



# the Surrey knight



Issue 8 – MAY 2024

## Congratulations to Emmaus Preceptory

On Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April the Brother Knights of Emmaus Preceptory No 446, the Surrey Installed Preceptors Preceptory, celebrated their 50-year anniversary at Surbiton Masonic Hall. It was a busy afternoon with the installation of a new Eminent Preceptor, followed by the Dedication of a new Preceptory Bible.



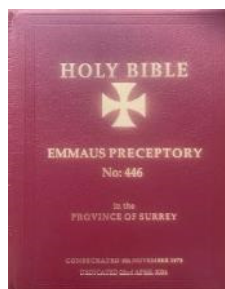
The Preceptory was opened by the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Mark Winchester, **P.Gt.A-de-C.**, Captain of the Grand Master's Bodyguard, who welcomed everyone, especially the Provincial Prior of Surrey, R.E.Kt. Pat Crossan, and the Provincial Prior of Middlesex, R.E.Kt. John Roberts.



After the regular business of the Preceptory had been concluded the Eminent Preceptor installed V.E.Kt. Chris Eley, **P.Gt.Reg.**, as Preceptor in a very sincere manner.

Mark and Chris have known each other for many years so it was very special occasion for both. V.E.Kt. Chris was afterwards congratulated by the RE Provincial Priors who both wished him a successful and enjoyable year.

The next item on the agenda was to Dedicate the Preceptory Bible. The Eminent Preceptor, V.E.Kt. Chris, invited the Provincial Prior, as the Dedicating Officer, to accept the Baton. The Dedicating Officer spoke briefly on the purpose of the occasion and invited certain Provincial Officers to assist him with the Dedication Ceremony.



The current Altar Bible was taken from the Altar and placed in the care of the Preceptory Chaplain.

The Dedicating Officer then requested the Provincial Marshal to form an Escort to conduct the Bible into the Preceptory.

The Bible Bearer was E.Kt. Jack Love, who is the Grand Superintendent of District 15, Surrey, in the Order of Knight Templar Priests. The procession re-entered the Temple and the Dedicating Officer called upon the Chaplain for prayer.

The Provincial Prelate, E.Kt. Len Moreton, gave a most interesting Oration on the Bible and its use in our ceremonies, and the Bible was paraded around the Preceptory. He then delivered the Prayer of Dedication, and the Eminent Preceptor received the Bible on behalf of the Preceptory.

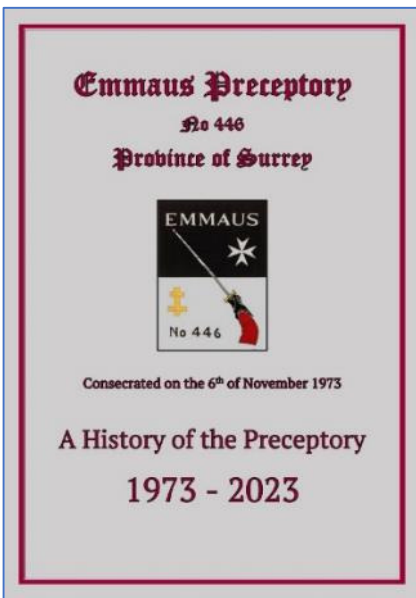


The Bible was placed in its proper place on the altar and the Knights of Emmaus Preceptory proceeded round the Preceptory saluting the Bible once with their lips, after which the Brother Knights saluted the Bible with three. The Dedicating Officer requested the Eminent Preceptor to resume the Chair of the Preceptory after which the Preceptory was closed.

Then followed the installation meeting of Emmaus Priory where V.E.Kt. Chris Eley was installed as Eminent Prior of Emmaus Priory



E.Kt. Graham MacGlashan was invested as Preceptory Marshal, and E.Kt. Angus Rhodes as Deputy Marshal. Congratulations to Angus on his appointment to Provincial Marshal in July, and Graham as Provincial Deputy Marshal.



At the end of the meeting all those present received a copy of the History of Emmaus Preceptory compiled by V.E.Kt. Chris Eley, with the assistance of E.Kt. Hugh Saville and V.E.Kt. Chris Cradock.



We then retired for refreshments, before sitting down to a very enjoyable meal in the Elizabethan Suite at the Surbiton Masonic Hall.



We all sang Happy Birthday to our Provincial Vice-Chancellor, E.Kt. Dr Miguel Godfrey, as it was his birthday that day.

After the Toasts were completed E.Kt. Peter Rolfe presented our Provincial Prior with a stick of rock from his holiday. We all agreed that it was a splendid way to celebrate our first 50 years.



# The Oration given at the Bible Dedication Ceremony at Emmaus Preceptory's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting

Right Eminent Provincial Prior, Eminent Preceptor, Brother Knights all, may I say how honoured I feel to be part of this dedication ceremony this evening. The Bible is more than just a book, although there are many great stories within its covers, it is a guide to how we should live our lives and conduct ourselves in general. I have many Bibles at home, some I have rescued from junk shops and boot sales, and most of them have a person's name inside the front cover, one I have had names going back almost 160 years and when I look at it I hope that those people got pleasure from it, as I do.

The first part is the Old Testament, which contains the Hebrew Scriptures divided into thirty-nine books.

The second part is the New Testament, containing twenty-seven books: the four gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, twenty-one Epistles or letters and the Book of Revelation.

The Bible, in its many versions and translations, has estimated annual sales of 25 million copies, and has been a major influence on literature and history, especially in the West where it was the first mass printed book.

It has certainly had a large influence within Freemasonry, the original writers of our rituals in all the Orders of Freemasonry have demonstrated this.

Chronologically in Bible history, the Royal Ark Mariner Degree relates to the covenant made between God and Noah at the time of the Great Flood, the Mark Degree tells of the workmen both in the forests of Lebanon and in the quarries preparing material for the construction of King Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem; the Holy Royal Arch tells the story, after the destruction of the first Temple, when during the preparation for the building of the Second Temple, after the Jews returned from their exile in Babylon, they found the Lost Word.

But it is in this Order, with our belief in the Holy Trinity, that we find many Bible references used to direct us in our spiritual development. The Preceptory is opened with the Bible open at Chapter 1 of St. John's Gospel, which states, "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God*" emphasising the relationship between the Bible, Jesus, and God himself.

In the Ceremony of Installation, there is the reading from St. Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus, where we are told to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might and to put on the whole armour of God that we may stand against the wiles of the devil – girt about with Truth – having on the breastplate of righteousness – our feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace – above all, taking the Shield of Faith wherewith we shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked – and take the Helmet of Salvation – and the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God – once again emphasising the value of the Holy Bible in our faith and in our lives.

The two readings that introduce the Casual sign and the Grand Password are taken from the Old Testament. The Book of Isaiah referring to the plucking of a hair from the cheek and giving us the word, Maher-shalal-hash-baz.

Then we have an additional, but important part of the ceremony, in Surrey, when the Chaplain retires with the Candidate to supervise his period of meditation. There, the candidate stands before the altar and is taken through the meaning of his ceremony so far and is instructed to kneel before the altar in an attitude of prayer and left to meditate on the symbolism and true meaning – the spiritual meaning – of what had happened so far in his endeavour to become a true and active soldier of the Cross and to prepare himself to be admitted into this Christian Order as a Knight Templar and told that may the Lord our Saviour, Jesus Christ, be with him in his meditation.

At the beginning of part 2 of the ceremony a reading is given from the first letter of St. Peter which instructs him to put off fleshly lusts, to submit himself to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake and as the servant of God to Honour all men, Love the Brotherhood, Fear God and Honour the King.

Then a reading from the Book of Revelation tells him that "*To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving him that receiveth it.*" In a similar way we can show the importance of the Holy Bible in the Ritual for the Malta Degree.

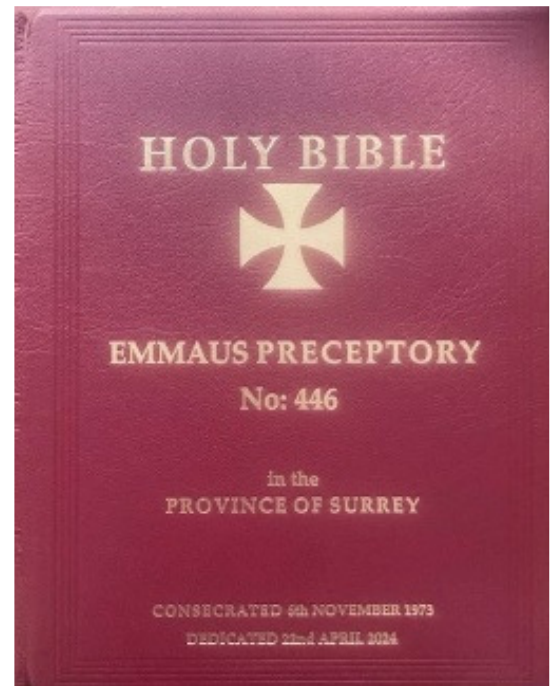
The Holy Gospels are opened on the pentagonal table, in the degree of a Knight of St. Paul the reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles and tells of the shipwreck of St. Paul on the island of Melita and how, in his faith, when he was bitten by a Viper he suffered no harm under the protection of God.

In the Ceremony of Installation, the candidate is taught of the significance of the Birth, Life, Death, Resurrection and Ascension of our Lord and Saviour, our Heavenly Captain and Great Emmanuel.

I hope this has demonstrated to you the value of this Holy Bible not only in a physical sense for its beauty and workmanship, but in a deep spiritual sense, as the Word of God and its relationship to the rituals of our Order. May this Bible, which is being dedicated by the Dedicating Officer, Right Eminent Knight Patrick Peter Crossan, the Provincial Prior of this Province of Surrey, be used and treasured by its members and may it lead you ever onward in your journey through life from now until time shall be no more.

At the end of this meeting I will be taking the Bible back with me to E.Kt. Garry Lewis who is in the process of making a wooden case for the Bible to be kept in and his wife, Carol, is lining it with a silk lining to further protect it.

**E.Kt. Rev'd Leonard E Moreton, P.Gt.Chamb., Provincial Prelate.**



# A Candidate for the Preceptory of Croydon

The November meeting of Croydon Preceptory was held at Croydon Masonic Hall Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2023. Present was our Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Patrick O Crossan and several guests.



The Eminent Preceptor having requested the Marshal to ascertain that the approaches were properly guarded and that none were present but true Brethren of the Temple announced the Preceptory open in due form and the Warrant of the Preceptory was displayed.

The Provincial Prior entered the Preceptory accompanied by 2 members of the Bodyguard. The Eminent Preceptor welcomed the Provincial Prior into the Preceptory and offered him the chair which he accepted. The Acting Marshal, E.Kt. Angus Rhodes, then called the Bro. Knights to salute the R.E. Provincial Prior with seven. The Provincial Prior thanked the Eminent Preceptor for his warm welcome and greeted him heartily and well. The Right Eminent Prior encouraged the members to read the minutes of our musters as they not only give a factual account of what happened, but they also tell a story of the life of the Preceptory. The Right Eminent Prior then vacated the chair in favour of the Eminent Preceptor.



The Eminent Preceptor then welcomed the visitors and said he hoped they would enjoy the ceremony and join us at the Festive Board afterwards. A ballot was held for Companion David Michael Hibberd. Following a successful ballot Comp. David Hibberd was installed as a member of the order. The candidate was admitted and completed his 14 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 to enjoy the cup of memory, the final trial, and be welcomed and honoured as a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre.

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

The Eminent Preceptor and the Provincial Prior welcomed the new Knight David into the Preceptory and the Order and wished him many years of enjoyment.



The Right Eminent Provincial Prior then gave a full explanation of a KT certificate to Kt. Mike Harvey, explaining the roles of the officers of the Preceptory and an explanation of the artifacts of the order. attended for some time to return to the order. The IPP, E.Kt. Andrew Milton generously gave each Brother Knight present a raffle ticket which enabled them to get a free drink at the bar, which was much appreciated.

*Article by Brian Hunter*

# Agincourt Preceptory Meeting

On Tuesday 28th November 2023, at the Agincourt Hall, Camberley, the eponymous Agincourt Preceptory met in strength, in the presence of the Provincial Prior, R.E. KT. Patrick Peter Crossan, accompanied by his Bodyguard and other Provincial Officers.



Due to the continued illness of the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Michael Kirkham, E.Kt. Paul Rayward occupied the Chair.

Kt Kevin McSorley was then presented for Installation and having advanced to the Altar, he repeated his obligation. All those below the rank of Installed Preceptor retired and a conclave of Installed Preceptor's was opened. Kt Kevin McSorley was duly installed as the Eminent Preceptor of the Agincourt Preceptory and saluted with the sign of the Order.



The conclave was closed, and all the Brother Knights were re-admitted. The Knights of Agincourt Preceptory lined up in the West and saluted the Eminent Preceptor with Three.

The newly Installed Eminent Preceptor then proceeded with the investiture of his officers, following which the Preceptory was closed and the Temple re-arranged for the Malta meeting..



A Priory of Malta was then opened, in shortened form; E.Kt. Kevin McSorley was Installed as Prior - he then appointed his Officers for the year ahead.

The Priory was closed, and the Brother Knights of Agincourt Preceptory and their guests retired to enjoy a lovely meal together.



Article by Andrew Banks

*Early on Friday 1st March, Agincourt Preceptory received the sad news that E.Kt. Michael Kirkham had passed to the Great Priory above, succumbing to the cancer that he had been fighting.*

*Michael had been the Eminent Preceptor for my Admission into the Knights Templar, and also High Priest for my Admission into the Knights Templar Priests. A gentle man in the true sense of the term, encouraging and supportive of those around him. He will be sadly missed.*



# Sacryham Preceptory Installation Meeting

On Thursday 24th of January 2024 at the Croydon Masonic Hall E.Kt. Roger Stride was installed into the chair of Sacryham Preceptory No.425.



The Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Patrick Crossan, officially visited with his active Provincial Officers and the Provincial Prior's bodyguard.

There were thirty Knights present to support E.Kt. Roger in seeing him being installed a Preceptor again in Surrey (Pride of Surrey Preceptory No.594 in 2021) and Kent where E.Kt. Roger was Eminent Preceptor at the Preceptory of the Holy Trinity No.391 in 2010.



The Provincial Vice Chancellor of Kent, E.Kt. Dennis Dean, and the Preceptor of St. Vincents Preceptory No.333, E.Kt. William Chapman, both personal guests of the Eminent Preceptor later enjoyed a fabulous festive board of Haggis, Neeps, and Tatties.

## The 2024 Annual Meeting of the Provincial Priory of Surrey

### Save the date

The 2024 Annual Meeting of the Provincial Priory of Surrey will be held on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> of July 2024 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.



# Praesidium Legati Preceptory

The regular Muster of the Preceptory was held at the Surbiton Masonic Hall on Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February.



The Preceptory was opened by the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Alan Carroll, who welcomed everyone, especially V.E.Kt. Chris Cradock. **P.2<sup>nd</sup>.Gt.Con.**, Provincial Chancellor.

After the Muster Roll had been called and the minutes approved the Brother Knights balloted for a joining member, Kt. Kurt Schenk, a member of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard.

The regular business of the Preceptory was completed and the Preceptory was then closed.



Present at the meeting were several present and past members of the executive from several Orders in Surrey



The Temple was then re-arranged for the Malta meeting that followed.

The Priory was opened by the Eminent Prior, E.Kt. Alan Carroll, who was saluted with the sign of the Order.

After the regular business of the Priory had been completed a ballot was taken for Kt. David Blithing of Temple Court Preceptory to be installed as a Knight of Malta. This proved in his favour and the Degree of St Paul was conferred on Knight David.



Knight David entered the Priory and was installed as a Knight of Malta in a very sincere manner. He was congratulated by our Provincial Chancellor and our Provincial Vice-Chancellor.

The Prior was then closed and the Brother Knights of Praesidium Legati Preceptory and their guests dined together at the Surbiton Masonic Hall.



# The Preceptory of Croydon

The regular Muster of the Preceptory of Croydon was held at Croydon on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of March.



The Preceptory was opened by the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Mark Carter, who welcomed everyone, especially V.E.Kt. Chris Cradock, **P.2<sup>nd</sup>,Gt.Con.**, Provincial Chancellor, and V.E.Kt. Chris Eley, **P.Gt.Reg.**, Past Provincial Marshal, an honorary member. Both acted as Constables for the meeting.



After the Muster Roll had been called and the minutes approved the Brother Knights balloted for a candidate for installation, Comp. Emmanuel Ofuasia, as a Knight of the Order.

This proved in his favour and Comp. Emmanuel was installed as Knights Templar in an excellent manner. He was afterwards congratulated and welcomed into the Order.

E.Kt. Mark Carter was declared Eminent Preceptor for a further year and the regular business had been concluded, the Preceptory was closed.



After the customary photographs, we retired to the bar for refreshments.

The Brother Knights of the Preceptory of Croydon and their guests enjoyed a convivial meal together at the Croydon Masonic Hall.



# An Official Visit to Kyngstun Preceptory



On Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of March our Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Patrick P Crossan, visited Kyngstun Preceptory with two members of his Bodyguard.



The Preceptory was opened by the Eminent Preceptor, V.E.Kt. Chris Cradock, P.2<sup>nd</sup>, Gt. Con., Provincial Chancellor, who welcomed everyone.

Our Provincial Prior entered under an Arch of Steel, was welcomed by the Eminent Preceptor and accepted the Baton. He said how good it was to be visiting Kyngstun Preceptory, took the Muster Roll and handed back the Baton as the Preceptory had work to do.



A ballot was taken for two joining members, E.Kts. Mike and Graham Ellis, which proved in their favour.

Mike and Graham were welcomed into the Preceptory by the Eminent Preceptor and given copies of the By-laws.



The main item on the agenda was to ballot as a candidate for installation into the Order, Comp. Christopher Gauntlet of Parthenon Lodge and Pride of Surrey Chapter.



This proved in his favour and Comp. Chris was installed as Knights Templar in an excellent manner by the Eminent Preceptor and his team. He was afterwards congratulated and welcomed into the Order by the Eminent Preceptor and the Provincial Prior.

V.E.Kt. Chris Cradock was Proclaimed Eminent Preceptor for a further year. The Preceptory was closed, and the Temple rearranged for the Malta meeting where V.E.Kt. Chris Cradock was Proclaimed Eminent Prior for a further year.



We then retired for refreshments before enjoying a nice meal together at the Surbiton Masonic Hall.



*If you are wondering why I was the only one in Malta regalia – buy me a drink at the bar and I'll tell you the story.*



# A special day for St Saviour's Preceptory



Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March was a rather special day in the life of St Saviour's Preceptory. After many years Companion Richard Wileman was finally joining the Order. Richard is a well-loved and respected Mason who is currently the Inspector General in the Rose Croix, as well 3<sup>rd</sup> Provincial Grand Principal in the Holy Royal Arch. He was also the Deputy Provincial Grand Master in the Craft and 2<sup>nd</sup> Provincial Grand Principal in the Holy Royal Arch

The Preceptory was opened by the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Phil Gaiger, who welcomed everyone, especially our Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Patrick P Crossan, and V.E.Kt. Chris Cradock. **P.2<sup>nd</sup>, Gt. Con.**, Provincial Chancellor, who had both come along to see Richard installed as a Knight of the Order

Comp. Richard was installed as Knights Templar in an excellent manner. He was afterwards congratulated and welcomed into the Order by the Eminent Preceptor, the Provincial Prior, and the Provincial Chancellor.



The Preceptory was closed, and the Brother Knights of St Saviour's Preceptory and their guests retired for refreshments before sitting down to a very convivial meal at the Sutton Masonic Hall.



# A very special Knights Templar meeting

At their April meeting, the Knights of Stephen Langton Preceptory No 478 were treated to a most interesting and enlightening talk from a team from Sussex.



The Preceptory was opened by the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Dale Brunt, who welcomed everyone, especially the guests, and our Past Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Michael Banbury, KCT. It was so good to see Michael at the meeting.



He was saluted with seven by V.E.Kt. Chris Eley, **P.G.Reg.**, his Provincial Marshal while he was our Provincial Prior.



The regular business of the meeting was completed. This included a ballot to make V.E.Kt. Chris an honorary member of the Preceptory in recognition for all he has done for the Order, and the support he has given to this Preceptory. V.E.Kt. Chris, who acted as Chaplain for the meeting, thanked the Brother Knights and said he will continue to support the Preceptory whenever he was able.



We then turned to the highlight of the afternoon which was to receive a talk by E.Kt. Jim Grant from Sussex on Antique Firearms. This most informative and enjoyable talk, which was very well received by the Brother Knights, included information on the development of the musket and rifle over many centuries and gave us an opportunity at the end to hold these very old artifices which had been used from the early days that explorers travelled to Japan, through the American Civil War, and later campaigns.



As a link to the Knights Templars, we were also permitted to hold a crossbow that was used at the siege of Acre.

This pivotal siege formed part of what later became known as the Third Crusade. The siege lasted from August 1189 until July 1191, in which time the city's coastal position meant the attacking Latin force were unable to fully invest the city and Saladin was unable to fully relieve it with both sides receiving supplies and resources by sea.

Finally, it was a key victory for the Crusaders and a serious setback for Saladin's ambition to destroy the Crusader states.



We then sat down to a most convivial meal at the Nutfield Masonic Centre.

After a few photographs we retired to the bar for refreshments continuing our conversations on what we had just heard.



# A Candidate for St Michael at Bisley Preceptory



The regular Muster of the St Michael at Bisley Preceptory No 693 was held at the British Commonwealth Rifle Club, Bisley Camp, Brookwood, Surrey, GU24 0PB on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of April. Present at the meeting was our Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Patrick P Crossan.

The Preceptory was opened by the Eminent Preceptor, E.Kt. Peter Smith, who welcomed everyone, with a special welcome to our Provincial Prior.

After the regular business of the Preceptory had been completed a ballot was taken for Comp. Kenneth Paul Widdowson.

This proved in his favour and Companion Paul was installed as a Knights Templar in a very sincere manner. He was afterwards congratulated and welcomed into the Order by the Eminent Preceptor and the Provincial Prior.



Paul approached Eminent Knight Peter Smith, the Eminent Preceptor, in 2022 about his interest in Knights Templar, but said he was too busy at that time to consider joining. In May of 2023, Paul contracted the encephalitis virus which eventually left him without the use of his legs and confined to a wheelchair for the rest of his life.

In August of 2023 Peter visited Paul, as he does most weeks, and he said, 'next time you come, bring an application form'. Due to his current situation, sadly he has more time on his hands.

At the meeting, the Marshall, E.Kt. Graham McGlashen, and E.Kt. Peter were seated where possible, so that they did not tower over Paul, which would force him to look up at them.

Paul has an event-planning business, covering all types of parties, including bouncy castles, inflatable clowns, Santa etc. This business is obviously struggling as Paul is not able to do much work.

We all congratulate Knight Paul and wish him many happy years in the company of the Brother Knights of St Michael at Bisley Preceptory

*Article by E.Kt. Peter R Smith, Eminent Preceptor of St Michael at Bisley Preceptory.*

# A visit to the Province of Northampton, Huntingdon, and Bedford



In April, myself, E.Kt. Dr Miguel Godfrey, E.Kt. Graham McGlashan and E.Kt. Charles Hoad visited the Province of Northampton, Huntingdon, and Bedford, and we thoroughly

enjoyed ourselves.

One of the many highlights was the Northampton, Huntingdon, and Bedford Provincial Prior's Bodyguard conducting the silent sword drill ceremony, which was excellent.

We were all treated very well, and the festive board was equally enjoyable.

On a personal note - it was good to be back in my Mother KT Province, especially as the Sub Prior of Northants, Hunts and Bedford, VE.Kt. Steve Churchill, proposed me into KT.

*Thanks to E.Kt. James Sarson  
Temple Court Preceptory*



## Donations to Charity

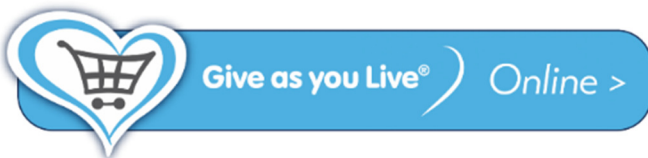


E.Kt. Garry Lewis is seen here presenting a £500 donation from the Provincial Priory of Surrey to W.Bro. Wayne Tibbs, the Chairman of the Friends of James Terry Court, at Croydon Masonic Hall.

The 'Friends of James Terry Court' are an association whose sole aim is to raise money and awareness for the RMBI Home, James Terry Court at Croydon, as well as providing entertainment and extra facilities for the residents.



The objectives of the Association are to relieve the aged residents of James Terry Court and generally to support the charitable work of the Home either directly with the Home Manager or through the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.



Radio Marsden is the hospital radio station serving the Royal Marsden Hospitals in London, 24 hours a day.

E.Kt. Mike Petryszyn is seen here presenting a £500 donation that the Provincial Priory of Surrey made at the Annual Meeting to the Royal Marsden Hospital Radio, of which he is a volunteer presenter.

He presented the cheque at a fund-raising event to the radio station Chairman, Neil Mullery.

