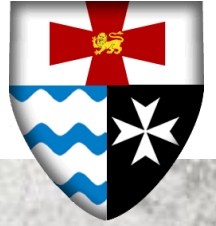


# KnightlyTopics

**Issue 36**  
Provincial Priory of London



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## From the Provincial Prior



***"We live in strange times: on the one hand we cannot meet person to person; on the other we now have more virtual contact through phone, email, video conferencing and other social media than ever before. Such contact gives us sustenance in these challenging times and emphasises that we are not alone.***

***As Knights Templar, we belong to a Christian Fraternity that is charitable and honourable in its outlook and we should still seek to maintain a balanced approach to life through pleasure in each other's company, giving to charity and a daily advancement of knowledge. I am confident that the new editorial team of Knighly Topics will adopt a similar approach and will thus raise our spirits by informing us, causing us to reflect and above all amusing us."***

## A message from the Editor

E.Kt. Angus Rhodes Prov.A.-de-C.

Dear Brother Knights,  
Happy Eastertide.

This publication was started by my late, great friend and proposer into London KT, V.E.Kt. George Hodge, when he was Provincial Warden of Regalia under the authority of the then Provincial Prior, Alf Day, and Provincial Vice-Chancellor, Eddie Goodwin. In 2014 he passed the torch to Stuart Henderson who did a fantastic job in his own right (more on both of them later).

It is with great honour I commence this first issue as Editor, standing upon the shoulders of giants of our Orders. The Right Eminent Provincial Prior appointed me with the following words: *"DKS (the Editor of Freemasonry Today) is not available so it's you."*

I had hoped to get this first issue out earlier, but a number of factors, including the current national and international situation have delayed it. Now we are up and running, it is hoped to produce issues four times per year to keep up with news and events within the Province and the Order in general, as well as providing the usual articles of interest.

I have deferred a number of the regular items I was going to include to the next issue in order to adapt the content of this issue more to the present situation and not to make each issue excessively long. If you would like to make any contributions of news or articles for future issues please contact me via the email address below.



Next issue we will return to featuring more of the usual Provincial and Great Priory news as well as hopefully including some new dates for forthcoming events. In the meantime, please keep well.

Warmest fraternal regards and Yours in the Bonds of the Order.

E.Kt. Angus Rhodes Prov.A.-de-C.  
[Chevalier.de.Milton@gmail.com](mailto:Chevalier.de.Milton@gmail.com)

**PS: There is a reason why I have used the rather blurry image above and Malta Regalia, which may become clear in due course. The first Knight able to confirm to me what is different about the Banner of Rhodes and why will earn a pint of beer or similar from me at the next available opportunity.**

**Your newsletter needs you:** it has always thrived on content from you, its readers. Any items of Preceptory news, history of the Orders, Ritual, Symbolism or other relevant subjects should be submitted to the Editor at:

[media@londonprovincekt.org](mailto:media@londonprovincekt.org)

We look forward to hearing from you.

KnighlyTopics



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[www.londonknightstemplar.com](http://www.londonknightstemplar.com)

# Life (in lockdown) for the Sub-Prior

E.Kt. Antony Legge P.Gt.Capt.Gds

Brother Knight Angus kindly asked me to pen a few words about life as a Sub-Prior. I have been overwhelmed and humbled by the reception that I have received on my visits so far but the lock down that is currently curtailing our Masonic activities has meant that I have been unable to visit preceptories and so threatened to shorten this article to a very few words indeed. I talk regularly with our Right Eminent Provincial Prior, who has everything very much in hand, and the administration of the Province is in the capable hands of our able Vice Chancellor, leaving me with little to do, except bake bread.

I have always enjoyed cooking and over the last year or so I have been starting to bake my own sourdough bread. Hardly a knightly pastime, you may think, as compared to swordplay or brewing real ale (albeit baking and brewing are close cousins through the shared use of yeast); but I have found it enjoyable and calming. It has also been irritating and frustrating when the bread doesn't rise or when it rises beautifully but sticks to the loaf tin and has to be removed with the point of a sword, thereby resulting in irreparable damage to both loaf and tin. However, perseverance and the helpful advice from other knights who are also into baking has resulted in some wonderful loaves, including branching out into more difficult bakes, such as a recent light and airy ciabatta.

I cannot pass up the opportunity to develop the working tools of a sourdough baker; the

scales, the bowl and the starter (the mix of flour and water with the wild yeast that gives sourdough its taste). The scales are to measure the ingredients (I have some lovely old fashioned scales, with weights on one side, the ingredients on the other and the two balancing, that my mother was throwing out – she's 81 and currently getting rid of a lot of items she has been collecting or hoarding over her life); the bowl is where the ingredients are mixed and the magic begins to happen; and the starter is the magic that brings life to the bread. From a non-operative perspective, the scales teach us to maintain balance in our lives, balance between family and masonry, between work and leisure etc; the bowl teaches us to both keep control over our lives but also to be patient; and the starter is, of course, our Lord God, without whom there is no life. As the yeast bubbles and rises, it also reminds us of the importance of developing joy and happiness in our lives.

Whilst my Masonic activities have been curtailed, the lockdown has given me a chance to deepen several Masonic friendships as we discuss bread, food and life on WhatsApp; I have improved my baking and, hopefully, my patience; and I have been reminded of the importance of our fraternal camaraderie and cannot wait for us to meet again at the bar in MMH. (although having not now drunk alcohol for five weeks due to having caught and recovered from the virus recently, I may be slurring after my second pint!).



**...leaving me with little to do, except bake bread**



EM KT ANTONY LEGGE P GT CPT OF GDS  
PROVINCIAL SUB PRIOR FOR LONDON  
07976 438 463

## Meet the team

### Angus Rhodes Editor

Angus started his involvement in our Orders in Somerset back in 1999 and is a Past Commander of Antiquity Encampment No. 1 in Bath. He has an interest in the history and symbolism of our modern Orders, the original historical Orders, theology and other areas of research.

### DKS Editor-at-Large

Author, historian, journalist, Barrister and Editor of Freemasonry Today. His contributions will appear whenever he has time and inspiration to spare from his many other activities.

### Vernon King Layout and design

Vernon is the Registrar of the R.E. Provincial Prior's Bodyguard and a webmaster for the Provincial Website.

### Rev'd. Niall Johnston Publication Chaplain

When he is not fulfilling his role as Chaplain to the Bodyguard, Niall advises the Church of England and travels the world promoting freedom of religion or belief through his Church, Commonwealth and UN work. Niall is also a Past active Provincial Aide-de-Camp and Metropolitan Assistant Grand Chaplain in the Craft.



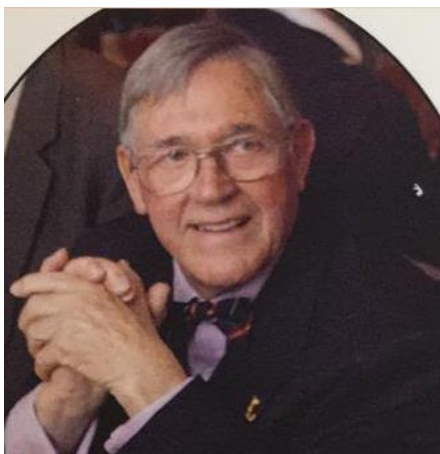
## A brief retrospect

As noted at the start of this issue, the late, great V.E.Kt. George Hodge of Britannic Preceptory of Madeira and Londinium (see *right*) started this publication at the beginning of 2001. This was at a time when he was Provincial Warden of Regalia and was finding it difficult to communicate with the Knights in order to sell his wares. He discussed the idea of this newsletter and developed it with the R.E. Provincial Prior of the time, Alf Day, and the then Provincial Vice-Chancellor, Eddie Goodwin.

The first issue was released in the Spring of 2001 with the following introduction:

*"This is the very first issue of a twice yearly newsheet published by the Province of London. It starts life modestly as a two-sided A4 sheet but who knows what size and format it will be in five or more years."*

Five years later it was nine pages long. George in fact continued in post for thirteen years, when his deteriorating eyesight led



him to pass the torch to Stuart Henderson of Mount Calvary D and Sydenham (see *far right*) Preceptories. Stuart naturally did a very fine job in his own right developing the newsletter further with regular news and interesting articles.

He was ultimately promoted to Great Herald due to all his work within the Province.

Sadly his own health has led him to stand down as Editor so I am afraid you are all stuck with me.

Please keep Stuart and his family in your prayers Brother Knights. We have a lot to thank both him and his Very Eminent predecessor for.



## Regalia

E.Kt. Terry Hall Prov.W. of R.

Dear Brother Knights

As noted by the Editor, this publication has started to enable the Warden of Regalia to readily communicate with the Knights of the Province. My role is not just to sell you Provincial ties, but also to obtain and supply second-hand and affordable regalia to both enable membership to be as affordable as possible; and to raise funds for charity.

The following items are generally available:

- Provincial & Bodyguard Ties    £15.00
- Cufflinks    £15.00
- Pin Badges    £10.00

... plus postage and packaging if you do not wish to wait until the next meeting that we are both attending.

Please also contact me if you wish to donate second-hand regalia or you would like to acquire specific items.



**E.Kt. Terry Hall**  
**Warden of Regalia**  
 Tel: 07773 783996  
[pwor@londonprovincekt.org](mailto:pwor@londonprovincekt.org)

## Remember...

At the Closing of our meetings our Prelates and Chaplains read the Precepts of our Order.

Perhaps in the present circumstances we should all take a moment to remind ourselves of these:

Love, honour and fear God.  
 Walk after his commandments.  
 Maintain and defend the Christian faith and the honour, dignity and interests of our Order.  
 Be loyal to your Sovereign, dutiful to the Grand Master and Obedient to those who rule over you.  
 Prefer honour to wealth.  
 Be just and true in word and deed.  
 Give no willing cause of offence to any but while oppressing wrong and injustice, deport yourself courteously and gently.  
 Assist the distressed, the widow and the fatherless.  
 Eschew all debasing employment, recreation and company.  
 Abhor pride and selfishness and so raise the standard of chivalrous honour.  
 Striving for the welfare of your Brethren

# Here's to Captain Tom and Dame Julian of Norwich!

E.Kt. Rev'd Niall Johnston P.Prov.A.-de-C.

## Brother Knights,

An unlikely pair, I admit, but bear with me....

Sitting in front of the TV, as I raised a birthday toast to Captain Tom Moore, newly made Colonel of the Army Foundation College, I reached for the nut bowl and picked up a hazel nut. As I munched, the thought came to me that Tom is a modern-day counterpart of Dame Julian of Norwich, an English mystic who lived in the 14th and 15th Centuries.

In his first interview after he had captured the imagination of the nation, Tom said,

***"For all those finding it difficult: the sun will shine on you again and the clouds will go away".***

He has lived through so many life experiences that he was able to focus on the positive in the midst of this health emergency. As a veteran, Captain Tom was looking forward to celebrating VE Day, a day that is also the feast day of Dame Julian of Norwich who lived in Norwich, self-isolating as an anchorite.

Julian is known to us almost only through her book, **The Revelations of Divine Love**, which is widely acknowledged as one of the great classics of the spiritual life. She is thought to have been the first woman to write a book in English that has survived. We know that Julian was known as a spiritual counsellor and folk would come to her cell in Norwich to seek advice. Considering that, at the time, the citizens of Norwich suffered from plague and poverty, as well as a famine, she must have counselled a lot of people in pain. Yet, her writings are suffused with hope and trust in divine goodness.

**Revelations of Divine Love** is based on a series of sixteen visions Julian received on 8th May 1373 whilst lying on, what was thought at the time, to be her deathbed when suddenly she saw Christ bleeding in front of her. She received insight into his sufferings and his love for us. Julian's

message is one of hope and trust in God, whose compassionate love is always given to us. Julian did not perceive God as blaming or judging us, but as enfolding us in love. Reading Revelations of Divine Love reveals an intelligent, sensitive and very down-to-earth woman who maintains her trust in God's goodness whilst addressing doubt, fear and deep theological questions.

Why the hazel nut? Well, in one of her visions, Julian saw a hazel nut in the palm of her hand and understood it to represent all of creation. She understood that, however small, all that has been created is both encapsulated and loved by God.

These are challenging times and it is only natural that we should rail against the unfairness of our situation. Yet the God to whom we address our anguish, like Job, is the same God to whom we all ultimately go home. The world today seems chaotic, confusing, and tenuous. We have reason to wonder if the world we know might fall into nothing. Life seems uncertain and our hold on it unsure. Our hold on God can seem tenuous and unsure. Our hold on ourselves can seem tenuous and uncertain.

In spite of her own suffering, and for all that the world around her seemed in disarray, Julian's writings, while distinctly not rose-coloured, are full of joy and hope in the light of divine love demonstrated. She found her ease, not in grasping and clinging to the ephemeral littleness of created reality, but in uniting herself to the abiding love and joy of the uncreated God. This unsettling and frightening time will pass and we will gather together again with our loved ones and with our masonic family. In the words of Dame Julian, **"All shall be well and all manner of things shall be well"** or, as Captain Tom put it, **"Remember, tomorrow is a good day, tomorrow you will maybe find everything will be much better than today."**

May God give us all strength to face the darkness of night and may we remember to offer thanks in return as we greet the dawn that is to come; His hold on us is neither tenuous nor unsure!



E. Kt. Rev'd. Niall Johnston PProvA.-de-C  
Chaplain to the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard  
masonic@nialljohnston.org  
+44 7808 724574



# The Medieval Cook

E.Kt. Angus Rhodes Prov.A.-de-C.



The Eminent Provincial Sub-Prior having focused somewhat on the issue of cooking I thought it an opportune moment to briefly dilate on the relationship between the Knight and the Cook.

In the earlier days of our Masonic Order, the Candidate often entered wearing sandals with his Pilgrim's outfit. The sandals would have been swapped for boots or shoes during the ceremony and the spurs would have been put on last, even after the sword. At last he had won his spurs, but could he keep them?

The following is from an **1812 Ritual purporting to be of the Grand Encampment**: "One of the equerries, dressed as a cook, with a white night cap and apron and a large kitchen knife in his hand, suddenly makes his entrance, and kneeling on one knee before the new Sir Knight, says:

**T.H. White's writings include an account of the making of a Knight:**

*"You go to the chapel again then, and Kay offers his sword to the vicar, and the vicar gives it back to him, and after that our good cook over there meets him at the door and claims his spurs as a reward, and says:*

*"I shall keep these spurs for you, and if at any time, you don't behave as a true knight should do, why, I shall pop them in the soup."*

*"Sir Knight, I admonish you to be just, honourable, and faithful to the Order, and not to disgrace yourself, or I, the cook, will hack your spurs from off your heels with my kitchen knife." He then retires."*

Something very similar, but different, is still performed by Baldwyn and Antiquity. However was there any real historical basis for this?

Bridget Henisch's book, the Medieval Cook, notes: "Because there was something contemptible about the cook, he could be used on occasion as an instrument with which to brand any knight who broke the code of honourable conduct, and committed the unforgivable crime of treason."



## The Medieval Cook contd.

Further evidence of this happening historically is mentioned in the Song of Roland:

*"...The king commands that Ganelon be seized, and he hands him over to the cooks of his house. He calls Besgon receives him and sets upon him with a hundred of his companions of the best and worst of the kitchen. They tear out his beard and his moustache and each one strikes him four blows with his fist. They have beaten him well with stakes and sticks, then they put a chain on his neck and chained him up like a bear. They mounted him shamefully on a beast of burden and thus they kept him until such time as they should give him back to Charles."*

### ...only served to commute the full sentence for treason of hanging, drawing and quartering to the more noble beheading...

Sir Ralph Grey in 1464, during the Wars of the Roses, held Bamburgh Castle against the Yorkist forces of King Edward IV. This was particularly inconvenient for the King since the Castle was one of those considered necessary for repelling my fellow Scots, so he had an urge to not suffer harm to the Castle. Thus there was a threat to execute Grey and one more in descending rank for each further cannon shot, which proved necessary. The siege was brief, with some damage, and when the Castle fell Grey was arrested and brought before John Tiptoft, Earl of Worcester and the King's Constable of England who headed the Court of Chivalry. No formal trial had to be held in spite of the fact he was a Knight of the Order of the Bath, the second most senior Order of English Chivalry. Tiptoft had the Master Cook present and reminded him of the wording of the Cook's threat in that

Order:

*"Gentlemen, you know what a great Oath you have taken, which is to defend the Gospel, succour the widows and fatherless, right the wronged, which if you perform and keep, it will be to your great honour; but if you break it, I must hack off your spurs from your heels, as unworthy of this dignity, which will be a great dishonour to you, which God forbid."*

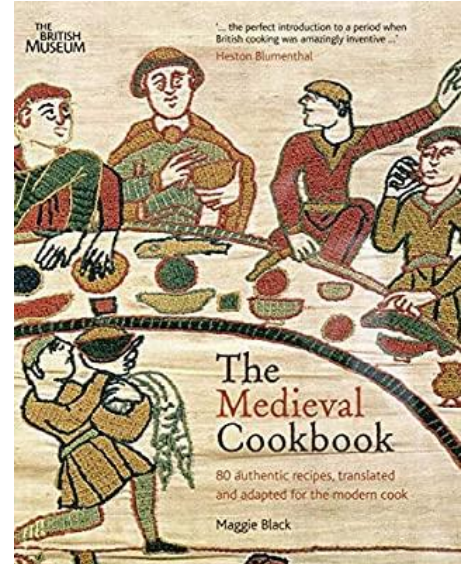
Although Warkworth's Chronicle does not specify, it appears his spurs were then struck from his feet, his Coat of Arms torn from his clothes and he then received his sentence. His family's past loyalty to Edward's only served to commute the full sentence for treason of hanging, drawing and quartering to the more noble beheading, subsequently carried out.

I would admonish you to ensure you are kind to your cook and remain ever worthy to wear your mantle and figuratively have your feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace.

Brother Knights, as the person currently forced to work from home and to cook for my wife I am likewise cooking almost all of our meals myself, which is giving plenty of time to experiment. If any member does feel like experimenting with Mediæval Recipes, I can recommend the Medieval Cookbook by Maggie Black and published by The British Museum Press.

In the meantime, perhaps a good place to start would be to follow this hyperlink to a recipe for Chicken with whole garlic recreated by the late, great Clarissa Dickson-Wright of Two Fat Ladies fame. This was part of the BBC's Great British Food Revival. I was kindly advised by Bro.Kt Martin Barker of Mark Masons Hall that the French wine most likely to be similar to its Mediæval equivalent would be a white Burgundy:

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/mediæval\\_chicken\\_with\\_04370](https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/mediæval_chicken_with_04370)





# A few good men

## The Military Orders and the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem



Battle of Hattin

The Templars were created to protect pilgrims in the Holy Land, and from modest beginnings – the legendary nine knights of 1120 – the Order expanded rapidly. So did its mission. By the middle of the 12th century, the Order was playing an important role in the defence of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem. How important? In this brief summary, I'd like to quantify the contribution of the military orders to the Crusader kingdom.

In his history of the Kingdom of Jerusalem, Archbishop William of Tyre says that the fame and wealth of the Knights Templar enabled them to field 300 knights. Familiar as we are with the multi-million-strong armies of the world wars, that may not sound impressive. However, 13th century readers of William's book would have recognized that as a significant force.

Armies of that time numbered in the low thousands – although contemporary chroniclers (who were mainly monastic) were prone to grossly exaggerate them.

Knights were by far the most important element. The eminent military historian Ferdinand Lot suggested that the best way to equate medieval forces to modern ones is in terms of the smallest unit normally commanded by a commissioned officer. The 13th century unit of a 'lance' meant one knight and four other men, (usually archers or crossbowmen): and so the medieval equivalent of an infantry platoon of 30–40 men. So in the Crusades, the equivalent of a battalion tasking would be undertaken by about ten knights and 40 supporting troops. Three hundred knights was therefore a force of strategic significance. In Lot's comparison, it's the rough equivalent of 30 battalions, or an army corps by World War II standards.

Even the wealthiest, most powerful monarchies of the late Middle Ages struggled to deploy armies of much more than 10,000 men. For example, at Agincourt (1415) approximately 8,000 French knights and 4,000 infantry attacked Henry V's army of 1,643 knights and 7,632 longbowmen.

The kings of Jerusalem were not as rich as those of England or were not as rich as those of England or France. From its foundation in 1100 to the loss of the Holy City in 1187, the kingdom could call upon at most 750 knights who owed military service in exchange for fiefs, while Ecclesiastical and urban communities owed the service of about 5,000 foot soldiers. These were important in siege warfare, but their limited mobility restricted their value in battles which were usually won or lost by the charge of armoured horsemen.

These kings had two other sources of troops: mercenaries and pilgrims. Knights and infantry, above all crossbowmen, were hired by the crown to garrison castles and to fill out the army for specific campaigns. Each spring, several thousand pilgrims arrived by ship to celebrate Easter at the Holy Sepulchre. Pilgrimage in the 12th century was rather pricier than McCabe's current programme, but it did include the opportunity to join the army for a summer campaign before returning home in the autumn. The proportion of pilgrims prepared to fight obviously varied, as did their military ability. Sometimes they were encouraged by cash payments from the king, for instance, when the Latin Kingdom besieged and finally captured Ascalon in 1153.

Mercenaries and pilgrims came and went, but – assuming the Hospitallers had about the same number of knights as the Templars – the military orders could field 600 of the best knights in Europe, and they were available year-round. Not only did they have almost as many knights as the king, we know that the military orders trained as units, not just as individuals. The Brethren subjected themselves to military discipline in a way feudal knights would never tolerate: severe penalties awaited anyone who charged without permission or broke formation for any other reason. Such was the expertise of their leadership, as the only long-service professionals in the region, that in 1147



**E.Kt. Ian Drury**  
Deputy Commander of the London Bodyguard;  
Literary Agent; Historian



## A few good men *contd.*

the King of France himself gave command of his army to the Master of the Temple. The French attempt to cross Asia Minor was turning into a shambles, so the king turned to the Templars to save them.

The relative importance of the knights of the military orders increased during the course of the 12th century. Managing an estate in the Holy Land wasn't easy, what with plagues, earthquakes and Muslim raids. As the military orders grew richer on donations from western Europe, so fiefs in the Latin Kingdom ran into trouble and were sold by their impoverished owners. This was especially true along the frontier with Muslim territory. The Count of Tripoli ceded the great fortress later known as Crac des Chevaliers to the Hospitallers in 1142. The mighty castle of Marqab was sold by its lord to them in 1186.

By the 1180s the kingdom was weakened by internal divisions stemming from the failing health of its young king, Baldwin IV, just as the Muslims became united as never before under the leadership of Saladin. The Templars and Hospitallers were at the height of their military and political power, providing a substantial part of the kingdom's field-army and controlling a swathe of castles throughout the land. An 1187 letter from the kingdom reported that 60 Knights Templar were killed in the fiasco at Cresson and another 230 perished at the Battle of Hattin that July – although most survived that battle, but were executed after they had surrendered. The ransoming of prisoners had become quite common by this time, and the military orders could have afforded to recover their captured brethren – but by this singular act of atrocity, Saladin exterminated the biggest threat to his campaign to capture Jerusalem.

Despite such catastrophic losses, enough knights answered the call to replace them for both military orders to take part in the Third Crusade (1187–92).

Richard the Lionheart allocated them the most important roles in his march on Jaffa in 1191.

We know both Orders recovered their strength because they suffered a second annihilating defeat in 1244 at La Forbie, near Gaza, when they each lost more than 300 brethren.

knights who sealed their faith with their blood under the banner of the Cross, we are saluting a genuine military achievement by some extraordinarily brave men.



Templar fortress at Acre

The battle was a fatal blow to the Crusader kingdom, which was never again able to contest with the enemy in the field, but once again, enough knights came forward to restore the Orders' military strength. Despite terrible losses in the doomed defence of Acre in 1291, both Orders again recruited back up to strength, however, this time they found themselves with no Christian kingdom left in Palestine to defend.

The Hospitallers reacted by restoring Rhodes to Christian control, holding the island in their own name, not on behalf of a king. The Templars were lobbying European monarchs to launch another Crusade when the King of France turned on them.

The Knights Templar may have fielded only 300 knights at any one time, but they made all the difference. Without the military orders, it is difficult to see how the Kingdom of Jerusalem would have lasted beyond the first generation of Crusaders. So when we toast the pious memory of all those valiant

**E.Kt. Ian Drury**  
**Deputy Commander of the London**  
**Provincial Prior's Bodyguard**

### Notes on sources:

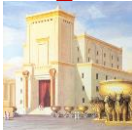
*For the composition of the Latin army, see R C Smail's Crusading Warfare 1097–1193 (Cambridge University Press 1956). For army sizes in the middle ages, see Anne Curry's The Battle of Agincourt (Boydell Press 2000) and Hans Delbrück's History of the Art of War Vol III (University of Nebraska Press 1990).*

# Key dates

## Kt. Vernon King



**C993 BC**  
David conquers Jerusalem and brings Ark of the Covenant



**c958-951 BC**  
Solomon builds the Temple in Jerusalem and the Ark is placed in the Holy of Holies



**586 BC**  
Solomon's Temple is destroyed by Assyrians. Ark of the Covenant is lost or destroyed



**520 BC**  
Work begins on the Second Temple in Jerusalem



**30 AD**  
Crucifixion of Jesus in Jerusalem



**135**  
Hadrian destroys Solomon's Second Temple



**326-328**  
Helena, mother of Constantine discovers the True Cross and the Holy Sepulchre



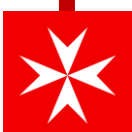
**638**  
Jerusalem is conquered by caliph Umar



**1009**  
Church of the Holy Sepulchre is destroyed by caliph Hakim



**1063**  
Papacy gives a blessing for a Crusade against the Muslim occupation of Spain



**1070**  
Formation of the Order of St. John



**1090**  
Birth of St. Bernard



**1095**  
Byzantines appeal for help to the west, Pope Urban II declares the First Crusade



**1099**  
Capture of Jerusalem



**1100**  
Baldwin I elected King of Outremer



**1112**  
St Bernard arrives at Citeaux



**1113**  
Formation of the Knights Hospitallers acknowledged by Papacy



**1115**  
St. Bernard arrives at Clairvaux



**1118**  
Baldwin II crowned King of Jerusalem



**1119**  
9 Knights led by Hugh de Payens make vows at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre



**1119**  
Initial formation of Knights Templar as The Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ and the Temple of Solomon



**1120**  
Recognition of Knights Templar at Nablus



**1129**  
Council of Troyes, granted land and established the Latin Rule of the Templars - 72 clauses



**1131**  
*In Praise of the New Knighthood* by Bernard of Clairvaux



**1139**  
Papal Bull Omne Datum Optimum - Templars are an independent order of the Catholic Church



**1140s**  
Templars build Paris Temple as financial headquarters



**1144**  
Foundation of the Priory at Clerkenwell



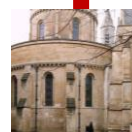
**1144**  
Fall of Edessa to the Moslems



**1147 - 1149**  
Second Crusade and Templars granted the right to wear red cross



**1179**  
Hostility between Templars and Hospitallers



**1185**  
Temple Church in London is consecrated



**1187**  
Battle of Hattin



**1187**  
Fall of Jerusalem to Saladin



**1189**  
Richard is crowned King of England



**1189**  
Richard I captures Cyprus





**1189 -1192**  
Third Crusade



**1191**  
Siege of Acre and  
new Templar HQ



**1202 - 1204**  
Fourth Crusade



**1215**  
Magna Carta signed and  
Master of the Temple was  
an adviser to the King



**1218 - 1221**  
Fifth Crusade



**1291**  
Fall of Acre. Templars  
leave for Sidon and Cyprus



**1300**  
Knights Hospitallers move  
to Rhodes



**1302**  
Templars leave Outremer  
to island of Ruad, then  
massacre of the Templar  
garrison



**1305**  
Phillip was refused entry  
into the Knights Templar  
after the death of his wife



**1307**  
13<sup>th</sup> October Arrest of  
Templars in France



**1308**  
Jacques de Molay and  
other Templar leaders meet  
papal emissaries and are  
absolved



**1310**  
Burning of 54 Templars  
near Paris



**1312**  
Pope Clement abolishes  
Templars and transfers  
property to Knights  
Hospitallers



**1314**  
Execution of Jacques de  
Molay and curses Pope  
Clement and Philip le Bel



**1314**  
Pope Clement dies  
(agonising illness) and Philip  
le Bel dies (riding accident)



**1319**  
Establishment of Knights  
of Christ in Portugal



**1456**  
Construction of Rosslyn  
Chapel



**1522**  
Knights Hospitallers  
leave Rhodes to Candia



**1530**  
Knights Hospitallers  
move to Malta



**1550**  
Origins of Freemasons in  
England and Scotland



**1565**  
Great Siege of Malta



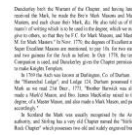
**1568**  
Death of Grand Master  
Jean de la Vallette



**1571**  
Destruction of Templar  
records in Cyprus by the  
Ottomans



**1736**  
Ramsay's Oration declares  
Freemasons are descendants  
of the Crusaders



**1778**  
The Chapter of Friendship  
(Royal Arch) work an  
Appendant Degree



**1789**  
Outbreak of the French  
Revolution



**1791**  
Grand Conclave was  
formed of 7 Encampments



**1791**  
Thomas Dunckerley was  
installed as the first Grand  
Master



**1793**  
Louis XVI guillotined  
"Jacques de Molay is  
avenged"



**1873**  
Grand Conclave was changed  
to Grand Priory and  
Encampments became  
Preceptories



**1877**  
St. John Ambulance  
Association is founded



**1882**  
Foundation of the St. John  
Eye Hospital in Jerusalem



**1990**  
London has 2 groups –  
Duke Group and St.  
James Group



**1992**  
London amalgamates  
the 2 groups into a  
single Province



**1992**  
R E Kt Jack Dribbell was  
First Provincial Prior



**2001**  
Discovery of the Chinon  
Parchment in the  
Vatican Secret Archives

## In future issues...

- The St. John Eye Hospital
- A Day in the Life of a Knight Templar
- The Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and the St John of Jerusalem by Rev. Niall Johnston
- A report on the Centenary celebrations of Public Schools Preceptory with a presentation by DKS
- An update on Londinium Preceptory
- A brief history of Malta by V.E.Kt. Victor Parnis



## To help a few minutes to pass

C	Y	P	R	U	S	A	C	R	E	T	M	A	N	KNIGHT
S	O	M	E	L	A	S	U	R	E	J	A	N	O	TEMPLAR
O	N	N	I	T	T	A	H	M	C	N	P	I	N	ACRE
L	U	A	X	X	P	B	P	R	N	R	R	D	I	SALADIN
O	G	I	B	U	E	L	E	E	H	D	I	A	H	CRUSADE
M	B	A	T	L	A	M	R	R	T	K	O	L	C	BALDWIN
O	A	A	O	R	U	V	S	H	N	Y	R	A	R	SOLOMON
N	C	L	L	E	L	S	R	I	O	A	Y	S	U	MALTA
E	M	L	O	D	E	A	G	I	L	D	R	C	S	RHODES
G	I	H	D	Y	W	H	A	A	A	C	E	D	A	CYPRUS
G	K	T	O	M	T	I	O	M	W	L	E	S	D	JERUSALEM
E	C	R	D	C	H	R	N	H	J	A	C	A	E	BERNARD
L	T	S	H	A	K	I	M	O	O	I	M	L	D	PRIORY
I	H	U	U	A	M	S	P	L	A	A	S	U	U	TROYES
														HAKIM
														CLAIRVAUX
														LEGGE
														NABLUS
														CHINON
														HATTIN

## Quote...

Thanks to the Right Worshipful Knight Michael Fox, Past Provincial Prior that in his recent History of the London Province, we find that the First London **Provincial Prior Right Eminent Knight Jack Lodewyk Charles Dribbell KCT (1999), GCT (2012)** included this statement in his initial address to the Knights of the Province:



**“Those who like reams of print, newsletters that no-one reads but everyone pays for, will find this Priory an unsuitable vehicle.”**

## A few final thoughts

I was watching a Christian programme broadcast on Holy Saturday, which quoted the passage from **Matthew 18: “<sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”**

This is referred to in the prayer used at the Opening of our Preceptories, Provincial and Great Priory.

*“Merciful Redeemer of perishing mankind, Who has promised that Thou wouldst be in the midst of those assembled in Thy Holy Name; look down upon us, Thy humble servants, with an eye of tender compassion, and so direct us that our labours may be begun, continued and ended in love to Thee, affection to our companions, protection to the distressed, and obedience to our Order. Amen.”*

*At the moment we cannot assemble in His Holy Name. We cannot go to Church or our regular meetings. We cannot meet our friends or share a jovial libation. Whilst we cannot gather, we can think of one another more often, keep in touch via modern technology to check on our wellbeing. We will keep you in our prayers.*

**Yours in the Bonds of the Order,  
The Editor and Knightly Topics Team**