

Provincial Grand Lodge of The Scottish Borders



CEREMONIAL

TO BE OBSERVED AT THE

INSTALLATION

of

Brother James Thom

as

Provincial Grand Master

of the

Provincial Grand Lodge of The Scottish Borders

by

Brother Alexander C. G. Moncrieff

Depute Grand Master Mason

in the

Tait Hall, Kelso

on

Saturday 16th August 2025

at 1.00 p.m.

ORDER OF CEREMONY

The Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master accompanied by the Provincial Grand Office-bearers will enter Provincial Grand Lodge in procession.

Provincial Grand Lodge will be resumed in the Third Degree.

A Deputation from the Sister Provincial Grand Lodges will be received in due form, headed by Brother Stuart J. Robertson, Provincial Grand Master of East Lothian.

Reception of the Grand Master Mason and Deputation from The Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The Grand Master Mason will receive the Emblem of Authority and assume the Chair.

The Provincial Grand Wardens will vacate their chairs in favour of the Grand Wardens.

The Grand Master Mason will invite the Grand Director of Ceremonies to retire to escort the Provincial Grand Master into Grand Lodge.

The Brethren will sing:

PSALM 23 (first and last verses)

Tune - "Crimond"

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green: he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me:
And in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

During the singing of the Psalm, the Provincial Grand Master will enter the Lodge.

The Grand Director of Ceremonies will present the Provincial Grand Master.

The Grand Master Mason will call upon Grand Secretary to read the Commission issued by Grand Lodge in favour of the Provincial Grand Master.

The Grand Master Mason will then address the Provincial Grand Master.

Grand Secretary will read a summary of the Antient Charges.

The Provincial Grand Master having signified his assent to the Antient Charges, the Grand Master Mason will administer the Oath of Fidelity.

The Brethren will sing:

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee;
The Lord make his face to shine upon thee,
And be gracious unto thee:
The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee,
And give thee peace.

The Grand Master Mason will place the Provincial Grand Master in the South-East and invest him with the insignia of his office.

The Grand Director of Ceremonies will proclaim the Provincial Grand Master.

The Grand Master Mason will invite the Provincial Grand Master to name his Depute and Substitute Provincial Grand Master(s).

The Commissioned Office-bearers will be presented, obligated, invested and, where appropriate, proclaimed and saluted.

The Roll of Lodges in the Province will be called by the Provincial Grand Secretary and as the name of each Lodge is called, its representatives will be upstanding, salute the Provincial Grand Master, and resume their seats.

The Grand Master Mason will address the Provincial Grand Master and Brethren.

The Brethren will sing:

PARAPHRASE II

Tune - "Salzburg"

O God of Bethel! by whose hand
Thy people still are fed;
Who through this weary pilgrimage
hast all our fathers led;

Our vows, our pray'rs, we now present
Before Thy throne of grace:
God of our Fathers! be the God
Of their succeeding race.

The Grand Chaplain will offer a prayer of thanksgiving.

Response by the Brethren: *So mote it be.*

The Brethren will sing:

MASONIC HYMN

Tune - "Innocents"

Hail! Eternal, by whose aid,
All created things were made:
Heaven and earth, Thy vast design,
Hear us, Architect Divine!

May our work begun in Thee,
Ever blessed with order be;
And may we, when labours cease,
Part in Harmony and Peace.

By Thy glorious Majesty,
By the trust we place in Thee,
By the badge and mystic sign,
Hear us, Architect Divine!

The Grand Master Mason will present the Emblem of Authority to the Provincial Grand Master.

The Grand Wardens will vacate their chairs in favour of the Provincial Grand Wardens.

The Provincial Grand Master will reply.

Collection for the Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund.

The Grand Master Mason and his Deputation will retire.

The Deputation from the Sister Provincial Grand Lodges will retire.

Provincial Grand Lodge will be closed in the Third Degree.

Provincial Grand Lodge of The Scottish Borders

Commissioned Office-bearers

Brother James Thom
Brother J. Stewart Clark
Brother Dale W. Hall
Brother David W. Bell
Brother Michael Laidlaw
Brother Brian Dodds

Provincial Grand Master
Depute Provincial Grand Master
Substitute Provincial Grand Master
Provincial Grand Secretary
Senior Provincial Grand Chaplain
Junior Provincial Grand Chaplain