



Staying in touch

**NO 41** 

#### A little Knight Templar news does you good

Dear Brother Knights



I hope that you have been enjoying the summer, with its more than usual amount of sunshine.

Another kind of sunshine now beckons us, as we celebrate the start of a new Masonic season with lots of Templar activity ahead of us.

Since the last edition of this newsletter was published on 1st June many things have happened within our KT Province and you can read about some of them over the

following pages. What particularly stands out is the high number of Candidates coming forward to join our Preceptories and the impressive arrangements that have been made to accommodate them, by arranging Double and even Triple Ceremonies and holding Extra Meetings. The past few months also saw lots of happy and well-attended Installation Meetings and a proud and special Banner Dedication ceremony.

Now there is much to look forward to: enjoying the company of returning Brother Knights, Installation Meetings, at least ten Candidates already scheduled to become members over the coming months, as well as a Cathedral Service this month, the Provincial Malta meeting in November and a Carol Service and Carvery Lunch in December.

Welcome back one and all.

Yours in the Bonds of the Order Paul Calderwood, Provincial Prior

#### Welcome news about the Provincial Sub-Prior

The big surprise and most unwelcome event of the summer of course was the heart attack that befell E Kt Richard Phillips, the new Sub-Prior.

However, I am very pleased to tell you that he is making a strong recovery and - after a very necessary period of recuperation - he is looking forward to being back at meetings later this year.

He particularly asked me to say how much he appreciated all the "get well" messages that he received from so many members of the Order and to let you know that these messages have helped very much to lift his spirits over recent weeks.

We all join in wishing him well and look forward to seeing him again at the right time.



## THE ALMONERS POST

#### Written by E.Kt. Revd. Anthony Stevens, Provincial Almoner

Dear Brother Knights,

The Provincial Almoner is at his Post and waiting to receive Post (hopefully by Email). It has been suggested that at each publication of *A Beauceant* there should be this section from the Provincial Almoner providing the names of those of our brother Knights who are infirm and those who



have passed away answering the call of the Great Captain of our Salvation.

This will enable us as a Christian Order to remember them and to pray for them. I need to receive these by the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month prior to publication from either the Preceptory Almoner of Registrar, with the assurance from them that publishing the names and details has been cleared with that person named.

The New Testament reminds us that as Christians we have a duty to help and to pray for our brethren in the Christian Faith. 'And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick,' James Chapter 5 v15.

#### Those to be remembered this Month:

**EKt Vaughan Watkin**, Morganwg Preceptory, Recovering from Knee Surgery

#### EKt Norry Tetzlaff St Madoc Preceptory,

who has spent time in hospital and is unwell

#### A prayer

Loving God, give comfort and healing to all who are in any kind of need, sorrow or pain. We pray for our Brother Knights ..... may they sense your reassuring presence, your healing hand and know that you are there with them. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord .... Amen

... And From the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight: 'The role of the Almoner.'

#### Pastoral Care

'Although this is the primary responsibility of the Lodge Almoner, we still have a part to play. This is especially so if the Brother Knight is a member of a Lodge in another Province.

We should still, therefore, keep in touch in times of sickness or distress, even if it is only a birthday card or a quick telephone call.

The telephone is probably the preferred method of contact as personal visits may be left to the Lodge Almoner unless, of course the Brother Knight is a personal friend

As with the Craft, our care must reach beyond the death of a Brother Knight. Maintaining contact with widows of our Preceptory members and having concern for their continued well being .... In this continued liaison with Lodge Almoner is a key element.'

#### Congratulations

One of the many highlights of the summer was the following announcement issued by R.E.Kt. Ryan Williams, Great Vice-Chancellor:

"In accordance with established custom, I met with a panel of Advisers made up of senior members of the Order earlier this week and it has been recommended to the Grand Master's Council that R.Revd.Kt. Dr Vivian Thomas, JP, Grand Visitor General, be nominated to Grand Priory for election as the third Grand Master of the Order. The members of the Grand Master's Council unanimously endorsed that nomination yesterday.

R.Revd.Kt. Vivian is well known to many of you having travelled extensively in England & Wales discharging the duties of Grand Visitor General in an impeccable manner. He is an experienced Freemason holding senior rank in many Masonic Orders and will, I have no doubt, build on the significant legacy created by

*M.E.* & Revd. Kt. Michael Herbert. On your behalf I extend our heartiest congratulations and good wishes to R.Revd.Kt. Vivian on his nomination for the office of Grand Master and, subject to Grand Priory approval, his subsequent installation as the head of the Order."

#### Additional good news

E Kt Carl Davies, our Provincial Marshal, has been appointed as the new Provincial Grand Master in the Royal Order of Scotland Provincial Grand Lodge of South Wales.

### A new rallying point in Brecon

A rarely performed ceremony took place in June when a Preceptory Banner and Honours Board were Dedicated at the Masonic Temple in Brecon. After the well attended meeting of Brecknock Castle Preceptory was opened by the Eminent Preceptor, E Kt Paul Evans, the Dedication Ceremony was performed by the Provincial Prior, supported by the Great Prelate, R. E. Kt. Malcolm Lane, and a significant number of the Great and Provincial Officers.

A copy of the informative and reflective Oration that was delivered on this important occasion by the Great Prelate is reproduced on the Provincial website at *kt-msw.org* 

Although the Brecknock Castle Preceptory was Consecrated less than five years ago to serve a wide area of Mid-Wales, it is already the third largest Preceptory in the Province and it continues to grow apace. Its membership is drawn from parts of Powys, plus Gwent, the original Counties of Glamorganshire, Carmarthenshire, and Pembrokeshire as well as from Ceredigion. The after-proceedings were held in the impressive Ballroom of the historic Castle Hotel, Brecon.







#### A proud father and son

written by E Kt Chris Mugford

On 16<sup>th</sup> June, the Cefn Ydfa Preceptory of Knights Templar and the Priory of Malta each held its annual Installation Ceremony at the Bridgend Masonic Hall in the presence of the Provincial Prior, R.E. Kt. Dr Paul Calderwood and the new Provincial Sub-Prior, E. Kt. Richard Phillips.

The two Ceremonies were of particular significance as the new Eminent Preceptor, E. Kt. Mike Davies, is the father of E. Kt. Carl Davies who is not only the Provincial Marshal but also an active Deputy Grand Marshal in Great Priory.

Both Ceremonies were conducted in exemplary fashion by the outgoing Eminent Preceptor, E. Kt. Mark Newbold, a close friend of Mike and Carl.

## The Body Guards Preceptory

Also at Bridgend, Temple Slebech, the Provincial Prior's Body Guard Preceptory held an Installation meeting in June. Their new Eminent Preceptor is E Kt Stephen Roberts, a former Commander of the Body Guard, widely known throughout the Province and a very popular choice. Not surprisingly, there were almost 30 Brother Knights present for this longed-for occasion.

The Preceptory ceremony was conducted by a distinguished former Marshal of the Province, E Kt Terry Jones, and the Malta Installation was conducted by the present Provincial Marshal, E Kt Carl Davies. To say that it was a Quality Ceremony is no over-statement.

## Two Installations at Narberth

On 30 June at St David's Preceptory in Narberth the new Eminent Preceptor Graham Newstead was Installed in the presence of many Great Priory Officers, Provincial Officers and Bro. Knights. The Installation Ceremony was carried out by

E. Kt. Basil Phillips assisted by the Preceptory Marshal E. Kt Andy Fraser.

Unusually for this Preceptory, it was followed by the Malta Installation - which is traditionally held in March. The Provincial Prior commented on how good it was to see so many Members meeting again.

The after-proceedings were held in the Dining room of the Masonic Hall and those present were treated to the usual excellent repast for which the Narberth Masonic Hall is noted.





## A Swift flies in at Penarth

The Great Vice-Chancellor, R.E. Kt. Ryan Williams, was among those distinguished Brother Knights who attended the Installation Meeting of Morgannwg Preceptory at Penarth in June.



The new Eminent Preceptor, E. Kt. Martyn Lench, was Installed by E. Kt. Alan Hulbert assisted by the Preceptory Marshal E. Kt. Wayne Cowley in the presence of the Provincial Prior and a large number of Great Priory Officers, Provincial Officers and Bro. Knights.

Following the Installation Ceremonies there was an additional event with the handover of the "Travelling Swift" which was also conducted by E Kt Alan Hulbert - since he is also the Eminent Preceptor of Sant Madoc Preceptory. The Sant Madoc Preceptory had previously had the great privilege of being entrusted with the care of the Swift Award which was presented by the Eye Hospital to the Province of Monmouth and South Wales in 2019.

This award was accorded to the Province by the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group in recognition of the generosity of the Brother Knights of the Province of Monmouth and South Wales in supporting the hospital in a most outstanding manner.

# Upholding a tradition at Treharris

On 4<sup>th</sup> July, at the Meeting of the Fforest Preceptory in Treharris E. Kt. William (Bill) Thomas was Installed as the new Eminent Preceptor in the presence of a large number of Great Priory Officers, Provincial Officers and Brother Knights.



Since its Consecration in 1993, the Fforest Preceptory has upheld the tradition that to qualify to become the Eminent Preceptor, a Brother Knight has to serve all of the Offices leading to the "Chair" and must have a 100% attendance as both First and Second Constable. E. Kt Bill, having taken a significant number of years to attain this, as is usual in the Preceptory, was thus qualified to be Installed.

The Installation Ceremony was carried out in exemplary fashion by E. Kt. Vivian Norris assisted by the Preceptory Marshal E. Kt. Vivian Jones and the Preceptory Deputy Marshal E. Kt. Chris Mugford PrSwdB.

#### **Changes at Owain Glyndwr**

Unusually, Owain Glyndwr Preceptory held its Installation Meeting in June at Neath, owing to the fact that its normal venue at Swansea Masonic Hall was not available on the usual date, owing to the Royal Jubilee Holiday.

The Provincial Vice-Chancellor, E Kt Nigel Williams, was Installed by the previous Vice-Chancellor, E Kt Alun Thomas, who of course had also been the Eminent Preceptor of

Owain Glyndwr for the past 12 months. The change of venue was warmly approved of by those who attended who were regaled with a warm welcome and an excellent and refreshing lunch.



#### An Extra in Swansea

The month of June got off to a flying start with an Additional Meeting of Lord Swansea Preceptory which had been arranged in order to welcome a new member into the Order. The Candidate was a well-known and popular Swansea Freemason, Companion Matthew Richards,



who enjoyed a fine ceremony at this meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> June.

Supporting the Eminent Preceptor, E Kt Andrew Brayley, the meeting was opened by E Kt Philip Harries and the ceremony of admission was conducted by E Kt Anthony David Jones, the proposer of the candidate.

Nineteen Brother Knights were delighted to be in attendance in support of this happy summer occasion - which was of course an addition to the normal calendar of events. This growing Preceptory is looking forward to admitting a further two Candidates in the next few weeks.

### Four joined at Neath

Three days later, four Members were admitted in Castell Nedd Preceptory. This meeting was conducted by the Eminent Preceptor, E Kt David L. Matthews, at the Neath Masonic Hall .



The first to be warmly welcomed by the Members present was a re-joining Member - E. Kt. Keith J. McCormack, who had been Eminent Preceptor of the Preceptory in 2014/15.

E. Kt. David L. Matthews then expertly led his team of Officers in Installing three new Knights into the Preceptory - which is no easy matter. In this, he was very ably assisted by the Marshal E. Kt. Peter Gilbert P.Gt.A-de-C, who showed his great experience, ability and preparation in conducting an excellent Ceremony for the Candidates, who were distinctly impressed.

The three new Knights - Steven Lovett, Richard Jones and Meirion Davies are all Members of Lodges and Chapters which meet at the Neath Masonic Hall, and are to be followed in the near future by other Candidates from those units.

# An Extra and a Double in Cardiff

It was a delight to see another Preceptory holding an Additional Meeting during June when St John of Cardiff Preceptory welcomed two Candidates into the Order. The ceremony was conducted by the



Eminent Preceptor, E. Kt. James Forbes-Keir.

As other Masonic duties and holiday absences precluded a number of Members from attending, a number of Provincial Officers and Officers of other Preceptories stepped in to assist – most notably E. Kt Peter Gilbert E. Kt. Roger Thompson, E. Kt, Gerald Williams, E. Kt. Viv Norris and myself.

The two Candidates, Phillip Hanlon and Nathaniel Board were extremely impressed with the proceedings. Although it is very new, the St John of Cardiff Preceptory is growing in numbers quickly, and it plans to admit two more Candidates in September.