

14 September 2024

# ***A BEAUCEANT!!***

NO 51



**Dear Brother Knights**

Roaring like a lion, a new Masonic Season has begun ..... and we are only two weeks into the joys of fellowship !!

Welcome back, Brother Knights, and I hope that you enjoy every moment of Templar Freemasonry - including this newsletter.

It contains a splendid article about the Holy Land written by our Provincial Almoner and a selection of recent news.

Among the most important developments of the summer was the work undertaken to re-arrange the 2025 Templar Provincial meeting so that it can be held on a Saturday morning - for the first time in many years.

This has been done to make it easier for working men to attend and I hope that it is an opportunity that will be embraced with enthusiasm by the members and be rewarded with a bumper attendance.

Finding a Saturday that does not clash with another major Masonic event - and that is also clear in the Bridgend Masonic Hall diary - has been very difficult, of course, and that is why the meeting in 2025 will have to be held a couple of months earlier than usual.

The date for your diary is 15th March. We know that it coincides with a major rugby event but - as the KT meeting will finish soon after midday and the rugby kick-off will be more than four hours later - there should be plenty of time in between so that we can enjoy both events.

In addition, much work has also been done in recent months to establish a network of Representatives, linking each Preceptory to its local Royal Arch Chapters, and I am looking forward to releasing details and making appointments over the coming weeks. This is an initiative designed to strengthen both Chapters and Preceptories alike.

Lastly, can I remind you that the annual meeting of the Malta Province will be held on its usual date this year – which is the second Saturday in November.

It will be preceded by the traditional Act of Remembrance, associated with Armistice Day, at 11am on 9<sup>th</sup> November at Penarth Masonic Hall.

Do try to be present and support those Candidates who will be admitted to the Order and the Provincial Officers who will be invested on that day.

Lastly, I have been asked to remind you to book in early - if you and your family and/or friends would like to attend the Coffees, Christmas Carol Service and Roast Lunch - because the bookings this year have been coming in fast and furious and it might be a sell-out.

The event will be held at The Castle Hotel in Llandovery on Saturday 7th December. Knights in Regalia. Arch of Steel for the ladies as usual. Bookings via Keri Evans whose email address is [kerijohnevans55@gmail.com](mailto:kerijohnevans55@gmail.com)

It is always a great start to the Christmas Season.

With every good wish.  
Yours in the Bonds of the Order

R.E.Kt. Dr. Paul Calderwood

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# WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS



A great celebration was held at Neath on 23 July, when more than ten Heads and Assistant Heads of Masonic Orders attended a Meeting of the Castell Nedd Preceptory No. 577 to see E.Comp. Richard Michael Coombes, Deputy Grand Superintendent of the Royal Arch Provincial Grand Chapter of South Wales, admitted to the Order of Knights Templar, and to express their strong support. They included:

- R.E.Kt. Dr Paul Calderwood JP, the Provincial Prior, together with E.Kt. Richard Phillips (the Provincial Sub-Prior),
  - E. Kt. Michael Eckley (Craft, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Lodge of West Wales),
  - E.Kt. Timothy Clark (Craft, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Lodge of South Wales )
  - E.Kt. Simon Daniel (Royal Arch, 3rd Grand Principal, Provincial Grand Chapter of South Wales),
  - E.Kt. T.R. Eirian Jones (Mark, Provincial Grand Master of South Wales),
  - E.Kt. Alun Howell Thomas (Mark, Assistant Provincial Grand Master of South Wales),
  - E.Kt. Ron Slater (Allied Masonic Degrees, Prefect of the District of Severn),
  - E.Kt. Carl Davies (Royal Order of Scotland, Provincial Grand Master),
  - E.Kt. Wayne Dyer (Order of St Thomas of Acon, Grand Preceptor) and
  - E.Kt. Nigel Williams (Order of St Thomas of Acon, Provincial Grand Prior).
- Many Great Priory Officers were in attendance, including E.Kt. Keri Evans (Provincial 2nd Constable) and numerous Provincial Officers.

The Eminent Preceptor E.Kt. Jeffrey A. Joseph carried out a superb Ceremony, expertly assisted by E. Carl Davies, E.Kt. Howard Lines and E.Kt. John Bamsey. In the highly convivial after-proceedings, the Provincial Prior heartily welcomed Kt. Michael Coombes to the Order and congratulated E.Kt. Jeffrey A. Joseph on conducting an outstanding Ceremony. He also congratulated E.Kt. Timothy Clark on his recent appointment as Past Great Warden of Regalia.

## A SPECIAL KNIGHTING CEREMONY!

Companion Garry Michael Davies is a well-known figure among the Freemasons of Wales,



and he has a big following - having been Secretary or Treasurer of so many Masonic units over very many years. His decision to become a Knight Templar therefore drew a large and number of distinguished Knights to the meeting of Brecknock Castle Preceptory No 704 in Brecon at the end of June – in order to witness his admission.

One of his personal guests was the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement GCT, who personally undertook the dubbing of Knight Garry - to the great delight of all who were present. Other guests included the Great Prelate, R.E.Kt. Revd. Malcolm Lane KCT and R.E.Kt. Dr. Vivian Thomas KCT, who is also the Grand Master of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City.

Both the Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Dr. Paul Calderwood, and the Sub-Prior, E.Kt. Richard Phillips were in attendance - together with many of Garry's other friends. The ceremony was conducted by the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Neil Briggs, assisted not only the Grand Master but also by the Provincial Prior, together with E Kt. Carl Davies, Provincial Marshal, and E.Kt. John Thornton.

## FIVE MALTA CANDIDATES

On 21<sup>st</sup> June at Bridgend, Temple Slebech Preceptory of the Provincial Bodyguard No. 602 held a regular Meeting of the Preceptory followed by its Annual Priory of the Order of Malta, in the presence of R.E.Kt. Dr Paul R. Calderwood, the Provincial Prior, accompanied by E.Kt Ray Sheppard (the Sub Prior of the Province of Somerset), together with many Brother Knights.

In the Preceptory Meeting, Kt. Andrew Hollo-Tas was approved as a Joining Member. In addition, E.Kt Martyn Lench was elected as Preceptor and Prior and E.Kt Barry C. Smith was elected as Treasurer.

During the Malta Ceremony, the Eminent Prior, E Kt. James Thompson, was assisted by a number of Provincial Officers including the Provincial Marshal, E.Kt. Carl Davies, V.E.Kt. Harry Randell, Provincial Chancellor, E.Kt. Gerald Williams, Provincial 2<sup>nd</sup> Constable, E.Kt. Stephen Howlett, Provincial Treasurer, E.Kt. Nigel Williams, Provincial Vice Chancellor, plus E.Kts Roger Thompson and Stephen Roberts, the Provincial Deputy Marshals.

The Malta Candidates were Kts Michael Roberts, Simon Jones, Adam King, Clive Thomas and Garry Davies. They were obligated by the Chaplain E.Kt. Keith Fry PGWofR and then invested by the Eminent Prior, before being addressed in an impressive manner by E.Kt. Peter James who explained the history of the Order before E.Kt. Carl Davies explained the pentagonal table and the octagonal table.



## ANOTHER EXTRA MEETING

In order to admit an additional Candidate, an Extra Meeting of Becknock Castle Preceptory was held in September when Companion Ashley Farman was admitted to the United Orders.

This ceremony was conducted by E.Kt. David Lyn Jones with assistance from E.Kt. Tony Jones and the Provincial Prior.



## BODYGUARD SUMMER REHEARSALS

The Provincial Prior's Bodyguard met at Bridgend during the summer recess to hone their skills under the watchful eye of E.Kt. Steve Roberts, Provincial Deputy Marshal.

# INSTALLING NEW EMINENT PRECEPTORS

Articles kindly provided by E. Kt. Chris Mugford



## St John of Cardiff Preceptory's First Candidate in the chair

At the Meeting of the St John of Cardiff Preceptory No.712 on 25<sup>th</sup> June the Immediate Past Eminent Preceptor E.Kt James Forbes Keir PrBB installed Kt. Phillip L.C. Morgan as its sixth Eminent Preceptor and subsequently as the sixth Eminent Prior.

E.Kt Phillip Morgan was the first Candidate to be Installed as a Knight in the Preceptory - following its Consecration in 2019 . For several years, he also served as an enthusiastic Member of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard, who were on duty at the Ceremonies in June, led by Kt. Richard Ackroyd the Deputy Commander of the Bodyguard.

The Installation Ceremonies were held in the presence of R.E.Kt. Dr Paul Calderwood JP, the Provincial Prior, together with the Provincial Marshal E.Kt Carl Davies (who is also a Past Deputy Great Marshal of the United Orders), assisted by Deputy Provincial Marshal E. Kt Roger Thompson and E. Kt Chris Mugford (the Preceptory Marshal), plus a number of Great Officers, Provincial Officers, Visiting Knights and Preceptory Members.

During the Malta Ceremony, Right Eminent Knight Dr Paul Calderwood JP presented and explained Malta Certificates to three of the most recently admitted Members of both the Preceptory and the Priory.

## A Poignant Meeting in Chepstow



Tuesday 3rd September 2024 was a significant night to remember for E Kt Christopher D. Thomas, not only because he became the new Eminent Preceptor of the Sir William Marshall Preceptory No.668 but also because the Acting Chaplain on the night was R.E.Kt Malcolm Lane K.C.T, the Great Prelate, who had both Baptised and Confirmed Chris just a few years earlier.

At the request of the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Colin Manseuto PPrSwdB, the role of Installing Preceptor was undertaken by the Provincial Marshal, E. Kt. Carl Davies PDepGMar, who performed the two Ceremonies excellently. These Ceremonies were held in Chepstow Masonic Hall and were attended by the Provincial Prior, Dr Paul Calderwood, who was accompanied by a significant number of the active Provincial Officers plus a large number of Sir William Marshall Preceptory Members and Visiting Knights totalling over 40 Knights.

During the Templar Ceremony no less than **eight** Applications for Membership were approved and the Provincial Prior presented two Certificates to new Knights. During the Malta Ceremony, two Certificates were presented by R.E.Kt Graham Gubb K.C.T. Past Provincial Prior.

## Morganwg Celebration

At Morganwg Preceptory in Penarth on 26th June, E.Kt. James Forbes-Keir, the Provincial Prior's Banner Bearer, was Installed as Eminent Preceptor and Eminent Prior by E.Kt. Huw John, with the Provincial Marshal, E.Kt. Carl Davies acting as Preceptory Marshal.

The meeting was attended by the Provincial Prior and a total of 30 Knights.





Owain Glyndwr Preceptory of Installed Preceptors No.547 held its Installation Ceremonies for a new Eminent Preceptor and Eminent Prior at Neath Masonic Hall, on 1 June. The new Eminent Preceptor and Eminent Prior being Installed was Ekt Vivian Jones PPrBB.

The Ceremonies were carried out by E.Kt. Timothy R Clark PGtWofR who was assisted by E.Kt. Carl Davies PDepGtMar (the Provincial Grand Marshal). The meeting was supported by R.E.Kt. Dr. Paul Calderwood, the Provincial Prior, and a team of Past and Present Provincial

Officers, plus a number of Great Officers, Provincial Officers, Past and Present Members of the Provincial Priors Bodyguard.

On 20th June, at Bridgend Masonic Hall, Cefn Ydfa Preceptory No.579 held its Installation Meeting in the presence of the Provincial Sub-Prior, E.Kt. Richard J Phillips PGtA-de-C, and a number of Great Priory Officers (including The Provincial Marshal, E.Kt. Carl Davies PDepGMar who acted as Preceptory Marshal), Provincial Officers and Brother Knights.



The Ceremony of Installation of the new Eminent Preceptor was undertaken by E.Kt. John Hibberd who Installed E.Kt. Stephen Roberts in a fine, empathetic manner.

During the Ceremony, E.Kt. Richard J Phillips and E.Kt. Carl Davies gave extensive explanations of Great Priory Certificates to new Knights who had recently joined the United Orders.



At a Meeting of Fforest Preceptory No.582 at Treharris Masonic Hall on Friday, 7 June, Ekt Geraint Morgan Davies was Installed As the new Eminent Preceptor. Since its Consecration in 1993, the Fforest Preceptory has upheld the tradition that to qualify as Eminent Preceptor, a Brother Knight must have served all of the Offices leading to the 'Chair' and must have a 100% attendance record as both 1st and 2nd Constable. Geraint maintained this fine tradition.

The Installation Ceremony, which was attended by R.E.Kt Dr Paul Calderwood, Provincial Prior, and was carried out in a fine manner by E.Kt. William (Bill) Thomas closely assisted by E.Kt. Carl Davies, Provincial Marshal (who was acting as the Preceptory Marshal). The Meeting was attended by a large number of Great Priory Officers, Provincial Officers and Brother Knights. The Provincial Prior warmly congratulated Geraint on becoming Eminent Preceptor and also congratulated EKt Keri J Evans PGAdC and EKt Chris M L Davies PGAdC on their recent appointments to Grand Rank.

The first KT meeting of the new Masonic season was held in Swansea on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, at Holy Palestine Preceptory where E.Kt. Dr Stephen Howlett was installed as the new Eminent Preceptor by E.Kt. Barry Stubbings, in the presence of the Provincial Chancellor, V.Em. Kt. Harry Randell, the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement (who is the Preceptory Chaplain) and 30 Brother Knights.



# The Almoner's Post



Greetings in the bonds of the Order from the Provincial Almoner, and with the hope that you all had an enjoyable Summer, although some of us are still on a quest for some sunshine with our holidays before us. I am sure we are all looking forward to enjoying our preceptories again and visiting around our Province. I look forward to seeing you.

Anxiety is a tremendous problem in our society. Added to the normal things in our daily lives and the future we have a world which seems to have so much conflict and threats to the future. We have the continuing problems of the Ukraine and the threats and actions of Russia, not just to the Ukraine but to the western world.

We have the problems of the middle East and what seems to be an ever-expanding threat there, centred so much around Israel, Gaza and now the Western Bank.

Many of you may know that as Clergy, Sue and I have led a number of Visits to the Holy Land, as we used to call them 'Following in the Footsteps of Jesus'. We would visit all of the well-known places, Jerusalem, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Bethany, Cana of Galilee, Capernaum, the Sea of Galilee, Jericho, and so much more. Even when we were there, a decade ago, it was never easy and always our Israeli guide checking ahead with their security services that it was safe to visit.

I recall on one occasion walking around the walls of Jerusalem and tuning a corner to see a squad of Israeli soldiers with automatic rifles at the ready on a roof watching the marketplace below, in case of trouble. But it was always a wonderful place to visit and we always felt safe. A place that as Christians we all want to visit, but beware what is said if you visit the Holy Land once you will always want to return.



But from our knowledge and first-hand experience of the Holy Land the situation in Gaza and now the Western Bank, every news report leaves us upset, concerned, even devastated from what we see. The total devastation of homes, schools, hospitals, so many deaths and suffering.

The holy land of course is not large, which makes it even more of a problem. Indeed! Bethlehem, Bethany, Jericho, Hebron are in the West Bank. Nazareth is under an hours drive north of the West Bank and the sea of Galilee a little further and even closer to the borders of Lebanon. The Northwestern side of the Dead Sea is in the West bank. The Distance from Jerusalem to Gaza is around 50 miles.

We would visit the wedding Chapel at Cana of Galilee and a little story which perhaps puts anxiety into perspective. After visiting the chapel you are ushered into the gift shop just opposite. You are invited to taste the wedding wine (to be avoided at all costs) but one guest after tasting the wine said to their guide. 'Is this wine from the time of Jesus' to everyone's surprise, the guide answered, **"Yes, in fact, this wine is from the time of Jesus Christ because now is the time of Jesus Christ. He is not dead, he is risen."**

Words of recognition perhaps for each of us in times of anxiety and worry for our world. This is the Prince of Peace. A reminder to hold in our prayers the Holy Land and its people.

As we do this of course remembering the great Charity as well that we support working in the midst of all these problems, The St John of Jerusalem Eye hospital. The March 2024 Newsletter outlined their current work at that time and clinics active in so many places of these lands and the wonderful work that they do.

In these last few months, there have been several deaths of our fellow knights and my thanks to our Vice Chancellor for passing details of these to me.

V.E.Kt. Colin Fielder 24/6/24 GC, St Davids  
E.Kts. Peter Walton 27/4/24 Gwent  
Sidney Clench 16/5/24 Menevia  
Norrie Tetzlaff 6/8/24 Sant Madoc  
George Royle 20/4/24  
Keith Oswald Fry 6/9/24  
Kt. Richard Hill 12/6/24 Sant Madoc  
Vincent Barker 17/4/24 Fforest  
and Richard Williams 20/4/24 Temple Slebech

**An opportunity for each of us to remember them in a moments Silence. 'May they rest in Peace and rise in Glory'.**

If you wish to speak or share about any of the above, please get in touch, always happy to hear from you in any way that I can assist.

Yours in the bonds of the Order and with my best wishes for the coming Autumn of 2024.

**Tony,**  
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