee

Trip to Belfast

At 08.00 on Tuesday 15th September 2026, I met up with Depute First Grand Principal, MEC John N Steel at Buchanan Street Bus Station in Glasgow where we boarded a Citylink coach that transported us to Cairnryan Ferry terminal where we embarked on Stenna Line's *MV Stena Superfast VII* for our trip over to Belfast.

We were met in Belfast by Most Excellent & Supreme Grand King - ME Comp Neil A Coey and travelled with him by train to Bangor.



MEC John N Steel, MEC Neil Coey and MEC W R McGhee

After booking into the hotel, we had plenty time to get changed before we made our way to Cottown RAC No 430 where we enjoyed a very informative and interesting business meeting which included two Companions receiving their Royal Arch Diplomas.



At the conclusion of the meeting, we went downstairs to the well-appointed Refectory where we enjoyed excellent Harmony which concluded with a game of Bingo – a truly different but memorable evening. We were also shown the famous 4000-year-old Egyptian Maul – the origins of the Maul were explained to us by MEC Robert Bashford. It was discovered by the 1st Marquis of Dufferin & Ava from the burial place of King Menlu Hotep, a Pharoah from the 11th Dynasty in Egypt. Lord Dufferin had led the expedition that discovered the grave and recovered several items including this maul. When the new Hall in Bangor was Consecrated in 1883, he presented this Maul to the Trustees of the Hall, for display and preservation within the Hall.



On returning to the hotel, we met up with MEC Neil Coey, his wife Donna, MW Bro Richard Ensor, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland and his good lady, Hazel and Past Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, R W Bro Philip A. J. Daley and his good lady Imelda.

We spent a very enjoyable hour or two in their company finishing off with a nightcap (or two).

On Wednesday 17th September, we were collected by MEC Neil Coey just after breakfast and made our way south to Mourne Country Hotel in Newry, Co Down where we attended the Stated Convocation of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland. What a splendid occasion with close on 300 Companions in attendance.

Before the meeting started, the Grand Chapter had organised a “Men’s Health” event at which there was the opportunity to have a hearing test, a skin cancer test, a test carried out by the Chest Heart and Stroke Association, arrange an AAA (Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm) screening or receive general health and wellbeing information. A great idea and something I’m going to investigate back in Scotland.



I was also greatly interested in another initiative by Grand Chapter – a "Women's Health" event.



Over time, the link between our lifestyle choices and health has become more evident than ever. With these thoughts in mind, Freemasons of Ireland are taking innovative steps to proactively address this by fostering a healthy environment and to facilitate opportunities for Brethren, family members, friends and the wider community to attend organised events, talks and presentations on health and wellbeing.

The Women's Health Event being held on ***Tuesday 22nd September 2026 at 7.30pm in La Mon Hotel*** *will be highlighting Breast and Ovarian Cancers – the symptoms, early detection, treatment and the current research ongoing at Queen's University Belfast.*

We are delighted that Professor Kienan Savage and Professor Stuart McIntosh who are active in this field will be speaking at the event and look forward to hearing them.

These two initiatives must be applauded and something that The Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland are having a look at.

On Wednesday evening we enjoyed a farewell meal with MEC Neil in a local restaurant – a very fitting end to an excellent two days in Ireland.

WRM

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

PROVINCIAL GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER of ROSS & CROMARTY

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS MESSAGE

On Monday 31st August, I travelled through to Tain to represent the Province at the Alzheimer`s Day Centre. I was accompanied by MEC David Johnstone and MEC John Mackenzie, from Tain & Ross RAC No. 63. David`s wife attends the Day Centre. See the report below under the Tain & Ross Chapter.

On Wednesday, 7th October, I visited, Cromarty Firth RAC No 310, along with seven Provincial Members. We witnessed an excellent Installation, carried out by ME Installing 1st Principal, Alasdair Taylor and his Team. Principal Office Bearers, **Z:** Angus Rhodes (re-installed), **H:** Donnie Mathieson, **J:** Andreij Guilick, with 23 companions in attendance. The collection amounted to £103.

My next outing was to Glamis for at the Installation of Grand Superintendent MEC Ian Cruickshanks of the Provincial Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Angus & Mearns. I was accompanied by MEC David MacRae PG Scribe E of Ross & Cromarty and MEC Ian Woolley Grand Superintendent of Inverness-shire. We witnessed an excellent ceremony carried out by MEC William Ramsay McGhee 1st Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Royal Chapter of Scotland and his Team. It was very pleasing to watch. 82 Companions attended the meeting, which included 12 Grand Superintendents. 68 companions stayed for the meal which was most enjoyable. The collection amounted to £300, and the raffle made £385.



MEC Ian Cruikshanks with the FGP and 12 Grand Superintendents

The Ceremony was held in the Lodge of Glamis No. 99, also the home of Strathmore RAC No. 19, the Lodge and Chapter, dating back to 1738 and 1789 respectively.

I visited, Tain & Ross RAC No. 63 on Monday 26th October, along with five Provincial Members, where we once again witnessed an excellent Installation, carried out by ME Installing 1st Principal, Alasdair Taylor and his Team. Principal Office Bearers, **Z:** David Johnstone (re-installed), **H:** Jaye Sinclair, **J:** James Morrison [gave his apologies] with 21 companions in attendance, collection amounted to £103.

Finally, on Friday 30th October I visited, St Clement RAC No. 244, along with six Provincial Office-bearers where we witnessed the ME Installing 1st Principal, Alasdair Taylor and his Team work another excellent degree. Principal Office Bearers, **Z:** Peter Foster Snr, **H:** Tom Richards, **J:** Andrew MacIvor, with 23 companions in attendance, collection amounted to £120

Donald Gunn
Grand Superintendent

Tain & Ross Royal Arch Chapter No 63

Companions,

Welcome from Tain & Ross Royal Arch Chapter No 63. We have already held our first meeting of the season which was the Installation. Our diary for the session is as follows; This will be as follows:

23rd November Excellent Masters

25th January Royal Arch

22nd February Provincial Visitation

22nd March TBC

26th April Business Meeting

Tain & Ross Royal Arch Chapter No 63 are delighted to be working together with Lodge St Duthus No 82 in a joint fundraising initiative and were delighted to have had a cheque presented to Kats 2nd Edition Charity for £600. This year's chosen charity is the TRACC Campaign trying to raise funds for a new swimming pool in Tain.

During the summer recess 1st Principal David Johnstone organised a "Magic" day for Tain Alzheimer's Group when local magician Bro Brian Jay gave two shows to the patrons, staff & volunteers.

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026



The photo shows 1st Principal David Johnstone, PGS Donald Gunn & PG 3rd Principal John Mackenzie with patrons, staff and volunteers of Tain Alzheimer's Club.

Yours Faithfully & Fraternally

D Macrae

Companion D Macrae Scribe Ezra

St Clement Royal Arch Chapter No 244

September 25th: - This was the Chapter back after the summer recess, and our last meeting of the Season 2025—26. We conducted an R A Degree for EC Shaun Taylor. The meeting was well attended, collection amounted to £102.

October 30th: - The new Season 2026—27. We had the nomination of Office Bearers & Installation – all went well.

Future Meetings} **November 27th: -** EM Degree for Brother Andrew MacNeil.
February 26th: - RA Degree for EC Andrew MacNeil.

Yours fraternally
Donald Gunn
Scribe E

Royal Arch Chapter Hebrides No. 364.

Our first meeting since May was held on Wednesday 21st October when I installed MEC Alexander (Sandy) Mackenzie PZ as 1st Principal of the chapter for the second time. MEC Iain George Maciver PZ vacated the 1st Principal's chair and was re-installed as 3rd Principal.

At the moment we have 2 prospective candidates for the coming year.

The AGM and installation of the Ark Mariner Lodge and Cryptic Council due to be held on 20th October had to be postponed until Tuesday 17th November for want of a quorum.

Donnie Macleod
Donald Macleod IPGS R&C

PRECEPTORY OF THE WESTERN ISLES

Due to the stormy weather on the Saturday and Sunday 24th and 25th October the deputation of 9 from the District Grand Priory of the North in Scotland was unable to get to Stornoway to carry out the re-installation of Henry Macinnes and his officers so I carried it out during the afternoon of the 24th and it was followed by a very nice harmony which involved the consumption of fish suppers!

The next meeting will be on Friday 27th November.

†‡ Donald Macleod KCT

DISTRICT GRAND PRIORY OF THE NORTH IN SCOTLAND.

District Programme for remainder of 2026

Preceptory	**Installation Date**
Maison Dieu No.101	13th November 2026 Re-installation
St Fergus No.44	15th October 2026 Re-installation
Lochaber & Lorn No139	9th November 2026 Re-installation
Western Isles No.124	24th October 2026 Re-installation
Highland No. 39	16th October 2026 Installation
Ross No 138	Dormant

The installations at Wick, Inverness and Stornoway have now been carried out, VP Jim Beattie was reinstalled in Wick, Charlie Taylor KCT in Inverness and Sandy Mackenzie in Stornoway. I was particularly pleased to note that in Inverness all the officers apart from sub-prior were filled by fratres who were not past preceptors.

‡‡ Eric Macgregor DGP

PROVINCIAL PATTER

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty

ISSUE NO 129 **NOVEMBER 2026**

Royal Order of Scotland

Provincial Grand Lodge of Inverness and the Highlands

Provincial Grand Secretary: Bro. Michael Scott Turner

Michael Scott Turner
Provincial Grand Secretary

BLAST FROM THE PAST – FROM – NOVEMBER 2003

August was indeed a sad month for Lodge Seaforth with the passing of two well-known and well-respected Brethren - Bro Philip A McKenzie followed only some 12 hours later by Bro John M MacKay. I also learned at that time that PM Bro Angus Bridgeford from Bulawayo had died - many of the Seaforth Brethren met Angus on the two occasions he visited from Zimbabwe.

John MacKinnon MacKay had only been in Masonry for a short six years but in that time, he made a greater impact than many Brethren who have been in the Craft for considerably longer. His commitment to and endeavour for Freemasonry can be easily evidenced by the fact that in those six short years he became Substitute Master of his Mother Lodge, Scribe E of St Clement RA Chapter, he had risen through the ranks of the Rosicrucian Order, was a member of the Royal Order of Scotland and of the Eighteenth Degree. He was extremely proud of the fact that he had been made an Honorary Member of both Lodge Fingal and of Lodge Rosehaugh.

The large turnout at his funeral was further evidence of his popularity and standing and all present were greatly moved by the eulogy so sincerely given by PM, Brother Sinclair G Bruce.

John MacKinnon MacKay or, as he was affectionately known by his many friends - Silent John, due to his great ability to talk incessantly for hours on end - will be greatly missed but his memory will live on in many Lodges throughout the north, and beyond, where his excellent photography skills will be displayed for many years to come.

PROVINCIAL PATTER
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Province of Ross and Cromarty
ISSUE NO 129 NOVEMBER 2026

BITS AND PIECES

A Visit to Pro Musica Lodge No 9547 – Stamford Masonic Centre

What an honour and privilege it was for me to be invited to Pro Musica Lodge No. 9547, who meet in the well-appointed Stamford Masonic Centre. The English Constitution have adopted a very successful strategy of having Special Interest Lodges – Pro Musica Lodge is a special-interest lodge focused on musical performance.

W Brother Alisdair MacDonald, Secretary and an excellent piper in Pro Musica Lodge, collected me from Peterborough Station and very kindly drove me between the station, the hotel and the Lodge.

We arrived in Stamford to a full Lodge room which included V W Bro Tim Almond (Depute Provincial GM), and W Bro Dale Gilbert (Assistant Provincial GM), along with the Stamford Group Officers, and brethren from across the Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire and neighbouring Provinces. I was introduced by the stand-in DC for the evening, W Bro Malcolm Waldie, who carried out his duties in first-class fashion. Likewise, W Bro Chris Winfield, Lodge Organist played a selection of appropriate Scottish melodies on the organ, thereby setting the tone for a wonderful evening – at least it was for me – not sure about those who had to listen to me.

The Lodge business being completed, the Worshipful Master, W Bro Tim Lucy, gave me a very nice introduction after which I gave a 50-minute presentation on life as the Grand Master Mason.
At the conclusion I was delighted to take several pertinent questions after which the Lodge was closed in due form.

Continuing the Celtic theme, the Worshipful Master and I were piped to the top table by the Lodge Secretary, W Bro MacDonald, to the tune *Scotland the Brave*. The meal, prepared by Andy Binder and his team, was first class. Wine was taken, songs were sung, and raffle prizes were distributed.

The Worshipful Master, W Bro Tim Lucy very kindly presented me with a bottle of Northamptonshire gin (which I can confirm, is delicious) and a wooden spurtle which he had hand turned complete with a thistle-shaped finial in gold leaf. A man of many talents indeed.

With the evening drawing to a close, farewells were exchanged, along with talk of a possible Northants & Hunts visit to the Highlands – a Lodge in Ross and Cromarty possibly. Watch this space.





With the Master of Pro Musica Lodge, W Bro Tim Lucy and his Wardens



On the left - W Bro Dale Gilbert (Assistant Provincial GM) and V W Bro Tim Almond (Depute Provincial GM)

Some of the merchandise available to purchase on-line from the Grand Lodge shop.

















Visit The Grand Lodge of Scotland shop at - https://www.grandlodgescotland.com