

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CUMBERLAND & WESTMORLAND
of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of England



William John Bewley
R W Provincial Grand Master

Masonic Hall
Station Road
Kendal
Cumbria
LA9 6BT.

Dear Brethren and Companions

It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

As we mourn the death of Her Majesty, let our thoughts and prayers be with the members of her immediate family.

She served our Nation for 70 years and has been an inspiration to us all and remained faithful to her word, that she would dedicate her life to the service of her country. She has seen many Governments come and go and remained faithful to her promises.

I had the privilege in 2013 when she visited the Lake District, of escorting her when she visited Windermere and sailed with us on MV Teal. I introduced her to many people and enjoyed her company and conversation during the half hour she was with us. Being used to meeting and talking with the world's statesmen, she made this country lad feel at ease in her company as we talked about local matters. Brethren, it was one of the highlights of my life to be in her company and a day that I will never forget.

Brethren, we have been privileged to live through her Reign as our Sovereign Queen and we will miss her toast at our festive boards, but will always think of her. She will never be forgotten and always remembered.

During the period of mourning, we will wear Black Ties at our meetings instead of the Provincial Tie.

She will be succeeded by King Charles III, to whom we will swear our allegiance and loyalty.

With sadness I write, but with joy I remember her.

God save the King.

Bill

William J Bewley

Provincial Grand Master/Grand Superintendent