



Provincial Priory of Somerset



THE KNIGHTLY NEWS

Issue No.3 June 2024

Welcome to the 3rd Quarterly Issue of the Somerset Masonic Knight Templar Newsletter

All previous issues of the Newsletter can be found on the Provincial Website.

FOREWARD by R.E.Kt. Paul Jeffery Davis, the Provincial Prior for Somerset



Brother Knights welcome to the June 2024 edition of the Knightly News where we have the opportunity to proudly 'Fly the Flag' of Somerset.

And I congratulate our Vice-Chancellor E.Kt. Derek Tadman (Past Gt. Herald) who has been instrumental in ensuring this fine publication is taken forward.

He has obtained a veritable 'collage' of photographs and news items identifying the recent months activities are available for you to peruse – especially our outing to Great Priory on 15th May. This event proved to be a truly exceptional experience, when we were able to show our support to two of our Knights who received Great Honours – E.Kt. Darrell Hinder P.Gt. Aide-de-Camp and E.Kt. Chris Moore P.Gt. Chamberlain – well done both.

Since the last publication, I am pleased to report seven new Knights have been installed as Knights of the Temple and four as Knights of Malta.

As the Grand Master emphasised - 'making every new Knight feel welcome, involved and valued, must be the goal we all strive to deliver consistently', indeed, if we deliver this experience to our new Knights the Order will grow and develop.

Equally, we must never lose sight of the fact that we derive our membership from the Royal Arch. Therefore, as members of this Order, we have a responsibility and an obligation to ensure we support our Royal Arch Chapters in every way possible.

Our Provincial Registrar has designed a 'Somerset Knight Templar' information card (similar to a business card). These cards are available from your Preceptory Registrars and have proved useful in raising interest amongst suitable R.A. Companions.

Please make use of this card, which has a Q.R. code enabling access to a bespoke video.

Meantime, don't forget if you have any newsworthy items for the next issue – especially photos – make sure the Provincial Development Officer is your first port of call. Enjoy.

YitBotO

Paul

UPCOMING MEETINGS 2024

June

3rd - Selwood

4th - Keynsham Installation
(Provincial Team Visit)

6th - Preceptory of Improvement

13th - King Ina - Malta

19th - King Arthur

27th - OLoW

July

3rd - No Meetings

August

TBA - Provincial Council Meeting

TBA - Provincial Priory 'run-thro'
Main participants only

September

6th Cumba

9th - Provincial Priory



A DAILY ADVANCEMENT.....

in Masonic KT Knowledge

Golgotha

(from Latin *calva*: "bald head" or "skull"),

Referred to in all four Gospels as a skull-shaped hill in ancient Jerusalem, the site of Jesus' Crucifixion.

The hill of execution was outside the city walls of Jerusalem, apparently near a road and not far from the sepulchre where Jesus was buried.

Its exact location is uncertain, but most academics prefer either the spot now covered by the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, or a hillock called Gordon's Calvary just north of the Damascus Gate.



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RECENT EVENTS

PRECEPTORY/PRIORY MEETINGS

Since the last issue of this publication congratulations and welcome to the following who have been Installed as Knights of the Temple:

- Bro.Kt. M L Twist in Exmoor Preceptory.
- Bro.Kt. D J Somerton in Templecombe Preceptory.
- Bro.Kt. C P Loxton in King Arthur of Avalon Preceptory.
- Bro.Kt. S Galway in Estune Command Preceptory.
- Bro.Kt. G G Vou in Worlebury Preceptory.
- Bro.Kt. A J Watkins in Cumba Preceptory.
- Bro.Kt. M C Wilcox in Estune Command Preceptory.

Also, as Eminent Preceptors:

- E.Kt. Stephen J Beech of the Cumba Preceptory.
- E.Kt. David J Smith of the Keynsham preceptory of St. Keyna.
- E.Kt. Graham C Chipperfield of King Arthur of Avalon, for a 2nd term.
- E.Kt. David L Gibbs Of the King Ina Preceptory.
- E.Kt. Mihael G Caswell of the Exmoor Preceptory.
- E.Kt. David J Dixon of Antiquity Encampment.



Plus, the following who became Knights of Malta:



At Templecombe:

- Bro.Kt. Paul Binding
- Bro.Kt. Jeffery J Willis

At A & B in Bath:

- Bro.Kt. Mark (Jack) G Hargreaves
- Bro.Kt. Nigel C Dovell

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PROVINCIAL TEAM'S FIRST TEAM VISIT OF THE YEAR



The first Provincial Team Visit of the year took place on Thursday, 28th March this year when the Provincial Prior for Somerset accompanied by his team of Officers descended upon the Estune Command Preceptory No.354 in Nailsea. The Somerset Sword of Chivalry was delivered by a delegation of Knights from Antiquity Encampment No.1 on this special occasion, which having been grandly presented was in turn used that evening to give the Accolade to the candidate, Bro.Kt. Stewart Galway.

GREAT PRIORY

This year's meeting of the Great Priory Order of the Temple was held on Wednesday 15th May last and was, as always, a magnificent occasion well attended by some 30 Knights from Somerset.



The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master Paul Raymond Clement G.C.T. was once again elected and proclaimed as was The Very High & Right Eminent Great Seneschal Andrew Christopher Rainbow G.C.T.



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On this special occasion two Somerset Knights received Great Rank honours



E.Kt. Darrell J Hinder **P.Gt.A.-de-C.** and
E.Kt. Chris Moore **P.Gt.Chamb.**



On completion of the meeting 5 Somerset Knights dined at the Connaught Rooms in the presence of the ME&SGM.
Whilst 21 others decanted to the Brasserie Blanc restaurant in Chancery Lane where the festivities were unsurpassed.





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ESTUNE COMMAND PRECEPTORY NO.354 – MAY 2024 MEETING REPORT

On Thursday, 23rd May 2024, Estune Command Preceptory installed another knight into this great Order.

The main item on the agenda was to install Companion Mark Wilcox as a Knight of the Temple. The ceremony was conducted by Eminent Preceptor E.Kt. Jon Mansell, assisted by E.Kt. Colin Wilson (Charge) and E.Kt. Iain Disdel (Cup of Memory). E.Kt. Martyn Russell PPr1stCon representing the Provincial Prior for Somerset, conferred the Accolade using the Somerset Sword of Chivalry. The symbols were presented to a high standard by Knight Terry Gunner, Brian Lazenby and Tim O'Neill.



In addition, it was fantastic to see E.Kt. John Wyatt in the Preceptory again and to officially receive the Honorary Membership Certificate.

In all there were 27 Knights attending with 16 members of Estune Command. The visitors included two Knights from South Wales, from Gwent Preceptory No.115 and Temple Slebech Preceptory of Body Guards No.602, and future responding visits were discussed.

DAVID PLATTEN'S KNIGHT TEMPLAR JEWELS

E.Kt. David Platten P.Gt.Her. was a member of the Cumba Preceptory for 23 years until his death in 2020. He was a respected Knight who was well known across the Province and further afield for his adept Marshalling skills. He served as Provincial Marshal with distinction for 6 years between 2014 and 2020.

In a recent committee meeting, it was agreed that the late E.Kt David Platten's Jewels should be passed down from Marshal to Marshal to inspire them to perform to the best of their abilities during their time in Office.



In our May meeting the Eminent Preceptor E.Kt. Steve Beach presented the jewels to our current Preceptory Marshal, E.Kt. Clive Sanders.



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CONSECRATION OF AN UNATTACHED PRECEPTORY

You may have read, in the Freemasonry@86 News dated 19th April 2024, an article regarding the Consecration of a New and Unattached Preceptory to which I had the opportunity to attend.

These days, especially with the current economic situation, it is not often that a Consecration takes place. The last one in Somerset was the Templecombe Preceptory No.686 which was consecrated by our late Provincial Prior R.E.Kt. Barry Burrige and his team of officers, and when the late V.E.Kt. Robin Bex was installed as its first Eminent Preceptor; and which on the 12th January this year celebrated its twelfth birthday.

The consecration of the latest preceptory took place on Friday, 12th April in the Main Temple at Mark Masons Hall. The new Preceptory was to be known as the **Corniola Preceptory No.748**, the home of which was to be established in Slovenia, the second from that part of the world. The first being **Carantania Preceptory No.683**, which was previously consecrated by the ME&SGM Leslie Felgate Dring prior to his retirement.

Once The Most Eminent & Supreme Grand Master Paul Raymond Clement G.C.T. had entered in procession and assumed the Throne, he appointed his Officers and opened a Preceptory in due form. Then, as Consecrating Officer he sated the object of the Meeting after which the Great Prelate offered prayers before delivering an Oration on the Nature and Principles of the Order.

The Knight-Petitioners were assembled in the West of the Preceptory for the reading of the Warrant by the Great Vice-Chancellor, after which the Consecrating Officer proceeded to Constitute the Preceptory.

The Knight-Petitioners responded to the enquiries made of them before the required processions around the preceptory took place with the scattering of corn, pouring of wine, the sprinkling of oil, and invocations from the Great Prelate at the appropriate times.

After the Knight-Petitioners had resumed their seats, the Great Prelate perambulated round the Sepulchre censing, before illuminating the candles on the Sepulchre. The Great Standards were lowered and consecrated with a further invocation before being raised and placed in the West.

The Knight-Petitioners then surrounded the Sepulchre whilst the Consecrating Officer formally Dedicated and Consecrated the Preceptory.

Having returned to their seats, the Knight-Petitioners remained standing whilst the two Standard Bearers (acting as Heralds) proclaimed from the West of the Preceptory, after which the Great Prelate concluded by offering up Prayers and giving the Benediction.

At this point The Most Eminent & Supreme Grand Master relinquished the Chair to the Very High and Right Eminent Great Seneschal Andrew Christopher Rainbow G.C.T. who installed the Preceptor Nominate, E.Kt. Franc Željko Županič. The Most Eminent & Supreme Grand Master officially presented the Warrant before the other Founding Officers were invested. In addition, the Preceptory By-Laws were adopted, and the Consecrating Officers elected as Honorary Members.

A Collection of Alms followed during which the Templars' Hymn was sung and before the Consecrating Officers retired, other business conducted and the Preceptory closed.



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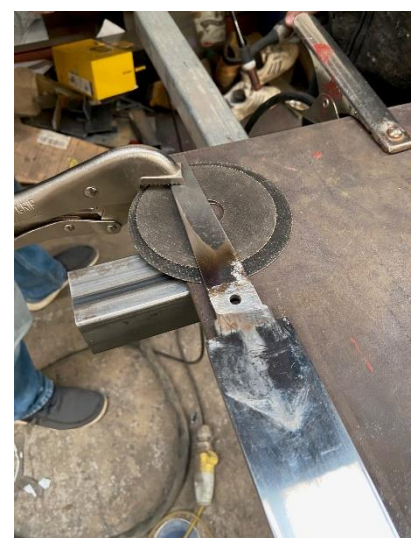
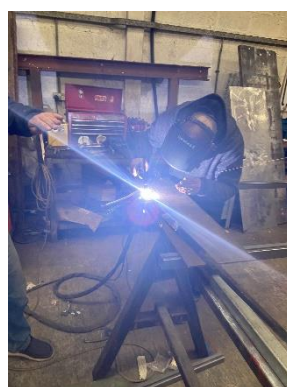
REFURBISHMENT OF THE RESERVE SOMERSET PROVINCIAL SWORD

I'm sure that not many of us knew that we had a Provincial Reserve Sword.

However, you will be pleased to know that the Provincial Reserve Sword has recently undergone refurbishment at **AGM Services** by courtesy of **E.Kt. Brian Horn P.Gt.A.-de-C. the Provincial Deputy Marshal**.

Although we do not have specific details of what was needed to be done it can be seen from the photographs below that appropriate skill and effort was required, as well as the proper facilities to undertake such work.

Grateful thanks from the Province go to E.Kt. Brian.





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NOTICES

PROVINCIAL TEAM VISIT

The second of this year's Provincial Team Visit will be to the Keynsham Preceptory of St. Keyna No.455 on Tuesday, 4th June. As previously ALL active Provincial Officers are expected to attend.

POTENTIAL CANDIDATES



Do you know a Companion who is interested in our
ORDER?

Then speak with your Registrar who has an
Introduction Card with details that you can pass on.

KING EDWARD VII PRECEPTORY OF IMPROVEMENT

If you are an aspiring Marshal and wish to become a certified practicing Preceptor, or any Knight wishing to improve their KT Ritual, then it may be for you!

Meetings are held monthly at MMH and Life Membership for a Knight is only £2.

Therefore, all Knights of the Order are cordially invited to attend. Regalia is not required & swords and belts are provided at MMH.

More details can be found on the KEVII Website:
www.kingepoi.org or in the Liber.

SWIFT PINS

For those who may not have been able to get their hands on one of the "K.T. £20 for 2020 Appeal Swift Pins", there are still some available.

Individuals can purchase single pins, by contacting Linda Read, M.M.H. Charities Finance Manager at L.Read@mmh.org.uk and Finance Assistant, Millie Pilson, M.Pilson@mmh.org.uk

Pins are £20 each and funds raised will go to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital.

175TH FIRING SWORDS

Should for whatever reason, any of the Provinces 175th Anniversary Firing Swords be returned please contact the Provincial Warden of Regalia; I'm sure he will be able to find a good home for them.

REGALIA

Similarly, should any other surplus regalia, in reasonable condition, become available please contact the Provincial Warden of Regalia.

PROVINCIAL PRECEPTORY OF IMPROVEMENT

Held under the direction of a KEVII qualified Preceptor E.Kt. Adrian Jones **P.Gt.Her.**

Meets at 7.00 p.m. in the **Masonic Hall, Yatton** on the

4th Thursday in October; 1st Wednesday in April; & 1st Thursday in June.

All Knights are welcome, (*Swords and Belts only are required*).



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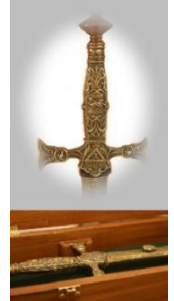


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SOMERSET SWORD OF CHIVALRY

The Somerset Sword of Chivalry was accepted on behalf of the Province at the consecration meeting of the Templecombe Preceptory which was held on Tuesday, 24th January 2012 by R.E.Kt. Barry Desmond Burridge, the Provincial Prior for Somerset at the time.



As originally intended the Somerset Sword of Chivalry continues its journey around the province and is currently in the safekeeping of Estune Command Preceptory No.354 who are charged to ensure it is taken to the Provincial Priory Meeting in September.

PROVINCIAL TIES



The Somerset KT Provincial Tie is now entering its seventh year of wear and by now yours may need revitalising.

If so, you will be pleased to know, that there are now plenty of new ones in stock & there is no plan at present to alter the design. For an individual purchase or Preceptory stock buy please contact the Provincial Warden of Regalia or a member of the Executive,



LEST WE FORGET

It is with great sadness that the following Knight of Somerset has received the call of our Great Captain of the Universe:



E.Kt. Philip John Summers P.Gt.Chamb. and PPrChan.

E.Kt. Phil was installed as a Knight in 1995 at Worlebury Preceptory and was a dedicated Knight of our Order serving for many years in active rolls, not only in his own Preceptory but also in the Province where on many occasions he was seen as part of the Malta Delegation at Provincial Priory meetings.



E.Kt. Phil will be sorely missed by all who had the good fortune to know him with his true Christian attitude and warm smile for all that he met.



PROVINCIAL WEBSITE – www.somersetkt.org.uk

The focal point of contact regarding this publication is the Provincial Development Officer
E.Kt. Ray Beckingham P.Gt.Std.B.(B).