

A BEAUCEANT!!

NO 53



Dear Brother Knights

There is lots of good news to share this month, but let me start by leading you in congratulating the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, who is to be Installed as the next Most Excellent Grand Superintendent of the Royal Arch Province of South Wales on Saturday 8th March at Cardiff.

Next, let me remind you that - for the first time in more than a decade - the annual meeting of the KT Province will be held on a Saturday (in order to make it easier for working Brethren to attend).

Please do your utmost to attend and show your support for this helpful move. The meeting will be held at 11am on Saturday 15th March at Bridgend and further details can be found on the Provincial website which is at www.kt-msw.org. There will be lots of important business to transact, including the appointment and promotion of hard-working and dedicated Bro Kts, and a few announcements.

Yours in the Bonds of the Order

R.E.Kt. Dr. Paul Calderwood

NEWS ABOUT THE ROYAL ARCH INITIATIVE



Many of you have expressed welcome enthusiasm for the Initiative which we talked about last year, as a means of invigorating both the Royal Arch and the supply of Candidates for Knight Templar Freemasonry, and I am delighted to tell you that it is about to be rolled out.

The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent of each of the three Provinces in the southern half of Wales have given the Initiative their approval and letters are about to go out to Royal Arch Chapters, inviting them to form a link with their local Preceptory.

As each twinning is approved, I shall have the greatest of pleasure in appointing a Knight Templar Representative and investing him with one of the distinctive pin badges that for the first time are shown here.

Briefing sessions are also about to be arranged for the newly appointed KT Representatives and a new horizon beckons.

I hope to have more to say about this at our own annual meeting of the Province on 15th March and I look forward to seeing you there.



Stormy challenge for Carol Service

Storms may come and storms may go, but Knight Templar Carol Services go on as usual – but with thankful and joyful hearts!

In December, Storm Darragh did its utmost to try and prevent the annual Carol Service from going ahead at Llandovery and although many were prevented from attending by inaccessible roads, owing to flooding and fallen trees, almost sixty gathered at The Castle Hotel for a meeting of Owain Glyndwr Preceptory - presided over by the Eminent Preceptor, E Kt. Viv Jones.



It was followed by a wonderful service of Nine Lessons and Carols led by the Great Prelate, R.E.Kt. Revd. Malcolm Lane and attended by the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, and the Great Marshal, R.E.Kt. Tim Wheeler.



Readings were delivered by the Grand Master, the Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Dr Paul Calderwood, the Provincial Sub-Prior, E.Kt. Richard Phillips, Provincial Second Constable Designate, E Kt. Tony Jones, the Provincial Vice-Chancellor, E Kt. Nigel Williams, the Eminent Preceptor, E Kt. Viv Jones, the Preceptory Treasurer, E.Kt. Dr Stephen Howlett, the Preceptory Chaplain, E.Kt. Alun Howell Thomas, and The Great Prelate.

The singing was to a high Welsh standard, accompanied by the Provincial Organist, E.Kt. Terry Price, and enhanced by the voices of wives and family members.

The wives and family members especially enjoyed the Arch of Steel at the end, as well as the magnificent feast and raffle which followed.

Special thanks were rightly accorded by the Provincial Prior to the chief organisers, E.Kt. Keri Evans, Nigel Williams and Alun Littlejohns. The Hotel management generously refunded the dining fees to all those whom the weather had prevented from attending.

To complete the Christmas spirit, more than £400 was raised for the Hospital of St John at Jerusalem and everyone had a thoroughly good time.





Sant Madoc Preceptory appoints a new Preceptor

At the Meeting of the Sant Madoc Preceptory No. 556 held on Tuesday 4th February 2025 at the Porthcawl Masonic Hall, Kt William Holder was Installed as the new Eminent Preceptor in the presence of the Provincial Chancellor, V.E.Kt Harry Randell P.Gt.Reg, and the Provincial Vice Chancellor, E. Kt Nigel Williams P.Dep.Gt.Swd.B. together with R.E.Kt. Graham Gubb, the Past Provincial Prior of the Province of Monmouth and South Wales, R.E.Kt. Dr Viv Thomas, the Past Provincial Prior of the Province of Northampton, Huntingdon and Bedford, the Provincial Deputy Marshal, E. Kt Stephen Roberts and a plethora of Grand and Provincial Officers.

The Installation Ceremony was carried out in excellent form by E. Kt Richard Newman assisted by the Chaplain, E. Kt Nigel Williams P.Dep.Gt.Swd.B, and the Registrar, E. Kt Derek Hemfrey P.Gt.AdeC (the Provincial Registrar). The Eminent Preceptor then appointed his Officers before R.E.Kt. Graham Gubb explained the Templar Certificate and Kt William Holder duly presented the Certificate to Kt J. Haggart.

The Preceptory was then closed and the St Madoc Priory No. 556 was opened by R.E.Kt. Graham Gubb who expertly Installed Kt William Holder as the Eminent Prior. The Officers were then appointed and R.E.Kt. Dr Viv Thomas gave an absorbing explanation of a Malta Certificate



Grand Master delivered the accolade to a New Member and welcomed new Eminent Preceptor

At a Meeting of the Castell Need Preceptory No. 577 held on the 27th January 2025 at the Neath Masonic Hall, a new Knight was Installed into the Preceptory in the presence of the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master Paul Raymond Clement GCT, the Provincial Prior of the Province of Monmouth and South Wales R.E.Kt Paul R. Calderwood JP, the Provincial Sub-Prior E.Kt Richard Phillips P.G.AdeC, the Provincial Chancellor V.E.Kt Harry Randell P.Gt.Reg, the Provincial 1st Constable E.Kt Peter Gilbert P.G.AdeC, the Provincial 2nd Constable E.Kt Gerald Williams, the Provincial Marshal E.Kt Carl Davies Dep.Gt.Mar, with E.Kt Alun H. Thomas P,Dep.Gt.Swd.B (the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Province of South Wales) and Kt Michael Coombes (the Assistant Grand Master of the Craft Province of South Wales) together with a plethora of Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Officers, Members of the Sepulchre Guard, Members and Guests of the Preceptory.

The Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt Jeffery A. Joseph, movingly conducted the Ceremony of Installation with the expert assistance of E.Kt Peter Gilbert (the Preceptory Marshal), E.Kt Anthony Jones (the Provincial 2nd Constable{Elect}) and E.Kt Carl Davies. The accolade was performed by the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master.

The Eminent Preceptor then very ably Installed E.Kt Richard Thorne as the Eminent Preceptor of the Castell Nedd Preceptory No. 577 who invested his Officers in excellent form before closing the Preceptory.

The Castell Need Priory No, 577 was then opened by the Eminent Prior E.Kt Jeffery A. Joseph who proceeded to Install E.Kt Richard Thorne as Eminent Prior who invested his Officers in excellent form before closing the Priory. A Procession was formed and the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master Paul Raymond Clement GCT left the Temple in due form. A further Procession was formed and the Provincial Prior, escorted by his Officers, also retired from the Temple. The Priory was then closed in due form.



Temple Slebech Preceptory - Annual Installation

On Friday 17th January 2025 at the Bridgend Masonic Hall, the Temple Slebech Preceptory of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard No. 602 held its Installation Meeting in the presence of R.E.Kt Dr Paul R. Calderwood JP (the Provincial Prior of the Province of Monmouth and South Wales) together with V.E Kt Harry Randell P.Gt.Reg (the Provincial Chancellor) accompanied by E.Kt Graham Chipperfield, Our Lady of Walsingham Preceptory No. 672 (the Somerset Provincial Prior's Bodyguard Preceptory), and E Kt Darrel Hinder of the Province of Somerset, together with a significant number of Great Priory Officers, Provincial Officers and Brother Knights.

A requiem was held for two departed Menders of the Preceptory, R.E.Kt Colin Fielder and E. Kt Keith Fry, who were sadly missed.

In the domestic part of the Meeting, Kt. Alun Thomas was warmly welcomed back into the Preceptory after a considerable absence through ill health, Kt. Steven Page was approved as a Joining Member of the Preceptory, and both were made active Members of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard.

The well-known and popular E.Kt Martyn Lench, the First Constable and Preceptor Elect was then Installed as Eminent Preceptor of the Temple Slebech Preceptory of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard No. 602 (having been Installed on a previous occasion as Eminent Preceptor of the Morgannwg Preceptory No.200), who then appointed all of his Officers, notably among whom were the Chaplain, E.Kt Peter Gilbert P.G.AdeC, First Constable E. Kt Barry Stubbings P.G.AdeC, E.Kt Tony Jones Pr2ndConst and E. Kt Carl Davies P.Dep.Gt.Mar.

The Meeting of the Preceptory was the closed, a Meeting of the Priory was opened and E.Kt Martyn Lench was Installed as Prior. He then appointed his Officers in due form before closing the Priory.

The very convivial After-proceedings were held in the Dining room of the Bridgend Masonic Hall and those present were treated to the usual excellent repast for which the Masonic Hall is noted.

The Eminent Preceptor of the Our Lady of Walsingham Preceptory No. 672 in the Province of Somerset then issued an invitation to the new Eminent Preceptor, together with his Officers and Members, to attend the next Meeting of his Preceptory.



A SPARKLING DAY AT ST DAVID'S

After an impressive 24 months in office, the Eminent Preceptor of St David's Preceptory No 568, E Kt Jim Driscoll, Installed his successor excellently and with his customary panache at Narberth in January.

The Provincial Prior, R E Kt Dr Paul Calderwood - in congratulating him and his successor, E Kt Paul Bird - praised the dedication and commitment shown by E Kt Jim for serving the Preceptory so well for the past two years. The Officers of the Preceptory supported him well – especially the Marshall, E Kt Andy Fraser, the Deputy Marshal, E Kt Mike Swann, the Registrar, E Kt Peter Gregory, and Treasurer, E Kt Graham Newstead, all of whom performed their duties well.

The meeting was attended by more than 15 visitors, many of whom had made long journeys to be present to applaud the efforts of the Preceptory team – not least the Commander of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard, Kt Luke Stokes, who had come from Belgium.

Distinguished Knights in attendance included the Craft Provincial Grand Master and Royal Arch Grand Superintendent of West Wales, E Kt James Ross, and his predecessor in both of those two offices, E Kt Steven Hookey.

It was especially heartening to see that all of the progressive officers appointed on the night have not yet been through the chair - thus offering a bright future for St David's.

The Almoner's Post



Greetings, Brother Knights in the bonds of the Order from the Provincial Almoner, and with the hope that you all had a most enjoyable Christmas and a wishing a happy 2025 to you all. Once again, I look forward to seeing you as I visit in the Province.

Our weather in the New Year has not given us the greatest of starts. We have had for many a winter at its worse in so many places. I hope that you have not been amongst those who have been badly affected in your homes and areas with the severe winds, rain, flooding with the recent storms.

I know considerable areas across our Province have been affected with these storms which has included loss of electricity supply as well. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have had been affected with many still with

repairs and insurance Claims.

As I write this we have had a few beautiful days of winter sunshine but from sunshine to rain at the moment. Sue and I were able to experience a few days last week of good weather in the wonderful Forest of Dean. good weather, but very wet underfoot, badly affected rivers and even at least one road closed with fallen trees.

This time of the year with the bad weather and dark nights can be really depressing. I thought I would Google (other sites are available) regarding the most depressing times of the year. The NHS website came up with the answer that it's the month of January that is the most depressing month of the year. Apparently, it is known as the 'Monday of Months' Different of course in the USA when the most depressing times are the Fall and early winter.

It also pushed me on, as link to find out about SAD, the Seasonal Affective Disorder, with the symptoms Persistent Low Mood; a loss of pleasure or interest in normal every-day activities; feeling irritable; feelings of despair; low self-esteem; tearfulness; feeling stressed or anxious; amongst other things. Even advice to see your GP and for those finding it difficult to cope. Fortunately, there are a number of Treatments that the GP may recommend.

Fortunately, as well that January is over but a useful one as Almoners to hold in our armory of knowledge.

In these last few weeks I have been informed of the following My thanks to our Vice Chancellor and Registrar for passing these to me. The death of Greg Morgan who died aged 60 years, Greg is the Son of EKt Lindsay Morgan of St Madocs Priory. The death of Diane Inkin, the wife of EKt David Inkin, We hold them in our thoughts and Prayers at this time. **'May they rest in Peace and Rise in Glory. 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 and Blessings for 2025.

Tony,
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