



A little Knight Templar news does you good

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# Staying in touch

Dear Brother Knight This week is one of the <u>VERY BIG</u> weeks in the KT calendar as I am sure you realise.

On Wednesday 20th The Great Priory would have met in London under normal circumstances—a highlight for many, not least for those who would have been invested in person with Great Rank by the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master.



Nonetheless, they will of course assume their new ranks on that day and I am sure that you would all want to join me in congratulating them for this recognition of their hard work.

It is an important day in their lives and in the life of the Order.

Their photos and names will rightly dominate this

edition of *A Beauceant* and will fill most of it, as we all say "Congratulations".

Appointed to Active Office, they include RE Kt Revd Malcolm Lane as Great Prelate, RE Kt Ryan Williams as Great Vice Chancellor, and

E Kt Carl Davies as Deputy Great Marshal





Yours in the Bonds of the Order RE Kt Paul Calderwood As a fitting recognition of much hard work on behalf of us all within the province, the following distinguished members will receive First Appointments to Great Rank this week:



*E Kt Ronald Slater who is a member of Holy Palestine Preceptory and who played a key role in the Rulers' Ceremony at Aberaeron this year will be appointed Past Great Aide de Camp.* 

*E Kt Barry Stubbings* of Holy Palestine, Lord Swansea, Temple Slebech, Owain Glyndwr and Shanghai Preceptories will be appointed Past Great Aide de Camp.





E Kt Vaughan Watkin of Morganwg, Brecknock Castle, Menevia and Owain Glyndwr Preceptories will be appointed Past Great Warden of Regalia;

E Kt Roger Thompson of Gwent, Sir William Marshall, Temple Slebech, Owain Glyndwr and the Grand Master's Bodyguard Preceptories will be appointed as Past Great Captain of Guards.

Congratulations to them all !!!



### The Draper's Tale

This interesting article was very kindly penned for the newsletter by the Provincial Orator, RE Kt Dr Vivian Thomas:

#### Our regalia

We love many things in our Order, especially our colourful regalia. In the days of old, when Knights were bold, each Priory had a Draper, who was a very important person.

He was the custodian of the white mantles. He ensured they were kept clean, and oddly enough, he also distributed bed linen! But, wo betide any Knight who tried to add any embellishments to his regalia such as gold stirrups or silver bridles, which the Draper would remove. No ornamentation to display your wealth was allowed, as all the Kts were seen to be equal in their supposed poverty.



The Draper would also be responsible for checking your beard and haircut, neither of which were allowed to be too long. In fact, the haircut was expected to be short enough to be checked from front and back and any moustache was also needed to be kept trim and tidy. Such was the power of the Draper, that if he thought any Kt had accumulated too many possessions, he would confiscate them! Every Kt was expected to be equally humble as his neighbour.

#### It most definitely was not an easy way to live!!!



#### A Templar and a Hospitaller, c. 1250

The Templar (on the left) is wearing a padded arming cap (1), on which his helm (2) will rest. His mail hauberk (3) is now worn over a padded undercoat called a gambeson, and under the surcoat (4) of the Order - white, with a red cross on the breast. The loose, knee length garment is split to the waist at front and back for ease when riding. He has mail leggings and prick spurs.

The Hospitaller wears the black surcoat (1) with white cross which was adopted by the order in 1248; in 1259 this was changed to a red surcoat with white cross. He wears a simple round helmet (2) over his mail coif. Shields (3) have by this time grown shorter and more triangular in shape. The mail leggings (4) are laced behind the knight's calves.