

*Freedom Ceremony to Lord Kilmaire  
of the Royal Burgh of Dornoch April 1954. and  
Freedom Ceremony to Rev. Wm. Macleod, Provost of  
the Royal Burgh of Dornoch Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> 1964 the*

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**THE ACADEMY**

**DRAWING BLOCK**

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**SUPERIOR**

**CARTRIDGE DRAWING PAPER**

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**18 SHEETS**

Freedom Ceremony to Lord Kilmuir, April 1954.

On the platform are the Provost, Rev. Wm. MacLeod speaking, on his right, Lord Kilmuir, Junior Bailie Don McKenzie; Dean of Guild Wm. Grant, and Councillor Jas. MacDonald; on his left Town Clerk W. C. Wright and Treasurer Jean. I. C. Chisholm. Senior Bailie Wickham was absent. In the left hand corner of the picture Sir David Robertson M.P. for Caithness + Sutherland.



Town Clerk W. C. Wright, reading the Freedom Ceremony. In the back ground, photographer, knocked Councillor MacCulloch's hat off, trying to fix his camera. In the of the platform the unwanted guest at the Ceremony.



*Lord Kilmuir Taking the Oath*





Lord Kilmuir replying



Provost MacLeods' Address of Welcome.



October 31<sup>st</sup> 1964. Freedom Ceremony at Dornoch Academy

to

Provost Rev. Wm. MacLeod D.L. M.A.

With Dornoch's newest Burgess.

↓ Dean of Guild Harry Clunie, extreme right,  
the Town Clerk H. C. Wright, Councillor A. Maclean,  
and Councillor A. Addison, and appearing between  
them. Sheriff Harold Leslie (now Lord Bursey)  
Between Provost MacLeod and Police Judge Rev. F. Fulton  
Mr J. K. MacKay, & on his right Mr D. MacDonald.  
Sheriff Clerk.





Freedom Ceremony at Dornoch Academy  
Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> 1964

Senior Bailie Mrs Jean J. C. Mackay,  
signing the Special Town Council  
minute.

Town Clerk W. C. Wright, standing.  
Police Judge, Rev. F. Fulton sitting to  
the right of the Provost.

With Mr George Mackie, M.P. for  
Caithness and Sutherland (Liberal)  
appearing between the Provost and  
the Rev. F. Fulton.





**The Rev. William MacLeod, provost of Dornoch, addressing the audience in Dornoch Academy after he had received the freedom of the royal burgh. On his immediate left is Senior Bailie Mrs Jean Mackay, who presided, and who presented Provost MacLeod with the burgess ticket.**



Some of the Public, & in the Front Seat.  
Bruce Weir of the Northern Times.



Oct 31st 1964

Pipe Major Kenneth MacRae of  
Dornoch Pipe Band, handing  
the Music Scroll of the tune he  
composed in honour of the  
"Youngest Burgess"  
Provost Rev. Wm. MacLeod  
after the Freedom Ceremony  
at the Door of Dornoch Academy.





# LIFETIME OF PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNISED

## Royal Burgh of Dornoch Confers Freedom on Rev. William MacLeod

### PIPER'S TRIBUTE TO PROVOST

THE freedom of the royal burgh of Dornoch was conferred on the provost, the Rev. William MacLeod, in Dornoch Academy's assembly hall last Saturday afternoon, and as Senior Bailie Mrs Jean Mackay read out his impressive record of service both to town and county the audience must have realised, if they did not do so before, that here, indeed, a lifetime of devoted work was being deservedly honoured.

The seal was set on the occasion when, at a luncheon afterwards, in the Burghfield Hotel, the town clerk, Mr William C. Wright, read a message of congratulation to the new freeman from Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. In September of last year Provost MacLeod had accompanied the Queen Mother when she opened the new Dornoch Academy.

Then Mr Kenneth Macrae, pipe-major of Dornoch Pipe Band, played a tune which he had composed in honour of the Queen Mother, and last Saturday Mr Macrae did a similar honour for Mr MacLeod, entitling the new tune "Provost the Rev. William MacLeod's Freedom of Dornoch." He presented a copy of the tune to the provost after he had played the composition from a vantage point on the platform.

#### ROYAL CONGRATULATIONS

The Queen Mother's message to Provost MacLeod read, "I send you my warmest congratulations on the honour you are to receive in recognition of your wonderful services to the burgh and county for so many years."

The freedom was conferred on Provost MacLeod by Senior Bailie Mr Mackay and she later presented him with the burgess ticket. Before these ceremonies prayer was said by the Rev. F. H. Fulton, minister of Dornoch Cathedral and a member of the Town Council. Mr MacLeod was accompanied by the magistrates and councillors, and behind them sat the principal guests including Sheriff Principal Haral Leslie and Mr John H. Mackay, co-vener of Sutherland.

Mrs Mackay began, "To-day we are assembled here to do honour to one who

has worked hard, never sparing himself in the interests of education for the young and the improvement of civic life. I refer to the Rev. William MacLeod, Free Church minister, Deputy Lieutenant, Justice of the Peace, honorary chaplain to the Forces, Master of Arts, and provost of the royal burgh of Dornoch.

"You, Mr MacLeod, were dux of Nicholson Institute, Stornoway, in 1912; graduate of Glasgow University, member of Bute Education Authority from 1921 to 1924. You joined Sutherland education authority in March, 1928; you were vice-chairman of Sutherland Education Committee in 1933, and chairman in 1943; moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland in 1940-41; junior, then senior, clerk to the Assembly, from 1937 to 1963; chaplain to the Black Watch in the First World War. You are a founder member of the Dornoch British Legion and also its chaplain since 1937. You have been a member of Dornoch Town Council since 1944 and became provost in 1953, a position which you still hold.

"Throughout the long history of this ancient burgh there have been many provosts but, I venture to say, few of them could have equalled and none surpassed our present provost. (Applause.)

#### SPIRITUAL NEED

"A school will flourish not merely by simple teaching of secular things. The mainspring of a school must be spiritual, and I am glad to say that the spiritual interests of the pupils of Dornoch Academy are not neglected either by the ministers or the teachers.

Of his town council, the provost said: "We are a united council. There is no serious divergence of opinions among us. We do take a vote occasionally, but only occasionally. We are so unanimous in our desire to see this burgh's interests furthered that we very rarely fall out at all.

"On these three pillars then our local society is reared and long may it continue to be established on these pillars, but it cannot continue except for the rising generation giving support to these institutions that are so important to the development of our urban life."

During the ceremony, a selection of airs were sung by Dornoch Academy Choir, conducted by their choirmaster Mr Forrest P. Millar.

this is the largest school in the county of Sutherland.

#### HIGHEST TRIBUTE

"You, sir, have guided Dornoch's barque through troubled seas and calm with a steady hand on the helm, with sage and worthwhile advice to your magistrates and councillors. To-day we pay tribute—the highest we can offer—the freedom of the royal burgh of Dornoch. It entitles you to a very special place in the esteem and affection of its citizens.

"You, Sir, have grown old in the service of the Church, of this burgh and the county of Sutherland. And it is strange that we must, to show you honoured respect, create you our youngest burgess.

"As a native of the royal and ancient burgh of Dornoch, and on behalf of my fellow citizens, I am thrilled and honoured to be the one to present the burgess ticket to you. But first, Sir, you are required to take the oath, and this will be administered by the town clerk (Mr W. C. Wright)."

The audience then stood as the ceremony was performed.

After Provost MacLeod had been presented by Mrs Mackay with the burgess ticket, which proclaimed him to be "created, admitted and received a burgess freeman and guild brother of the Burgh of Dornoch," a pipe tune composed in honour of the occasion was played by the composer, Pipe-Major Kenneth Macrae, of Dornoch Pipe Band, and janitor of Dornoch Academy. The new burgess was presented with a copy of the tune—"Provost the Rev. William MacLeod's Freedom of Dornoch"—by Pipe-Major Macrae.

Provost MacLeod, in his speech, thanked the council for "this signal honour." He had seen quite a number of freedom ceremonies, but only two Dornoch freemen survived—there had been only one that morning, but now there were two. (Applause.)

"I only hope that I shall respond to the trust you have shown in me to-day by continuing to serve this royal burgh which is well worth serving."

#### DOCTOR SON WELCOMED

Junior Bailie Gardner, welcoming the guests, particularly referred to the presence of Provost MacLeod's son, Alan, a doctor, who is a wing commander in the R.A.F., and Mr George Y. Mackie, their new member of Parliament. Mr Gardner then specified the many improvements to the royal burgh since the last freedom ceremony in 1953, among these being the new Dornoch Academy. All these had happened during Provost MacLeod's years of office and he hoped that many more new and exciting projects would be launched under his guidance.

Sheriff Leslie, replying, said he was glad that Provost MacLeod had mentioned "this business of sentiment as well as stones and earth to living in the North of Scotland." If the North lost their traditions and heritage they would lose everything.



Provost MacLeod continued, "In this wonderful community we have a structure that is based upon three pillars, and steadfastly based upon these — the Church, the school, and the town council."

Of the Church, he said: "There was a time when ministers of different churches would not look at each other, but now the churches together take the same stand on spiritual and moral questions arising to-day. We live in a community which is really in spirit the outcome of the heritage of the Church of long ago."

Both churches in Dornoch deserve support. He was sustained by the knowledge of the goodwill of the community and by the knowledge that "we have in our community people who remember the cause of our Lord daily in their family worship and prayers. We are living in a time when people come into our area and wonder why we bother so much about the church. It is because it is really the mother of us all. We have been baptised in it and reared in it."

On the school, Provost MacLeod said, "There has been a tradition of education in this part of the world, and I am proud to say that in 1964 we have a new academy in Dornoch and we rejoice that

At the luncheon the chairman was Bailie Mrs Mackay and the croupier Dean of Guild Harry Clunie. The following toasts were proposed — The Queen (by Mrs Mackay), "The Youngest Burgess" (by Mrs Mackay), "The Guests" (by Junior Bailie D. A. Gardner) and "The Royal Burgh of Dornoch (by the county convener, Mr J. H. Mackay). The replies were by Provost MacLeod, Sheriff Harald Leslie and the Rev. F. H. Fulton.

In response to the toast, Provost MacLeod said: "I have no doubt all of us are united in the desire to promote the well-being of the community we represent.

"It is a great thing to love the community in which we spend our lives. It is not merely to work in it, it is not merely to be interested in local affairs, but to have a deep affection for it."

Mr MacLeod said that the name and dignity of the royal burgh of Dornoch were worth maintaining. It would be a sad reflection on its citizens if they did not uphold that tradition which had come down to them. "I trust that I shall be able to serve you for a little longer," he concluded.

Proposing a toast to Dornoch, Sutherland county convener, Mr John H. Mackay, said of Provost MacLeod: "He has been a highly respected convener of Sutherland for six years. We found him a first-class administrator, and a fair and firm chairman who has always maintained the dignity of that office."

#### CLOSE TIES

The Rev. F. H. Fulton, replying, said that Dornoch was a forward looking burgh and that Provost MacLeod was a very far-sighted man whose opinions they respected tremendously and whom they held in deep affection.

Dornoch and Sutherland were bound together very closely, and he hoped and prayed that the link between the town council and the county council would become stronger and that the two bodies would go forward for the greater good of the county.

#### OTHER MESSAGES

In addition to the telegram from the Queen Mother, other messages of congratulation for Dornoch's youngest burgess were from Lord Migdale (Lord Lieutenant of Sutherland), Lord Kilmuir (Dornoch's only other surviving freeman), the Rev. W. M. G. Edgar (former minister of Dornoch Cathedral), from the Murray family (of Balloan, Dornoch) and from Dr K. A. Macrae (county medical officer of health), who was unable to be present.

Lord Migdale said that both the burgh and county were deeply indebted to Mr MacLeod for what he had done in their interests. "We all appreciate your wise and good counsel," wrote Lord Migdale, and this latest honour was public acknowledgment of what he had done. "We all delight in paying tribute to you and realise we cannot do without you."

Lord Kilmuir (the former Lord Chancellor) sent his heartiest congratulations to Provost MacLeod and best wishes for Dornoch, "which has so warm a place in my heart."

## Provost's Tribute

WHEN Dornoch Town Council held their statutory meeting last Tuesday night it must have been the first time for many years that a freeman of the burgh, Provost, the Rev. William MacLeod, had presided at their deliberations.

Mr MacLeod himself referred to this and went on to pay high tribute to the admirable and efficient way in which the council members had conducted the freedom ceremony in Dornoch Academy the previous Saturday. He paid special tribute to Senior Bailie Mrs Jean Mackay for her chairmanship and to the clerk, Mr W. C. Wright who had done more than his bit. To his knowledge, Mr Wright was one of the best clerks he knew in any local authority.



# CLEAN TEETH AND SMART CYCLISTS



Pupils from Dornoch Academy's Primary VII distinguished themselves just before the end of term, by being the recipients of two presentations on the one day. Karen Littlejohn (above) holds the county dental trophy, which she and other members of the school won this year in partnership with primary children at Kinbrace and Lairg.

The award came shortly after schools dental officer Mr A. M. Bennie heard that Sutherland children in his care had the most healthy

teeth in the Highlands. And the man who decided this, Mr Kenneth Stephen, senior lecturer in oral medicine at Glasgow University, travelled North to present the trophy to the Dornoch children.

Ex-Provost Harry Clunie called on Primary VII later in the day to present cycling proficiency awards to 17 members of the class who passed the police tests with flying colours.

The children (below) scored more than 90 per cent. in the tests carried out by

police instructors Sergeant Donald McCulloch and Constable Tom Matheson — the highest marks in their experience.

Said Mr Clunie: "The police have told me that you are one of the best classes they have ever had — you have got higher marks than anybody else. I want you to keep up the good work and use your knowledge and guidance for other children to keep the roads safe." Also in the picture is Primary VII's teacher, Mrs Christine McCulloch.







### SANTA'S PARADE

Santa rode through town on Saturday in Dornoch — all in aid of the 30 patients at Cambusavie geriatric hospital. Organisers Robert Smith of the Trentham

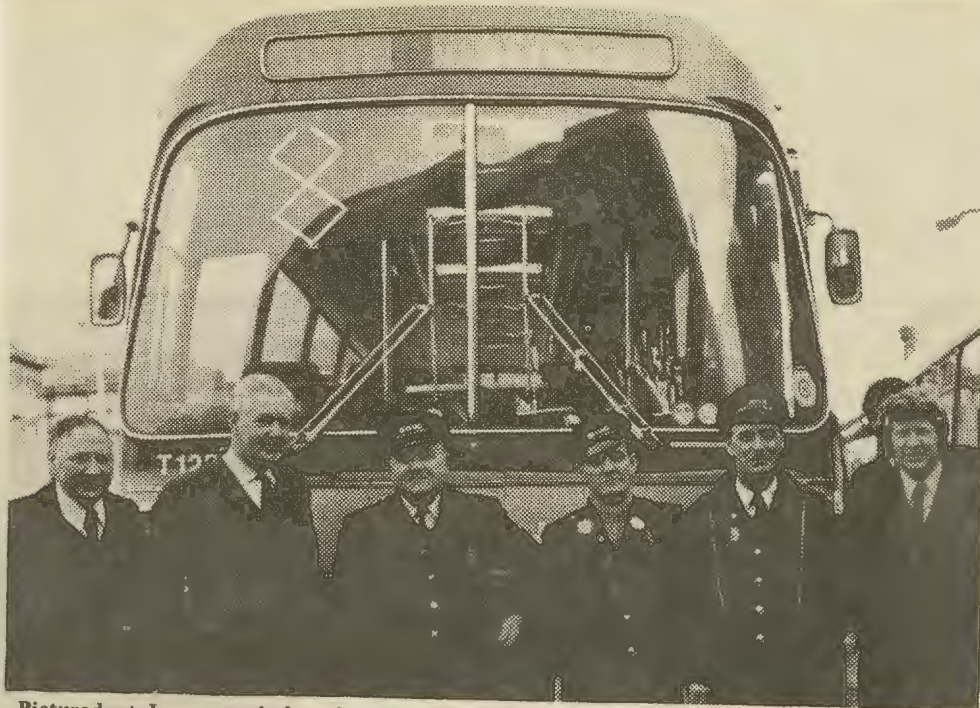
Hotel and Eion Mackay of Mackays of Dornoch are responsible for a £245 collection from the public — both on the parade, by pony and cart, helped by members of the Sutherland Pony Club, and

an auction held in the Trentham Hotel last Friday night. As a result each patient will receive a gift today and a cheque will be handed over to the hospital to buy a television set for the patients.



Mrs L. Martin from Edinburgh (trouser suit, centre) was the guest of Sutherland Floral Art Club at their annual dinner in Brora's Royal Marine Hotel. She charmed the gathering with her witty, bright personality and demonstrated a number of attractive assemblies. With her in the picture around the floral arrangement, are Mr Dennis Waterhouse, Spinningdale; Mr Ian Matheson, Balvraid; and Mrs Barbara Vicker, Dornoch; Mrs Margaret Douglas, Golspie; Mrs Jennifer Cox, Brora; and Mrs Pat Macdonald, Clynelish.





Pictured at Inverness before leaving on his last journey to Dornoch is Highland Omnibuses driver Angus Munro, Bishopfield, Dornoch. During his 36 years' service "Angie" has covered most routes in Scotland. The picture shows (left to right) driver A. Nicol Inverness, Mr D. Murray, district traffic superintendent, Inverness, Mr Munro, J. Stewart, G. Beaton and W. McGarrity, all Inverness.



A deputation from the Northern Joint Police Committee inspected three sites—at Dornoch, Evelix and Clashmore — on Thursday of last week as possible locations for a new £280,000 police station for Sutherland's sub-divisional headquarters. Here they are at the Dornoch site, on high ground behind Mackay's Garage—Left to right: Chief Inspector Alexander Cowie (Dornoch), Mrs Aileen Dekker (Nairn), Mr Hamish Sutherland Inverness (committee chairman), Mr Alexander Rugg (Wick), Mr R. R. Macdonald (Brora), Mr Fraser Bruce (joint director of law and administration) and Mr E. M. Fulton (director of architectural services) — partly hidden, behind Mr Bruce, is Chief Constable Donald Henderson. The deputation's recommendation will go before the police committee at their meeting at Inverness on January 18.

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