

Flushing out at the East Church

21 May 2009

The Laing Traditional Masonry team have been busy putting on the first 'flushing out' lime harl coat on the church.

Before this goes on any gaps in the masonry are filled in using small stones and lime mortar. This is called pinning (right) and can be seen in many of Cromarty's buildings.



Benny and Finton are carrying out this work on the south wall



From top to bottom (right) you can see Shaun, Greg and George applying the flushing out coat of harl to the upper south wall.



The harl is applied to just barely cover the most prominent stones - giving a flush wall. This layer is left with a rough textured finish to provide a strong bond for the following coat.

To be durable the lime must dry slowly, and so is draped with awning to trap the moisture. On warm dry days the team will also have to water the harl.

