

What's happening at the East Church ?

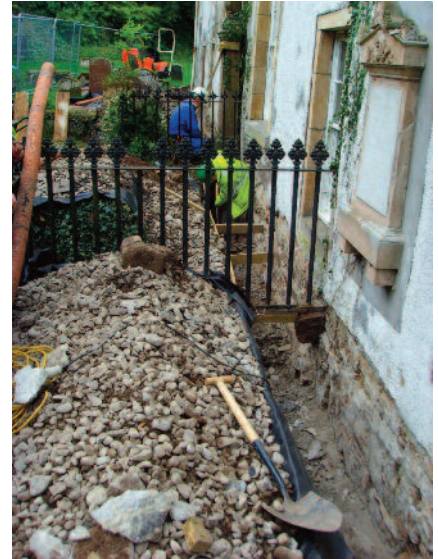


Andy enjoying a quiet moment before work began: picture courtesy of Press & Journal. Photographer, Sandy McCook

Laing Traditional Masonry Limited are the contractors who are repairing and restoring the church, and Andrew Newcombe (pictured left) is Site Manager.

At the moment work is underway to improve drainage around the church.

The 1970s drainage ditches have been re-opened and the old pipework removed. The previous attempt to seal the base of the building with cement and bitumous outer coating didn't work - and in fact sealed water inside the church.



The old coating and bottom metre of cement harling has been chipped off, and a new breathable lime coating used to line the drainage channel before putting in new pipework.



opening up south wall drainage trench: photo by John Wood



Paddy removing harling by earlier south wall door opening. This would have led to the west loft



older stone lined drainage by north porch: photo John Wood



slate pinning used below window sill



Digging the drainage channels revealed the church footings . . .

. . . confirmed written accounts – by revealing the base of the door that led to the north aisle loft



. . . and raised some interesting questions . . .



Archaeologist John Wood and David Alston contemplate the revealed stonework

. . . is this the line of a previous window?



. . . why are these large flat dressed stones in the foundations, and where did they come from?

In the south wall 3 stones laid end to end measure more than 3 metres in total. In the north wall two stones – one of 1.6 metres – are placed on top of each other.



For updates check out the noticeboard or look at the East Church website www.eastchurchcromarty.co.uk