



The Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland

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MESSAGE FROM GRAND SECRETARY

The first All Africa and Asia Scottish Freemason's Conference was held in February 2014 in Mombasa, Kenya, and was superbly organised by our District Grand Lodge of East Africa. The rationale behind this conference was a desire to bring together a number of our Districts in Africa and Asia in order we could share our experiences and perhaps learn from each other how to manage the diverse successes and problems we have faced in our own Districts and Lodges.

Being the first such conference we were slightly concerned beforehand how it would work out. I believe that all Brethren and their partners who attended in Mombasa will agree that the first Conference was a fantastic success. Districts and Lodges were represented from all over the world and to acknowledge this geographical expansion from the original concept we have renamed the Conference the Scottish International Masonic Conference.

The District Grand Lodge of the Middle East is hosting the 2016 Conference on the beautiful island of Penang, which will afford all delegates, and their wives and families, a unique opportunity to enjoy the company of your fellow Scottish Freemasons in a relaxing and hospitable environment.

The Scottish Craft has Lodges in forty five Countries and territories world-wide and Scottish Freemasonry is unique amongst all other Grand Lodges in that it allows the Daughter Lodges a good deal of autonomy in managing their own affairs. However, there are certain protocols and traditions that are peculiarly Scottish and this Conference will give all Brethren the opportunity to discuss and learn more about what these traditions are, and why it is important that they be preserved. Scottish Freemasonry is very much a continual learning experience and no matter how senior or experienced a Freemason may be (or thinks he may be) he should always be willing to learn.

I am sure that all who attend in Penang in 2016 will find this Conference a wonderful experience; will renew old acquaintances and make new friendships, as well as expanding their Masonic knowledge and understanding.

David M Begg
Grand Secretary

