

A little Knight Templar news does you good

Staying in touch

Dear Brother Knights

With the welcome arrival of Spring once again and the approach of the great Festival of Easter, I hope that you are enjoying the revival of many of our old ways – most especially the meetings of the two United Orders, to which we have the distinction and privilege of belonging.

The past month has brought much good news – not least the lifting of almost all the remaining Covid restrictions in Wales.

In addition, a number of Brother Knights received very welcome letters from Great Priory in March, announcing that the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master intends to offer them appointments in May at the meeting of Great Priory. The details are listed in this edition of the newsletter and are a cause for great celebration and congratulation.

Throughout the Province, at Preceptory meetings, attendances have been rising and a host of new candidates have been welcomed into both the Templar and Malta Orders.

The month began with an election meeting at Sir William Marshall Preceptory in Chepstow and then a large Malta meeting which was held at St David's Preceptory in Narberth, where nearly 40 knights enjoyed an impressive ceremony that was delivered by the Eminent Prior, E Kt Basil Phillips, and his team admitted four Candidates to the Order in a colourful ceremony. Our photo shows the Candidates flanked by the Eminent Preceptor and myself.





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On the same night, but in the East of the Province, a candidate was admitted into the Order of the Temple at Fforest Preceptory in Treharris. Their Eminent Preceptor, E Kt Viv Norris, had the special pleasure of making, Companion Christopher Williamson (his candidate and a friend of many years standing) a Knight of the Order.

At Bridgend, two new members were admitted to the Order of the Temple at a well attended meeting of Cefn Ydfa Preceptory conducted by their Eminent Preceptor, E Kt Mark Newbold, and his team. Both Candidates, Companions Steven Slade and Gerald William, were most impressed by the ceremony.

Later in the month, another Candidate was admitted to the Order at Brecknock Castle Preceptory in a ceremony conducted by Eminent Preceptor, E Kt Paul Evans, and his team.

This candidate, Companion Hugh Rosser Williams is a well-known local Organist and is sure to be a great addition to the preceptory.



At the same meeting, the members were especially delighted to admit E Kt Keith McCormack as a new and very welcome Joining Member as well.

Due to a backlog of candidates, Sant Madoc Preceptory in Porthcawl held a special meeting so that Companion Adrian Hooper could be admitted a member of the Order of the Temple.

And the month's events were happily rounded off by the Eminent Preceptor at St John of Cardiff Preceptory, E Kt Andrew Thomas, who Installed his successor, Kt James Forbes Keir. This Preceptory (with several Candidates waiting patiently in the wings) is already planning an extra meeting which will take place in June this year. This photo shows the new Eminent



Preceptor (centre) discussing Firing Swords with the Treasurer, Kt Andrew Newson(left) and Second Constable, Kt Phillip Morgan, (right).

To all of the above-mentioned, I am sure you would like to join with me in extending to them our warmest congratulations and good wishes.

Enjoy the Spring!

Yours in the Bonds of the Order

Paul Calderwood, Provincial Prior

Great Appointments and Promotions

To take effect from Wednesday 18th May 2022



When the names were announced in late March, of those whom the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, intends to appoint as Great Officers in May there was much good news for the Province to celebrate.

R E Kt Revd Malcolm Lane, is to be re-appointed as Great Prelate,

R E Kt Ryan Williams, is to be re-appointed as Great Vice-Chancellor,

and E Kt Carl Davies, to be re-appointed as Deputy Great Marshal,

- all amid loud applause, without any doubt.

In addition, E Kt Michael Eckley, formerly Provincial Treasurer, will be appointed to the Active office of Great Standard Bearer (VB).

Other well-earned promotions in Great Rank are being conferred on



E Kt David Court, who has served the Province with such great distinction as Sub-Prior for the past six years, and is being promoted to the rank of Past Great Registrar. He will thus acquire the title of a Very Eminent Knight.

Also, E Kt Nigel Williams, the industrious Vice-Chancellor of the Province, is being promoted to the rank of Past Deputy Great Sword Bearer.

First Appointments are being conferred upon the following Bro Kts:

E Kt James Ross, Provincial Herald, who is to be appointed as a Past Great Herald and is a very popular and much travelled Masonic leader especially in West Wales.



E Kt Derek Hemfrey, the Provincial Registrar, who will be appointed as a Past Great Aide de Camp

and

E Kt Michael Lewis, Registrar of St John of Cardiff Preceptory, who is to become a Past Great Captain of Guards.

Hearty congratulations to them all. It is so good to see dedication being rewarded.





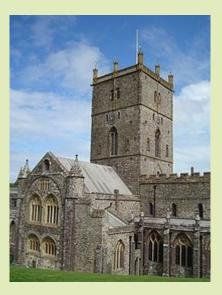






Follow Giraldus' journey across Wales

The route taken by Giraldus Cambrensis in 1188 when he toured Wales with the Archbishop of Canterbury to recruit c.3,000 men for the third crusade can be followed now with the help of modern technology. Via the internet, The HistoryPoints Project with support from the Church in Wales provides a guided tour which can be enjoyed on your computer at home or out in



the fields and buildings along the way. At each featured location there are QR codes which you can scan to receive the relevant web page on your smartphone or tablet.

Gerald's detailed written record of the journey (in Latin) is one of the best sources of information on Wales in the 12th century. Gerald's tour took place little more than a century after the Battle of Hastings. The tensions between the indigenous Welsh and the Anglo-Norman kings and lords resulted in massacres, kidnap and other events recorded by Gerald.

Key locations which you can enjoy include ... New Radnor, Powys Abergavenny Castle, Mon Llandaff Cathedral, Cardiff Margam Abbey, Neath PT Whitland Abbey site, Carms St Davids Cathedral, Pembs Strata Florida, Ceredigion Nefyn, Gwynedd Menai Bridge, Anglesey Rhuddlan, Denbighshire Basingwerk Abbey, Flintshire Ceriog Valley, Wrexham CB

The itinerary reflects the importance of certain places at the time. It omits some towns which came to prominence in later periods of Welsh history, including when English rule was imposed in the late 13th century. Gerald did not record the precise locations visited in some of the towns along the route, including Brecon, Newport and Lampeter. The researchers have assumed that the churches which existed at the time were the most likely venues, and have included them in the tour.

Our tour starts at New Radnor, Powys, and ends in the Ceiriog Valley, near Wrexham. You can join the tour online by choosing a location from the list by going to https://historypoints.org and entering in the Search Box His

Now there is an idea if you are thinking of getting out and about at Easter !