

A BEAUCEANT!!

NO 11

A little Knight Templar news does you good

In future issues

- Our proud heritage
- Local Templar buildings
- An invitation for Knights Templars to visit Wells Cathedral in 2021

Staying in touch

Dear Brother Knights

It is strange how things turn out *sometimes*. Activity has - ironically- been one of the hallmarks of this period of suspension and lockdown. Whether it be gardening, painting, DIY, study and enquiry (or whatever) it seems that nearly all of us have been busy turning adversity into an opportunity.

I should not be surprised of course.

After all it would be a strange body of Knights who did not have plenty of the fighting spirit.

I am really pleased to see it showing itself in so many creative and kind hearted ways.

Well done and long may that spirit prevail.

This week's edition of the newsletter typifies that spirit with items from several of our Brother Knights who have been busy.

Please keep sending me items for inclusion.

Yours in the Bonds of the Order
R.E.Kt. Paul Calderwood



This week's Templar Quiz was devised by E.Kt. Nigel Williams, Provincial Vice-Chancellor.

1. When did the Knight Templar Province of Monmouth & South Wales (separate from Somerset) come into existence ?
2. How many Preceptories were there when it was formed?
- 3 How many Provincial Priors of this province can you name?

For the answers please see the bottom of the last page.



Photo Caption
Masons are interested in stones. True or false?.

A Daily Advancement

Meanwhile R.E.Kt. Dr. Vivian Thomas, our Provincial Orator, has also been busy and he has sent me the following interesting article for your further enjoyment.



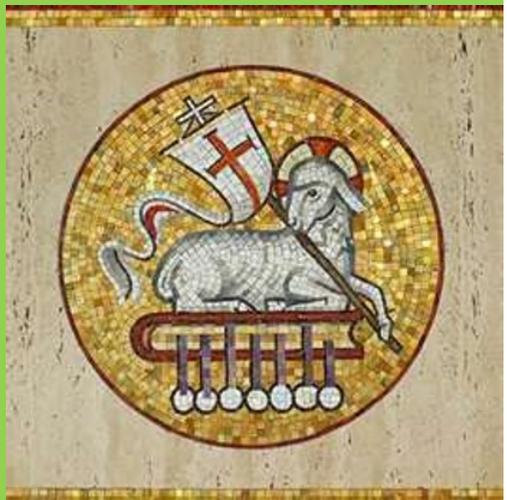
The Lamb and Flag

No, Bro. Kts., this is not in praise of the village pub!

At the centre of the Standards in the east of our Preceptories, the standard of St John and that of Malta, you will see the symbol of the lamb carrying a flag. The lamb, of course, was recorded in that so well-known phrase from the Gospel of St John “Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world” and is known to us now as the Agnus Dei.

It probably made its first appearance in the early 9th Century, when wax seals were made from the previous year’s paschal candles, with the lamb on one side and a depiction of a saint or the present Pope on the other.

These seals were then blessed by that pope and sent as gifts to surrounding kings.



This is still the tradition in the Catholic Church where the discs are made by monks and brought to the Pope for consecration, and, perhaps not too surprisingly, there is a brisk trade in counterfeit seals!!

For the Templars the recognition that, as Christian Knights, Christ, the Lamb of God, gave His life for them resulted in the adoption of that symbol.

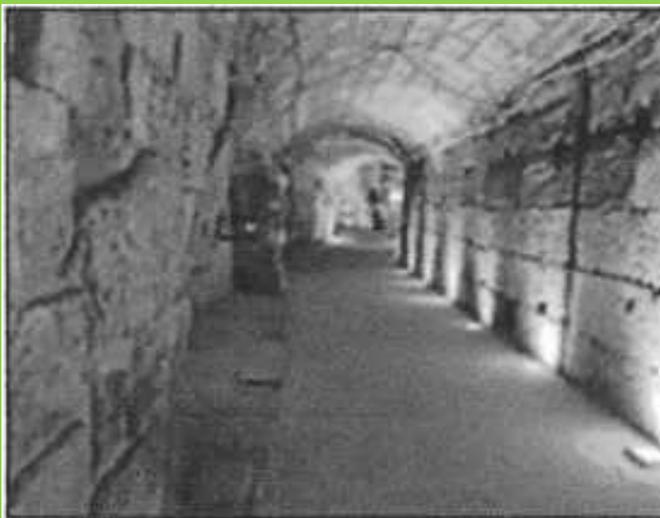
The earliest seal with this depiction dates from around 1240, adopted by William de la More an English Templar Grand Master. For the Knights themselves, of course, as faithful Christians who accepted that Christ gave His life for them, so would they, in battle, willingly sacrifice their lives for the Templar cause.

They vowed that they would, because of their commitment to the Agnus Dei, fight to the death, something that was recorded on so many occasions on the battlefield.

Finally, on the subject of seals, the first appearance of two Knights on horseback was on the seal of Bertrand de Blanquefort, who was the 6th Grand Master, serving from 1156 to 1268.

A Virtual Tour of the Western Wall Tunnels

On Sunday 28 June,
a **Virtual Zoom Tour of the
Western Wall Tunnels has
been arranged for Knights
Templar at 2.00pm** - the
tour lasts approximately 75
minutes.



The Western Wall of the Temple Mount is one of the most magnificent and significant remnants in Jerusalem from the days of the Second Temple, destroyed approximately 2,000 years ago.

The Western Wall stretches along almost half a kilometre, but today, the part visible to all at the Western Wall Plaza is a mere 70 meters of it.

The tour of the Western Wall Tunnels allows visitors to reach the segments of the Wall hidden from view, and to see the original and special stones that tell the story of the Jewish nation.

Visitors to the Western Wall Tunnels walk through ancient and fascinating subterranean spaces with exquisite archaeological findings, such as large stone arches, water pits, an ancient water aqueduct that ends at the Strouthion Pool, and more.

Tickets are limited to a maximum of 50 individual computers linked and approximately £8.50 from each ticket will be donated to the Eye Hospital Group.

You can book at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stmarys63/381686>

The event has been organised and is being hosted by E.Kt. Rev'd. Niall Johnston P.Prov.A-de-C. (London) masonic@nialljohnston.org +44 7808 724574

Answers to the Page One Quiz:

Q1. 1953 Q2. Three (*Gwent, Morganwg and Giraldus Cambrensis*)

Q3. 1953 – 1958 *Richard Wilson Bartlett*

1958 – 1966 *Col. George Trevor Kelway*

1966 – 1977 *Henry Gethin Lewis*

1977 – 1983 *William George Leslie Pyatt*

1984 – 1992 *John Cornelius Lewis*

1992 – 2000 *Dr. Alan John Owen*

2001 – 2010 *Graham Spencer Gubb*

2010 – 2016 *Peter Gordon Ward France*

2016 - *Dr. Paul Richard Calderwood*