

7 May 2026



A BEAUCEANT!!

NO 56

Dear Brother Knights

The Province of Monmouth and South Wales has never been regarded as inward-looking and the meeting of Owain Glyndwr Preceptory on the morning of the last Saturday of this month will highlight that characteristic, when we will have an update regarding the Eye Hospital in Jerusalem and its clinics in Gaza and the West Bank, a war-torn region which is so often in the news these days.



A most distinguished visitor from London, E Kt Jamie Ingham-Clark, will share with us his knowledge of recent events at a notable meeting which is open to all the members of the Province.

E Kt Jamie has been involved with the Hospital for 40 years, is a Trustee of the Eye Hospital and is also a Knight Templar. As part of his work, he visits Jerusalem on a regular basis and he will treat us to a short history of the hospital and its long connection with the United Orders as well as inform us about how the Hospital Group has recently adapted to war and political events in that part of the world.

Currently, he is the Grand Sword Bearer of the United Orders and we are in for a most informative day when he addresses the Preceptory.

As a fitting curtain-raiser to such an important event, E Kt Richard Phillips, who recently retired as Provincial Sub-Prior, will be Installed as the new Eminent Preceptor of Owain Glyndwr Preceptory. Do try to be there please.

Yours in the Bonds of the Order

R.E.Kt. Dr. Paul Calderwood
Provincial Prior



Strong Support for The Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Knight Templar Province of Monmouth and South Wales was attended by a record number of Brother Knights this year and witnessed the investiture of the new Sub-Prior, E.Kt. Revd Anthony Stevens.



Well over 120 Knights filled the building at Bridgend on Saturday 21st March this year to enjoy a busy programme of events which included a donation of £2,500 to the Eye Hospital run by the Order of St John at Jerusalem. During the *In Memoriam*, the Provincial Prelate R. E. Kt. Revd. Malcolm Lane

led the brethren in prayer to the memory of a number of Brother Knights and family members including the late E. Kt. Vivian Norris, E. Kt. Robert Tanswell and Kt. John Vernon Thomas.

Distinguished visitors travelled from Yorkshire, Kent and other distant places to be part of the occasion and they were welcomed by R.E.Kt. Dr Paul Calderwood, the Provincial Prior for Monmouth and South Wales. A special highlight of the day was the colourful parade of the Banners of the Preceptories within the Province. It was also a delight to see 16 Knights who had joined the Order within the past 12 months attend the meeting and receive applause. They were personally welcomed by the Provincial Prior and presented with "First Timer" badges.

The Provincial Prior thanked E.Kt. Richard Phillips for his distinguished and loyal service as Sub-Prior – which drew a loud and long round of applause - and he then proceeded to invest Richard's successor in office, which was greeted with equal warmth of feeling. R .E.Kt. Dr. Paul Calderwood also thanked the other Officers of the year who were retiring that day and he then invested those Brother Knights who were being appointed and promoted in Provincial Rank. The full list is published on the website at www.kt-msw.org

E.Kt. Terry Price, who retired as Organist for the Province towards the end of the meeting, was warmly thanked by the Provincial Prior for his remarkable 16 years of service in that office. Presentations for outstanding service were made to members of the Bodyguard and included an engraved tankard for Kt. Doug Treadwell who achieved 100% attendance at all 25 Bodyguard duties in 2025-26. In addition, engraved firing glasses were presented to Kts Richard Ackroyd, Luke Giles, Andrew Hollo-Tas, Ian Price, Alun Thomas, Doug Treadwell, Dave Bell, Dave Tiddy, Tony Cook and Rob Cross for their remarkable commitment.

The Alms collection raised over £424 for charitable purposes and a great and memorable day was had by all. In his annual Address to the meeting, the Provincial Prior announced that – thanks to the efforts of all the members - the number of Knights within the Province had increased again and now stood at the highest level it has been for the past six years - 57 membership applications having been received during the year.

Commenting upon the success of the Royal Arch Initiative he noted that already 50 Chapters were part of the initiative with more applying every month to be appointed as KT Representatives. Highlights for the past year included the visit by a delegation of two dozen Knights from the Province of Gloucester and Hereford; the fostering of Cross-Border visits between Bodyguard Knights in Somerset and our own Province; the annual Church service held in Margam (where 10 Bodyguard Swords were dedicated); the family Christmas Carol service in Llandovery and the Provincial Malta meeting which saw 16 Candidates admitted to the Order. A further twenty-one had been admitted in Malta meetings of St. David's Priory and Temple Slebech Priory.

The Provincial Prior thanked all those Knights who work behind the scenes to help members of the Province to enjoy to the full their Knight Templar Freemasonry. Further congratulations were given to those who will be receiving preferment in Great Priory, on 20th May in London, namely R. E. Kt. Rev Malcolm Lane who is to be reappointed as The Great Prelate, E. Kt. Chris Evans who is to be appointed as Great Standard Bearer (VB) and E. Kt. Peter Gilbert promoted to the rank of Past Great Herald. At that meeting two further Knights will receive First appointments in Great Rank namely, E. Kt. Revd. Anthony Stevens as Past Deputy Great Almoner and E. Kt. John Steward as Past Great Warden of Regalia. The full text of the Address is featured on the Provincial website www.kt-msw.org

Church Service in a full Margam Abbey.

On Sunday 26th April 2026, the Annual Church Service was held at Margam Abbey. Right Eminent Knight Rev. Malcolm C.G. Lane, who is both Great Prelate of the United Orders and the Provincial Prelate of the Province of Monmouth and South Wales, presided over the Service in the Margam Abbey Church which was filled with Members of the Order in full Regalia, their relatives and friends.



The Service was held in the presence of Right Eminent Knight Dr Paul Calderwood, the Provincial Prior of the Province of Monmouth and South Wales, E. Kt. Rev. Anthony H. Stevens (the Provincial Sub-Prior) with Right Eminent Kt. Dr Vivian Thomas KCT (Most Eminent and Reverend Grand Master of the Order of Knights Beneficent of the Holy City of the Rectified Scottish Rite of England and Wales).

Under the supervision of Very Eminent Knight Carl Davies, Past Great Registrar, and the two Deputy Marshals - E. Kt. Stephen Roberts and E. Kt Paul Evans - the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard provided an Arch of Steel as the Banners of the Preceptories within the Province were paraded into the Church by their Preceptory Banner Bearers accompanied by their Eminent Preceptors and followed by the Provincial Party, Grand Officers and Distinguished Guests. The Banners were blessed by the Provincial Prelate before being located in their order at the rear of the church during the Ceremony.



The Provincial Prior welcomed everyone to the Service and expressed his thanks to all for their presence and support. The Provincial Prelate gave a very thoughtful and encouraging Address which is featured on the Provincial website www.kt-msw.org

The Banners, followed by the Provincial Party, then paraded out of the Church through the Arch of Steel of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard before forming an Arch of Steel for all the Relatives and Guests as they were leaving the Church.

E.Kt Chris Mugford PPrSwdB
ProvComms



A Retirement gift from the Bodyguard

At the Malta Installation meeting of St David's Preceptory held in Narbeth on Monday 2nd March 2026 the Provincial Sub-Prior, Eminent Knight Richard Phillips, was on official duty, representing the Province for the last time before stepping down from the role.

The Provincial Prior's Bodyguard, who provide an escort for the officer at all Installation meetings, were present and assisted as the Banner Guard as well as forming the Arch of Steel for the Provincial Procession.

The Bodyguard had also planned a small token of their own gratitude for the honour of supporting E Knight Richard, and the pleasure of his company, during his time in office.

The members of the Bodyguard normally sport a specially commissioned napkin at the festive board embroidered with the Bodyguard crest and the legend Provincial Prior's Bodyguard.



On this occasion the Bodyguard members has arranged for a special one-off variation of this design which was presented at the Festive Board. The Bodyguard wished E Knight Richard long health and happiness for the future and look forward to enjoying his company for many years to come.

PHOTO CAPTION Bodyguard Registrar, Kt Rob Cross, presenting the napkin to the Provincial Sub-Prior

Bowing out with a Triple Crown

The Eminent Preceptor of Lord Swansea Preceptory No 673, E Kt Wayne Pike, conducted three ceremonies in April at his final meeting in the chair.

Firstly, he conducted a ceremony of admission for two Royal Arch Companions into the Order of the Temple and then he Installed his successor in the chair of both the Templar and the Malta Degrees.

The two Companions who were made Knights were Matthew Curtis and Darren Oatley-Radcliffe and the new Eminent Preceptor is E Kt Clifford Johnson.

With four, possibly six Candidates waiting to come into this Preceptory, the new Eminent Preceptor and the members are clearly in for a very busy and enjoyable year and they are already talking about having an Extra Meeting.

The April meeting was attended by the Provincial Prior, R E Kt Dr Paul Calderwood, and the new Provincial Sub-Prior, E Kt Revd Anthony Stevens.

The Provincial Marshal, V E Kt Carl Davies, provided strong support by acting as Marshal in all three ceremonies and there was a very good attendance by the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard.



New Eminent Preceptor in Cardiff

A remarkably well attended meeting of St John of Cardiff Preceptory No.712 was held on Wednesday 11th March 2026 at the Cardiff Masonic Hall in which Kt. Niraj K.M.M. Ratna was Installed as the new Eminent Preceptor (and the Eminent Prior).



The ceremony was conducted in the presence of the Right Eminent Knight Dr Paul Calderwood JP, Provincial Prior, together with E. Kt. Revd. Anthony Stevens, the Provincial Almoner (who ten days later became the new Provincial Sub-Prior).

In addition, the meeting was attended by V.E. Kt. Carl Douglas Davies P.Gt.Reg (who is the Provincial Grand Master of South Wales of the Royal Order of Scotland) and a considerable number of Great Officers, Provincial Officers, Visiting Knights and Preceptory Members.

Kt. Niraj Ratna was one of the first Candidates to be Installed as a Knight of the Preceptory, following its Consecration in 2019 and he has since served in a number of Offices. He has also served as a committed Member of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard, who were on duty, in force, at the Ceremony, led by Kt. Luke Giles and Kt. Richard Ackroyd (Deputy Commanders of the Bodyguard).

The Installing Preceptor, E. Kt. Phillip L.C. Morgan was assisted in carrying out the Ceremonies by V.E. Kt. Carl Douglas Davies P.Gt.Reg. and E. Kt. Chris Mugford (the Preceptory Marshal). Right Eminent Knight Dr Paul Calderwood JP explained Great Priory Certificates to no less than seven of the newer Knights who were present.



After the Preceptory was closed, a Priory of Malta was opened and Kt. Niraj Ratna was Installed as Eminent Prior and his Officers were appointed and invested. The very lively and happy after-proceedings were held in the Edgar Rutter Suite where the participants partook of the excellent fare for which the Cardiff Masonic Hall is noted.

The Eminent Preceptor presented to the Provincial Prior a Cheque as a donation to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital.

E.Kt Chris Mugford, PPrSwdB, ProvComms Province of Monmouth and South Wales

Sub-Lines



Jottings, thoughts, and travels of
the Provincial Sub-Prior

New in the next Edition!