

KNIGHTLY TOPICS



PROVINCIAL PRIORY OF LONDON

Issue 32

Autumn 2016

EDITORIAL

In this issue, the ritual concerning the investiture of an officer has been revisited thanks to a Knight, who gives his opinion on how it might be done.

In *Letters to the Editor*, there is an explanation of why we should not sit cross-legged during our meetings; plus a view that VOs could make a difference.

There is also a plea for the installation ceremony to be broken up more. The writer is correct in that we should not expect a perfect performance in all respects as whoever is doing it may be busy, or have their minds on other things or ritual may not be their thing. Wider involvement could provide an improved experience for the candidate, who is the important person for whom we are doing it. It is understood that in some Preceptories, there is already a goodly amount of delegation.

The Provincial Prior's address at Provincial Priory in September covers all the things that happened during the previous year and looks forwards to the future. The article *On The Templar Road*, translated from French, is continued and completed. There is also a piece about the Templar Chapel at Bras in Provence in France, as well as various reports.



The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Timothy Lewis, the Provincial Prior, Michael Fox, and the Sub-Prior, Victor Parnis.

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PROVINCIAL PRIOR'S ADDRESS

Provincial Priory : Friday 30 September 2016

I said when I was appointed in 2012 that I saw no immediate need to make changes within the Province - it wasn't "broke" then and it certainly isn't "broke" now. But as the years have gone some changes have seemed desirable: changes that improve the workings of the Province and promote harmony among our members. Some of the changes were evident in the Spring issue of *Knightly Topics* and have the underlying theme of encouraging interest and involvement in the activities of the Province, for example, via the new *Letters to the Editor* column and interviews with people of interest.

We have had for as long as I can remember an annual Registrars' Mess during which Registrars can discuss matters of interest and concern between themselves and with Officers of the Province, matters that perhaps their own members have raised. Our hard working Registrars - God bless them - are the key interface between the Province and their Preceptory members.

For the last three years, we have had a well supported annual luncheon for the year's active Provincial Officers, many accompanied by their wives and partners, during which they can interact socially on a getting-to-know you basis and can raise issues informally amongst themselves. I take the view - and I would like to think that many of you share the view - that it is important, so far as reasonable and practicable, to share our Masonic life with members of our families and perhaps even our good friends.

I hope, in spite of past complications, to continue with our Provincial Carol Service. There are encouraging prospects for a Service and Reception this year, on Monday 19 December, at the Church of St. Botolph without Bishopsgate, close to Liverpool station. The Carol Service, like the Registrars' Mess, is organised by the Provincial Registrar, E. Kt. Andrew Dobson, to whom we all owe thanks for his efforts. Yet for the Carol Service, there is still one thing remaining - to form our own Choir - and I invite any of you who would like to form such a Choir, or be a member of it, to get in touch with Andrew at your earliest opportunity.

The Marshal's team has changed almost totally

over the last couple of years and under E. Kt. Keith Florence, Marshal since 2014, is making a marvellous contribution to the effectiveness of our Provincial meetings. The management of our Banner parades, hitherto always a difficulty, is a prime example of what they can do.

My Bodyguard is continually changing, as longer-serving members are promoted within the Province and new members are recruited to fill their places. Under the Command of E. Kt. Brian François and his new Deputy, E. Kt. Anthony Sidoli, members of my Bodyguard turn out in all weathers and sometimes more than once in a week to attend during Official Visits and, like the Marshal's team, they set a fine example of disciplined working to us all.

It will not have escaped your notice that our Provincial Vice-Chancellor has retired. E. Kt. Roger Farley, at his own request after four years in office, has stood down and E. Kt. Ian Brooks has today been appointed as his replacement. The office of Prov V-C is the most demanding in the Province and I give, on your behalf, due credit to Roger for his outstanding and tireless contributions to the Province since his appointment. I have every expectation that his successor, Ian, will deliver an equally effective service and I am sure we all wish him well.

Brother Knights, some of you are here today to receive much deserved rewards for services within the Province, while others are here to support you, to participate in the routine business of the Province and to meet with friends and colleagues from other Preceptories and Provinces.

But today we have seen yet another change - an innovation for London - in the procession of newly Installed Knights admitted into our Order since our last Provincial Meeting. The entry of new Knights is intended to give them a first sight of the way that the Province operates and the opportunities for advancement that are there for them - if they put the effort in - and to give existing Knights at least a glimpse of the new blood flowing into the veins of our Preceptories.

Provincial appointments are also the gateway to possible appointments in Great Priory and those successfully recommended by the Province and invested or appointed during the May Great Priory meeting were:-

as **Great Herald (Active): E.Kt. Stuart David Henderson** (Mount Calvary D, London Bodyguard 614, Sydenham 251)

as **Great Captain of Guards (Active): E.Kt. Antony Fabian Legge** (Military Lodges 300, Royal Colonial Institute 321, London Bodyguard 614, Londinium 632)

as **Past Great Herald: E.Kt. John Healey Gilbert** (Sancta Maria 183)

as **Past Great Standard Bearer (B): E.Kt. Andrew William Dobson** (Oxford, Cambridge & United 128, Londinium 632)

as **Past Great Aide-de-Camp:**

E.Kt. Ian Douglas Brooks (Holy Sanctuary 131, London Bodyguard 614, Londinium 632)

E.Kt. Roger Paul Charter (King Edward VII 173, Empress 178, Londinium 632)

E.Kt. Royden Rees (Mount Calvary D, Londinium 632)

as **Past Great Warden of Regalia: E.Kt. Eric Percival Edward Garner** (Britannic Preceptory of Madeira 282)

as **Past Great Chamberlain: E.Kt. Tony Robert Pattison** (The New Temple 117)

Other London Knights appointed or invested in May, either for services to other Provinces or for services to Great Priory, were:-

as **Past Great Herald:**

E.Kt. Keith Leslie Florence (St John at Ealing 576, Oxford, Cambridge & United 128)

E.Kt. Edmund Ian Savage (Britannic Preceptory of Madeira 282)

E.Kt. Colin Robert Woodcock (Sydenham 251, Londinium 632)

as **Past Great Aide-de-Camp: E.Kt. Henry John Emms** (Guild of Freeman 512, Londinium 632)

I - and I'm sure all of you - offer our warmest congratulations.

You have heard earlier from our Provincial Treasurer that the Province is in good order financially and there is no plan yet for any increase in Provincial Subscriptions. So we start the year ahead in good shape.

Support for the King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement (Pol), led principally by E Kt Dennis Fountain (Sancta Maria Preceptory 183), continues to be strong, although numbers attending are marginally down on last year.

Attendance is open to members of our own Preceptories and those in other Provinces, but I can report that attendance by London Knights has improved over the last few years. I recommend it especially to our newly admitted Knights - it is, or should be, our seed bed for the future.

Our Provincial Warden of Regalia - E.Kt. Eric Garner - is here today and doubtless will have Provincial ties for sale to any who lack them. You should look to him for future regalia supplies, but his stocks of pre-used regalia are usually in short supply and more are always welcome. Eric, in office since 2011, has declared that this will be his last year, so I will be looking for his successor as we progress through the year.

The Provincial Golf Society, organised principally by E.Kt. Roger Charter, continues to attract a modest number of regulars, but really needs an influx of new members. As exercise for the body, rather than the soul, it provides an ideal forum in which Knights can engage in friendly combat - though jousting with golf clubs rather than swords.

Finally, Brother Knights, we embark today on the journey through a new year that will culminate in a celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Province. The Provincial Treasurer has set up a special Relief Chest, details of which will be circulated, into which donations for the Eye Hospital in Jerusalem can be collected on behalf of the Province. It is my wish that charitable donations by Preceptories and their members should be dedicated throughout the coming year, as the charity of choice, to the Eye Hospital.

I have invited the Grand Master to grace us with his presence at our Anniversary meeting, so it should indeed be a "great" occasion. The meeting will be held under the Banner of the Bard of Avon Preceptory which hosted the consolidating meeting of the Province on 30 September 1992, thereby maintaining continuity with our distinguished past.

I hope and trust that you will all support and work with me to ensure that a memorable year is crowned with a fitting climax. As always, I wish you all a happy and successful year in your various endeavours, both Knightly and otherwise

and may God bless you and your families.

Michael C. Fox

GREAT PRIORY

We have been directed by Great Priory that when a Preceptory has a combined meeting of Installation of the Eminent Preceptor and fol-



lows the abbreviated form of Installation of the Eminent Prior in the associated Priory, it is quite permissible to announce that the officers of the Preceptory take the corresponding offices in the Priory, once the Prior is installed.



The Registrar of the Priory will read the list and the officers rise and acknowledge their appointment with the sign of the Order.

When a Preceptory has a separate full meeting of the Priory to Install the Prior and, maybe work the ceremony of the Installation of a new Knight, then officers that are appointed should be presented for appointment in the normal manner

KING EDWARD VII PRECEPTORY OF IMPROVEMENT

The King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement meets at Mark Masons Hall and the dates of these meetings are available on cards at the MMH Reception. It is open to all Knights Templar and can assist with the ceremonies.

Contact the KEVII Registrar on dennisfountain1941@talktalk.net

THE BODYGUARD

On occasions where the Eminent Preceptor or Marshal is unavailable, typically at short notice, and no one else is able to assist, the Bodyguard Preceptory can be contacted and they will endeavour to find a stand-in at short notice.

Contact the Registrar of the Bodyguard on scott_dunn@hotmail.co.uk

FROM THE RITUAL BOOK

SECOND TAKE ON INVESTITURE OF AN OFFICER

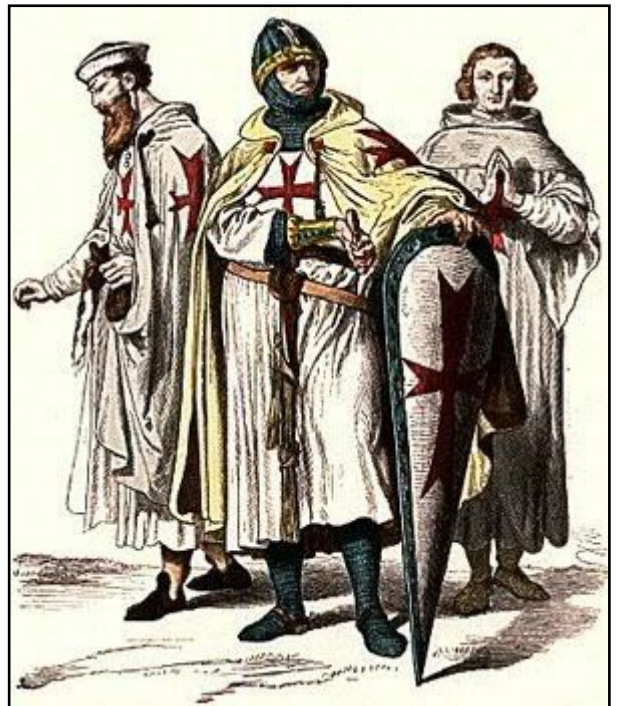
In the last edition of Knightly Topics, there is a piece from the Ritual Book entitled *Investiture of an Officer*.

E. Kt. Norman Gillett acknowledges that the Ritual Book states that the first movement should be “Turns his sword over (via the left), point towards the ground.”

In his opinion, this is a most uncomfortable position, as it is the extreme to which the right wrist can be rotated in an anti-clockwise direction.

For many years, he has adopted the following procedure.

1. Turn the sword over to the Left until horizontal, grasping the blade with the Left hand (fingers on top and thumb underneath) half way between the cross-bar on the hilt and the point, and release the Right hand from the hilt. In other words, exactly the same first movement as when reversing swords.
2. Continue to turn with the Left hand until the sword is past the vertical (where one stops if reversing swords) and inclined at 45 degrees to the Left.
3. Grasp the blade with the Right hand below the Left, release the Left hand, and continue to turn the sword with the Right hand until it is again horizontal, hilt to the left.
4. Take a step forward with the Left foot towards the EP. and present to him the hilt of the sword, resting the blade (near the hilt) on the Left forearm with the Left hand clenched in a fist and finally, after the EP. has taken hold of the hilt, step back with the Left foot so that the feet are once more together.



Many Knights probably use this method and perhaps the Ritual Book should be revisited.

E. Kt. Norman Gillett.



IAN BROOKS

PROVINCIAL VICE-CHANCELLOR

Ian was employed in Local Government administration and finance for most of his life. Initially he worked for Liverpool Corporation, then for Wirral Borough Council before moving down to Bedfordshire in 1984 to become the Chief Administration Officer of Dunstable College. He was the youngest Chief Administration Officer ever appointed in England or Wales. He was transferred to Barnfield College in Luton to become their Chief Administration Officer. When Barnfield became a trust, he became Assistant Principal, taking early retirement in 2008. He was born in Aintree, so is a Lancastrian. He is a lapsed Liverpool supporter, who was raised on the Wirral, went to college in Oxford and worked for a year as a youth leader in Bristol where he met his wife.

As he lived and worked on the Wirral, he found a friendly lodge - St Hillary 3591. Through the local Lodge of Instruction, he became involved in visiting and joined the Mark / RAM and finally his father's Royal Arch Chapter.

In 1972 he returned to the Wirral and resumed his hobby of mountaineering and, for several years, was an active member of Ogwen Mountain Rescue team.

In 1984 he moved to Bedfordshire. Through a family friend in his mother lodge, he joined Royal Athelstan No. 19 in London, becoming Master in 1991 and a few years later Secretary for 7 years.

He is in Holy Sanctuary Preceptory in London - EP in 2005 and Registrar for four years. He is in the London Bodyguard Preceptory and was Treasurer for eleven years. In Londinium Preceptory he is currently Second Constable and Founding Treasurer of Hugh de Payens Preceptory in Bedfordshire.

He joined the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard in 1998, a great group, many of whom are still very active in the Province.

He is a member of Royal Athelstan Lodge No. 19 in London, Thistle & Rose Lodge No. 9351 in Bedfordshire, and until a couple of years ago, when they surrendered their warrant, he was in Lodge Kildalton on Islay - home of eight distilleries!

In 2007, he became Deputy Chancellor of Ypres Prefecture in Belgium for four years and then Chancellor for three. When the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City opened up in England he was a founder member of St James Lodge and in 2008 he was appointed Chancellor of the Anglo Saxon Prefecture.

He has been married to Sue for 42 years and they have raised three children; to keep both young they are raising their grand-daughter, Kimberley, who has just started 6th form college.

Both sons live locally; one has four children, and the other has recently not only got married, but has joined Ian's Bedfordshire Lodge.

He became V-C after receiving a phone call from Michael Fox, who asked questions about what he did, when he worked and he thought he might be being considered for an active rank. A few days later he met Roger Farley at a masonic meeting and discovered that he was on a very short shortlist for a real active office.

Ian has a very hard act to follow as Roger Farley is a very knowledgeable mason, very attentive to detail and has done an excellent job for four years. Ian hopes he can fill his shoes and help the Province [29 Preceptories and some 963 members] to go from strength to strength.

The Editor



ROGER FARLEY

FORMER

PROVINCIAL VICE-CHANCELLOR

Roger started work in insurance in Worcester, and went from there to Salisbury, Croydon, Liverpool, Westminster, Guildford, Docklands, Bristol and Horsham. He became a Claims Manager, then a General Manager and finally a Director.

At one time he was a Director of, and managing, eight insurance companies in five countries. It was his ambition to retire at 50. When Royal Insurance merged with Sun Alliance, he agreed to stay on to see the first phase of the merger through, but missed his 50 target by a couple of years.

He was initiated in 1984 in Annuntio Lodge No.5539; admitted into Chapter in 1995; LGR in 2005; KT Past Gt A-de C 2009; Past Dep Gt Sword Bearer 2013.

Roger is a member of Constitutional Lodge No. 55 and Pax Humana Lodge No. 3908 - both in London: and Halsey Chapter No. 1479 in Hertfordshire.

He was born in Droitwich, Worcestershire. His father was in the Police Force and he moved regularly. By the time of leaving school he was in his eleventh house and he was at his fifth school. It felt as though he spent much of his early years travelling round the country in support of Aston Villa, watching the reserves, if it was not possible to get to the away match.

He was at Wembley in 1957 when Aston Villa won the FA cup, and twice since when they have not. He was also a regular visitor to Worcestershire County Cricket Ground - at the time when they were winning the county championship.

He has been married nearly 30 years - the 2nd time round to a Norwich girl - and they have no children.

His biggest achievement was to keep on top of everything during a period of great change.

- The launch of *Keystone on Line* and implementation in Preceptories.
- Updating and improving Provincial record keeping.
- Improved Registrar response times and accuracy (though at times you may not think it).

He is a member of several Preceptories in London: King Edward VII (173), Empress (178), Londinium (632), Secretum Templi Londinium (Hon) 695, St. John (418) and Peter Cannon Meridian (692) in East Anglia.

He was Treasurer of King Edward VII and became Registrar to enable Vic Parnis to become Provincial V-C; he was appointed Provincial V-C when Vic was appointed as Sub-Prior.

You might say therefore that it is all Vic's fault.

The Editor

BODYGUARD LADIES' NIGHT

For the first time in its history, on Friday 3 June 2016, the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard held a Ladies' Banquet in the magnificent surroundings of the Members' Private Dining Room at the Guildhall in the ancient City of London.

The evening commenced with a champagne reception enabling current and former members to engage in convivial conversation with wives and partners. To the music from the TV series *Downton Abbey* and *Upstairs Downstairs*, the atmosphere was set for a banquet above the norm in true Edwardian splendour.

Following Grace from E.Kt. Revd. Niall Johnston, a four course banquet was served.

An exceptional meal was provided by talented French signature chef, Jean Deillon, of the renowned catering company *The Cook and The Butler*, which is without doubt the most outstanding caterer in the Square Mile.



Prior to the toasts, proposed by the Eminent Preceptor of the Bodyguard Preceptory, E. Kt. Colin Pope, there took place the passing of Rose Water and the ceremony

of the Loving Cup. Other toasts were to the Provincial Prior, and the Province of London Knights Templar.



The toast to *The London Bodyguard, root and branch, may it prosper and flourish forever* was proposed by E. Kt. Paul Tredgett.



The organiser of the evening, Bodyguard Commander E.Kt. Brian François, responded welcoming everyone to the historical splendour of the Guildhall and thanking everyone for their ongoing support and dedication to the London Bodyguard and to our special Order.

The evening concluded with a Stirrup Cup. It is intended to hold another Ladies' Night.

E. Kt. Brian François
Provincial Prior's Bodyguard Commander



ON THE TEMPLAR ROAD [continued]

So the letter of credit, or traveller's cheque, was born. The pilgrims' money was always safe; the banking activities of the Templars gained the confidence of the very rich and developed considerably, even becoming a place for royal funds. In 1172, King Henry II of England deposited money with the Order of the Knights Templar in London, in atonement for the assassination of Archbishop Thomas à Becket - a sum sufficient for the needs of 200 knights. Several other important amounts followed. In France, for example, the Templars were the Royal Treasurers.

The financial ability of the Templars was recognised and there was no equivalent until the arrival of the Italian bankers in the fourteenth century. Financial control also meant political control, so the Grand Master of the Knights Templar had the powers of a baron.

Members of the Order were amongst those who persuaded King John to sign Magna Carta, which limited the Royal prerogative and guaranteed certain rights to freedom of the individual.

They constructed and maintained their lands, castles, farms, barns, stables windmills and workshops. They also financed great cathedrals. Thanks to their knowledge of architecture, the Roman gave way to the Gothic. The cathedrals were the most impressive buildings - their high windows letting in more light. During the two hundred years of the Order, the Templars built 25 cathedrals in France - Paris, Chartres, Rouen, Reims etc.

The fall of Acre in 1291 was a fatal blow to the Templars. With the loss of the last bastion of Christianity in Palestine, their reason for being in the Holy Land disappeared, so they moved to Cyprus.

Their vast treasury of gold attracted the attention of Philippe le Bel, King of France, to whom they had lent money. His kingdom was almost bankrupt from his wars and personal expenditure and Philippe sought desperately to find a way of seizing the Templar treasure. The Inquisition allowed him to achieve this. Thanks to the weakness of the Pope, he ordered a tribunal to enquire into the alleged heresies of the Templars, leading to their arrest on 13 October 1307.

When he attempted to seize their treasure, it had disappeared. Likewise the Templar fleet at La Rochelle. The King was furious and ordered the Grand Master, Jacques de Molay, to be burned alive.

What became of the Templar treasure and fleet? Did they find refuge in Scotland?

It is possible, for the Pope had little say in Scotland as Robert the Bruce, King of Scotland, had already been excommunicated.

So the treasure of the Templars is something to dream about.

THE TEMPLARS IN PROvence

E.Kt. Louis Cattan

The Chapel of Notre-Dame de Bethléem at Bras is the only standing monument of its kind in Provence. The Chapel was built in the thirteenth century and once belonged to a Commandery.



It was classified in 1957 as an historic monument and is the property of the State. The door is locked and can only be visited by prior arrangement with the local Mairie, which holds the keys.

Bras was one of the support bases for the Templars. It supplied them cattle and grain shipped through Marseille.

It is orientated to the east with a nave and two aisles. To the east there is a small apse covered by a half dome.

The interior is lit by a window in the shape of a crack in the wall of the apse and by an oculus in the south wall.

In the middle of the day, the rays of sunlight from both land on the altar.

On the east wall there is an opening, now bricked up, which led on to the gallery reserved for the Commander.

The Templars had a major presence in Provence until the XIII century. There were around 40 Commanderies and numerous Commander's residences. Little remains however.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Province of London.

CROSSED LEGS

Why should the legs remain uncrossed during meetings?

A Knight should always be ready to spring into action to defend the Preceptory or Priory should there be any threat of danger. Crossed legs might cause some delay - only momentary it is true, but we are talking about symbolism here. Alternatively crossed legs or, more particularly crossed ankles, nearly mimic the position of our Saviour's legs on the Cross and is consequently irreverent. The first is the explanation usually adduced when admonishing Knights not to adopt the position whilst addressing them before a meeting, but the second is probably the better reason.

There is a third reason. in memory of R.E. Knight Jack Dribell, Past Provincial Prior, who felt very strongly about it!

E.Kt.Trevor Dutt

BREAKING UP THE RITUAL

The ceremony of installing a Knight can be a daunting passage to learn. Whether it is our busy lives - working or retired - or difficulty in memorising ritual, it can make this a chore rather than an achievement. We should ensure that the ceremony is memorable for each candidate.

In Craft and Chapter, we are encouraged to look to break up the ritual. This has the advantages of reducing the amount to be learned by one person; involving more people in the ceremony, maybe including those who have been through the chair; and, varying the speaker. It is possible to do the same in KT.

We already have examples when the charge and the symbols can be done separately and possibly involving younger Knights. The main ceremony can also be divided up into at least three parts; 1. the entrance until after the year of penance; 2. the re-entrance until the accolade; and 3. the accolade itself. By doing this, the amount of learning for each person can be much reduced.

All of these may, hopefully, ensure our ceremonies are well executed and our meeting enjoyable.

E Kt's name and address supplied

VISITING OFFICERS IN KT

I have often thought whilst attending KT meetings, that unlike Craft or Chapter, there are no Visiting Officers, other than a Provincial visit once a year.

There are some Preceptories, albeit through no fault of their own, which struggle without the benefit of an experienced KT officer able to give advice and possibly fresh ideas for increasing membership, or at least enabling the meetings to be carried out more efficiently.

Generally the average age for joining KT is much higher than in Craft. This is because the Craft is the first step on a journey of enlightenment in freemasonry, whilst KT is the culmination of Craft, Chapter and other similar Orders.

I have been to Preceptories, when the average age of the person being installed as a Knight is 60. Therefore one can describe KT as the *Senior Service*, the pinnacle of Freemasonry. This could be partly to blame for some Preceptories being unable to maintain their numbers for meetings, as some of their members may be very senior in age and sometimes unable to attend.

A Visiting Officer would be able to assess the difficulties of individual Preceptories and help accordingly. This could be as simple as gathering a group of seasoned KT officers (A Preceptory of Assistance) which on request and obviously with notice could assist in ceremonies where otherwise an individual preceptory has insufficient officers to carry out an installation or similar event.

We are all brothers in this order, and we should stand ready to help one another - just like our Templar ancestors. Our symbol of two knights on one horse, may allude to one knight assisting another in time of difficulty. I would be ready and willing to assist, and I know of other knights who would be happy to do the same.

Knights Templar is a fabulous order with an exceptional group of members, who come together in the spirit of friendship and charity.

Long may it reign.

E. Kt's name and address supplied

PROVINCIAL GOLF

The Provincial Golf Society holds two meetings a year, usually in May and August / September. The venue for the summer event was Chobham Golf Club at Wokingham in Surrey.

A very warm and pleasant day was had by all, who also enjoyed a very pleasant meal and a few drinks (non-alcoholic of course)

After the meal, the players were treated to a magnificent cake prepared by Jerry Gangadeen, who is a master of cake making.



The players on the day included Kevin Jones, John Bond, Richard Simpson, Ron Cruickshank, Keith Towner, Roger Charter, Derek Burman, Terry Turner, Vernon King, Richard Bowyer, Bernard Mayhe, Gerry Gangadeen, David Ashbolt and Ray Johnson.

The winner of the KT Championship was Kevin Jones [Aesculapius Preceptory].



The Provincial Prior presents Kevin Jones with his Trophy - and a little something extra....

The runner-up was Richard Simpson, one of our guests on the day.

The winner of the Par 3 competition was Jerry Gangadeen of Baluchistan Preceptory and the runner-up was Ray Johnson. [Sancta Maria Preceptory].

The Provincial Prior also made a presentation to Roger Charter, the organiser, for arranging the day.

Roger Charter charter350@btinternet.com.

01580 765283

John Bond john.bond@jetsetholidays.co.uk

07931 390546

CHRISTMAS DAY

All Knights Templar are reminded to retire from the festivities briefly for contemplation and to join in good wishes to all Knights Templar throughout the world on Christmas Day at 5pm GMT.

Preserve, O Lord, our Brother Knights, By land sea or air,
And as we hold them in our thoughts, So keep them in Thy care.

DIARY DATES 2017-18

Provincial Carol Service
Great Priory [Temple]
Great Priory [Malta]
Provincial Priory [Malta]
Provincial Priory [Temple]
Provincial Priory [Malta]

Monday 19 December 2016
Wednesday 17 May 2017
Tuesday 21 November 2017
Monday 30 January 2017
Friday 29 September 2017
Monday 29 January 2018

REGALIA EXCHANGE

Please send your unwanted regalia, such as mantles, swords, and mantle badges to Eric at the Provincial Regalia Exchange. When successfully sold, part of the sale price will be passed on to you.

Mindful of the costs of regalia, the Provincial Regalia Exchange [PRE] also offers a pre-owned buy / sell and alteration service. Alternatively, the PRE can alter the centre of an existing badge. The PRE currently has Great Priory mantle badges, in good to excellent condition, for Herald, Almoner, ADC [2], Standard Bearer [B], Chamberlain and Guard; and a London Provincial ADC's mantle badge.

For your first Provincial and Great Priory appointments, you will need to purchase a Provincial or a Great Officer's Sash and a Mantle badge denoting your rank in the Temple; and a Mantle badge in Malta. The PRE will also advertise your pre-owned regalia for sale. eric.p.e.garner@gmail.com

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PLEASE NOTE

The Tylers' department at Mark Masons' Hall has recently been discontinued and the Tylers, other than the Grand Tyler, have been dismissed.

Our Provincial Tyler is E. Kt. Tim Hatton, but it is by no means clear that he will have the same sort of access to the facilities at MMH that he previously enjoyed.