



the Surrey knight



Issue 4 – DECEMBER 2023

Stephen Langton Preceptory Christmas Meeting



The traditional Christmas meeting of Stephen Langton Preceptory No. 478 was held at the Nutfield Masonic Hall on Wednesday the 21st of December 2022. The Preceptory was honoured by a visit from the Provincial Prior of Surrey, R.E.Kt. Patrick P Crossan. There were also several Provincial Officers of the year, and members of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard.

The Preceptory was opened by the Acting Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Christopher George, who welcomed everyone to this special meeting.

The Provincial Prior of Surrey entered through an Arch of Steel, was greeted by the Eminent Preceptor, and offered the baton.

The Provincial Prior was saluted with 7 after which he greeted everyone. He said how good it was to be back at Nutfield for the Stephen Langton Christmas meeting,



He introduced the Provincial Officers who had accompanied him, took the minutes and the muster role, and handed back the baton to the Eminent Preceptor as he had work to do.

Knight Rod Wood was installed as Eminent Preceptor by E.Kt. Christopher George in a very sincere manner. The new Eminent Preceptor was congratulated by the Provincial Prior who wished him a most enjoyable year.

After the Officers for the year were appointed and invested, the Provincial Prior addressed the Knights on the importance of our Christian Order and what Christmas means to all of us.

The Preceptory was closed, and a Priory of Knights of Malta was opened.

Knight Rod Wood was installed as Eminent Prior by E.Kt. Christopher George. The new Eminent Prior was again congratulated by the Provincial Prior.



[The Knights then closed the Priory in peace and harmony and afterwards dined together in fraternal union](#) singing some well-known carols led by our Provincial Prior.



Bob Soper kindly came along to play the organ for us.



A Candidate for Agincourt Preceptory

As Mysterious as a Craft Initiation ... As informative as an Exaltation in The Royal Arch ... As Enjoyable as a Mark Advancement ...

The Pilgrimage in Knights Templar.

That is what I observed when, on the 21st of February 2023, I visited Agincourt Preceptory in Camberley. As a newcomer by a lot of people's standards, I have joined and attended three meetings of this august society. One of those three was my own pilgrimage.

The venue has an unusual setting doubling as a nightclub and, upstairs, the masonic temple. There were some thirteen or fourteen guests including the Provincial Sub Prior, E.Kt. Peter Brown, and his bodyguard.



My evening got off to a poor start when another member mistook my case for his and promptly donned an element of my uniform. Soon sorted. I was asked to take a small part but declined due to lack of experience. The meeting was opened in the usual manner, and I just about remembered my sword etiquette. Some of you may not know but there is a group that meets at Surbiton on a Saturday so that a member may be more proficient in the correct use of his sword when on ceremonial duty or when carrying out duties during a meeting.



We soon got down to business and my good friend, Andrew Banks, was the focus of our attention.

The knowledge of detail and the gentle guidance of our Marshall, E.Kt. Tim Ford produced a ceremony of continued fascination from beginning to end. All members of this very friendly lodge accomplished an intriguing story which had a profound effect on Andrew and those of us watching him when he finally entered the preceptory as a Knight Templar.

There were some brilliant renditions of the ceremony, some superb physical deliveries using the sword. The meeting concluded in a business-like manner as the usual formalities were observed. All sincerely and ably led by the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Michael Kirkham.

After the meeting had concluded, Andrew was surrounded by members of his new group and congratulated by everyone present. A splendid and memorable ceremony in a meeting which bodes well for the future of this amiable preceptory.



And so to the Festive Board and the raffle. The table lay out was different and the subject discussed by the Marshal. Never won a thing, not even the oven gloves, but a good amount was raised for worthwhile causes, the Jerusalem Eye Hospital, and the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice in Farnham.



Then I was asked to respond to the Visitors' Toast. With so much good hospitality and friendliness on show, my task was pleasant and easy. I even asked if we, as visitors, may come again. It was such a worthwhile and pleasant affair. The journey there was fine, the parking OK and the food of a good standard.

It was soon time to say goodbye to my visiting Hampshire brethren and to my new set of friends of the Agincourt Preceptory in Camberley. I hope we meet again soon, or even at my Whyte Stone Preceptory, which meets in the Farnham Masonic Centre in Castle Street. We start at 5.30 and our food is of a very good standard. Off now to prepare my learning as an Officer of the lodge.

Article by Michael Fenech

Kyngstun Preceptory Centenary Celebration Meeting

Kyngstun Preceptory No 225 was Consecrated by Great Priory on Friday the 19th of January 1923 at Mark Masons Hall, London. The consecrating team comprising of ten Knights was led by Major General T C P Calley, *C.B., C.B.E., M.V.O., G.C.T.* The records show that 28 Knights attended, of whom nine were founders.



The Centenary meeting of the Preceptory was held on Tuesday the 21st of March 2023 at Surbiton in the presence of the Provincial Prior of Surrey, R.E. Knight, Patrick P Crossan, and many Provincial Officers.

The Preceptory was opened by V.E. Knight Chris Eley, **P.Gt.Reg.**, Past Provincial Marshal, who welcomed everyone and explained that he had been invited by his old friend, V.E. Knight Chris Cradock, **P.2nd.Gt.Cons.**, Provincial Chancellor, to install him as Eminent Preceptor for the Preceptory's centennial year.

E.Kt. Tim Ford, Provincial Marshal, entered and advised the Eminent Preceptor that the Provincial Prior was without and demanded admission. The Provincial Prior entered through an Arch of Steel, was welcomed by the Eminent Preceptor, and accepted the baton. He said how pleased he was to see so many Bro. Knights in the Temple to share in Kyngstun Preceptory's centenary celebrations.



The Muster Roll was taken, and the Brother Knights stood in memory of the late R.E.Kt. Bryan F Page, Past Provincial Prior of Surrey, who had recently passed away. A moving tribute was given by our Provincial Prior.

The main item of the agenda was to install V.E.Knight Chris Cradock as Eminent Preceptor. This was done by V.E. Knight Chris Eley in a very sincere manner. The Provincial Prior wished the Eminent Preceptor a most enjoyable year.

The Provincial Prior was then invited to present two Great Priory of Malta Certificates to Knights Sohrab Ayaz and James Hawkins, which he did in his own special way by walking then round the Preceptory.



V.E. Knight Keith Waller, **P.Gt.Reg.**, presented a very special Wilkinson Sword to the Preceptory. This had been given to V.E. Knight Keith by R.E. Knight Tom Chatfield, K.C.T., Past Provincial Prior for Surrey from 1970 to 1980, to be presented to the Preceptory and used as the Preceptory sword. This was accepted by V.E. Knight Chris Cradock on behalf of the Preceptory.

In celebration of its centenary V.E. Knight Chris Cradock gave a brief resume of the history of the Preceptory saying that a Centennial Brochure will be on everyone place at the festive board.

To round off a very special day the Provincial Prior said he had a surprise presentation to make. He presented V.E. Knight Chris Cradock with a 50 Year Certificate thanking V.E. Knight Chris for everything he does for all the Orders in Freemasonry, but especially for what he does for our special Order.

The Preceptory was closed and after the Centenary photograph was taken a Priory of Knights of Malta was opened. V.E. Knight Chris Cradock was installed as Prior of Kyngstun Priory by V.E. Knight Chris Eley, the Officers invested, the Priory closed, and we retired to enjoy a most convivial festive board together in the Elizabethan Suite at the Surbiton Masonic Hall.



At the festive board V.E. Knight Chris thanked the Provincial Prior and his team along with other guests for making this a very special day for Kyngstun Preceptory. He noted that there were 35 Brother Knights at this Centennial Meeting, and there were 28 Brother Knights at the Consecration meeting.



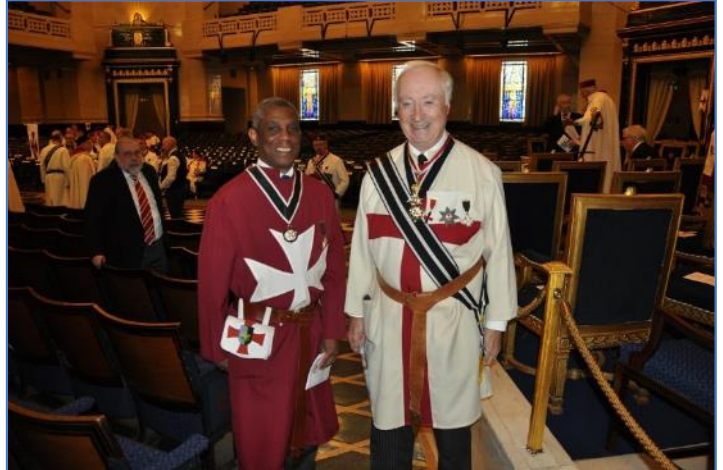
In the reply to his Toast the Provincial Prior thanked everyone for attending and wished the Preceptory well for its next 100 years.



Great Priory 2023



Wednesday the 17th of May 2023 saw Knights Templar from around the world arrive at Freemasons' Hall for the Annual Chapter of Great Priory and, while this meeting is always well supported, this year appeared to be particularly well attended.



It was good to catch up with many Bro. Knights before the meeting.



After the initial business items had been dealt with the Very High and Right Eminent Great Seneschal, Andrew Christopher Rainbow, rose and delivered a very thoughtfully crafted proposition of the re-election of our Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, G.C.T.

The Great Seneschal drew upon the recent Coronation of King Charles III as inspiration, noting that at the heart of that event had been the focus upon service to others and to one's own duty of service, before turning this same theme towards the service of our Grand Master and his devotion to our Order and our Brother Knights. This met with acclamation from the assembled Brother Knights and the Grand Master was duly proclaimed.

The Grand Master was then very pleased to re-appoint Andrew Christopher Rainbow as the Very High and Right Eminent Great Seneschal.

Then came the appointment and investiture of two Knights

Grand Cross of the United Orders: R.E.Kt. Ryan Andrew Williams, *Ost*, Great Vice-Chancellor; and R.E.Kt. Timothy John Wheeler, Great Marshal.



No fewer than 150 recipients of appointment to, or promotion in, Great Rank were then announced by the Great Vice-Chancellor, with those present being invested by the Grand Master.



The remaining items of business having been completed; the Grand Master addressed Great Priory. The Grand Master extended a very warm and hearty welcome to everyone attending the Chapter of Great Priory today saying it's a wonderful sight from where he was standing. He congratulated all those Brother Knights who were honoured with Great Priory ranks saying it was an absolute delight to be able to invest those present.



The Grand Master welcomed the representatives from 14 independent Great Priors; visitors from our own Provinces and Preceptories overseas; and the Rulers of other Masonic Orders. He then thanked the Great Vice-Chancellor and the team at Mark Masons' Hall for their administration of the day's meeting. And the Great Marshal, his Deputies and the Grand Master's Bodyguard who had taken such good care of the ceremonial proceedings.



Great Priory was then closed, and two verses of the National Anthem were sung with great vigour before the Brother Knights retired to refreshment and to continue to enjoy each other's company before making their various ways home.



We look forward to being back at Freemasons' Hall in November for the Annual Chapter of the Great Priory of Malta.

Praesidium Legati Preceptory



The regular muster of the Praesidium Preceptory of Knights Templar of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard No. 57-0 was held at Surbiton Masonic Hall on Friday the 10th of June 2023. Present was R.E.Kt. Pat Crossan, the Provincial Prior of Surrey, and V.E.Kt. Chris Eley, PGtReg, PProvMar, both Honorary Members of the Preceptory.

The Acting Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Dr Miguel Godfrey, opened the Preceptory in due form and

with solemn prayer. The Acting Marshal, V.E.Kt. Chris Eley called the Knights to order to salute the Eminent Preceptor.

The Registrar called the Muster Roll, with the name of R.E.Kt Bryan Frank Page, Past Provincial Prior and Honorary Member of the Preceptory, being called three times, but without reply. The Chaplain then offered prayers for the repose of the soul of our late R.E. Brother Knight and the R.E. Provincial Prior gave a touching eulogy for him. The Knights then bowed their heads in respectful memory for R.E. Knight Bryan.

E.Kt Alan Carroll was declared Eminent Preceptor for the forthcoming year and E.Kt. Alan thanked the Preceptory for their confidence in him.

There being no further business the EP closed the Preceptory in due form and the Temple was re-arranged for the Malta meeting that followed.

The Priory was opened in due form and with solemn prayer by V.E.Kt. Chris Cradock, standing in for the Eminent Prior who, accompanied by the Mareshal and Chaplain, was outside the Priory simultaneously conferring the Mediterranean Pass on the candidate for the Malta Degree.

The Eminent Prior announced a vote for the election of Kt, James Payne of Whyte Stone Preceptory 447. This was successful and Kt James Payne was installed as a Knight of Malta in due form by the Eminent Prior. The Historical Narrative was delivered by E.Kt. Graham McGlashen.



The Candidate was then congratulated and welcomed into the Order by the Provincial Prior.

The Priory was closed and the Brother Knights of the Praesidium Legati Preceptory and their guests enjoyed a most convivial meal together at the Surbiton Masonic Hall.