



the Surrey knight



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A busy afternoon for the Preceptory of Croydon



On Monday the 8th of June the Preceptory of Croydon No. 196 welcomed a new Brother Knight into the Preceptory, and afterwards Installed E.Kt. Garth Blanchard as Eminent Preceptor.



The Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Mark Carter, having requested the Marshal to ascertain that the approaches were properly guarded and that none were present but true Brethren of the Temple, opened the Preceptory in due form and the Warrant of the Preceptory was displayed.

The Muster Roll was then called by the Registrar and on this occasion, there were no visitors to welcome. After the Minutes of the Regular Muster held in March were approved by the Bro. Knights present a ballot for membership was held for the Companion Anthony Francis Caney.



This proved in his favour and Comp. Anthony Caney was installed as a member of the Order.

The candidate was admitted and completed his 7 years as a Novice. He was then invited to leave the Preceptory for a moment of reflection and meditation, and he was then re-admitted enjoying the cup of memory, the final trial, and be welcomed and honoured as a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre.

The ceremony was delivered in a superb manner by the Eminent Preceptor E.Kt. Mark Carter, the Charge to the Novice next to the Sepulchre and the Symbols of the Order were delivered by E.Kt. Andrew Milton, both in an excellent manner.

The Eminent Preceptor then welcomed the new knight into the Preceptory and showed him the Warrant of the Preceptory, he also gave him a copy of the Preceptory byelaws, a copy of the Statutes of the Order and a book of ritual.

The Eminent Preceptor concluded the installation of the new Knight by thanking those Bro. Knights who had assisted in the ceremony.



The Eminent Preceptor then Inducted E.Kt. Garth Blanchard as the Eminent Preceptor for 2026/2027 who then appointed and invested the officers for 2026/2027.

The Registrar reported that two members of the Preceptory will receive an appointment or promotion at the Annual Meeting on the 11th of July: E.Kt. Brian Pulley, Provincial Standard Bearer (VB); and E.Kt. Mark Carter, Past Provincial Sword Bearer. They were congratulated by the Brother Knights.



There being no further business the Preceptory was closed and a Priory of Malta opened by the Eminent Prior.

After the regular business of the Priory had been completed the Eminent Prior, E.Kt. Mark Carter, Inducted E.Kt. Garth Blanchard as Eminent Prior for the year 2026/27. He then appointed and invested the Officers of the Priory for 2026/27.

There being no further business, the Priory was closed according to ancient custom in peace and harmony.

After refreshments the Brother Knights of Croydon Preceptory enjoyed a convivial meal together at the Croydon Masonic Hall.

Thanks to Brian Hunter



The Consecration of Suthrige Lodge of Scottish Masters of St Andrew

The Consecration of Suthrige Lodge of Scottish Masters of St Andrew No. 23 in the Grand Priory of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City of the Rectified Scottish Rite of England and Wales was held at the Nutfield Centre, Redhill, Surrey on Wednesday the 27th of May 2026.

The Consecrating Officer was the Most Eminent & Reverend Knight Dr Vivian Thomas, JP, G.C.H.C., Grand Master; the Installing Officer was R.Revd.Kt. David Jordan, K.C.H.C., Regional Grand Prefect; and the acting Grand Mareschal was R.Revd.Kt. Paul R Clement, G.C.H.C., Grand Prior and Deputy Grand Master.



It was a lovely sunny day at Nutfield, so many of the Petitioners and guests took the opportunity of going out on the terrace where there were lovely views over the North Downs.

Our Founding Worshipful Deputy Master was our Provincial Prior, Patrick Crossan, the Wardens were Ian Smith and John Coleman, and many of the Founders were Bro. Knights of the Provincial Priory of Surrey.





The Brethren were assembled in the Temple at 10.45 a.m. and the Grand Master entered in procession and appointed his Assisting Officers. The Grand Master opened a Lodge of Scottish Masters of St. Andrew and the Opening Hymn, 'Fight the good fight' was sung.

The Grand Master was saluted with eleven under the direction of the Acting Grand Mareschal, addressed the Brethren on the object of the meeting, and called upon the Grand Prelate for prayer. Then followed an Oration on the nature and principles of the Order.

The petitioners were arranged in order in the west and the Charter was read. After the Grand Master had enquired of the Petitioners if they approve of the Worshipful Deputy Master and Wardens named in the Charter the Petitioners signified their approval with the Degree sign.

The Grand Master carried the Elements of Consecration four times round the Lodge, halting in the East after each perambulation. On the First Circuit the Grand Master scattered corn - the emblem of fertility and abundance; on the Second Circuit the Grand Master poured wine - the emblem of joy and cheerfulness; on the Third Circuit the Grand Master sprinkled oil - the emblem of peace and harmony; and on the Fourth Circuit the Grand Master strew salt which symbolises the purity of our intentions and the Brotherly love that unites us.

The Consecrating Officer then Dedicated and Consecrated the Lodge following which the Grand Master invited the Regional Grand Prefect, R.Revd.Kt. David Jordan, K.C.H.C., to be the Installing Officer.





The Worshipful Deputy Master, Revd.Kt. Patrick P Crossan, K.B.H.C., A.G.Mar., was presented and installed as the Primus Worshipful Deputy Master of the Lodge. The Worshipful Deputy Master was entrusted with the Charter and saluted.

The Worshipful Deputy Master appointed and invested the first Officers of the Lodge, the Lodge By-Laws were approved, and the Grand Master and his Assisting Officers were elected as Honorary Members.

After thanking the members of Suthrige Lodge for the honour conferred the Grand Master, accompanied by his Assisting Officers, retired in procession and, after other general Lodge business was completed, the Lodge was closed.

We then retired for refreshments before sitting down to a most enjoyable lunch together at the Nutfield Masonic Hall





It was a very successful and most enjoyable day.....

The 2026 Annual Meeting of the Provincial Priory of Surrey

Have you booked in yet?

The 2026 Annual Meeting of the Provincial Priory of Surrey will be held on Saturday the 11th of July 2026 at the Croydon Masonic Hall.

The meeting will commence at 11.00 a.m. and will be followed by lunch at 1.30 p.m.



Provincial Priory of Surrey Summer Fete and BBQ on Sunday the 19th of July

We're fortunate to have a generous brother knight offering the large field adjacent to his house free of charge. So, we're hiring a couple of Portaloos, firing up a couple of barbecues for burgers and sausages, running in a sound system, providing a barrel of lager, soft drinks and Pimms, and organising entertainment for the children e.g. face painting.

The aim is a relaxed, joyous celebration of another successful Masonic year with family and friends: **and this is all FREE**. What could be better?

Brother Knights have an open invitation to join us, and if they know any friends of the Provincial Priory in the area, they'll be very welcome too. **Come and see Pat getting pelted with wet sponges in the stocks!!!**

Event registration link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1990465866990?aff=oddtcreator>

Please share the link on your WhatsApp groups and wider networks.

Let's encourage as many Brother Knights and families as possible to join this relaxed, fun celebration.



Provincial Priory of Surrey web site:

<https://www.surreycompanionorders.com/welcome-knights-templar>

