

# Provincial Priory of London

**K**NIGHTLY



**T**OPICS

Issue 2

Autumn 2001

## **Editorial**

**A**re you sitting comfortably? Then put your feet up, pour a favourite tiple and read your Provincial Newsletter. I hope you enjoyed the last one. Regrettably few comments have reached me and feedback is important to the shaping of a publication you wish to read. Neither have I had any news input from Preceptories and there must be plenty of stories for you to tell. For example, I know of one Preceptory with a centenary celebration this year. How about a contribution for the Spring issue? The Library at Freemasons Hall has a stock of KT memorabilia and they are prepared to compile a selection of it for KT members to view. We need to agree a date for this to happen so please let me know your preference for viewing on a weekday, morning or afternoon, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week in September 2002. How about the morning of the Provincial meeting? I'll try to accommodate the majority of responses. The viewing arrangements will be published in our next issue. Finally, on your behalf, congratulations to our Vice Chancellor, Eddie Goodwin, on achieving his BA (Hons) from the Open University. He sat his final examination during Christmas week last year after what must have been a gruelling few years' study.

### **Dates for your diary are:**

Prov Priory	29 September 2001
Carol Service	13 December 2001
Prov Malta	29 January 2002

Don't forget, if you have an item of interest write to me by January 15<sup>th</sup> for inclusion in the Spring issue and June 14<sup>th</sup> for the Autumn issue.

**George Hodge**  
Tel & Fax: 0118 973 0966

## **Honours Should Be Honoured**

**E**ach year every Preceptory in the Province is invited to submit the name of a Past Preceptor to be considered for a first appointment to Provincial Rank. The prudent Registrar will assemble a Court of Honour or Committee of Past Preceptors to decide who should be recommended for this honour. Among the factors the Preceptory are expected to consider are:

- the manner in which the Knight discharged the office of EP in the Preceptory.
- the contribution the Knight has made to the work of the Preceptory since his year in office.
- his continuing and regular attendance.

A decision having been reached, the Registrar will be instructed to submit the Knight's name to the Provincial Prior for preferment. If the Provincial Prior approves the recommendation the Knight will receive a letter offering him an appointment and inviting him to the investiture.

A Past Preceptor who is honoured with a Provincial Office must know that the Provincial Prior and the most senior members of the Province will have given lengthy consideration to each appointment. Such honours are not conferred lightly.

However, from recent discussions it has emerged that some Provincial Officers do not appreciate that, in accepting the offer of a Provincial honour, he assumes new, albeit unspoken, duties and responsibilities. In addition to his continuing commitment to his own Preceptory, he is expected to make a useful contribution to the continued

success of the Province.

This new commitment can manifest itself in many ways. It goes without saying that the new Provincial Officer will attend the Provincial Priory at which he is to be invested but he is also expected to support all future meetings.

If the Provincial Officer has been honoured with an active rank he could be expected to take part in the Provincial Prior's Escort on Official Visits, or he may wish to make a private visit on such occasions to show his active support for the Province.

The new Provincial Officer, should continue to give active and positive support to his own Preceptory by attending regularly and:

- by serving in one of the key offices.
- by assisting his successors as E.P. by working parts of the ceremonies.
- by seeking out good, new members from his many contacts in Freemasonry.
- by ensuring, that all new members are made to feel especially welcome in his Preceptory and, by encouraging the junior members of the Province to tread the same path as he has done.

The faithful discharge of these unspoken duties and responsibilities in both the Preceptory and the Province should, in due time, lead to a promotion in the Province and possibly Great Rank where a greater commitment is expected, since, as we all know, the higher you are elevated in rank, the greater are the duties and the more important are the services required of you.

**E.Kt. John Green**

## **The Vice Chancellor - A Lament?**

“Come into my parlour, said the spider to the fly”. Or more precisely, “How would you like to be my Vice-Chancellor?” said the Provincial Prior to the unsuspecting knight. Well, I thought, I have been Scribe E for donkey’s years and Registrar for a little while, why not?

I quickly discovered that I had inherited a somewhat complex jigsaw of events and quite a lot of them were “sky”. An early task is to book the venue for the Carol Service and refreshments and confirm meeting dates with Mark Mason’s Hall.

The major event of the year is the Annual Meeting of Provincial Priory in September. That’s fine you think at the beginning of the year, plenty of time. But there isn’t. A major part of that meeting is the investiture of Provincial Officers, the appointment of whom takes time. Letters go to Registrars in mid January for them to make recommendations by the end of April so that appointment letters can go out to the 45 or so recipients in early June for response by the end of June. The draft summons deadline of end of June, locks in to the despatch date to individual members in early August. Mid August also sees a meeting between the Provincial

Prior, Sub-Prior, Marshal and Vice-Chancellor to check the details of the meeting. Mustn’t forget though, that the Provincial financial year ends on 31<sup>st</sup> May, so believe it or not, there are one or two Preceptory returns outstanding, which need to be urged, and the Vice-Chancellor expenses to be calculated. Good, got round that one. Hello, there’s a big gap in the picture over there, what should be there? Ah yes, it’s time for the Annual Returns to go to Registrars and responses to be monitored. There is still a gap, I know, it’s time to update the entry in the Provincial Year Book, that means copies of existing entries to Registrars for update, compiling the returns and updating the Provincial pages. Time to prepare the programme for the Carol Service and get that to the printer. Whoops, nearly forgot to send off requests to Registrars for Great Honour recommendations. Now the Malta meeting is looming and the draft summons needs to be prepared for that meeting. Need to find out from Registrars who will bear their Preceptory Banners at Provincial Priory and to check on names of those who have departed to the Holy City for the Requiem. That’s good, only need the response

to dining invitations and work can commence on table plan and place cards and signing sheets. Well, it can after the distinguished visitors from other Provinces have been invited to the meeting, responded, and summons and invitation despatched. That’s all done so we can get on with the meeting, that’s the bit you all see so I won’t bore you with that. Fitting in the late arrivals for the Festive Board can be fun, or not! Right, that’s over, I can send out the Carol Service programmes to Registrars, and the Malta summonses, ask Registrars to give Malta candidate details and await return of dining slips so that another table plan can be produced. In the meantime a further meeting of Provincial Prior, Sub-Prior, Marshal and Vice-Chancellor carries out a critique of the Priory meeting and prepares for the Malta meeting. Then on to the Malta meeting and off we go again, one long round of pleasure.

Anyway, I hope that the results are acceptable and that you all enjoy your involvement in the Provincial Priory of London. I do.

**E.Kt. Eddie Goodwin**

## **Great Officer Appointments - Knights of London Province 2001**

V E Kt D I Williams	Golden Square	219	Second Great Constable
Rt E Kt J M Tuckey, GCT	King Edward VII	173	Great Marshal
E Kt J F Nevill, QPM	Connaught Army & Navy	172	Great Sword Bearer
E Kt Rev W T Marston	Sydenham	251	Deputy Great Almoner
E Kt R W Lambert	Golden Square	219	Great Organist
E Kt K R Ackrill	The Bard of Avon	127	Past Great Herald
E Kt R W Johnson	Shadwell Clerke	154	Past Great Herald
E Kt A Taylor	Guild of Freeman	512	Past Great Herald
E Kt D H Mingo	United Kemeys Tynte & Temple Cressing		Past Great Aide-de-Camp
E Kt M J Watson	Holy Sanctuary	131	Past Great Warden of Regalia
E Kt W J Allum	Sancta Maria	183	Past Great Chamberlain

## **Londinium Preceptory - A Preceptory for Preceptors**

There has been some discussion on how to improve communication in the Province. One initiative is to form a Preceptors Preceptory to address this need as well as providing a forum for members’ views and to provide lectures and demonstrations of special interest. E.Kt. Bob Upton

grasped the nettle and wrote to all Registrars with his proposal. The name is to be Londinium and membership open to all Preceptors present and past. It is proposed that it meets twice a year once in the evening and once at lunchtime, the evening meeting being the installation meeting. offices will not

be progressive and Officers will be appointed by the Preceptor of the year. These proposals are to be discussed by prospective Founder Members at a meeting to be held this year and finalised before forming the new Preceptory. Details from Bob Upton Tel: 01483 898843.

Email: [bob\\_upton@lineone.net](mailto:bob_upton@lineone.net)