

Holgate on Tour 2024

Over the last weekend of July, seven members of Holgate bravely crossed north of the border to carry out missionary work in the Fair City of Perth when they visited the Summer meeting of the Lodge of Scoon and Perth No.3.



Having been invited by Bro. Richard Stibbles, when he visited Holgate, the object of their visit was to witness, as visitors, a third degree raising ceremony conducted in the Scottish Rite.

Arriving on the Friday evening, they mustered at The Capital Asset, a fine hostelry dispensing liquid sustenance at the astronomical price of £1.99 per pint.





Having spent a convivial evening, they meandered and staggered their way to their various lodges and hotels. On the way, Neil and Roger made especial friends with the locals.



The Saturday morning saw brethren visiting local attractions in the City. One not to be missed was to see the actual Stone of Scone (or Stone of destiny) in the City Museum.

With a 2.00 pm start, the brethren arrived early to ensure front row seats for the spectacular which awaited.



Having reserved their respective places, a quick tour of the lodge room was undertaken. The W.M. making straight for the main chair in the east to ensure a snug fit.



Needless to say the remainder of the troops soon joined him for a group gather



With more than eighty brethren present, the room was packed to the rafters and an excellent ceremony was performed by the home lodge team.

The proceedings were well into the afternoon before our own W. bro Adrian and the W.M. of the Lodge realised that they did in fact know each other through their membership of the Kindred Lodges Association and had communicated as such in the past, but never actually met. A friendship rekindled as well as many others made.

The lodge was drawing to a close when the W.M. made a decision (yes – he is allowed to sometimes, after all it is only a rumour that he is in charge) to curtail the passing of greetings from the multifarious visitors present.. With the very large numbers present, if all had done so, the barbeque would no doubt have been burnt to a crisp.

The Grand Chancellor of UGLE was the first on behalf of the English lodges present, followed by the leader of the contingent from the local Chapter of the Widows Sons, resplendent in full travelling garb along with regalia. Then the lone visitor from South Africa followed by the Master of the contingent which had travelled over from Tobermory on the Isle of Mull. Rounding off the greetings, the W.M. called upon W. bro Adrian who managed a recruiting drive resulting in a new member of the KLA Installed Master's lodge.

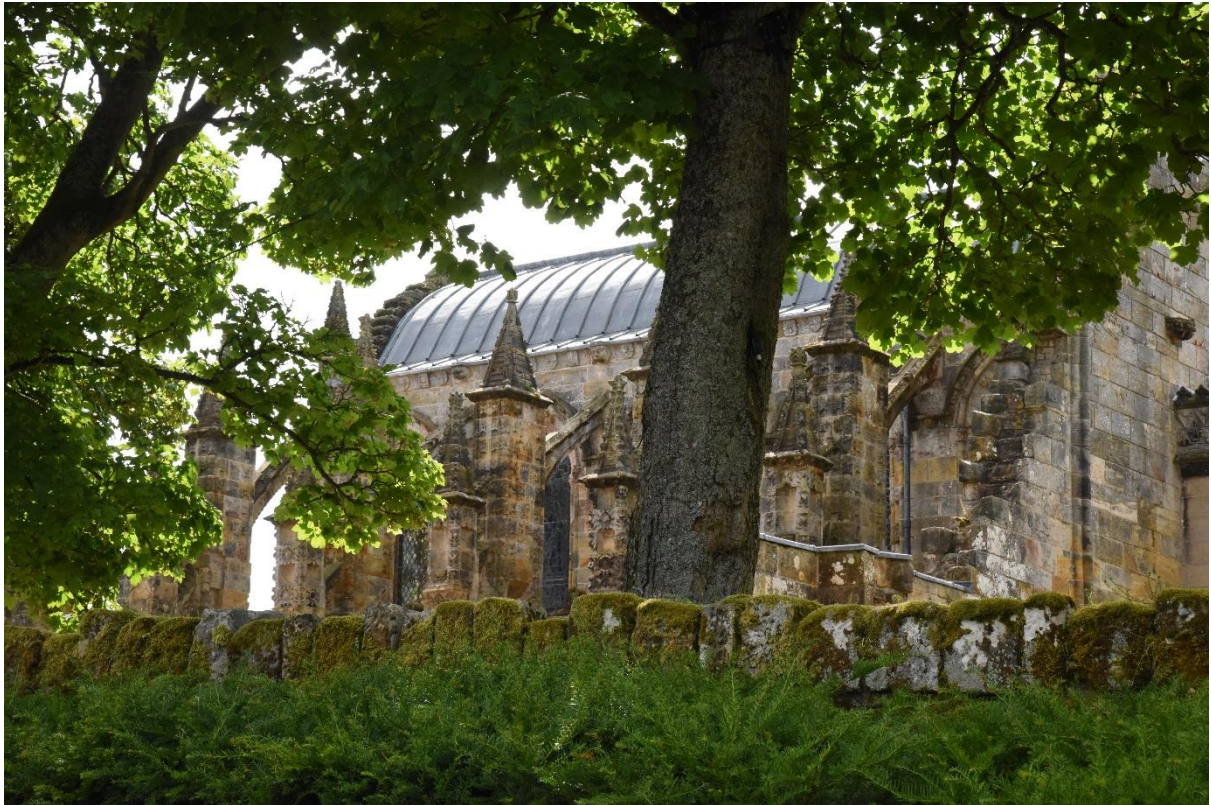
Much more important work beckoned and everyone made their way to the rear yard of the lodge where a sumptuous, all you can eat, barbeque was sizzling away in the Scottish sunshine. Loads of food and plenty to drink, including John Smiths Smooth (did they get that in just for us? - I wonder).







The following day, the contingent travelled down to Rosslyn, to view the Chapel. Most had not visited before.



Truly, a masterpiece of the stone mason's art.







A further visit to the Lodge of Scoon and Perth No.3 is on offer, possibly in the New year. It is well worth it.