

### **Information about Dykes Conclave No.36**

The warrant of the conclave is dated 24<sup>th</sup> December 1870, which was only 5 years after Grand Conclave had met for its re-formation meeting in 1865. At the time Lord Kenlis was the Grand Sovereign, and he lived near Kirkby Lonsdale, while Dykes Conclave was warranted to meet in Cockermouth. Lord Kenlis, later the Earl of Bective, held this position 1867-73, and at the same time he was Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland & Westmorland 1867-94. The conclave was named after the previous Provincial Grand Master, Frechewood Lawson Ballantyne Dykes, 1862-66

The conclave began with 8 founders, and in 1873 there were 2 busy meetings, when 35 new knights were installed in April, and then another 6 in May – the conclave was growing rapidly. In 1878 it was agreed to meet in various towns in Cumberland for the benefit of its members, at the direction of the Sovereign of the conclave, and this itinerant policy lasted for about 30 years. For its enthronement meetings the conclave continued to meet in Cockermouth, but in 1892 moved to Whitehaven.

The first meeting in Ulverston was in 1902, for the enthronement of Alfred Edwin Sadler, who was a Furness Mason, but it was only in the 1930's that the conclave moved there as a permanent home. Over its lifetime the conclave has been allotted to various Divisions, starting with Cumberland & Westmorland, then Northern, then unattached, then North Western, then Lancashire, then North & East Lancashire, and finally in 2007 into the new Cumbria Division.

Since 1938 Dykes Conclave has served the South Lakes and Furness region of the North West of England for 80 years, drawing its membership from towns in and around the area. While there are now not as many members (currently 15) as in the heady days of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and the early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries, when we were the only conclave serving the whole of Cumberland & Westmorland and the northern part of Lancashire, we are fortunate in having Ulverston Masonic hall as an impressive setting for our Red Cross degrees with our future candidates.

The Dykes Conclave meets on the 4th Monday in January, March and September. Enthronements are held in March,