

## Book review by Rob Lund

### **The Secrets Of Freemasonry** by *Robert Lomas*

The title of this book is a misnomer. It has nothing to do with secrets, but is a summary of the viewpoints from five different Masonic writers and researchers on the origins of the Craft.

He references and comments on books by William Preston, Robert Gould, JSM Ward, AE Waite and WL Wilmschurst. He helps make some of the earlier writers easier to understand by “translating” into more modern language.

Each has different ideas on the origins and lineage of Freemasonry and touch on both Craft Masonry and Scottish Rite.

They touch on charters and manuscripts from early times with discussion on Knights Templar and their possible influence on some aspects of Masonry.

There is a chapter devoted entirely to the history of Mother Kilwinning and her influence on Lodges over time.

While their conclusions are diverse, they all agree that the origins of Freemasonry are much older than the 18th Century as the UGLE like to state, and are *not* derived from the Operative guilds.

