



## The Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland

William Ramsay McGhee, OStJ, D.L., Grand Master Mason

19<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Brethren,

The Administration Committee met yesterday and the Chairman, Brother Jim Bell did a sterling job guiding the members through a lengthy agenda. One item that I am excited about, agreed by the Committee, and now going to Grand Committee is the proposal that we have the 4<sup>th</sup> International Scottish Masonic Conference here in Edinburgh next year given the issues the members may face getting to Zambia where a joint Zimbabwean / Zambian Conference was planned. The current DGM of Zambia, Brother Frank McCully will still host the Edinburgh Conference, but the spadework will be done locally. If all goes according to plan, the Conference will take place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> November, the Grand Lodge Installation and Festival of St Andrew on 24<sup>th</sup> November ending with a Supreme Grand Royal Arch Convocation on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

I feel strongly that we need something big to lift us all up after so many months of restrictions and this will be that something. Watch this space for further information.

### SCFS

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Scottish.Constitution.Freemasonry.Supports/>

- The Group saw its membership rise to 5905 Brethren from not only the Scottish Constitution but from many of our Sister Constitutions throughout the world.
- This week saw the total examples of charitable giving recorded within the group rise to 976, submitted by 320 of its members.
- These updated contributions can now be attributed as to being made on behalf of 338 Lodges, from within 55 of its Provincial Grand Lodges, District Grand Lodges, Superintendencies and Lodges abroad under the direct supervision of Grand Lodge.
- This week posts were submitted by group members representing the Provinces of Dumfriesshire, East Lothian and Linlithgowshire.
- The total identifiable monetary value of the contributions now recorded has risen to £1,767,310.



## SCFS Overseas Report

- An excellent post was received from *Brother Robert Duffney*, PM, Northcliffe Lodge, No. 1086, and SDGM of the *District of Newfoundland and Labrador*, showing the recent financial support (over £5400) which has been donated by Northcliffe Lodge to the 'Ronald McDonald House for Sick Kids and their Families'.
- Our Overseas Membership has now reached a total of 1644 brethren, with the largest increase in membership, this week, being from the *District of The Bahamas*, the most brethren joining from an individual Lodge coming from Lodge Maxwell, No. 1837, in that District.
- Our ICMs (International Constitution Members ... brethren who are members of Lodges whose Grand Lodges are in amity with the GLoS) are continuing to play an important role in spreading news of the excellent charity and community support being provided to so many. Our ICM total is now standing at 1021.
- During this week, new members joined from 6 different Masonic constitutions, including the GL of India, GL of Western Australia, GL of Georgia, GL of New Jersey, UGLE (England, Bombay), and a significant number from the GL of Mississippi.
- It is encouraging that more Lodges in our Districts, under Grand Superintendents and under the supervision of Grand Lodge, are sharing the examples of the excellent support which they have been involved in, and we look forward to publishing future news from them.

My sincere thanks to the Brethren of the Trades House Lodge of Glasgow for a superb day of celebration last Saturday – the seven course dinner was quite stunning. Likewise, on behalf of Brother Tom Smith and Brother Hugh Clelland who both led Deputations last Saturday to Lodge Craigielea and Lodge Balcarres respectively, their thanks are extended to both Lodges for the welcome and hospitality received. I would add my own thanks to Brothers Smith and Clelland and their teams for their support and assistance. It is greatly appreciated.

This Saturday I will be in Golspie to install Brother David Collings as PGM of Sutherland. That will complete the programme with all twelve PGM's now safely installed. Come February, we will start all over again with the new group of PGM's and DGM's who take up Office from 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022. Dependant on the state of Covid, flight availability and travel restrictions, I hope to start installing the backlog of District Grand Masters in February starting with the District of Sierra Leone and the Gambia.

**As you are all aware we are now starting to plan to hit the £1million target for our nominated charity Prostate Scotland. This is a request for anyone who would like to help and who has experience in large scale charitable fund raising to add their details to the Register of Interests. Please send a brief CV to Grand Secretary's PA Sue Williams – [pa@grandlodgescotland.org](mailto:pa@grandlodgescotland.org).**

Finally, as always, please stay safe and look after each other.

*Ramsay McGhee*

Grand Master Mason

