

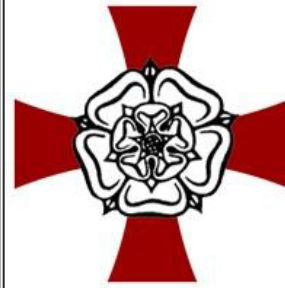


**The Sovereign Military Order of  
the Temple of Jerusalem**

**Priory of St. James  
Toronto, Canada**

**Newsletter  
June 2012**

**Prior:  
H.E. the Rev'd Dame Nola Crewe, GOTJ**



**Greetings to the Dames, Knights, Postulants and Friends of the St James Priory:**

We present for your edification and entertainment, our June Newsletter.

nnDnn

Alastair, Nola and William  
Your Scribes

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## **Prior's Letter**

Greetings Brother and Sister Templars . . .

As the editor just pointed out to me: this is my penultimate issue of the Newsletter . . . and as my term is drawing to an end it is with great anticipation that I look forward to the last few events I get to attend as your Prior:

1st the Reception at the Officer's Mess of the Queen's Own Rifles . . . a beautiful and historic site . . . when we get to meet new and old members and those who are considering becoming Templars;

2nd then there is the evening with our postulants in early September at St Monica's when we examine what it means to be a Templar and consider whether they are ready to undertake the Oath of the Templars, in which we promised to " . . . undertake that I will serve this Order to the best of my ability. So Help Me God!"

3rd and then, of course, the grandest day of the year: Saturday, September 15th, 2012, our Investiture at St James Cathedral and the banquet that follows.

The Spring has been busy with the Investiture of the Ottawa priory of St Peter and Paul on April 28th and the Grand Priory meeting when the Grand Prior announced that he would be stepping down this year. Then on May 26th I attended the Edmonton's Commandary had their Investiture at the Cathedral, adding to their numbers with the conviction that 2013 will find them with enough members to become a Priory. We have been Edmonton's Sponsoring Priory and we are excited with what they have accomplished.

If anyone has friends, relatives, colleagues in Edmonton (or anywhere else!) who you believe would be an asset to our Order, please get in touch with them and explore their interest. We can put them in touch with the appropriate Membership chair.

We are currently planning for our own Investiture so expect a call asking you to fill a role! Remember this will be a special Investiture as we invest our new Prior.

Blessings on all Templars and your good works.

nnDnn

Nola  
Prior.

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## Upcoming Events

To grow in the Order it is important to attend events beyond our own Priory. Any of these dates will add to your pride in being a Templar and your knowledge of its depth and breadth. Supporting smaller and new Priory's is another way to support the Order. For more information, please contact [prior@torontotemplars.org](mailto:prior@torontotemplars.org)

For all that are going to the US for the Grand Priors meeting in San Antonio this week, God speed your journey and bring us news of all that happens and is upcoming.

NOW, mark in big letters on your Calendar:

**Tuesday 26 June 2012**

### **St James Priory Spring Gathering at**

The Queen's Own Rifles Officer's Mess  
Moss Park Armoury  
130 Queen Street East  
Toronto

This is the event to bring prospective members, for everyone else to become reacquainted with old friends and make new, for socializing to take priority over speeches (although there will be a few of them) and to celebrate our successes and plan for new ones. Chev Tom Foulds, a member of the NATO Priory will be our host.

The other really big date is the one command performance of the year.

### **THE ANNUAL INVESTITURE & BANQUET**

**Saturday, September 15th** at St James Cathedral. This ALSO marks the end of Dame Nola's term as Prior. The ceremony investing our new Prior will take place during the service.

There will be a meeting a week earlier for all postulants who will be provided with further information on time and place.

**19 – 23 September 2012** The Fall Meeting of the Grand priory will be held in Helsinki, Finland, It will be preceded by a tour to Russia and followed by one in Estonia. For further information, please contact Prior Nola or Grand Prior Ron Matthewman. It is always a great experience to see and hear what Templars are doing beyond our own borders and the planning that goes into these events ensures a great time for all.

**3 November 2012** The Priory of the Assumption's Investiture & Banquet, Windsor, Ontario. For more details, please contact Chev. Peter Kelly, Prior.

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The Vatican has released some of their previously unknown documents from their archives. If you have the time to wander through them, they will captivate.

## The Vatican Secret Archives

An unprecedented cultural and media event: 100 original documents, preserved for 400 years in the Popes' Archive, will leave the confines of the Vatican City walls for the first time in history, and will be admired at the Capitoline Museums in Rome, from 1<sup>st</sup> March till 9<sup>th</sup> September 2012, for the exhibition *Lux in arcana - The Vatican Secret Archives reveals itself*. Conclaves, heresies, popes and emperors. Crusades, excommunications, ciphered letters. Manuscripts, codices, ancient parchments. A unique and once-in-a-lifetime event recounting history through its sources.

Visit <http://www.luxinarcana.org/?lang=en> for more information.

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It is always fascinating to see where service to others takes our members. From Bangkok an update from Dame Barbara Boles-Davis.

## **News from the Front Lines:**

### **Dame Barbara Boles-Davis Reporting on her mission to Bangkok**

Good evening to everyone.....I am so happy to finally get use of a computer!

Temps here have been in the mid 40's and very humid. It will be good to come home and feel dry again.

The medical mission went well, and it was wonderful to work with Dr. Melicor and with Lourdes and Charles Holmes again. The Hmong tribe villages were very interesting, and Dr. Melicor and I made several house calls as well.

All of this past week was devoted to working in the men's and the women's prisons. We had many rules to follow, and were not allowed to take anything at all into the prisons.....except our medical equipment ..which was all thoroughly checked. All our pockets had to be checked.....no money at all....one day in prison for every Baht (Thai currency) if we brought any currency in.....not even a coin.....not any paper, no cameras, no necklaces, no earrings, no sandals, no crossing of legs, ankles or feet, no accepting anything from the prisoners, (in case they tried to give us a piece of paper with a phone number or name of contact,), etc. We could not wear blue or tan scrubs, as that was the colour of the prisoners, so that immediately eliminated two sets of my own scrubs. We had to bow (show respect) to any prison guard with stars or stripes on their uniform, and of course, we were patted down and checked with a metal detector as well. Of great concern were the dental instruments which could be used as lethal weapons.

The prisoners were actually very well behaved and most grateful. Many had not seen a doctor or dentist for over ten or fifteen years. Thai prisons are one of the worst in the world, and the majority of prisoners are foreigners that have been used as "mules" in the drug business. Punishment is very cruel....and living conditions are not at all like our prisons.....and of course, no TV, exercise rooms or any other "luxury". In Thailand, one can get "life" if caught with even one ounce of an illegal drug. Most cells are narrow long rooms that 30, 40, or 50 prisoners sleep in, on the floor on mats.....with only about twenty inch space each....

In the women's prison.....there were quite a few babies, and even young children.....as pregnant women, especially Cambodian, Laotian, Burmese,etc. are approached to be "mules" by drug dealers. Many women had not seen their children for many years and some did not know what even happened to their children.

Each prison has between 2,000 - 5,000 inmates.....from 65 different countries.....including Canada, and of course, Thailand. Most of the patients we saw were Asians from Cambodia, Burma and Laos.

Our team was 42 strong.....5 from Canada, 5 from the U.S., 8 from the Philippines, 2 from Pakistan (although they were Phillipino) and the rest were Thai.

We saw and treated over 1,000 patients. (Medical and Dental) We often got back to our quarters late, and went right to bed. Wed. night, Dr. Melicor had a big green, venomous viper on his porch. He did not sleep all night thinking it might slip into his room through a hole in the door, which, of course, he tried to block.

This morning we left for a week of rest and are in Hanoi, Vietnam. Tomorrow we will be sailing for a day and a half on Halong Bay.....on a Chinese junk. It is supposed to be a very beautiful place and we are looking forward to it.

I will e-mail again when I can . . . but right now, I will say good-night

Miss you, love you, and am glad to be able to communicate again.....

Barbara - Apup Nua

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One of our responsibilities as Templars is to be aware of the horrors that face Christians in many parts of the world to-day. Without such knowledge we are unable to do anything, however small, to help. And, more importantly to hold them in our hearts and prayers.

## Christians in Danger



I found this an interesting site which you might bookmark as it seems to be updated on a regular basis. In the about us section it states...

All over the world, a war is being fought. It's not a war that you will see on CNN, or on the cover of Time magazine.

It isn't even one you can see with your physical eyes. It is a spiritual war, where the gospel of Jesus Christ is spreading into and throughout all the nations while the world and unseen spiritual forces battle back to keep out the light. Who are on the frontlines of this war? Your brothers and sisters.

In this past century alone, more Christians were murdered for their faith than any other century in human history, an estimated 200 million. The persecuted church suffers in the forefront of this war in order that the church might be established where the gospel is either non-existent or oppressed by other religions.

From Indonesia, to India, to the Horn of Africa, believers are economically marginalized, denied education for their children, beaten, tortured, raped, imprisoned and sadly even murdered for their faith. The oppression is limitless, and usually unseen by the world. Visit our persecuted countries page to see where the majority of persecution takes place.

You can find this site at <http://www.persecution.org/>

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Chev Alastair has been working on his new Canadian site and keeps coming up with things that all Canadians can enjoy. A great example is his Makers of Canada.

## History of Canada

### Makers of Canada

I have discovered a 5 volume publication which gives small biographies of many of the principle people in Canada along with their portraits. This publication is called The Canadian Album: Men of Canada; or, Success by example, in religion, patriotism, business, law, medicine, education and agriculture; containing portraits of some of Canada's chief business men, statesmen, farmers, men of the learned professions, and others; also, an authentic sketch of their lives; object lessons for the present generation and examples to posterity (1891).

I have created an index file with the title page and index from the 5 volumes to enable you to check if there is a name you are interested in and if so in what volume.

You can get to this at [http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/canadian\\_album.htm](http://www.electriccanadian.com/makers/canadian_album.htm)

### **On The Medical Profession and Medical Education in Canada**

I found this to be a very interesting wee book and it spawned some additional research. Here is a wee bit from it...

Instead of commanding confidence and respect, the title of "Dr," excites suspicion and, very generally, contempt; instead of implying literary eminence and Moral rectitude, it implies rather ignorance and depravity, combined with impudent assurance and unprincipled recklessness. I doubt very much if the medical profession ever in any country occupied a more humble position in public opinion than it at present occupies in Canada.

If a coroner's inquest were held on every case of death in this Province (Ontario), say for the next six months, and if the verdict in every case expressed candidly by public opinion as to the cause of death, in comparatively few cases would the verdict read, "died by the visitation of God". In the great majority it would be, "died by the visitation of the Doctor". The causes of this deplorable state of affairs are mainly two—first, the state of the law, which so far from preventing quackery or providing a rod of punishment for it, is calculated rather to nurse that evil; and secondly, the low standard of medical education in the Canadian Medical Schools.

This is part of my research into the medical profession and health service in Canada. More work to do but what I have up can be found at <http://www.electriccanadian.com/transport/health>

### **Ten Thousand Miles Through Canada**

WHERE to go and what to see is one of the difficulties that face the visitor on arriving in Canada. It is the embarrassment of vastness and superabundance. A glance at the map shows that, despite the extensive inroads made by the railways, the Dominion is still a *terra incognita* and is likely to remain so to all except the occasional intrepid explorer. To use limited time to the best advantage —so as to get away from the beaten path—is scarcely possible single-handed.

It would not have been practicable for me, at least, to have travelled the distance that I did, and to have compiled the information contained in the following pages, without the knowledge and experience of others. In many respects such information was invaluable, and in all cases enhanced by the kindness which distinguishes Canadians in their bearings towards visitors, particularly those from the Mother Country.

To the following gentlemen I gratefully acknowledge my sense of obligation: Mr. C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Colonel Matthison, Treasurer; Mr. N. B. Colcock, Agent-General, and Mr. Arthur C. Pratt, M.P.P. of the Ontario Government.

The Heads of Government departments kindly placed at my disposal maps and returns on Mining, Agriculture and Natural History.

Mr. H. R. Charlton, Mr. G. T. Bell, Mr. W. T. Robson, of Montreal; and Mr. R. L. Thompson, Mr. J. D. Macdonald and Mr. Arthur Hawke, of Toronto, afforded me specialist information on rivers and lakes, which, as an angler, I found most valuable.

Whilst Canada is unique in the magnificent photographic subjects it offers, the climate itself during the bright, hot summer months presents serious difficulties in the way of obtaining first-class pictures. One is limited to the early morning or evening to get good results. There is little twilight, and with rapid travelling it is not easy personally to procure sufficient representative views. I am greatly indebted for a large proportion of the illustrations and the preparation of the sketch-map in this work, to the kindness and courtesy of Mr. J. M. Gibbon of the Canadian Pacific Railway, Mr. Fred C. Salter of the Grand Trunk System, and Mr. W. Haydon of the Canadian Northern Railway, also to Mr. Byron Harmon of Banff, B.C. Without such hearty co-operation it would have been impossible to have included in the work the variety of illustrations it contains.

The natural history of coarse and game fish in Canada needs revising. I am of opinion that it would be possible to reduce the classification of trout and salmon to far fewer species, but we must take things as we find them, and in the treatment of the subject I acknowledge my indebtedness to Mr. Star Jordan's valuable work on "Food and Game Fish." Also Mr. E. Thompson Seton's recent work on "Life Histories of Northern Animals," which I have compared with Indian information and my own knowledge of big game. In referring to an older and not less valuable work, "The Big Game of North America," published by Messrs. Sampson, Low, Marston & Co., I have found there is little change of view on this subject.

I have consulted Francis Parkman's comprehensive work on the Jesuits and North American Indians, and Sir J. G. Bourinot for Canadian general history.

J. A.

In Chapter VIII we learn of Manitoba and the chapter starts...

WHEN we think of the years necessary to achieve the wealth and splendour of nations, and look at the Province of Manitoba, it almost seems as if some good genius had waved her wand, and lo, a barren lonely marsh and wild prairie are suddenly changed, and golden harvest-fields, lowing cattle, model dairies, comfortable homesteads and happy children rise as if by magic before our eyes. We not unnaturally ask, "Whence came these?" and then think of the city clerk's vision in Tennyson's "Sea Dreams," of a woman grown to enormous strength by "working in the mines," and like him wake to realize that honest toil—hard and matter-of-fact—is the secret of collective as well as individual growth.

The wealth that lies in the rich soil of this vast territory justifies the legend. Its output is seen in prosperous cities and towns, rapidly spreading far and wide. When Manitoba incorporated itself in the Confederation in 1870, it had 17,000 inhabitants, and now upwards of 400,000 English-speaking people form its population. In 1870, its agricultural produce was not even recorded. In 1881, an acreage of 51,300 yielded 1,000,000 bushels of wheat, and 1,270,268 bushels of oats. In 1905, these odd millions jump up to over 55,000,000.

Only 5,000,000 acres of land are at present under cultivation, a patch compared with the actual possibilities, as Manitoba is larger than Scotland, Wales and Ireland combined, and contains 74,000 square miles of territory. Of this 30,000,000 acres are arable land.

You can read this book at <http://www.electriccanadian.com/lifestyle/10000/index.htm>

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## The Shortest College Paper...



A college class was told they had to write a short story in as few words as possible. The instructions were:  
The short story had to contain the following three things:

- (1) Religion
- (2) Sexuality
- (3) Mystery

Below is the only A+ short story in the entire class.

"Good God, I'm pregnant; I wonder who did it."

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Panda diplomacy in Scotland seems to have a different perspective than that heard about the upcoming Panda residence in Toronto.

## **Church says there is more than pandas connecting Scotland to China**

This article shows the efforts of the Church of Scotland to work with China and the Chinese and thought it might be of more general interest.

There is much more to the relationship between China and Scotland than pandas. The Church of Scotland and partners in China are working together, acknowledging the past and looking forward for new opportunities to build mutually enriching relationships.

2012 is "The Year of China," for the Church of Scotland's World Mission Council, and it is becoming clear that the World Mission Council has only begun to scratch the surface of the country as the Church of Scotland seeks to strengthen and renew bonds with the church in China.

The report calls on the General Assembly to:

Celebrate the renewal of the church in China, and to encourage members, congregations, Presbyteries and ecumenical groups to meet Chinese Christians, to visit the church in China and to learn more about China and Chinese Christians.

Instruct the World Mission Council to support the work of training and equipping lay and clerical leadership through seminaries and training institutes in consultation with [China Christian Council](#).

Express support for all those working to ensure that the rule of law is applied equitably in all areas of life in China, and encourage congregations, Presbyteries, Church of Scotland Councils and Committees to offer support to those, especially minority groups, who suffer human rights abuses, and to do so by prayer and advocacy through organisations such as Amnesty International or Christian Solitary Worldwide.

Urge the Scottish and UK Governments to be robust in support of human rights and the rule of law in constructive efforts to be critical friends of China.

Welcome the work of the Church of Scotland HIV Programme supporting Amity Foundation and encourage further support for people living with HIV in China, and other parts of the world.

The Church of Scotland has had a long and fruitful relationship with China over the years. In 1940 there were 94 Church of Scotland missionaries spreading the Gospel in China, whereas by 1952, after the end of Japanese occupation and the rise of Communism, most missionaries left either voluntarily or under pressure from the new leadership. The era of foreign missionaries had ended and the Chinese church set out on a new journey, proclaiming itself to be self-governing, self-supporting and self-propagating.

The World Mission Council is again actively involved with partners in China supporting Amity Foundation's strengthening of civil society and empowering people with HIV and supporting the China Christian Council's provision of theological education.

As well as looking forward to the challenges ahead in this work, the World Mission Council's report reminds the Church of the enormous legacy of those pioneers and missionaries who have gone before. Their early work laid the foundations for ministries which today have resumed their work, something that is acknowledged by our church partners in China.

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There are many sites on the internet which, although some are using the name of our Order inappropriately, have interesting and sometimes bizarre items. Here follows a collection that you may find of interest, Beginning with our Orders . . . OSMTH

## OSMTH

Some good stories on the OSMTH web site including...

### **- Losing Your Religion? Analytic Thinking Weakens Religious Belief**

Most of the world's population believes in God, or gods, but alongside them there are also hundreds of millions of nonbelievers. What makes one a believer or not?

### **- Under siege but vicar of Baghdad is still spreading the word**

Andrew White got his blue Iraqi badge on Wednesday – the pass that allows him to move around Baghdad

### **- How do we impress and engage the greater Church**

Grand Master BG (Ret) Patrick E. Rea's excerpted comments from 12 Feb 2012 email which provides an update to the topic:

Allow me to encourage our members to review many of my reports to the GMC over the past 6+ years with emphasis on my rather lengthy presentation at our last international meeting which is included as an appendix to the minutes. Our GSG did an excellent job of trying to capture my report. In that Report it was noted that among the three Legs of OSMTH-I is our senior clergy and that leg is alive and well and I reported on their support and cooperation. In one of those meetings I pointed out that we met at length with the immediate Past President of the World Council of Churches and he stated it is time that you (OSMTH-I) formally reach out to the WCC in Geneva. Following discussions with Bishop Younan, Metropolitan THEODOSIUS and Gen. Robert Disney we are beginning to more formally open a relationship with the WCC utilizing our talented but limited resources. To that end our plan is to put together a Geneva Team.

That Team, as has been in place for the past two years, we have Marcel as our senior (Chief of Mission) to the UN—he has been reappointed by the GC; the Rev. Dr. Jean Ford as Asst. GSG for the International Peace Bureau (IPB)—she has been appointed by the GC and has met with Colin Archer the Secretary General of the IPB in Geneva and both Gen. Disney and I have exchanged E-Mails, with Colin over the past week. Professor Ford is also an active delegate with Marcel on the UN Mission in Geneva. Next the Rev. Dr. Schmeling remains an active member of the UN delegation to Geneva, has established coordination with the Headquarters of the World Lutheran Federation on our behalf in that City and he with Dr. Ford will reach out to the WCC to more formally establish our relationship—which will be defined by the WCC.

All of the above activities regarding an OSMTH-I Team in Geneva working with the UN, CoNGO, WCC, IPB, WLF and other likeminded NGOs was reviewed about 18 hours ago on Sunday in New York with Cyril Ritchie, the President of CoNGO. Randy Tietz and I had flown to New York to met with Cyril (Report to follow) at his request and Gen Disney spoke with Cyril by phone. For almost three hours our OSMTH-I group of myself, Randy, Chev. Robert Bateman-Chief of UN Mission in NY and Chev. Price our CoNGO Coordinator in NY discussed in detail the full range of issues including a OSMTH-I Team in Geneva. He offered his help and comment and then boarded a plane to return to Geneva after that very productive meeting. He knows that I plan to try and visit Geneva this year to visit the senior leadership of the WCC and host some private events with the IPB, CoNGO, UN and our own UN delegation. I would add that on the religious side, GP Portugal has arranged a meeting between myself and the Catholic Patriarch of Portugal maybe in May in Lisbon.

### **- The Catholic church will not let up in her fight...**

Full text of Pope's speech in Assisi: "The Catholic church will not let up in her fight against violence, in her commitment for peace in the world".

These articles can be read at <http://www.osmth.org/>

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And another on the Westford Knight which may provide evidence of Templars fleeing



persecution visiting North America before Columbus.

## Westford Knight



The Westford Knight, also known as the Sinclair Rock, is perceived as either a carving or a natural feature, or a combination of both, located on a glacial boulder in Westford, Massachusetts in the United States. It is notable for being the subject of controversial speculation that it is evidence of exploration of North America by Europeans prior to Christopher Columbus. This interpretation is not accepted by professional archaeologists or historians.

The rock is located along Depot Street in the town of Westford, just north of the town center. It is inconspicuous, situated along the side of the road and surrounded by a small chain fence. Next to the rock is a small monument commemorating the "inscription".

The rock and carving is first mentioned in print in an 1883 town history, identified as an Indian carving: "A broad ledge which crops out near the house of William Kitteredge has upon its surface grooves made by glaciers. Rude outlines of the human face have been traced upon it, and the figure is said to be the work of Indians." The carving was subsequently identified as a broken Norse Sword by William Goodwin in his book on the America's Stonehenge site. Frank Glynn, president of the Connecticut Archaeological Society, re-located the carving and following discussions with Thomas Charles Lethbridge over Goodwin's theory, chalked in a full figure in 1954, resembling a Medieval knight, with a sword and shield, and he is usually said to be the "discoverer of the Westford Knight." It was Lethbridge who suggested to Glynn that the sword was not of Viking origin, but was "a hand-and-a-half wheel pommel sword" common in 14th century North Britain.

The current interpretation by those who advocate that the feature on the rock is a human figure is that it commemorates a fallen member of the party of Henry Sinclair, a Scottish Earl whom some believe to have made a voyage to the New World in 1398, traveling to Nova Scotia and New England. The existence of such a voyage is not accepted by mainstream archaeologists and historians. Usually it is claimed that the knight is Sir James Gunn, a member of Clan Gunn and a Knight Templar who reportedly traveled with Sinclair. The monument next to the "knight" commemorates this interpretation, stating as fact that Sinclair and his party traveled to present-day Massachusetts. Believers in this theory often cite the Newport Tower in Newport, Rhode Island as further evidence to support their claim.

Such claims are rejected as pseudoarchaeology by mainstream historians and archaeologists, who believe the knight is the product of Frank Glynn's imagination. A recent investigation of the rock by David K. Schafer, Curatorial Assistant for Archaeology at the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University, concluded that except for the "sword handle", which is definitely a punch carving, the entire feature consists of naturally-formed scratches caused by glaciation. The local town historian of Westford has stated that there is

evidence that the T-shaped inscription was made in the late 19th century. Furthermore, historians believe that the area around the rock has undergone erosion since the clearing of trees in the 18th century, and that during the time of the alleged voyage by Sinclair, the rock was probably in a hardwood forest covered by 3 or 4 ft (1 or 1.3 m) of earth. Moreover, the area of Westford is inland and not easily accessible by water, making it highly improbable that any nautical voyage would venture there. It may be worth noting that the carving sits alongside a current road which lies on what would have been a natural path used to descend the hill through the woods. Had the expedition been made, and had the expedition decided to pass through this specific area, this was a likely route for the group to follow. However, there is no evidence that Sinclair or Gunn ever actually traveled to the Americas.

Some suggest that the timing is also inconsistent with history, as at the time of the alleged voyage (1398), the Order of the Knights Templar was not in existence, having been publicly disbanded ninety years earlier. However, there are those that claim that the order continued to exist "underground" after that time.

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One of the levels in the Masonic Lodge is that of Knight Templar. As a result, they sometimes post an item of interest, such as are found in the following site from B.C.

## Notes on the Knights Templar

Found this article from the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and the Yukon and it starts...

### The myths

"There are many popularly believed myths about the Order of the Temple. The first is that there is very little evidence surviving about the Order. In fact, a great deal of evidence survives. It is true that the central archive of the Order is lost: this was originally held at the Order's headquarters, at first in Jerusalem, then at Acre, then (after 1291) on Cyprus. After the dissolution of the Order by Pope Clement V in 1312 the archive passed into the possession of the Hospital of St John. Presumably it remained on Cyprus and was destroyed when the Ottoman Turks captured the island in 1571." [p. 8.]

"...a good deal of material about the Templars remains. The Order is far from being a mystery." "Other myths about the Templars abound, It is not true, for example, that the Templars were found guilty as charged in 1312; Pope Clement V actually declared the charges not proven, but dissolved the Order because it had been brought into so much disrepute that it could not continue to operate. The Templars were not monks...." [p. 12.]

"The Order of the Temple was not destroyed because it had outlived its purpose, because it was corrupt, or because it was in decline." [p. 236.]

"Historians from the Middle Ages to the present day have developed a 'model' of the rise and fall of the Templars: the pure ideals of the first knights became contaminated as the Order grew rich and became involved in politics; the Order became corrupt and greedy and increasingly unpopular, and meanwhile the West lost interest in the Crusades; so when Philip IV of France attacked the Order for its money, no one defended it and the Order fell. This 'model' has gained wide acceptance despite the fact that it is false, because it provides an attractively simple explanation for the otherwise unjust and inexplicable fall of the Order." [p. 240.]

"[Walter] Scott and [George] Macdonald misused the Templars for literary effect, but some writers deliberately developed the myth of the Templars for political or religious purposes, even fabricating physical evidence in order to 'prove' their arguments. The German Freemasons claimed that the Templars were a secret society with esoteric knowledge, and



Pope Clement V [Bibliothèque nationale]

that they were destroyed because of this knowledge, which Philip IV wanted to obtain. In 1796 Charles Louis Cadet de Cassicour portrayed the Templars as part of a secret conspiracy which was behind the French Revolution and the execution of Louis XVI, in revenge for the death of James de Molay in 1314. Such writers were following the example of those who had contrived the original charges against the Templars: projecting their own fantasies and interests on to their victims. Most influential of these writers with a historical-religious purpose was Joseph von Hammer Purgstall, who in 1818 published a work called *The Mystery of Baphomet Revealed*. Hammer wanted to discredit the Freemasons, and attacked the 'Templar masons' in order to undermine the whole movement. He argued, using archaeological evidence faked by earlier scholars and literary evidence such as the Grail romances, that the Templars were Gnostics and the 'Templars' head' was a Gnostic idol called Baphomet. He did not realise that Gnostics did not have idols and that Baphomet is simply the Old French word for the name Mohammad." [p. 242.]

"Recently the Templars' supposed secret knowledge has become associated with the Turin shroud, the relic held by the cathedral of Turin, which some believe to be the shroud of Christ. In 1978 it was suggested that this shroud, which shows an image of Christ's head, could have been the famous 'Templars' head'. Modern scientific analysis, published in 1989, has dated the shroud to the fourteenth century, probably to the 1320s or 1330s — after the dissolution of the Templars." [p. 244.]

"The Templars were not particularly secretive — no more so than other religious Orders of their period, and certainly no more so than the other leading Military Orders, the Hospital of St John and the Teutonic Order." [p. 13.]

"Perhaps the Templars were particularly insistent about evicting non-members of the Order from chapter-meetings, but there is no evidence for this." [p. 14.]

The rest of this long article can be read at  
<http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/anti-masonry/templars.html>

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## **A wee bit of humour**

### **The Letter**

Dear Dad,

It is with great regret and sorrow that I'm writing this. I had to elope with my new girlfriend because I wanted to avoid a scene with Mom and you. I've been finding real passion with Barbara and she is so nice, even with all her piercing, tattoos, and her tight motorcycle clothes. But it's not only the passion, Dad she's pregnant and Barbara said that we will be very happy.

Even though you wouldn't care for her as she is much older than I, she already owns a trailer in the woods and has a stack of firewood for the whole winter. She wants to have many more children with me and that's now one of my dreams too.

Don't worry, Dad, I'm 15 years old now and I know how to take care of myself.

Someday I'm sure we'll be back to visit so you can get to know your grandchildren.

Your son,

Sam

P.S. Dad, none of this is true. I'm over at the neighbor's house. I just wanted to remind you that there are worse things in life than my report card that's in my desk drawer.

I love you!

Call when it's safe for me to come home.

And Thanks to Rebecca and Mack for sending this in.

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The Gnostics also claiming to be Knights Templar have some nice artwork and peculiar coverage on their site: from videos from History TV to politics to criminals to the Ark of the Covenant.

### **KnightsTemplar.tv**

I discovered this site which might be worth a visit and you can get to it at <http://knightstemplar.tv/>

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And again the Gnostics give their version of the Secret History of the Knights in the USA...

### **The Secret History of the Knights Templar in America**

Two authors write that the Gnostic beliefs of the Knights Templar were passed down through the Founding Fathers.

Interview by Deborah Caldwell

#### **Templars in America**

tells the story of a European noble family that explored America nearly 100 years before Columbus. In their study, authors Tim Wallace-Murphy and Marilyn Hopkins write that the medieval warrior monks of the Knights Templar had trading links with Native Americans in Nova Scotia and New England, and that the European families—who were members of the Templars and claimed to be descended from Jesus—passed their beliefs through Masonic teaching into the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.

The main point of their new book, however, is to report evidence they believe ties those European families more directly to America. They say that a member of one of the European families, Earl Henry Sinclair, voyaged to New England in the 1300s and ultimately assimilated with the Native American people and died there.

Read more: <http://www.beliefnet.com/Entertainment/Movies/The-Da-Vinci-Code/The-Secret-History-Of-The-Knights-Templar-In-America.aspx?p=1>

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And then there is the ongoing trial of Brevik in Norway who brought our Order to international attention with his FALSE claim to be a member.

### **Breivik questioned about 'Knights Templar' group**

OSLO, Norway (AP) — An irritated Anders Behring Breivik refused to answer prosecutors' questions Wednesday about the anti-Muslim militant group he claims to belong to, as his trial on terror charges for the massacre of 77 people entered its third day.

Prosecutors have said they believe Breivik's so-called "Knights Templar" group doesn't exist "in the way he describes it." Breivik insists it does, and said police just hadn't done a good enough job in uncovering it.

"It is not in my interest to shed light on details that could lead to arrests," he said.

The issue is of key importance in determining Breivik's sanity, and whether he's sent to prison or compulsory psychiatric care for the bomb-and-shooting massacre that shocked Norway on July 22.

Breivik claims to have carried out the attacks on behalf of the organization, which he described in a 1,500-page compendium he posted online before the attacks as a militant nationalist group fighting a Muslim colonization of Europe.

Prosecutor Inga Bejer Engh pressed the 33-year-old Norwegian about details on the group, its members and its meetings. Breivik claimed to have met a Serb "war hero" living in exile during a trip to Liberia in 2002, but he refused to identify him.

"What is it you're getting at?" Breivik told the prosecutor, then answered the question himself, saying prosecutors want to "sow doubt over whether the KT network exists."

The main point of his defense is to avoid an insanity ruling, which would deflate his political arguments.

One psychiatric evaluation found him psychotic and "delusional," while another found him mentally competent to be sent to prison.

If found sane, Breivik could face a maximum 21-year prison sentence or an alternate custody arrangement that would keep him locked up as long as he is considered a menace to society. If declared insane he would be committed to psychiatric care for as long as he's considered ill.

Breivik also refused to give details on what he claims was the founding session of the "Knights Templar" in London in 2002. He conceded, however, that he embellished somewhat in the manifesto when he described the other three members at the founding session as "brilliant political and military tacticians of Europe."

Breivik testified that he had used "pompous" language and described them instead as "four people with great integrity."

Bejer Engh challenged him on whether the meeting had taken place at all.

"Yes, there was a meeting in London," Breivik insisted.

"It's not something you have made up?" Engh countered.

"I haven't made up anything. What is in the compendium is correct," he said.

Later, he answered with more nuance.

"There is nothing that is made up, but you have to see what is written in a context. It is a glorification of certain ideals," Breivik said.

Breivik admits he set off a bomb outside the government headquarters in Oslo, killing eight, then drove to Utoya island outside the capital and massacred 69 people in a shooting spree at the governing Labor Party's youth summer camp on Utoya island. On Tuesday he boasted that it was the most "spectacular" attack by a nationalist militant since World War II.

He said his victims — mostly teenagers — were not innocent but legitimate targets because they were representatives of a "multiculturalist" regime he claims is deconstructing Norway's national identity by allowing immigration.

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## **The Perversity of Golf Balls**

### **An article from MacMillan's Magazine (1906)**

Of all the balls used in the realm of sport the golf-ball is the most perverse. A football has been known to seek adventures on the sluggish waters of a canal; a cricket-ball has been extracted from out of a rainwater pipe; while tennis-balls have behaved in an extraordinary manner on more than one occasion, even to the length of splitting a lady's parasol; but the ways of the balls used in these sports are .angelic in comparison with the habits and customs of the golf-ball.

The golf-ball, notwithstanding its. core of india-rubber, is the most hard-hearted ball fabricated. A player may imagine that he is on good terms with his ball when he 'is playing at the top of his game; but careful study of the golf-ball and its peculiar code of morals only shows that the little white pillule on these occasions is biding its time, and is merely encouraging the man behind the club for the purpose of letting him down badly when

confidence has lured him on to taking upon himself some heavy task. And not only is it conscienceless, but it is also entirely bereft of the sporting instinct.

Give a golf-ball half a chance to lose itself, and it will immediately accept it. No ball with a grain of sporting instinct, after it had been hit hard and true from off the tee, would seek to hide itself, but a golf-ball will do so without a moment's thought. Indeed, to achieve its object when the lie is too good for it to hide in any other manner, this conscienceless sphere will so disguise its appearance that amid the daisies it will take the most lynx-(or should it be links)-eyed of caddies to differentiate it from those humble flowers that invoke the poet's praise and the golfer's anathema. How different from the Haskell is the football! No one ever saw a football looking like a daisy.

The naturalist, desirous of emphasising the marvels of Nature, is never tired of bringing before the notice of local branches of the Young Men's Christian Association the marvellous adaptability of the chameleon. "What other beast," says the lecturer on these occasions, "can in itself rival the colour scheme of a pyrotechnical display at the Crystal Palace?" He never receives a reply; yet every golfer knows that the beastly ball he so diligently pursues can defeat the chameleon at its own game,— six up and four to play—with the greatest regularity.

White, green, sand-coloured, yellow, or black, the golf-ball can adapt itself to its surroundings in every phase of lie. The story to the effect that a golf-ball was seen to burst itself in a vain endeavour to assume a slightly cerulean hue after its owner had played five-and-twenty strokes in the bunker guarding the Death or Glory hole is a lie of another description.

There is a farmer somewhere in the Isle of Wight who has discovered in a local golf-club a scheme for amassing wealth that will speedily put him in position to give libraries to all applicants. It will be assumed that the Croesus in embryo farms out all his family and his wife's relations as caddies. Such an approach-shot, however, is short of the truth, for in reality he is an agriculturist of an entirely different character, and does not even train his live-stock to simulate death when a golf-ball alights in anything approaching close proximity to thorn. It is common knowledge that certain of the unscrupulous have ere this trained fox-terriers to retrieve balls that alight at a hole that is blind to the driver who follows the short-sighted policy of not sending, on an advance caddy; but it is not due to subterfuges such as this that Vectis claims a son of the soil who is willing to admit that farming as a profession has been too extensively deprecated.

The club in question is situated by the sad Sea shore; the farm in question, some distance away, also runs down to the sands, that are as golden to their tenant as a Pierrot site at Scarborough is to the Municipal Fathers. The golfer proceeds to the teeing off spot, tees up his ball, mentally imagines that he is standing on a species of gridiron, and places his feet in the position required by a famous professional when instructing the neophyte how and how not to play, in the latter of which pursuits, it may be said in passing, the golfer in future instinctively knows far more than his instructor. He draws his clubs back slowly, he keeps in his wrists, and his right elbow is glued to his side, while his eyes are riveted on the ball, but not so firmly that he cannot with their aid follow its course as it salies gaily out to sea. The reasoned player likewise tees up the ball, but if the tee-ing ground is large enough he places his feet where he likes. The onlooker does not notice his elbows, and his wrists do not catch the eye, for everything about him works like part of an intricate machine possessing, what no machine can ever possess, a movement that is the epitome of all that is humanly graceful. The ball at first keeps low, so low indeed that it appears to be about to fly into the embrace of the all-embracing bunker, but at this juncture it rises majestically as an eagle ascends from its eyrie, and all the time the lonely watcher on the shore is praying for a stiff land-breeze. It comes; the ball gladly yields to its persuasive whispering to depart from the straight path of rectitude, and descends like a bolt from the blue into the waters that lave our shores. The golfer— what of him? He, after summing up the situation in a few well-chosen words, drops another ball, and plays his third plump into the bunker. Then cometh the—that is to say, the lonely watcher on the shore waiteth for the tide to turn and deposit at his feet the never-failing harvest of the sea. As the poet has truly said, "The sea hath its pearls."

Drive a golf-ball into the ocean well out of reach, and it will give a display of the natatory art

that will make a Channel swimmer writhe with envy, while even the easy-going halibut will regard with jealousy its marvellous buoyancy. Take another ball, in every respect its counterpart, even to its inherent guile, and top your drive at the second,—what is the result? The sphere descends into the morass thoughtfully provided by a Green committee that is incorporated with the National Guild for the Promotion of Wading among Caddies; your partner asks if it was a new ball in a voice redolent with the sympathy engendered by two strokes in hand, and you say farewell both to the ball and to your faith in the floating ability possessed by india-rubber and gutta-percha. Can golf-balls swim? Of course. Will golf-balls swim? Not so long as there is a possible chance of their being recovered by their owners. It is, however, believed that no golf-ball can withstand the whistle of a caddy when, bereft of the white man's burden, the youth proceeds to the pool alone and lures the sphere from its depths by his persuasive note.

How full of resource is the golf-ball? It is never at a loss when desirous of causing annoyance. Once upon a time one was driven off on the Chislehurst links that, finding no other method of getting itself disliked, sought shelter in the pocket of an innocent individual two hundred yards away from the player. It was not the ball that was lost on this occasion: its owner doubtless lost the hole, and the player driven into would have been justified in losing his temper; but this last mentioned loss is extremely doubtful. Tempers are never lost on the links; it is there that the mildest of men finds the temper that his friends never knew he possessed until at the twelfth hole he lodges three balls in as many strokes when negotiating the hay-field that the committee playfully designates the carry from the tee; then does he find the temper that proves him to be at heart a golfer.

In the course of a University golf match a year or two ago a ball, out of sheer desire for notoriety, ascended to the roof of the club-house at a critical point in the game. Most players in similar circumstances would, at the instance of the caddy, have appeared at the local Police Court the following day to answer a charge of assault and battery; but the player was not one to give way to a fit of the Blues. "What do I do?" said he, in a tone that indicated that, if necessary, he was prepared to drop another ball down the nearest chimney-pot and play it from where it lay. "Your best," laconically replied the referee. "Caddy, I'll have my ladder" (or words to that effect), continued the undefeated player, who, on that useful appendage to every golfer's kit being produced, quickly ascended to the roof, to the secret joy of a local builder who scented a job. On reaching the summit the player informed those below that the high sloping tiled bunker in front of him completely hid the green, whereupon a kindly soul on terra firma proceeded to the ag and emitted sounds resembling, to the best of his ability, the plaintive note of a hole seeking its mate. The ruse succeeded better than could have been expected, and the ball, rising to the occasion, dropped within ten feet of where it was required. Thus did guile meet guile.

Balls that sought to secret themselves have ere this lodged in hen-coops. Such lies would defeat the chicken-hearted player, but the golfer of spirit has been known to enter the coop and play the ball out, to the intense disappointment of the legitimate occupant, in whose breast hopes of hatching out a little rubber-cored had been suddenly raised.

At Bushey, some little time ago, a distinguished wielder of the niblick was dallied upon 'to enter a pigsty to play his ball, which he most successfully extricated, although the tenant (who was a bit of a bore), disregarding all the rules of etiquette, protested loudly while the stroke was being made. Balls have attempted to escape from their owners by burglariously entering cottages through the window; and one had the extreme mortification of doing a good deed in spite of it9elf, for it broke the glass in front of a painting that was recognised by the driver of the ball as a Teniers worth £500.

It is needless to say that a ball which can, and does, play these tricks on the human intelligence will not hesitate to deceive an untutored quadruped. Dogs have been observed ere this carrying off a gutta ball under the impression that a succulent beef-bone had descended like the gentle run from heaven for their special delectation, while strong men have kept nine couples and a four-ball match waiting seventeen and a half minutes by the dock while they argued but what ruling should apply to a ball that a neighbouring cow was masticating under the impression that it had picked up a delicate mouthful of hay. The man who did not play the

ball argued that any ball must be played where it lay, saving in the case of it entering a rabbit-hole or, in the case of the Unatali or other African links, the den of a lion; no one disputed the ruling affecting lions' dens. The man who did play the ball, having failed to sustain the plea that he had driven out of bounds, held that, as the cow was chewing the cud and the cud was originally grass, and the grass sprang from the ground, and that whereas in the first place the chewing process was not complete; and in the second that the ball lay in or on the cud, that he could drop a ball not nearer the hole, and play it without penalty. And then, when, in response to the question by what chain of falsehoods this exhibition of insanity was arrived at, the man who did responded that the cud was obviously ground under repair, the four-ball match malevolently and of malice prepense drove into them and changed the current of the conversation, with the result that the affrighted animal, galloping off in dismay, carried the ball two hundred and seventy-six yards nearer the hole and then restored it to its owner, who promptly claimed to have driven it three hundred and ninety-seven yards and the right to play it where it lay. In such manner are lifelong friendships sundered through the guile of the malevolent demon that dwells in the heart of every golf-ball.

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## Why Did JESUS Fold the Napkin?

Why did Jesus fold the linen burial cloth after His resurrection?

The Gospel of John (20:7) tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Jesus, was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes.

The Bible takes an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed at the head of that stony coffin.

Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, 'They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put him!'

Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple out ran Peter and got there first. He stopped and looked in and saw the linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in.

Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying to the side.

Was that important? Absolutely! Is it really significant? Yes!

In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day. The folded napkin had to do with the Master and Servant, and every Jewish boy knew this tradition.

When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it.

The table was furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating, and the servant would not dare touch that table, until the master was finished.

Now if the master were done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers, his mouth, and clean his beard, and would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the table.

The servant would then know to clear the table. For in those days, the wadded napkin meant, "I'm finished."





But if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because . . .

The folded napkin meant,

**"I'm coming back!"**

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## **An Irish Blessing**

Sir Roy Embury sent us this link which I'm sure you will enjoy...

<http://www.andiesisle.com/ThisBlessingIsForYou.html>

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May each of the changing seasons of the year and our lives remind us of the beauty and variety of God's creation and blessings. And may the manifold blessings of the Creator, the Saviour and the Guardian be yours this day and through all eternity.

AMEN.

Your Editorial Team.

Feel free to pass on this newsletter to anyone you feel would enjoy its content. You might also ask that if they feature it anywhere on the web they link back to

<http://www.electricscotland.org/forumdisplay.php/106-St-James-Priory-Toronto>

Where other copies of our newsletter can be read.