

# The Canadian Templar



December 2012  
Newsletter



The Grand Priory of Canada is charging on!

## News and Report from the Grand Prior

First of all, let me tell you how honoured I am to be your new Grand Prior. The Grand Priory of Canada has grown tremendously in recent years due to the many efforts of you, our members, and in particular our past Grand Prior, H.E. The Venerable Ronald Matthewman. Many may not fully appreciate all the hours of dedication that Sir Ron has spent developing our Grand Priory to its current high standard. Under his leadership Canada is a highly respected member in our International Order. This is evident by the many people who travelled across our nation and that of the United States to show their respect to Sir Ron at our Investiture. On behalf of all of our members of the Grand Priory of Canada I would like to again express my thanks and appreciation for all he has done. I would also like to thank our Grand Master, H.E. BGen Patrick Rea and our Grand Commander, H.E. MGen Robert Disney and his lovely wife Sheila for attending our special event. It is very uncommon to have both the Grand Master and the Grand Commander attend the same Investiture; which is a very strong indication of their support and respect for Sir Ron. We were very honoured by their presence.



In recent months, many new members joined our Order during Investitures held in Edmonton,

Ottawa, Toronto and Windsor and some of their pictures are in this newsletter. I welcome you all and encourage you to become active in whatever interests you: locally, nationally, or internationally. One of the purposes of this newsletter is to inform our members of what is going on and how one can participate. Stay tuned as we put this together, it's a work in progress.

### **New Appointments**

International - In a previous email, it was announced that H.E. The Venerable Ronald Matthewman was appointed the Vicar General for OSMTH, our International Order. This is a very prestigious Office which was officially bestowed upon him by our International Chaplain General, Bishop Younan and our Grand Commander at an earlier OSMTH meeting in Helsinki Finland in September. In this new capacity the Vicar General will officially represent the Chaplain General when Bishop Younan is not present.

Toronto - In September at St. James Priory's Investiture, Sir Randy Cronkite was installed as the new Prior, taking over from Dame Nola Crewe. We wish Sir Randy and his new team all good wishes of success in his new leadership role.

Windsor - In November at The Priory of the Ascension of Our Lord, Major Sir Roy Embury, CD, was installed as the new Prior, replacing myself. We wish Sir Roy all good wishes of success as well. Also, I would like to thank Sir Roy for his many hours of assistance to me as my Chancellor during my term as Prior. No one person can do all that is required by themselves. It takes teamwork and I was thankful for Sir Roy and other dedicated members of our Priory Council: Fred Knight, Eddie Carey, Joe Ouellette, Bryan Meyer, David Beneteau, and Gillian Stefanczyk. Thank you all. You made my life so much easier and helped build our Order.

Grand Chancellor and Grand Inspector - At the Investiture in Windsor Dame Nola Crewe (former Prior, Toronto) was installed as the new Grand Chancellor and Sir Joe Peters (Prior, Ottawa) was installed as the new Grand Inspector. I look forward to working more closely with these two highly engaged individuals and I know they will be an integral part of the new successes and future of our Grand Priory.

### **Grand Prior's Priorities**

Communications and Standardization are my immediate priorities.

Communications - Every organization can communicate better with its members and I know we are no different. In this electronic age, email and the rapid dissemination of information and data is commonplace and a part of our daily lives. Our primary means of communicating will be through emails so it will be critical to keep your Priory notified of any changes you may have in contacting you. We want you to be kept informed and up to date.

The Grand Priory newsletter will be issued quarterly. Sir Alastair McIntyre has agreed to put this together but of course newsletters need newsworthy material in order to remain relevant. That is the greatest challenge (and frustration) of any newsletter. Each Priory will have a point of contact that will facilitate the collection of material and this will be promoted at the Priory level. Several of our members have been on mission trips around the world, or locally serving and helping others in Christian love. Many would like to hear about your experience, whether it be a "Templar" organized event or not, which may spark some interest in others.

Sir Andy Williams will be revamping the Grand Priory website with a more interactive and modern platform. This will allow timely updates to members about charitable activities, upcoming meetings, local Priory news, event calendars, and reference material. Members will be able to view other Priors' calendars and see what is happening in other parts of the country. The Vicar General's weekly Saturday prayers will be posted there as well.

Standardization - As our Grand Priory grows, we need to ensure that the same best practices and procedures are similar throughout the country. We have a good base but it needs to be developed and replicated.

All this being said, our focus must still be our charitable Christian activities. New ideas and suggestions for improvement are always welcomed.

The Christmas season is fast approaching - It's December Already!! I encourage each of you to pause for a moment and consider our lives. There is much to be thankful for, no matter our predicament. Many of our Christian brothers and sisters in several Middle Eastern countries are finding themselves in the middle of civil war and religious oppression. They struggle and have reached out to our Grand Master and have asked for our prayers and support. At the national and international level, our Order does support our brothers and sisters in financial and practical ways. Locally, many less fortunate need our help. Please consider how you can help. Also, members of our Order and their families are, for various reasons, in need of prayer. At the very least, keep them all in your prayers and remember them as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour in the days and weeks ahead.

Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones,

CDR Peter L. Kelly, CD, GCTJ  
Grand Prior of Canada

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## The Canadian Templar

**The Canadian Templar** is the new newsletter of the Grand Priory of Canada and is the inspiration of our new Grand Prior H. E. Sir Peter Kelly to improve communications within Canada and beyond.

The Rev. Dame Nola Crewe is in charge of the overall project with Sir Alastair McIntyre as your newsletter editor. We look to bring you information about upcoming events both in Canada and beyond along with reports from happenings in each of our Pories and anything of interest from International Pories. To this we look to add some interesting articles and of course information from the Grand Priory of Canada and our Grand Prior. We are always happy to receive articles from our Knights and Dames that help to educate and inform us. Contact information can be found at the foot of this newsletter. This newsletter is scheduled to come out quarterly with this December being the first issue.

For external reports from individual Pories we are dependent on them to send in information that we can include in this newsletter and we send out two reminders to them. One a month prior to publication and the other a week prior to publication. As our Pories are busy people they may wish to designate someone to do a quarterly report for their Priory.

This newsletter is delivered in pdf format and note that any links provided can be activated by holding the CTRL key down and clicking on the link providing you have an Internet connection while you are viewing it. Where a thin blue line surrounds a picture a larger version of the picture can be viewed in the same manner. In the event you have problems with the links you can also simply copy and paste them into your browser.

This newsletter is intended to be published the first week in December, March, June and September and so if you don't receive an issue by the second week of these months then feel free to contact the Editor (email address can be found at the foot of this newsletter) and I'll send you a copy. In the event you don't have access to email then you may wish to contact your own Prior to enquire about getting a printed copy sent to you. It may also be that your Priory has an incorrect email address for you and so you may also wish to contact your Prior to see why you are not receiving the newsletter.

Pending other arrangements your Editor will post a copy of this newsletter in my own Electric Scotland Community in the Knights Templar forum at <http://www.electricscotland.org/forumdisplay.php/160-Grand-Priory-of-Canada> and there is no need to join as you can view and download the pdf as a guest.

Sir Alastair & Dame Nola

## Notable Upcoming Events

Canadian                      International

Christmas Social to take place at the Windsor Yacht Club on Sunday afternoon, 9th December from 2:00 PM til 6:00 PM

January 30th, 2013: St James Priory General Meeting, Toronto

Tuesday 12 February: Reception for Potential St James Priory Postulants at the Peach Gallery, 722 College Street, 3rd floor, Toronto

March, 2013: St James Annual Charitable Ball, Woodbridge

March, 2013: International Grand Priory Meeting, Portugal

March 19th, 2013: St James Priory, Meet and Greet New Postulants

April 30th, 2013: St. James Priory General Meeting, Toronto

May 8th, 2013: St James Priory, Meet and Greet New Postulants

June 5th, 2013: St. James Priory General Meeting, Toronto

June, 2013: Status of Women, United Nations, New York

September, 2013: St James Priory Investiture, Toronto

November 2nd, 2013: Priory of the Ascension of our Lord Investiture, Windsor

Forward news of any upcoming events at your Priory to [alastairi@electricscotland.com](mailto:alastairi@electricscotland.com)

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## News from the Priory of Ascension of Our Lord

I am pleased to provide this submission to the first Grand Priory newsletter and we in Windsor look forward to this initiative of improving the communications between our Priories and our Grand Priory!



Grand Master, HE BG Sir Patrick Rea (left) and the Grand Commander HE MG Sir Robert Disney (right) with our past Grand Prior HE Sir Ron Matthewman being elevated to Vicar General of OSMTH (centre)

In early November we held our annual Investiture and thanks to the assistance of the Grand Master, HE BG Sir Patrick Rea and the Grand Commander HE MG Sir Robert Disney, it was a stellar affair. The event saw the investiture of five Knights and Dames into the Order, the installation of a new Prior, the elevation of our past Prior to Grand Prior of Canada and the recognition of our past Grand Prior as the Vicar General of OSMTH. The banquet following the Investiture was also a high calibre affair enjoyed by all. We were very pleased to host members of St James Priory in Toronto as well



as members of Simon Peter Priory in Ottawa, the St. Clair Priory in Detroit Michigan and St. Norbert's Priory in Chicago, Illinois and look forward to a long and happy relationship with each of those Priors and their members!



The elevation of our past Prior Sir Peter Kelly (right) to Grand Prior of Canada

We, in the Priory of the Ascension of Our Lord have some activities planned for the near future starting with the annual Christmas Social to take place at the Windsor Yacht Club on Sunday afternoon, 09 December from 2:00 PM til 6:00 PM. With good food, good drink and excellent camaraderie it promises to be a wonderful afternoon event to get us all in the spirit for the holidays.

In late January we will have our first dinner meeting of the New Year and we should be able to consider our charitable donations for the year. In the past we have split our donations locally, nationally and internationally and that should continue for the future donations.



From left to right: Grand Master, HE BG Sir Patrick Rea, HE Sir Peter Kelly our new Grand Prior of Canada, Grand Commander HE MG Sir Robert Disney and H. E. Major Sir Roy Embury, CD, GOTJ the New Prior of the Ascension of our Lord Priory, Windsor

Locally in the past we have donated to many organizations including The Salvation Army, The Downtown Mission, the Aids Committee, St. Leonard's halfway house for men, the Wellcome Centre for women, the Second Chance Ministry, which benefits those with troubled pasts who need a hand to survive and the Friendship Bible Club, a group which works with mentally challenged adults.



And the new Vicar General of OSMTH (centre)

At the Wellcome Centre we have some of our Dames and spouses of our Knights who volunteer their time to battered and abused women by providing Holiday meals for them and taking them on outings to various locations in the area where they can relax, forget their troubles for a little while, and enjoy some pleasant times. While the Priory does donate to this worthy organization, these same Dames also provide funding by baking and selling Christmas cookies to raise money to help cover expenses. I hope to be able to elaborate about cookie sales soon and perhaps even provide one of the favourite cookie recipes.

A small cadre of our Knights and one spouse have been working for several years at Malden Park Continuing Care Centre (a division of the Metropolitan Hospital) bringing Rehab patients out of their rooms for a rousing game of Boccia Ball and I like to say that when they leave after the completion of the evenings activity they are smiling so broadly it looks like they have eaten a banana sideways!



Our New Knights and Dames: left to right Naomi Bernard, Peter James Berry, CPO Bradley Corlett, Arthur James McDonald and Barbara Ellen Pastorius



Members of our Priory at the November Investiture

Our recent donations on the National front have been made to the Military Families Resource Centre located in London. This group is a national organization which assists the families of deployed service personnel who, because the main breadwinner is away from home serving the country, may require help with living expenses.

On the International front, we have in the past donated to many worthy groups including the Peace and Reconciliation Committee and the Micro credits group, which loans money to underprivileged people who would like to, start a business but can't find the funding. At the end of a fixed term the money is repaid to the lender or it can be reinvested.

These are some of the things we have done, are doing and intend to keep doing in the service of those who need our help!

And to finish...



## Perspective



One day, the father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the express purpose of showing him how poor people live.

They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family.

On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, 'How was the trip?'

'It was great, Dad.'

'Did you see how poor people live?' the father asked.

'Oh yeah,' said the son.

'So, tell me, what did you learn from the trip?' asked the father.

The son answered:

'I saw that we have one dog and they had four.

We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden and they have a creek that has no end.

We have imported lanterns in our garden and they have the stars at night.

Our patio reaches to the front yard and they have the whole horizon.

We have a small piece of land to live on and they have fields that go beyond our sight.

We have servants who serve us, but they serve others.

We buy our food, but they grow theirs.

We have walls around our property to protect us, they have friends to protect them.'

The boy's father was speechless.

Then his son added, 'Thanks Dad for showing me how poor we are.'

Isn't perspective a wonderful thing? Makes you wonder what would happen if we all gave thanks for everything we have, instead of worrying about what we don't have.

Appreciate every single thing you have, especially your friends!

'Life is too short and friends are too few.'



## News from St James Priory

We haven't received a report from Toronto but did get some pictures.

The fund raising Valentine's party was organised by Sir Nick Migliore, the new Commander of St James Priory, and by all reports was an outstanding success and I was told raised some \$10,000..



Dancing through the night



Neven Bozovic, Admiral James Carey, Nick Migliore and Joe Fotia



Piping in the High Table



The evening's success was due to the hard work of the Committee: Carmen De Santis, Bruno Martino, Nick Migliore, Minister Julian Fantino, Joseph Fotia, Santino Spadafora

Some pictures from our September Investiture where Sir Randal Cronkite was installed as our new Prior.



Our new Prior, H. E. Sir Randal Cronkite



The congregation was addressed by the Grand Master Emeritus of OSMTH Rear Admiral Sir James J. Carey on the future of the Order



Knights and Dames of the Order and Piper leading out of the church





Our New Knights and Dames (back row) with our officials in front row



Procession out of the Church to our Banquet

The Investiture went well and the banquet after was held for the first time just behind the church so we were able to parade out of the church to the banquet hall.

The pictures above show the times of faith, commitment and fun over the past year. But our Priory also has a very serious commitment to assisting those who do not share the good fortune we enjoy.

The Priory of St James has three charitable priorities:

Donations of shoes, new socks and eye glasses to the programme for the homeless which St James Cathedral operates in downtown Toronto;

Contributions of money, computers and other items to assist the communities in which Wells of Hope drills wells. The provision of safe, clean drinking water is a goal that all can embrace.

And finally, our principal project is the restoration and repair of the Arab Christian churches in the Holy Land. These are the most vulnerable of Christians and their numbers are reduced each year as they are driven from all countries except Israel, by those hostile to the Christian faith and their fear of prosletization.

Those who join the St James Priory tend to do so because of their interest in adopting one of these charitable efforts as their prime interest and the fun, speakers, special events and community of the Priory form the focus for these efforts.

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## News from the Priory of Simon Peter



### Operation Sports North Gets Underway...

The fun has just begun! The Priory of Simon Peter has just kicked off our new national charitable initiative. Operation Sports North will bring used hockey equipment from kids in Ottawa to Inuit Kids in the North West Territories.

"If you have ever been to the far north in Canada, you know how expensive everything is," says Prior Joe Peters. "An \$8 soccer in Ottawa, is \$45 in Aklavik."

Childhood obesity is a national epidemic in Canada, north or south. In southern Canada 1/3 of children are overweight or obese. In the north, it is over 50%. A big barrier to participation in sports in the north is the cost. Hockey is expensive in Ottawa or Toronto at our sporting equipment prices. In the north, it is out of reach for many families.

Knight Commander Bill Megill has called in many of his contacts in the Northwest Territories to put the logistics of our plan into motion. After more than a decade of negotiation treaty rights for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Bill is no stranger to cold temperatures, beautiful landscapes, the friendly people and the long flights of the far north.

"We hope to get support for First Air and Canadian North, to help ship the equipment to Yellowknife," explains Bill. "From there we have a partner in place to get our equipment to those in need, in remote communities."

The logistics of the project have just begun. Boxes have been ordered, and the call is out to local parents and sports teams to pitch in.

"We hope to have a few boxes shipped before Christmas," states Rob Mariani. "Our big drive will happen in the New Year, but we'll take some first steps now to understand the logistics for later."

The Priory of Simon Peter would appreciate any support that other knights and dames would like to provide. If you would like to find out more please reach out to Prior Joe [joseph.peters@hkstrategies.ca](mailto:joseph.peters@hkstrategies.ca) or Sir Bill Megill [themegills@rogers.com](mailto:themegills@rogers.com)

Here are some pictures from the Investiture...



Our Grand Prior and Sir Frank Garbutt



Jim Gervais getting KCTJ certificate from GP Ron





(Past Prior) Ted Griffiths and (Prior) Joe Peters comparing hair styles



GP Ron addressing the dinner

## OTHER NEWS

### Simon Peter Investiture

The projected date for the next investiture for Simon Peter is April 27, 2013.

### Canadian War Museum

The Canadian War Museum launched in June 2012 a special exhibit commemorating the War of 1812. For those of you visiting Ottawa, the exhibit and the museum overall, is an hour or two well spent. It is only on till January.



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## News from the Commandry of Edmonton

On Saturday May 26, 2012 the Edmonton Commandry invested 4 new members 3 Chevaliers and 1 Dame; Weston Fader, The Very Reverend Neil Gordon, Dr A. Ian MacDonald and Dame Jocelyn E. King. The investiture was a great success with representation from the Ottawa, Windsor and Toronto Priory and was presided over by the Grand Prior Emeritus The Venerable Ronald Matthewman, with guidance from Peter Kelly and Nola Crewe (our Sponsor/Guiding Prior). The dinner was held at the prestigious Edmonton Golf and Country club and was the talk of the Private club for its member which we will hold again next year.

The date for next years investiture will be in late May to allow for you to mark your calendar, we are hoping this is the year we get our priory status. With the way our year has been shaping up we think this is very realistic for our May Investiture. Consider this your open invitation to our investiture, if you need reference to how great an event we host simply ask our new Grand Prior Peter Kelly or Nola Crew and they will tell you how wonderful it was.

With the our year getting into full gear we have had several meetings at which we have started to build on our mission statement of promoting inter-faith communication and dialogue through our work with All Saints Cathedral in building a shoe program for the homeless similar to the program in St James in Toronto. We hope to improve on this program by offering not only footwear but foot care for the homeless. Similar to what would have been found in medieval time with foot baths and medical attention for the homeless. We also participated in the Remembrance day service at All Saints Cathedral and The Very Reverend Neil Gordon acknowledged our order and the efforts we are making to improve not only the community but the city of Edmonton. He referred to the order and the efforts not only made nationwide but also internationally and how with the significance of Remembrance day the tragedies of WWI and WWII are to be remembered but also not to be forgotten of all the life lost to war over the ages. The Templar's were not innocent in these atrocities but through the evolution of humanity we can all learn from the past and make a positive impact on our current world to make it a better place for the future.

We are also building a relationship with St Joachim Catholic Church to which they have offered to house our meetings and provide "Templar Spiritual Mass" for our priory. In return we are providing any support to their programs and are looking to identify a unique area where our group and focus its energy toward the growth and prosperity of the order and St Joachim. Fr. Felix Kusamba has been working with our order and we are hoping to have him added to the order at our next investiture.

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Rob MacMullen

## International News

We hope to bring you interesting information from other Grand Pories around the world and hope such will take time to email us to tell us what they are up to. As we have yet to communicate our desire for such information we bring you a summary paper explaining the International Order...

OSMTH is an international organization structured in national Grand Pories, and further in local Pories or, for smaller groups, Commanderies. There is never more than one Grand Priory for each country, and individuals cannot be simply "members of OSMTH" without being members of a national Grand Priory or an autonomous Priory/Commandery.

Exception is made, however, for those Templars serving in the multination NATO organization for whom it is difficult to accede to a local Grand Priory. They are grouped into the supranational body called the Grand Priory of NATO, hosting NATO officers from different countries and not bound geographically.

The Council of Grand Priors (the "Grand Council") is the legislative body of OSMTH that decides on statutes, guidelines, policy and procedures. The yearly meetings are open to the public, but of course only the Grand Priors, who are the elected representatives of their national constituency (Grand Pories), have right of vote. The "one country, one vote" system is implemented to ensure that large Grand Pories (e.g., the USA) do not overpower more modest ones (e.g., Austria). Small Pories outside national Grand Priory jurisdiction (typically, Templar groups recently affiliated with OSMTH that have not yet reached the minimum size of a Grand Priory), do not have right of vote but have consultative status.

The decisions taken in the Grand Council are valid for the whole of the Order, unless three Grand Pories submit a veto. Grand Priors, as well as Priors and Commanders at the local level, are elected by their national constituents. With the approval of the same, they appoint their aids for a period not exceeding their own term. OSMTH has a ceremonial head, the Grand Master. Currently, the Past Grand Master is Rear-Admiral James J. Carey, former Chairman of the U.S. Federal Maritime Commission and Commander of the US Navy Readiness Command region six, and former Division Director of Logistics Plans and Policy for Naval Operations at the Pentagon. Executive head is the Grand Commander, elected for a period of three years.

The Order has adopted and cherishes forms of behavior and ceremonies based on the chivalric tradition. Qualified men and women join a Priory or a Commandery as simple "Knights" and "Dames" (in the Order, men and women have equal rights, opportunities and responsibilities). If they distinguish themselves in service and merit, they may be promoted by the national Grand Prior to the rank of "Officer" or "Commander," and further to "Grand Officer" and "Grand Cross." Some pories also welcome Companions, men and women of good will who wish to support the goals of the Order without becoming full members (because of personal circumstances or because they are not Christian).

The symbol of the Order is the red Croix Pattée, of course derived from the cross of the medieval Knights Templar. Single Grand Pories, at the national level, may also use the other traditional symbols associated with the Templar heritage: a red Maltese Cross or a red Patriarchal Cross, or a combination thereof. During Church services, members wear a white cape with one of these symbols.

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## OSMTH - Knights Templar International

Grand Chapter General & Grand Magistral Council Meetings & Investiture

### FINLAND & ESTONIA

(unfortunately, I couldn't get to the Russian advance event because the St James' Investiture fell on that weekend.)



Being a Templar gives you grand opportunities to meet people from all over the world. As soon as our Investiture in Toronto was over, I was off to Helsinki, the capital of Finland for the International Meeting. As ever, there were serious matters to address – mentorships, the Jerusalem Office, reports of the Officers, and the issue of a Templar Trust/Foundation as well as practical ones like the reports from the priories on their contributions to a better world. And then there were times of fellowship and fun. We toured the city, taking in a museum that told the story of the Finnish army defending against Russian might in the Winter War, a park dedicated to a great musician and another afternoon took us to the countryside, to wander the streets of a medieval village, visit a home that was more like a museum and listen to an organ recital in an ancient church. And all that was concluded with a reception and dinner at a country estate before heading back to the hotel and more meetings in the morning!

Not knowing anything about Finland: what an introduction to the country with Templars proud to show you its very best . . . and what a best that is! There must be a Finnish design gene that results in everything they do or make looking like a piece of art . . . the way the table is set, the food arrangement, your room, even the water jug! And then there is the church in which Templars are invested.



**The Main Entrance to the Temppeliaukio Church**

The Temppeliaukio Church, has been carved right out of the rock and is unlike anything I have seen anywhere. Their service, like those we use in Canada and yet with touches that reminded you that this is a very different place and time: particularly when they marched 40 or so in to be invested! Unfortunately, it was too dark for my camera to take anything worthwhile so the beauty of the moment was not captured for reproduction here. Including the highlight for Canada when it was announced that H.E. Cdr. The Ven. Sir Ron Matthewman was being appointed Vicar General of the Order!



And after a very satisfying meeting where the issue of making attendance more affordable so that more Templars could participate at an international level was on the Agenda, it was decided (to be confirmed at the next meeting), that there will be one meeting a year, rather than two. But the additional events that attract spouses to attend will continue.

Prior to the Meeting there was a trip to St Petersburg by ferry to see that city of art and history. And after, our host's neighbour, the Estonian Templars, arranged for a post-meeting trip to Tallinn where we got to discover another city full of history, talented people and have a real medieval banquet – forks and spoons only for the unadventurous! Wild boar, bear and many courses for the rest. Tallinn is a city where you can walk on top of the old walled sections and get lost trying to find your way out and back to the ferry dock!

The conclusion of the meeting left all of us looking forward to the next opportunity to join together in pursuit of the goals and objectives of our Order and to enjoy the companionship of others for whom the oath and the life of a Templar are synonymous.

I hope to see you there . . .

H.E. Dame Nola Crewe, Prior III, St James, Grand Chancellor

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## **Distinguished Scholars of Canada**

We thought you might want to know about the selection of Rev. Ron Matthewman's Grandson Joshua for this prestigious program in partnership between the Distinguished Scholars of Canada [DSC] and the Admiral Carey Foundation [AJJCF].

The senior leadership of both DSC & AJJCF are 100% Templars



## – PRESS RELEASE –

Admiral Carey Foundation  
Partnership with Canada  
Continues to Grow and Prosper



**Dr. George Jackowski of Toronto  
in meetings in Washington, DC  
with Hon. Bill Livingood of USA**

WASHINGTON, DC: November 26, 2012: At a luncheon held over this past weekend with American and Canadian supporters and donors of the Admiral Carey Foundation, Foundation Chairman Rear Admiral [Ret.] Jim Carey provided a summary report outlining the tremendous success experienced in the foundation's ongoing and growing successful partnership with the Distinguished Scholars of Canada. He stated "we can all be very proud of the tremendous success we have achieved in working with our Canadian friends and colleagues North of our mutual border. Our leadership training and development programs and projects with Canada continue to expand, both in Canada and here in the USA, and that is perhaps the most demanding judge of our mutual progress because it answers what are we doing and how is it going. In my

opinion, we are well ahead of schedule, with special thanks to our Canadian Partners in Distinguished Scholars of Canada, Professor Walter Perchal, Dr. George Jackowski, and Mr. George Platsis."

Admiral Carey continued; "We are highly pleased to announce the latest addition to our USA-Canada Partnership with the selection of Mr. Joshua Matthewman, Grandson of the Rev. Ronald Matthewman of Windsor, Ontario [Rev. Matthewman is a retired Commander of the Chaplain's Corps of the Royal Canadian Navy] for participation in the Distinguished Scholars of Canada National Capital Region Program, where he is interning at the Conference of Defence Associations Institute (CDAI), a think-tank that promotes educated debate and discourse on national security. In his duties, he will be attending a broad spectrum of meetings and planning sessions with all the major organizations involved in the planning and structure of the national defense and homeland security of Canada. Joshua's selection for the prestigious Dr. George Jackowski of Toronto in meetings in Washington, DC with Hon. Bill Livingood of USA LCol Walter J. Perchal (Ret.) Chairman, Distinguished Scholars of Canada



**LCol Walter J. Perchal (Ret.)  
Chairman, Distinguished Scholars  
of Canada**

Distinguished Scholars of Canada program also pre-qualifies him for potential selection and participation in the Admiral Carey Foundation Washington Scholars Delegation at the 2013 United Nations Youth Assembly at United National Headquarters in New York City, August 2013.





Rear Admiral James J. Carey (Ret.) with Distinguished Scholars of Canada Graduates and their Washington Scholars Fellow Graduates  
Summer 2011

Mr. George Platsis, Executive Director of Distinguished Scholars of Canada, commented at their Toronto Headquarters that "we are very pleased with the selection of Joshua Matthewman for one of our most prestigious internships in our national capital city of Ottawa, Ontario. The experience he will gain in his work with CDAI is going to prepare him for a tremendous career an international public policy and given our links with the USA, the contacts and networking he will be experiencing in both Canada and America, will put him years ahead of his peers in preparation for his ultimate lifetime career path in service to Canada. We have high hopes and expectations for Joshua and are confident his work performance will justify his ultimate selection for the Admiral Carey Foundation United Nations Youth Assembly Delegation".

Further details regarding the Distinguished Scholars of Canada, including application forms for their programs, [use the Contact tab] at [www.distinguishedscholars.ca](http://www.distinguishedscholars.ca). Additional details on the Washington Scholars Programs, including application forms, are available at [www.washingtonscholars.org](http://www.washingtonscholars.org). Details on the United Nations Youth Assembly are included on the Admiral Carey Foundation website ( [www.admiralcareyfoundation.org](http://www.admiralcareyfoundation.org) ) halfway down the left sidebar.

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## Personal Security

What to take to bed with you . . .



Tell your spouse, your children, your neighbours,  
your parents . . . everyone you run across:  
Put your car keys beside your bed at night

If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator.

Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this:

It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key fob chain . . .

It works if you park in your driveway or garage. If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break into your house, odds are the burglar/rapist won't stick around.

After a few seconds all the neighbours will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that.

And remember to carry your keys while walking in case there is a problem such as having a medical emergency.

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## Canadian History

[www.electriccanadian.com](http://www.electriccanadian.com)

### The Maple Leaf as an Emblem of Canada

By Henry Scadding D.D.

The beautifully shaped leaf of the sugar maple (*Acer saccharinum*) has become of late years the received emblem of the whole Dominion of Canada, it is to be seen on our coinage; on our copper coin in a conventional form, and on the silver pieces arranged in a natural wreath. It will be of some interest to consider the circumstances that may have led to the adoption of this symbol.

Selections from the leaves of the forest and flowers of the field, as emblems of States and countries, are always pleasing to the eye, and are oftentimes quite important, as inspiring sentiments of patriotism, to say nothing of their great utility occasionally in rhetoric and poetry. It was quite a stroke of policy on the part of the people of the United States to choose for their country within the past twelve months an emblem from the floral world, although its application is not so self-evident as it might be. The flower selected is said to have been the golden rod; in allusion possibly to the wealth so readily to be acquired throughout the whole Union by the exercise of energy, shrewdness and thrift. Already several of the States had their sylvan emblems Connecticut, for example, has on its seal or shield of arms the grape vine loaded with rich clusters; Maine shows the pine or spruce; Vermont displays the same symbol; South Carolina has the palmetto.

Our grand Canadian sugar maple leaf resembles in some degree the leaf of the mulberry tree in form, and by an association of ideas it will remind some readers of the curious fact long ago noticed, that the famous Peloponnesus bore in its outline a likeness to this leaf, whence the modern name of that part of Greece is derived—Morea, denoting the leaf of the morus, or mulberry. The Peloponnesus was also likened in shape to the leaf of the plane or Plane-tree, the Canadian Button-wood.

It is certain that the production of sugar from the sap of the maple tree was known to the Indians of this country before the arrival of Europeans among them. Father Lafitau, in his "Manners and Customs of the Indians," vol. i, page 343, gives a full page engraving showing the Indians busily engaged in its manufacture. Joutel, a company of La Salle, in one of his letters, speaks of the maple sugar as of a kind of manna provided for sojourners in the wilderness. "We had not much meat," he says, "but Providence furnished us a kind of manna to add to our Indian corn, which manna was of a juice which the trees eject in this season, and notably the maples, of which there are many in this



province, and which are very large;" and Captain Bossu, who travelled in Louisiana in 1770, refers to the use of the maple sugar among the native Indians. The words are: "They brought me a calabash, full of the vegetable juice of the maple. The Indians," he proceeds to say, "extract it in January, making a hole at the base of the tree, and apply a little tube to that. At the first thaw they get a little barrel full of the juice, which they boil to a syrup, and being boiled over again it changes to a reddish sugar, looking like Calabrian manna. The apothecaries justly prefer it to the sugar which is made of the sugar cane. "The French," Bossu adds, "who are settled at the Illinois have learnt from the Indians to make the syrup, which is an exceedingly good remedy for coughs and rheumatism." The Indians are even said to have called one of the early moons or months of the year "the sugar moon "

The use of the sugar thus manufactured entered largely into the domestic economy of the early French habitants, who considered it almost an article of food. The French, while learning from the native Indians the manufacture of sugar from maple sap, would probably thus learn likewise to give special honour to the source of a commodity so pleasant and useful, and at length make choice of a spray of maple leaves to be an emblem of their nationality. Hence on the monument of Ludger Duvernev, in the Cote des Neiges cemetery at Montreal, founder of the Jean Baptiste Society of Lower Canada, is sculptured a wreath of maple leaves. This Jean Baptiste Society was instituted in 1834 for the purpose of stimulating and maintaining a spirit of nationality among the French inhabitants of the country as opposed to the strongly felt English influence. The Jean Baptiste Society and its wreath of maple leaves during the troubles of 1837 were held to be the exponents of a somewhat anti-British sentiment, and the modern Jean Baptiste Society is understood to maintain its old attitude in this respect as regards the French inhabitants of the Lower Province.

On the restoration of peace and quietness after the troubles of 1837, it would seem that literary men in Upper Canada, accustomed to allude constantly to the beautiful, well-known emblems of England, Ireland, Scotland and France, the rose, the shamrock, the thistle and white lily, were led to look about for a fitting emblem of Canada likewise; and observing the employment of the maple leaf as a symbol of a part of the country, were induced to adopt that leaf as a symbol of the whole of it. The idea prevailed and was very generally adopted. It was like capturing a gun from the enemy, and then turning it upon the enemy; for it now represented the loyal and patriotic feeling of all the English speaking population. It may not be generally known that *erable*, the French for Maple, is a barbarous transformation of the Latin *acer arbor*, maple tree, by the intrusion of an *l*, at least so says Scheler in his Etymological French Dictionary.

One of the earliest occasions of a literary use being made of the maple leaf as a Canadian emblem was the application of the title "Maple Leaf" to a handsome series of quarto volumes published at Toronto in 1847-48-49 by Mr. Henry Rowsell, and edited by Rev. Dr. McCaul. In the preface to the first volume of this work, the editor uses the following graceful language: "When we formed the idea of offering to Canada a literary wreath, we determined that the only hands which should weave the garland should be those of her children by birth or by adoption, and that no flowers, however lovely, should be twined with the maple leaf but those that had blossomed amidst her forests." And at the beginning of the third volume of the same work we have an allusion in verse to the newly adopted emblem as follows:

"Hurrah for the leaf—the Maple leaf;  
Up, Forresters, heart and hand;  
High in Heaven's free air waves your emblem fair—  
The pride of the forest land."

The emblem appears to have soon successfully established itself, as may be seen from numerous patriotic effusions in verse bearing date from '49 downwards. On each side of the handsomely bound Toronto publication was stamped in gold a large leaf of the sugar maple, bearing on it the title "Canadian Annual." In 1867 appeared at Quebec in compilation of legendary and other matter by Mr. Lemoine, entitled "Maple Leaves" a name evidently borrowed from the Toronto publication.

In connection with the mention we have made of the St. Jean Baptiste Society, it may be added that St. John the Baptist was selected, it is said, a patron of French Canada, in a great measure on account of his being a preacher in the wilderness, and clothed in skins, albeit not of the beaver, another very generally received emblem of Canada. Is it not possible that the wild honey (the Melsylvestre of the old Latin Bibles) which was a portion of the food of John the Baptist in the



wilderness, may have helped to the adoption of the leaf of the sugar maple as an emblem of Canada?

It was a happy thought on the part of the authorities of the Herald office of Great Britain to emblazon maple leaves on the shields of arms of both the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada alike, that is to say of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec alike, when the elaborate arms for the whole Dominion were officially constructed.

### **Making it in Canada**

By Frederick A. Talbot (1912). This is a good book describing in some detail the various professions of the early pioneers.



- Chapter 1 - The Packer
- Chapter II - Packers Freight - The Master Packer - Some Famous Pack Trains
- Chapter III - Freighters and Freighting
- Chapter IV - Cutting Trails and Building Roads through the Bush
- Chapter V - Trapping
- Chapter VI - Cord Wood Cutting
- Chapter VII - The Cook: The Autocrat of the Camp
- Chapter VIII - On the Frontier Telegraph Line
- Chapter IX - The Game and Fire Wardens
- Chapter X - Navvying and Railway Building
- Chapter XI - Frontier Journalism
- Chapter XII - Life in a Frontier Town
- Chapter XIII - Prospecting for Minerals
- Chapter XIV - Prospecting the Minerals (continued)
- Chapter XV - With his Majesty's Mails
- Chapter XVI - Where and How to Farm in a New Country
- Chapter XVII - Chances for the Young Engineer
- Chapter XVIII - Openings for the Professions
- Chapter XIX - Lumbering, Logging and Timber Cutting
- Chapter XX - Various and Miscellaneous Opportunities for Success
- Chapter XXI - Some Emigration Problems and how they may be solved

You can read this book at <http://www.electriccanadian.com/pioneering/making/>

**The Electric Canadian web site** was started by myself in October 2011 due to reading in the Globe and Mail how most Canadian children know little or nothing of their own countries history. I already held a considerable amount of Canadian history for my work on my main Electric Scotland web site where I was extracting information on the Scots. This made me think I might be able to help and so created the Electric Canadian web site.

I'd be very happy to receive contributions from our Knights and Dames on any aspect of Canadian history. Already on the site you'll find main sections for the History of Canada and our Provinces and Towns, sections on the Armed Forces, Pioneering, Religion and much more. So perhaps you can be persuaded to see this as a charitable activity where instead of raising money you instead raise information to help educate our children (and adults) on our great country.

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## Recipe

### The Champion Dumpling Recipe



I was rummaging around in a box of recipes that my Mother had collected and came across this champion cloutie dumpling recipe. The Sunday Post offered to send it out and they got over 25,000 requests for it so they printed it in their paper and obviously my Mother must have cut it out at the time. I do know it was a favourite with all the family and of course this is a great Scottish treat. My mother made one small amendment to it as she substituted a Milk Stout for the Milk.

(Note: Milk Stout is a dark strong beer. A Clout is a square of linen cloth - I remember cutting up a pillow case to create one. Currants are actually

small raisins - the dried fruit of the Zante grape, originally from Corinth, Greece.)

This is actually a very versatile dish. I remember eating it on it's own, just taking a slice and munching away. We would have it as a desert, hot with custard or just sprinkled with sugar. Had it for breakfast with bacon and eggs. Hot or cold it is excellent and lasts a good while. So being a Scot myself I bring you this great Scottish delicacy and here it is...

HONESTLY, we've never known anything like it. Last week, we offered readers a copy of the champion dumpling recipe from Mrs Jay Baird, Howgate, near Penicuik. We were swamped. By midweek, dumpling fever had reached epidemic proportions, we had 25,000 applications lying in sackloads around the office. We couldn't move for them!

So please bear with us while we reprint the recipe and deal with distribution. The recipes will reach you as soon as we can get them out. Meanwhile, to help sufferers of cloutie-itis who are suffering withdrawal symptoms, here is the recipe everyone is clamouring for...

**Ingredients** — 6oz self raising flour, 6oz brown breadcrumbs, 6 oz suet, 1 teaspoon bicarbonate soda, 2 teaspoons cinnamon, 1 teaspoon ginger, 4 oz currants, 6 oz. sultanas, 4 oz. soft dark brown sugar, 2 tablespoons syrup approx. 1½ cups milk [or Milk Stout].

**Method** — Place your clout in boiling water. Mix all the ingredients together with the milk to make a fairly soft consistency. Make sure everything is mixed well.

Take the clout out of the water and wring and then lay it out flat and dredge well with flour. Smooth the flour over the clout with your hands to get an even spread.

Place the mixture on the clout, draw it together evenly, leaving room for expansion, and tie the clout with string.

Put a plate in the bottom of the pot and the clout and mixture on top of that. Use a large pot, big enough to allow covering the clout with water. That way there will be no need to top up through the cooking.

Simmer the dumpling for two and a half hours. Remove from the pot and put it in a colander in the sink.

Untie the string and gently pull the corners of the clout apart.

Put a plate over the dumpling in the colander and whip it over.

Carefully peel the clout away from one corner and you should have a dumpling to match our champion's.

Mrs Baird doesn't believe in drying off a dumpling, she reckons that makes it hard.

At Christmas a half dozen sixpences were wrapped in grease proof paper and mixed into the mixture as a special treat for the wee ones.

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## How Old is Grandma?

Stay with this -- the answer is at the end. It may blow you away. One evening a grandson was talking to his grandmother about current events. The grandson asked his grandmother what she thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age, and just things in general..

The Grandmother replied, "Well, let me think a minute, I was born before:

- ' television
- ' penicillin
- ' polio shots
- ' frozen foods
- ' Xerox
- ' contact lenses
- ' Frisbees and
- ' the pill

There were no:

- ' credit cards
- ' laser beams or
- ' ball-point pens

Man had not invented:

- ' pantyhose
- ' air conditioners
- ' dishwashers
- ' clothes dryers
- ' and the clothes were hung out to dry in the fresh air and
- ' space travel was only in Flash Gordon books.

Your Grandfather and I got married first, ..... .. and then lived together...

Every family had a father and a mother.

Until I was 25, I called every man older than me, "Sir".

And after I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with a title, "Sir."

We were before gay-rights, computer-dating, dual careers, daycare centers, and group therapy.

Our lives were governed by the The Bible, good judgment, and common sense.

We were taught to know the difference between right and wrong and to stand up and take



responsibility for our actions.

Serving your country was a privilege; living in this country was a bigger privilege...

We thought fast food was eating half a biscuit while running to catch the school bus.

Having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with your cousins.

Draft dodgers were those who closed front doors as the evening breeze started.

Time-sharing meant time the family spent together in the evenings and weekends-not purchasing condominiums.

We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, CDs, electric typewriters, yogurt, or guys wearing earrings.

We listened to Big Bands, Jack Benny, and the President's speeches on our radios.

And I don't ever remember any kid blowing his brains out listening to Tommy Dorsey.

If you saw anything with 'Made in Japan ' on it, it was junk

The term 'making out' referred to how you did on your school exam....

Pizza Hut, McDonald's, and instant coffee were unheard of.

We had 5 & 10-cent stores where you could actually buy things for 5 and 10 cents.

Ice-cream cones, phone calls, rides on a streetcar, and a Pepsi were all a nickel.

And if you didn't want to splurge, you could spend your nickel on enough stamps to mail 1 letter and 2 postcards.

You could buy a new Ford Coupe for \$600, . . . but who could afford one?

Too bad, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

In my day:

"grass" was mowed,

"coke" was a cold drink,

"pot" was something your mother cooked in and

"rock music" was your grandmother's lullaby.

"Aids" were helpers in the Principal's office,

"chip" meant a piece of wood,

"hardware" was found in a hardware store and

"software" wasn't even a word.

And we were the last generation to actually believe that a lady needed a husband to have a baby.

No wonder people call us "old and confused" and say there is a generation gap. or from the archives.

How old do you think I am? I bet you have this old lady in mind....you are in for a shock! Read on to

see -- pretty scary if you think about it and pretty sad at the same time.

Are you ready ??????

This woman would be only 59 years old.

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## **The Templars and Cyprus**

I got in this article from a friend, John Henderson, who lives in Cyprus and is a retired school teacher.

To understand the Templar connection to the island of Cyprus it is first necessary to briefly look at those events that led up to the Third Crusade.

On July 4th, 1187 Saladin was successful in overthrowing the armies of Guy of Lusignan and in the process captured the city of Jerusalem from the Christians who had took it less than a century earlier, when the army of Godfroi de Boullion stormed the city walls. During the Battle of Hattin, Guy was captured by Saladin, but latterly released after giving his word never to attack the city again.

It was decided by Germany, France and England that in order to secure Jerusalem once again for Christendom it would first be necessary to hold a port in the area. This port would be Acre. The attack was launched from the port by the collective forces of the three nations; Germany took the land route, while the King of France and Richard Coeur de Lion took the sea route.

Philip's fleet set sail direct for Acre, but the ships of Richard hit heavy storms and were put aground at Crete and Rhodes. Three of Richard's ships that did make it on toward Cyprus sank and Isaac of Cyprus took the surviving crewmen prisoner.

When Richard arrived at Cyprus with the other English ships he was outraged at what had happened and immediately laid siege to the island. The siege was a complete slaughter, as the Cypriots were ill prepared to stave the attack of a trained army. Isaac eventually surrendered the island to Richard on the condition that he not be bound in irons. Richard accepted the terms and, instead, bound him in fetters of silver.

Richard is known to history as the Absent King and with regard to Cyprus there was little difference, for he was soon off to do other things. Without Richard on the island, the Cypriots sought to regain control and there were threats and rumors of uprising. Richard soon began to see his captured island as a liability rather than an asset.

This allowed Templar Master, Robert de Sable to enter the picture. Robert is best known for lobbying the pope to write the bull Omne Datum Optimum, which would benefit the Templar's for many years to come. The Templar's, who had wanted to carve out a nation for themselves for some, offered to buy the island from Richard.

Richard was quick to agree and the price was 100,000 bezants of which deSable gave a down payment of 40,000 with the rest to be paid from profits made on the island. The fact that the Templar's were able to pay even 40,000 bezants so quickly after striking losses suffered during Hattin and its aftermath indicates just how wealthy the Order was. Of course part of this wealth was being generated by commerce that the Templar's excelled at. Cyprus would be a key part in this endeavor, due to its key location in the Mediterranean.

Unfortunately, de Sable was not able to leave a huge garrison on Cyprus, as the army was needed to do battle elsewhere. All that remained on Cyprus were 14 Templar's – some accounts claim that there were as high as 20. Still this small garrison under the command of Armand Bouchart was scarcely enough to properly occupy the island. The men sent to look after the island were warriors and not administrators. Soon after arriving on Cyprus, Templar arrogance raised its head. The men began taking what they wanted and generally showed disrespect for the island's barons and citizens.

This ill treatment soon came to a head and the populace revolted. Bouchart and his knights sought shelter in the Templar castle in order to regroup. They bolted out of the castle in full armor and assaulted the Cypriots. The massacre was over in minutes and the revolt was halted for the time being. Bouchart told deSable that his small number of men was insufficient to hold the island and that another revolt must surely be around the corner.

It was decided that the island of Cyprus would have to go. de Sable approached Richard about selling the island back to the English king. Richard was not interested in regaining the liability, but was able to find a solution. He took back the island and sold it to Guy of Lusignan. The funding for the venture came from Italian merchants eager to support Guy on the purchase in return for future favors in trade. Although the Templar's did not recoup their 40,000 bezant deposit, they were however, permitted to keep their castles and other properties on the island. This allowed the order to maintain a presence on the island. They also had quarters at Famagusta and Limassol as well as castles at Gastria, Kihokitia, Yermsoyia and Limassol.

After the fall of Acre in 1291, the island of Cyprus would become the central base for the Templar Order and would remain the home of Grand Master Jacques de Molay until his imprisonment in 1307. While Henry, a descendant of Guy of Lusignan, permitted both the Hospitallers and the Templar's refuge and sanctuary on the island, he would not permit them to own any additional land either through gift or purchase.

It was this lack of opportunity that possibly prompted the Hospitallers to seek out their own corner on the island of Rhodes. de Molay, by contrast, was not willing to change the Order's base of operations and felt that they belonged back in the Holy Land. Cyprus being near by was the next best thing. It has been suggested that the gold de Molay took with him to France was to be used for the purchase of the island of Cyprus.

As there were few battles left to be fought, the Templar's largely used Cyprus as a base for their financial and commercial endeavors. In July of 1296, Pope Boniface VIII issued a Papal Bull, which gave the Templar's a tax-free status on exports and imports to and from Cyprus. This was a status that they held virtually everywhere else.

The history of the Templar's and their connection with the island of Cyprus ends in the year 1571, long after the Order had vanished as a formal institution. It was in this year that Ottoman Turks overran the island and the Templar archives were destroyed.

The loss of this archive was a devastating loss. Had those documents survived, they could have answered many questions relating to the history and mystery surrounding the Templar's.

Comments:

Tolga Veli said:

I am a Cypriot and to this day the Templar knights are alive and well in modern day Cyprus. Look at the colours of the true flag why is it so hard to reunite the island why so many problems. Throw sand in the air it will land on a bank, how many banks can Cyprus have north and south. There banks are all over the world, a small Mediterranean island with a combined population of approx 1 million. These modern day Templar's are not freemasons or illuminati they are The Knights Templar and Cyprus both North and South belong to them.

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## The inside story of the media war against Israel

This story illustrates that we can't always believe what we see in the news media.



**Photo  
Fraud  
in Gaza**

**The inside story of the media war against Israel.**  
By Shraga Simmons

PLAY

<http://youtu.be/4HBIAf9g6dc>

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PREPARING FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
ON SE PRÉPARE POUR LE 21<sup>E</sup> SIÈCLE

It is the VETERAN , not the preacher,  
Who has given us freedom of religion.  
It is the VETERAN , not the reporter,  
Who has given us freedom of the press.  
It is the VETERAN , not the poet,  
Who has given us freedom of speech.  
It is the VETERAN , not the campus organizer,  
Who has given us freedom to assemble.  
It is the VETERAN , not the lawyer,  
Who has given us the right to a fair trial.  
It is the VETERAN , not the politician,  
Who has given us the right to vote.



It is the VETERAN , Who salutes the Flag,



It is the veteran , Who serves under the Flag,



ETERNAL REST GRANT THEM O LORD, AND LET

# PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.



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## A Politically Correct Christmas

This could almost have been penned by "Sir Humphrey Appleby" of "Yes Minister/Prime Minister" fame.

Hello friends.

Please accept with no obligation, implied or otherwise, my best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, low stress, non addictive, gender neutral celebration of the winter solstice holiday practiced with the most enjoyable traditions of religious persuasion or secular practices of your choice, with respect for the religious/secular persuasions and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions at all .

I also wish you a fiscally successful, personally fulfilling and medically uncomplicated recognition of the onset of the generally accepted calendar year 2013, but not without due respect for the calendar of choice of other cultures whose contributions to society have helped make our country Canada (not to imply that Canada is necessarily greater than any other country) and without regard to the race, creed, colour, age, physical ability, religious faith or sexual preference of the wishee.

By accepting this greeting, you are accepting these terms :

This greeting is subject to clarification or withdrawal. It is freely transferable with no alteration to the original greeting. It implies no promise by the wisher to actually implement any of the wishes for her/him or others and is void where prohibited by law, and is revocable at the sole discretion of the wisher. The wish is warranted to perform as expected within the usual application of good tidings for a period of one year or until the issuance of a new wish at the sole discretion of the wisher .

Best Regards (Without prejudice)

Name withheld (Data Protection Act)

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And this is why we take great delight in wishing you...

**A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**



You can design your own card at <http://www.electricscotland.com/games/dress12-20.swf>  
I just design the card then do a screen capture. Hopefully the wee ones in your family will enjoy  
**Dressing the Chief!**

And taking advantage of my own web site at Electric Scotland you might like to view a whole range of Scottish Fairy Tales and some 800 Children's stories to keep the Kids entertained at:  
<http://www.electricscotland.com/kids/stories/index.htm>

And as it is traditional to sing Auld Lang Sang to see in the New Year you can get the words and listen to the song at <http://www.electricscotland.com/poetry/henderson/singalong/page52.htm>

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