



Beaucéant

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KNIGHTS TEMPLAR ENGLAND & WALES



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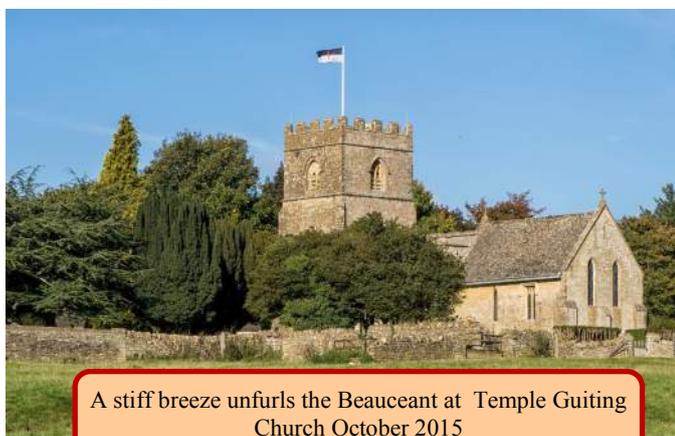
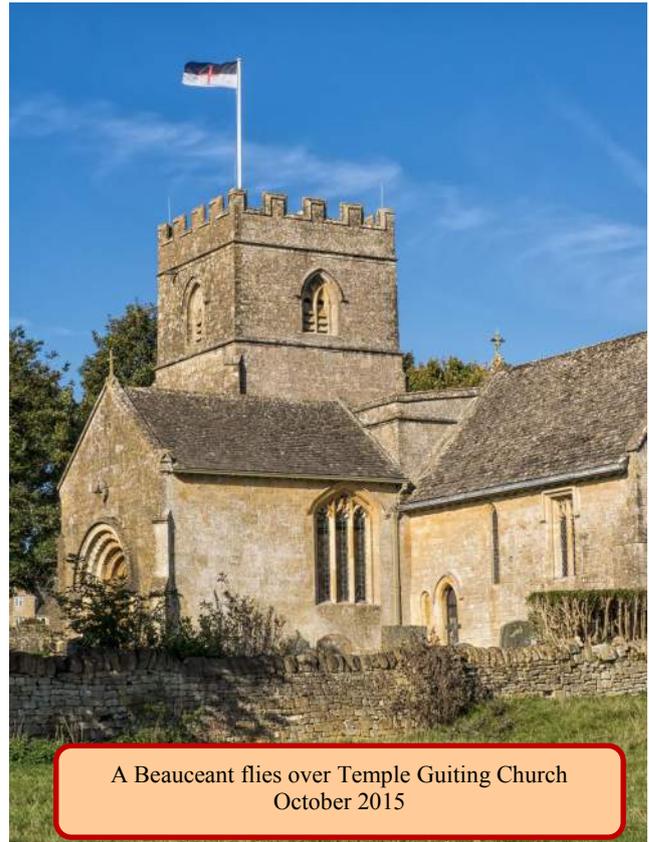
Grand Prior's Message

Welcome to our latest Beauceant which I hope you will find interesting. You can read news of several Admissions and Investitures services held recently, adding to our growing membership. I am sure you will take the time to welcome our new Novices to our Templar family in the year ahead.

Recent events were held around the 1307 Commemoration here in KTEW, with a successful Admissions and Investiture service in South Yardley and tour of Temple Church, London, given by the Master of the Temple. KTEW members were joined by fellow knights from NATO-UK Priory, a national priory of the Grand Priory of NATO.

Featured on this front page are images taken on 13th October by one of our local knights showing the Beauceant of our Order flying over Temple Guiting, probably the first time since the Suppression in 1314.

nnDnn,
George MacLean
Grand Prior



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Grand Magistral Council - Autumn 2015

Cologne, Germany

The main events and meetings of the Cologne Grand Magisterial Council Autumn 2015 were held in the Hotel Dorint Koeln Junkersdorf conveniently located on the outskirts of the beautiful city of Cologne.

The Grand Priory meeting was superbly hosted by Germany through the Grand Prior Elke Bruns who worked diligently with her staff to present an organized and carefully planned conference and cultural agenda. KTEW appreciates the opportunity that the Grand Priory of Germany has given to make possible a most memorable visit to the city of Cologne that gave members the opportunity to see and experience the historic tradition and culture reverberating from a Pre Roman Era. The social program included a sightseeing tour of Cologne that included a guided tour of the Inner City or Old Town and a visit to the Schokoladenmuseum, a boat trip to Koningswinter and a sightseeing trip to the Drachenfels.

On the day of arrival members had the chance to relax as registration was well thought out allowing delegates to travel in good time for the evenings social events. KTEW delegates managed to travel across Western Europe by train easily without drama or incident! The UK contingent of four was complimented by a representation from St Clair Scotland in the form of Paul McGowan our OSMTH and KT brother from across the border and together we presented a strong and unified presence.

COLOGNE CATHEDRAL

On completion of registration the Grand Prior of Germany introduced members to the first event of our social and cultural programme commencing with a trip to Cologne Cathedral and Domschatzkammer. The event was marked by a unique and private guided tour by Professor Dr. Barbara Schock-Werner who displayed and gave an impressive internal insight into the cultural and traditional concepts of the Cathedral's history. The tour was concluded by a beautiful and haunting Organ Recital, which provided a medley of unique and diverse scores from prominent German and European classical composers. The evening was interspersed by an opportunity for members to sample local and traditional beers and wines whilst waiting for the tour to begin. Private one to one meetings with the Grand Commander were arranged through GC Aide- de- Camp Nicole Lassaline who as always gave a warm to everyone whilst performing her duties with great skill and care.

THE CONFERENCE

The Grand Commander Marcel de Picciotto opened the GMC on Thursday with welcoming words followed by comments and opening prayers from the Vicar General Ronald Matthewman and Provost General Perri Ruosalto and Grand Master Patrick E Rea. The Royal Patron Princess Elisabeth of Budengin was in attendance as were Their Highnesses Duke Alexander and Duke Michael of Mecklenburg. The information and presentation session covered a range of topics and issues ranging from information updates for Grand Priors, members and future leaders and details of Mentorship Programs within the International Organization of OSMTH both In terms of procedure, review and statutory requirements. Similarly presentations on the current UN Manual and future opportunities for OSMTH members were given by Co -Chairs Marcel de Picciotto, John Diglio, Robert Bateman and Selma Sense for those interested in UN placements and credentialing.

Organizational and operational machinations were reinforced and reiterated to give delegates a clear and concise viewpoint on current protocols.

Communications Chair Selma Senese and Secretary General Dale Starks also presented a feature on necessary and important IT requirements for future GMC meetings including the important facilitation and transmission of up to date and accessible material in order to increase productivity

Grand Magistral Council - Autumn 2015 Cologne, Germany

and share common interests and bonds. The end of the first day of conference was marked by a reception hosted by the Senior Mayor of Cologne and held at the Town Hall. Guests of Honor, High Representatives and Grand Priors of OSMTH enjoyed an evening of refreshment and open dialogue with our German hosts and organizers. The first conference day ended with a get together at a local German restaurant and much conviviality in the hotel bar.

The second day of conference saw more sessions and reports including a presentation from the Committee Chair Simon LeFevre regarding a review of actions and the current status of OSMTH European Charitable Foundation completed since the Ad Hoc Project Working Group Session in April in Tomar. Simon outlined the progress made towards current aspired status and the next steps needed to further project progress.



Heather Boyle assists GP Greece by carrying their flag at the church



Grand Prior George, GP Argentina Secretary General Pedro Cascales with OSMTH Marshal General Anthony Cuthbert

Further highlights of GMC included position papers outlined by the Grand Master for Christians at risk and the worrying picture regarding the destruction of religious heritage sights and places of worship. Further sessions and reports included History and Archive Reports, fundraising efforts for the Jordan River Project and the discussion of a future action plan to improve placement and living conditions with regard to the plight of refugees in Europe and the Middle East.

ST GREGORIES IN ELEND ECUMENICAL SERVICE AND INVESTITURE

Saturday saw a successful end to GMCs work via plenary sessions in the morning. After lunch members were transferred from the meeting hotel to the Mercure Hotel Severinshof in preparation for the service and investiture rehearsal at “St Gregorius in Elend” and the Gala Dinner later. An impressive procession and service at the church organized efficiently by Marshal General Anthony Cuthbert was a more than fitting end to a successful and progressive week of dialogue. A collection for the renovation of the “Elendkirche” allowed members to contribute and support the churches reconstruction program and refurbishment. A Gala Dinner organised by our generous hosts garnered in a perfect end to the day and to the activities and program of a very successful Grand Magistral Council. Much ground was covered paving the way to constructive and positive future outcomes for OSMTH agenda for global peace and reconciliation and sustainable growth and development in war torn countries and states.

Dame Heather Boyle

Bletchley Park and the Enigma

July 2015

Every year the Greater Birmingham Preceptory of St Michael and All Angels have an 'away day'. This year we decided to visit the now world famous Bletchley Park near Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire. Although we say the 'Greater Birmingham Preceptory', the invitation went out to all Templars and Friends in KT E&W. As well as the Midlands, we were pleased to welcome Members from Oxford, Lancashire and Essex.

The chosen date was July 11th 2015, and it turned out to be a hot sunny day, and also a very busy day with seemingly thousands of visitors. Chevalier Andy and Ceri had organised that we had a guided tour of the entire site, which started with a greeting from a very knowledgeable guide. We were told how Bletchley came into being, with names like Alan Turing, Peter Twinn, John Jeffreys and Gordon Welchman who played such important parts in the unique events of code breaking which helped to shorten World War 2 and thus saving perhaps millions of lives. But also little snap shots of the hundreds of also brilliant minds working alongside them and behind the scenes, many of whom received no formal recognition, and kept secrets from families about their work at Bletchley Park, sometimes families not finding out until after the death of a loved one. We tend to think that the Enigma machine was a British product of World War 2, but the Polish secret service had been working on the encoding machine since the early 1930s. When Poland was invaded by the Nazis in 1939, all the information and knowledge of the code breaking enigma machine was passed on to the British secret service.

From this quiet former mansion the code breaking, surveillance and spy-watch eventually became GCHQ at Cheltenham. After the tour we had free time to wander, to look and to see what the now re-constructed huts and buildings held so many years ago. Much prefer the truth of Bletchley Park to the fictional James Bond - especially as Alan Turing rode a bike to work every day, not a gadget filled Aston Martin.

After the visit we moved to Andy and Ceri's home for a short business meeting in their lovely sun filled garden. A short meeting because they provided a table bending diet breaking amount to food for our pleasure. Novice Neale was presented with his Brevet, and we discussed which charitable organisations would receive donations for this year.

A wonderful day, and extra big thanks to Andy and Ceri for all the hard work they had put in to making it a memorable event.

Preceptor John Harcourt



Members and Friends at Bletchley Park

Retreat and Fellowship Weekend - September 2015

Aylesford Priory, Kent

The chosen venue for our 2015 Retreat and Fellowship weekend in September was Aylesford Priory in Kent. Although the address title is Aylesford Priory, it is signposted at 'The Friars'. It occupies beautiful and extensive grounds, with interesting buildings and spiritual places in which to worship.

The Carmelites first came to England in the 13th century and established themselves on this very site, and stayed until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1538. The buildings passed into private hands until 1949 when the Carmelite movement were able to bring ownership back into their care.

This year the theme was to be *Pilgrimage*, but not designated to be a straight line topic.



Grand Prior George, Novice Sorin Balaban, Novice Simon Peter Stanisz and KTEW Chaplain General Fr Michael Brain

Some of those booked arrived on the Friday evening, so an informal, unofficial start began with supper at 7pm, coffee and chat, a 5 minute prayerful silence, and then Templar Night Prayer. This set the tone of the weekend, some sections of silent reflective prayer; Templar Offices; and short talks.

When Fr Michael put the sequence of Retreat and Fellowship together, rather than just one voice/speaker, he asked 5 others to join him in 20 minute individual talks on their chosen subject but to be linked to Pilgrimage in an all encompassing way.

The speakers were Fr Michael; Dame Mavis Jacobs; Chevaliers Simon Le Fevre, Steve Britt-Hazard, George MacLean and John Harcourt - each segment followed by questions and comments. This proved to be very successful, and with breaks between for refreshments, the Fellowship side blended in well with the spiritual offerings.

KT E&W had been to Aylesford Priory before, and the whole atmosphere, food and accommodation reached the expectations needed for a welcoming and comfortable week end.

The afternoon finished at 4.30pm, and with hot drinks and cakes allowed time to meet with 2 new Postulants who were to be Admitted as Novices that evening. Simon Peter Stanisz, Sorin Balaban and his wife Diana soon became an integral part of our group, a taste of things to come.

With supper over, we processed in mantles from our conference room to the Cloister Chapel and Fr Michael led us in Night Prayer followed by the Admittance into the Order of Sorin and Simon Peter.

Sunday morning we joined with other pilgrims and visitors for the Priory Mass followed by lunch and then back to our conference room for tea/coffee cake and chat before 'goodbyes'.

Chevalier John Harcourt

Suppression Commemoration, Admission and Investiture St Michael and All Angels, Birmingham, October 2015



Knights, Dames and new Novice at St Michael and All Angels, South Yardley

The Birmingham Preceptory met on Saturday, 18 October at St Michael and All Angels Church, South Yardley Birmingham to commemorate the 708th Anniversary of the suppression of the Knights Templar, Friday 13 October 1307. Preceptor John Harcourt opened the meeting with Preceptory business. At the conclusion of the Preceptory meeting, we then processed into the Church for the Service.

Our Grand Priory Chaplain General Fr Michael Brain officiated at the service where Deputy Grand Prior John Harcourt Admitted Daniel Butler into the Order as a Novice, and Grand Prior George MacLean conferred the Accolade as a Chevalier upon Neale Baines.

We wish them both congratulations and success in their new journeys in the Order.

We then proceeded to the Westley Hotel, Acocks Green, where a hearty meal and laughter and comradeship was enjoyed by all.

There were 22 members, family, friends and guests present. Thanks go to Preceptor John Harcourt for organising the meeting, Fr Michael for the service and also to Grand Prior George MacLean for officiating at the ceremony and to Brenda Wyatt for organising the meal at the Westley Hotel. We then bid farewell until the next meeting.

Chevalier Basil Egawharry-England

Photo Credits this edition:

*Page 1, Michael Edwards: Temple Guiting (both)
Page 3, George MacLean: GMC Cologne (Church)
Page 3, Pedro Cascales: GMC Cologne (Dinner)
Page 5, Sorin Balaban: Aylesford Priory*

*Page 6, Neale Baines: St Michael and All Angels
Page 7, Simon LeFevre: Union Jack Club
Page 7, Denys LeFevre: Temple Church*

Temple Church Visit October 2015

At 11.00 o'clock on Sunday 18 October 2015 our group of around twenty, comprising Members of the Order and guests, assembled in the courtyard of the Temple Precinct outside the Temple Church of St Mary and near to the Millennium Memorial (a column topped with a statue of two knights on one horse, modelled on the seal of the medieval Order). We then took our allocated seats in time for the morning service of Choral Mattins in the church.

The Master of the Temple, the Reverend Robin Griffith-Jones FSA, welcomed us and other visitors at the start of the service. Whether by accident or design, the appointed psalm for the morning was the Templar Office Psalm 133, "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity". This seemed particularly appropriate for the weekend when the modern Order commemorates the sacrifices made by the medieval Knights Templar during their two centuries of service.



Knights, Dames and guests enjoy lunch in the Union Jack Club, London

Many of those, who attended, commented on how much they appreciated the singing of the world-renowned choir of the Temple Church. Historical records from 1307 A.D. tell us that there was a choir of boys and men already established by the medieval Templars.

As a mark of thanks for our visit, a 'Silent Knight' made a donation on behalf of our Order to the current appeal for the Temple Church Choristers' Education Fund, to help continue this tradition.

After the service, the Master gave an highly informative and entertaining talk on how the Temple Church was founded by the medieval Knights Templar, and dedicated at Candlemas in 1185 A.D. by Heraclius, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, to be the headquarters church of the Order in England. He then went on to explain how the building had been restored to its current state after the fire damage caused during the Blitz. In this year of the 800th Anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta by King John at Runnymede, the Master (who is an authority on this subject) closed his talk by explaining the role played by the medieval Templars in hosting the negotiations, in the Temple Precinct, which led up to that historic event.

Before departing, we had the opportunity to view the Round, with its medieval tombs, and the Choir of the Temple Church, which displays wonderful post-Second-World-War stained glass in which the red Templar cross and black and white Beaucéant banner can be seen clearly depicted.

We then retired to the Union Jack Club, across the Thames at Waterloo, for an excellent lunch of a traditional Sunday roast followed by apple pie, most kindly arranged by Kevin Reilly.

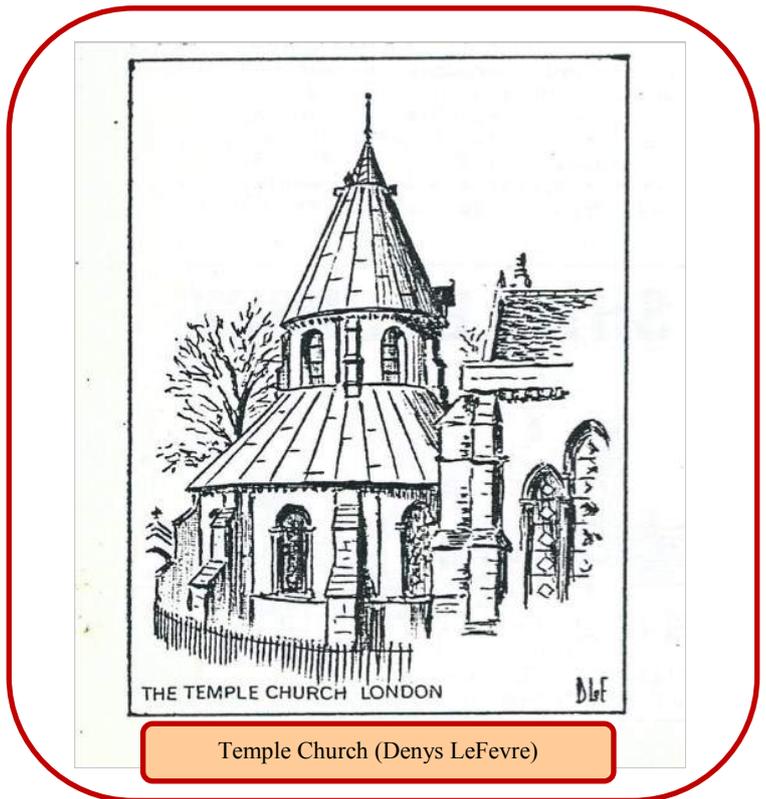
We were delighted to welcome our Grand Prior George MacLean and Deputy Grand Prior Erika Barty-King, as well as Squadron Leaders Tom Melling and Kevin O'Shaughnessy (respectively Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer of the UK Priory of the NATO Grand Priory) with their wives.

The Grand Prior said Grace at the start of the lunch. The Loyal Toast was proposed by Kevin Reilly and the Toast to the Order and Absent Templar Friends by Simon Le Fevre.

Temple Church Visit October 2015

Later in the proceedings, Simon Le Fevre spoke briefly to update the assembled company on the work of the Templar Heritage Trust. He mentioned the recent recruitment of David Arnold (a chartered building surveyor with extensive experience in the conservation of historic buildings and churches) to be one of the independent trustees. He also noted the recently confirmed decision by the THT Organising Committee to make three travel bursaries, of £200 each, available to young graduates to attend the next International Medieval Congress, which will be organised and hosted by the University of Leeds in July 2016.

The Grand Prior closed the lunch by reminding all present that they would be very welcome at the Advent Dinner in the Refectory of Canterbury Cathedral Lodge and at the following day's Service at St Peter & St Paul, Temple Ewell.



On behalf of the Greater London Preceptory of St Thomas-à-Becket and the South East Preceptory of St Augustine, whose members had collaborated to organise this event, we would like to thank all of those who were able to join us for such a memorable day.

Chevalier Simon Le Fevre

Dates for your Diary

Advent Dinner, Canterbury Cathedral Lodge	28th November
Admissions and Investiture, Temple Ewell	29th November
AGA 2016, Rothley	12-13 March 2016
OSMTH GMC, Copenhagen, Denmark	13-17 April 2016
OSMTH Grand Convent General Sofia, Bulgaria	12-16 October 2016