

The United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the
Temple and of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes
and Malta in England and Wales and Provinces Overseas



MINUTES

of the Chapter of Great Priory of Malta

held under the Banner of the Preceptory of St George No. 6
in the Grand Temple, Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street,
London, WC2B 5AZ, at 12.30 p.m. on

Monday, 10 November 2025

A.L. 6025, A.D. 2025, A.O. 907

PRESENT

Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master
PAUL RAYMOND CLEMENT, *OStJ*, G.C.M.

At the Pentagonal Table in the East

Great Prior of Malta R.E.Kt. J. C. Whitaker, *JP*, *DL*, K.C.M.
as Great Captain General..... V.E.Kt. S. J. Warwick
as Great Lieutenant General V.E.Kt. A. F. Legge
Great First Lieutenant..... V.E.Kt. F. J. Fowlie, *JP*
Great Second Lieutenant..... E.Kt. A. M. Bather
Great Sub-Prior of Malta..... V.E.Kt. A. T. Howls
Great Prelate R.E.Kt. Revd Fr M. C. G. Lane, *JP*, K.C.M.

At the Octagonal Table in the West

as Great Mareschal E.Kt. A. Moseley
Great Hospitaller..... E.Kt. Revd Dr S. A. Thorn
Great Admiral..... E.Kt. Dr S. Schofield
Great Conservator E.Kt. P. R. Crudge
as Great Baillie E.Kt. R. A. Orridge
Great Turcopolier..... E.Kt. N. Wicks
as Great Chancellor..... E.Kt. M. Cross
as Great Treasurer E.Kt. J. P. Lemm

Officers of Great Priory

Great Mareschal.....	R.E.Kt. T. J. Wheeler, G.C.M.
Deputy Great Mareschal.....	E.Kt. K. A. Gane, P.Gt.2nd.Lt.
Deputy Great Mareschal.....	E.Kt. P. C. Atkinson
Deputy Great Mareschal.....	E.Kt. A. R. Timms
as Deputy Great Mareschal.....	V.E.Kt. H. J. Randell, P.Gt.1st.Lt.
as Deputy Great Mareschal.....	V.E.Kt. S. Groeger, P.Gt.1st.Lt.
as Deputy Great Mareschal.....	E.Kt. R. G. Hewitt, P.G.2nd.Lt.
as Deputy Great Mareschal.....	E.Kt. K. T. D'Souza, P.Dep.Gt.Mar.
as Deputy Great Mareschal.....	E.Kt. D. J. Parry, P.Gt.B.
Great Banner Bearer.....	E.Kt. A. Yelland
as Great Sword Bearer.....	E.Kt. I. C. Drury, Gt.Capt.O.
Great Captain of Outposts.....	E.Kt. P. C. Clare
Great Organist.....	E.Kt. M. Rizzardi, P.G.2nd.Lt.
Deputy Great Organist.....	E.Kt. A. T. Morris, <i>JP</i> , P.G.2nd.Lt.
Great Guard.....	E.Kt. P. Busby

Knights Grand Cross

R.E.Kt. His Hon. I. D. G. Alexander, *KC*
R.E.Kt. G. L. Flight
R.E.Kt. Dr J. L. W. Wright, *DL*

Knights Commander

R.E.Kt. T. C. Gulliver
R.E.Kt. G. L. Perkins
R.E.Kt. K. J. Jones
R.E.Kt. Lt Cdr A. P. D. Hannagan, *RD, MStJ*
R.E.Kt. D. H. Gallear, Prov.Prior for Lancashire
R.E.Kt. A. C. Sweeney
R.E.Kt. R. E. Cochrane
R.E.Kt. S. C. L. Middleton
R.E.Kt. C. G. Maiden
R.E.Kt. G. F. Redman
R.E.Kt. Dr V. Thomas, *JP*
R.E.Kt. R. S. Edgar
R.E.Kt. M. C. Fox
R.E.Kt. A. J. Helliard
R.E.Kt. M. F. Bilton
R.E.Kt. D. F. Coombes
R.E.Kt. A. J. Padmore, Prov.Prior for Leicestershire & Rutland
R.E.Kt. R. E. Dixon
R.E.Kt. J. Roberts, Prov.Prior for Middlesex
R.E.Kt. P. P. Crossan, Prov.Prior for Surrey
R.E.Kt. D. Jordan, Prov.Prior for Kent
R.E.Kt. Dr P. R. Calderwood, *JP*, Prov.Prior for Monmouth & South Wales
R.E.Kt. J. Spence, *DL*
R.E.Kt. D. M. Heath

Provincial Priors

R.E.Kt. R. Scott – Durham
R.E.Kt. G. Hutchinson – Derbyshire
R.E.Kt. Dr B. B. Shegar – South East Asia
R.E.Kt. K. P. Stannard – Northumberland
R.E.Kt. D. J. Thompson – London

R.E.Kt. F. R. Thomas – Devonshire and Cornwall
 R.E.Kt. D. W. Philips – Staffordshire and Shropshire
 R.E.Kt. D. J. Crossley – Nottinghamshire
 R.E.Kt. H. R. Lenton, *MBE* – West Yorkshire
 R.E.Kt. R. F. Micklefield – Dorset and Wiltshire
 R.E.Kt. A. D. White – Hertfordshire
 R.E.Kt. A. Rosengren – City & County of Bristol
 R.E.Kt. A. Pierce, *JP* – Cheshire and North Wales
 R.E.Kt. C. Birkbeck – East Anglia
 R.E.Kt. P. Burrows – Gloucestershire and Herefordshire
 R.E.Kt. C. Dann – Sussex
 R.E.Kt. P. J. Davis – Somerset
 R.E.Kt. R. L. Smith – Essex
 R.E.Kt. D. Handley – Warwickshire
 R.E.Kt. M. F. H. Levick – Lincolnshire
 R.E.Kt. M. J. Hadden – Worcestershire
 R.E.Kt. S. J. Churchill – Northampton, Huntingdon & Bedford
 R.E.Kt. K. W. Marshall – North & East Yorkshire
 R.E.Kt. J. Mitchell – Hampshire & Isle of Wight

Past Provincial Priors

R.E.Kt. Cdr C. J. Aspinell, *RD, JP*, P.Prov.Prior (Hampshire & Isle of Wight)
 R.E.Kt. L. E. Bourne, *JP*, P.Prov.Prior (Worcestershire)
 R.E.Kt. T. G. Dillon, P.Prov.Prior (North & East Yorkshire)

Deputation from the Great Priory of the Temple

V.H. & R.E.Kt. A. C. Rainbow, G.C.M.
 V.E.Kt. M. Southworth, P.Gt.Lt.Gen.
 E.Kt. J. E. Francis, P.Gt.2nd.Lt.
 E.Kt. Dr D. Thompson, P.Gt.Adm.
 E.Kt. C. W. Bradley, P.Gt.B.
 E.Kt. M. J. Sando, P.Gt.B.
 E.Kt. Dr M. J. Cooper

Knights from Overseas

SOUTH EAST ASIA

 E.Kt. Capt. Dr J. C. P. Brown, P.Gt.B.
 E.Kt. I. P. Elston
 Kt. A. W. K. Lum

Waller Rodwell Wright Priory No. 640 (unattached – Malta)

 E.Kt. R. W. Chilvers

La Valette Priory No. 649 (unattached – Malta)

 E.Kt. J. W. Bond

Deputations from other Great Priories

GREAT PRIORY OF SCOTLAND

M.E. & S.Kt. R. King, Grand Master

GREAT PRIORY OF GERMANY

M.E.Kt. R. MacKenzie, G.C.T., Grand Master

R.E.Kt. J. MacKinnon, G.C.T., Grand Prior of Malta

R.E.Kt. Lt Col. I. Harper, G.C.T., Grand Chancellor and Grand Sub-Prior of Malta

There were also present many Past Great Officers and Brother Knights.

Report of Proceedings

1. OPENING

By command of the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, a Chapter of the Great Priory of Malta was opened by the Great Prior.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of Great Priory of Malta held on Tuesday, 19 November 2024, which had been circulated with the Summons for the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed.

3. APPOINTMENT AND INVESTITURE OF A KNIGHT GRAND CROSS OF THE UNITED ORDERS

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master announced that in recognition of service to the Order, he had appointed R.E.Kt. Jonathan Charles Whitaker, *JP, DL*, Knight Commander, President of the Grand Master's Council and Great Prior of Malta, to the honour and dignity of Knight Grand Cross of the United Orders.

The Knight being in attendance, the Great Mareschal formed an escort and presented R.E.Kt. Whitaker, *JP, DL*, to the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master in order that he could receive his homage. The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master proceeded to invest him with the chain of office of a Knight Grand Cross of the United Orders and presented to him the baton and his Patent of Appointment. R.E.Kt. Whitaker, *JP, DL*, was then led to his seat and proclaimed by the Great Mareschal as follows:

Be it known that JONATHAN CHARLES WHITAKER, Officer of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem; A Justice in His Majesty's Commission of the Peace; Deputy Lieutenant; Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development; Member of the Institution of Royal Engineers; Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire and Isle of Wight, and President of the Board of General Purposes, of the United Fraternity of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England; Grand Superintendent in and over the Province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Past Grand Junior Warden in the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas and member of the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council (Honoris Causa) in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33rd Degree, in the Ancient and Accepted Rite under the Supreme Council 33rd Degree for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Past Grand Junior General in the Grand Imperial Conclave for England and Wales and its Divisions and Conclaves Overseas of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist; Past Grand Conductor of the Council in the Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Registrar in the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; Grand Registrar of the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor, or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan, in the British Isles and its Districts and Conclaves Overseas; Grand Lecturer of the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; A member of the Seventh Degree, Honoris Causa, in the Worshipful Society of Freemasons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviers, Plaisterers and Bricklayers; Past Grand Seventh Pillar in the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests

and Order of Holy Wisdom; Past Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire and Isle of Wight in the Royal Order of Scotland; Knight Commander of the United Orders and President of the Grand Master's Council; etc., etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed, obligated and invested as Knight Grand Cross of the United Orders in the Great Priory of the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta of England and Wales and its Provinces Overseas; Whom may the Most High long preserve.

The new Knight Grand Cross of the United Orders was saluted under the direction of the Great Mareschal and returned thanks.

4. **APPOINTMENT OF THE GREAT PRIOR AND GREAT SUB-PRIOR OF MALTA**
The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master announced that he had appointed V.E.Kt. Dr Nigel Francis John Scott-Moncrieff, *RN*, P.Gt.Lt.Gen., as Great Prior of Malta.

The Knight being in attendance, the Great Mareschal formed an escort and presented V.E.Kt. Dr Scott-Moncrieff to the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master who asked if he was willing to undertake the duties and responsibilities of the office. Having answered the affirmative, V.E.Kt. Dr Scott-Moncrieff received the benefit of prayer from the Great Prelate before advancing to the table, laying his sword and reciting his obligation. V.E.Kt. Dr Scott-Moncrieff was conducted to the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master to whom he gave his homage, and was then invested with the cap, mantle and baton of his office. The Great Prior was then conducted to his seat and proclaimed by the Great Mareschal as follows:

Be it known that Dr NIGEL FRANCIS JOHN SCOTT-MONCRIEFF, *RN*, has this day been appointed, obligated, invested and installed Great Prior of Malta in the Great Priory of the Ancient and Masonic Order of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta of England and Wales and its Provinces Overseas. Whom may the Most High long preserve.

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master then announced that he was pleased to re-appoint V.E.Kt. Alan Thomas Howls as Great Sub-Prior of Malta. The Great Mareschal presented V.E.Kt. Howls to the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master.

5. **INSTALLATION OF CANDIDATES AS KNIGHTS OF MALTA – PART I**
The Great Prior received the report and enquired of the Knights present that the Knights Brian Anthony Sarre, Anton Maroun Tarsha and Stephen Hieke be elected as members of the Order. This being agreed, the Great Prior declared the Knights duly elected members of the Order and requested that the Great Sub-Prior, accompanied by the Great Prelate and Deputy Great Mareschal, retire to the Guard-room to communicate the Degree of Knight of St Paul.
6. **APPOINTMENT AND INVESTITURE OF GREAT OFFICERS**
The Great Vice-Chancellor read the names of those Knights whom the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master had appointed to Great Rank in the Great Priory of Malta.

GREAT OFFICERS 2025/2026

Great Captain-General.....	Jonathan Spence, <i>DL</i> , K.C.M.
Great Lieutenant-General	Gaspar Llewellyn Gill, <i>SLMM</i>
Great Treasurer.....	James Robert Guy Hilditch
Great First Lieutenant	Terence Desmond Ward
Great Second Lieutenant	Robert William Chilvers

Great Prelate.....	The Revd Fr Malcolm Clifford George Lane, <i>JP</i> , G.C.M.
Great Mareschal	Timothy John Wheeler, G.C.M.
Deputy Great Mareschals	Paul Courtenay Atkinson
	Andrew Ronald Timms
	Alan Charles Bolton
Great Hospitaller	Revd Dr Simon Alexander Thorn
Great Admiral	Christopher James Bowles
Great Conservator	Neil Raymond Harvey
Great Baillie	Mark Anthony Aitkins
Great Turcopolier	Stuart Gary Thomas
Great Banner Bearer.....	Stephen Ranson, <i>JP</i>
Great Sword Bearer	Lewis George Clement
Great Captains of Outposts	Paul Yaw Asante
	Mark Anthony Wright
Great Organist	Mario Rizzardì, P.Gt.2nd.Lt.
Deputy Great Organist.....	Andrew Timothy Morris, <i>JP</i> , P.Gt.2nd.Lt.
Great Guard	Paul Busby

PROMOTIONS

Past Great First Lieutenant

Anthony Richard Clark

Carl Douglas Davies

Dennis Colin Fountain

Adrian Thorogood Jones

Antony Fabian Legge

Peter Anthony Riley

Allan Seager

David Tuke

Past Great Second Lieutenant

Christopher Colin Adkin

Brian Frank Amos

Robert John Asser

John William Bond

Reginald Leslie Brittan

Michael Frank Bull

Gary William Clark

Peter James Froment

Dr Miguel Antonio Junior Godfrey

Alan Guest

George Tyrrell Heys

Irving James Horne, *JP*

Paul Laurence Merryfellow

Trevor Russell Scott-Worthington

Dr Giles Robert Evelyn Shilson

Reginald Alec Heathcote Smith

David Ronald Truman

Drs Andries Johanes van der Burgh

Alan Leslie West

John Charles Wright

Past Great Admiral

John Arthur Andrews

Dr John Martin Colley

Anthony McGahan

Richard John Phillips

Denis Alan Plater

Lewis Lindsay Tovey

Past Great Conservator

Ian Dunstan Moseley

Past Great Sword Bearer

Vernon Edward King

Steffan Rhys Madoc

FIRST APPOINTMENTS

Past Great Baillie

Edward Anderson
 Nicholas Andrew Ball
 David Anthony Bargrove
 Mark Barlow
 Daniel Herbert Betts
 Philip Andrew Hamilton Bowler
 Harry Breakwell
 Ian Spencer Burgess
 David Burton
 Jason Cameron-Potter
 Maj. Matthew Roger Christmas
 Timothy Andrew Cox
 Simon Guy Darbyshire
 Anthony Paul Dyer
 James Dean Dyett
 Keith Berwick Ferguson
 Robert John Fernyhough
 John Vaughan Christopher French
 Mark Eric Gannaway
 Fernando Garcia Acosta
 Ian Michael Gilberg
 Jeffrey Michael Green
 Danny Guy
 Ian John Hall
 John Cordingley Harrison
 Angus John Herdman
 Jonathon Richard Hibbins
 Stephen Peter Howlett

Robin Francis Knight
 Andries Cornelius Krause
 Edward Michael Lines
 Benny Chu Hung Lo
 Daniel Shutz Machado
 Paul Anthony Massie
 Barrie John McCappin
 Geoffrey James Morrison
 Capt Hilton Oates
 David John Parry
 John Peck
 Martin Leland Preece, *TD, AE*
 Graeham Douglas Quilliam
 Gary Quinn
 Henry Gonsalves Rebeiro
 Hilton Malcolm Richards
 Rowland John Rogers
 Martin James Sando
 Huw Leslie Shooter
 Robert John Siddall
 Donald Christopher Smith
 Mark Philip Stretton
 Lt Col. Russell Alexander Stuart, *CSC*
 Rogert Hibbert Till
 Lester Douglas Wellington
 Michael John Wiles
 Brian Williams
 David Allen Williams

Past Great Turcopolier

Antony Richard Baker
 David Charles Bridge
 Selwyn John Burton
 Daniel Frederick Firth
 Jeremy Simon Griffin
 James William Harrington
 Brian Norman Higgins
 Nicholas Mark Humble
 Anthony James Hung
 John Wai Seng Ko
 Thomas Johannes Korff

Dilwyn Edward Littlejohns
 Edward Harry Long
 Ronald Anthony Marno
 Keith Cedric McCully
 Ian Alexander Minkley
 Neil Murray
 Robert Charles Neal
 Michael Reginald Radcliffe
 Martyn Ian Russell
 Anthony David Thomas

Past Great Sword Bearer

George John Deacon

Edward Stanley Tay Wey Kok, *PBM*

Past Great Captain of the Outposts

Bharat Venkat Epur
 Dr Andrew Josef Lawrence

Carlton Alexander Stephen
 Peter Edward Worby

6b. INSTALLATION OF CANDIDATES AS KNIGHTS OF MALTA – PART II

The Degree of Knight of St Paul having been conferred upon them by the Great Sub-Prior, Knights Brian Anthony Sarre, Anton Maroun Tarsha and Stephen Hieke were installed as Knights of Malta by the Great Prior of Malta.

7. ADDRESS BY THE MOST EMINENT AND SUPREME GRAND MASTER

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master addressed Great Priory as follows:

'Brother Knights, first of all, I offer you a very warm welcome to this Chapter of Great Priory, and I must say that from this vantage point you look absolutely splendid. I am sure you will all agree with me that today we have enjoyed a most memorable Chapter of Great Priory. Thank you so much, R.E.Kt. Past Great Prior, and indeed your officers, for an uplifting and inspiring ceremony. I know we all wish you well and congratulate you on your new dignity within our Orders.

'The honour and dignity of Knight Grand Cross is the highest accolade it is in my power to bestow and, as we are now the 'United Orders' thanks to a resolution passed by Great Priory in 1900, your new rank is applied equally to the Temple and Malta Orders. I shudder to think what happened before that, it must have been a Great Marshal's nightmare. More importantly, I am so grateful that you will continue to work with us as President of my Council, but today it is most appropriate that we all show our admiration and appreciation for the 10 years you have served as Great Prior of Malta. By the same token, I know we all want to congratulate and welcome on board our new Great Prior, V.E.Kt. Surg Cdr Nigel Scott-Moncrieff, *RN*. Having known and worked with Nigel for more years than we both wish to remember, I know he will do a great job and enjoy every moment of his new role.

It has been a great pleasure to invest Brother Knights with their new Malta ranks today, and I do congratulate each one of you and thank you so much for everything you do within your own Provinces and Priories. As always, with your new ranks comes additional responsibilities and, as in all Orders of Freemasonry, we are bound to rely on our Great Officers more and more to give the much-needed encouragement to ensure our meetings and ceremonies are conducted in a proper and dignified manner, and, most importantly, nurture and encourage the younger and junior members of your Preceptories and Priories.

'Since we last met at Great Priory in May, it has been a busy and exciting time for the Order. We have installed four new Provincial Priors, three of whom are with us today and I know you would wish to welcome them in their new roles for the first time. In July, I installed R.E.Kt. Stephen Churchill in charge of Northampton, Huntingdon and Bedford. Later, the same month, R.E.Kt. Keith Marshall, was installed for North and East Yorkshire. I went a little further afield for the next one and, in August, installed R.E.Kt. Kenneth Darby as the Provincial Prior for the Province of Natal – Ken can't be with us today sadly. Just a week later, as I was visiting the Preceptory of St John the Almoner in Malta, the Great Seneschal very graciously installed R.E.Kt. Julian Mitchell for Hampshire and Isle of Wight. We wish all four of these Brother Knights every possible success and much happiness in their new important positions.

'I feel I must now bring you up to date with the news from the Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group. Since I last spoke to you in May, there have been a number of issues for the hospital to deal with. The reopening of a clinic in the hospital itself was very short lived due to the evacuation of the north by order of the occupying forces. The staff had to relocate at short notice and had to camp in crowded tents in the south of the strip. The delivery of medicines to Gaza continues to be in

very short supply, which severely limits the effectiveness of their work. The Gaza staff are all well and hold clinics as often as they can. With the recent ceasefire, they have once again been allowed to return to the hospital building, which has a few extra 'windows' caused by collateral damage, but the building itself is still structurally sound. Once again they have reopened the clinic in the lower part of the building and have seen over 1,000 patients already. Elsewhere, the hospital is fully functional and the new Nablus hospital is turning out to be a real asset to the local population. As you will recall the KT was a major funder to that project so our continued support is very much appreciated.

'Speaking of support, and I hope I don't cause any embarrassment to either of these Provinces, but I feel I must tell you that in July I attended a splendid celebratory service at Durham Cathedral followed by a lavish banquet, and in September, a magnificent service at Hexham Abbey in Northumberland with another wonderful banquet. Both these Provinces, Durham and Northumberland, had reached their fiftieth anniversaries and wanted to mark the event with a donation to the Eye Hospital Group. Between them both, the hospital benefited with an amount of almost a quarter of a million pounds. I think that demonstrates the passion and enthusiasm the Brother Knights have to ensure the success of the Hospital Group. Continue to wear your Swift pins with pride – it's not too late to purchase one. However, I must reiterate that while we appreciate a Province or a Preceptory might desire to make direct donations, we are feeling the effect at Great Priory and this has led to us having to pull our oars in a little. It would be helpful to the Order if all donations could be made to Great Priory Fund of Benevolence in the first instance.

'I now come to one of the most pleasurable moments of today, and that is to welcome on your behalf our distinguished guests and Brother Knights from our own Provinces and Priories Overseas. As usual, perhaps we can resist the temptation to applaud until the end of the list:

From the Great Priory of Scotland, we are delighted to have the Grand Master, M.E. & Rev.Kt. Raymond King;

From the Great Priory of Greece, we are delighted to have R.E.Kt. Ioannis Benetatos, G.C.T., Great Registrar, and their Great Prior of Malta, Panagiotis Vlachos, K.C.T.;

From the Great Priory of Germany, we welcome M.E.Kt. Roddy MacKenzie, Grand Master, and R.E.Kt. John MacKinnon, Great Prior of Malta, along with R.E.Kt. Ian Harper, the Grand Chancellor, who is in a dual capacity today as a member of the Grand Master's Body Guard.

'I am most grateful for the support we receive from our overseas Provinces, and particularly from South East Asia, where we have the Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Dr Brian Shegar; E.Kt.Capt. Julian Brown; and Kt. Dr Alvin Lun;

From our Priories in Malta, E.Kt. Robert Chilvers, our new Gt.2nd.Lt., of the Waller Rodwell Wright Priory No. 640; and from the La Valette Priory No. 649, E.Kt. John Bond.

'The support of the Companion Orders has ever been a feature of all our Great Priory musters, and today is no exception:

From the Ancient and Accepted Rite, the Grand Prior, E.Kt. Revd Dr Simon Thorne, and the Grand Secretary General, E.Kt. Dr Giles Shilson;

From the Red Cross of Constantine, R.E.Kt. Graham Flight, G.C.M., the Grand Sovereign;

From the Order of Royal and Select Masters, the Grand Master, R.E.Kt. Kessick Jones, K.C.M.;

From the Order of the Secret Monitor, R.E.Kt. Andrew Sweeney, K.C.M., Grand Supreme Ruler;

From the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom, R.E.Kt. Christopher Maiden, K.C.M., Grand High Priest;

From the Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia, the Supreme Magus, E.Kt. Tony Llewellyn, P.Gt.2nd Lt.;

From the Worshipful Society of Operative Freemasons, E.Kt. Dr Paul Mycock, 1st Grand Master Mason;

and from the Grand Priory of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City, the Grand Master, R.E.Kt. Dr Vivian Thomas, *JP*, K.C.M.

‘Please join me in a warm, rousing welcome to all these Brother Knights.

‘Before closing, I want to thank those who have made today another memorable Great Priory meeting for us all: the Great Vice-Chancellor and those at the Chancery, the Great Mareschal and his deputies and, of course, the members of the Grand Master’s Bodyguard which, as always, sets the standard of Great Priory meetings which we should all try to emulate. Ours are most wonderful ceremonies with the Scripture readings at its core. Discerning the meanings behind those readings helps us to fully appreciate the beauty of our ritual.

‘The workshops run by the King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement help bring together both the form and the meaning of our ceremonies throughout the Provinces, with the aim of ensuring not just that we perform the ritual well, but that we also understand the reasons why. Take a look at the new website for the King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement [www.keviipoi.org], details of which can be found in the latest Liber, with the meeting dates, reports from recent Provincial Workshops and a joining form, making it easy for all Knights to become members.

‘At this time of remembrance, when we honour particularly those who have fallen, let us think also of our Brethren and Brother Knights in Jamaica and the members of both Jamaica and Francis Bavin Preceptory No. 679. The report of the destruction caused by the hurricane has been playing across the media, and we can only watch in astonishment, sorrow and great sadness at the devastation caused. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families and loved ones. We have committed to United Grand Lodge to offer any financial assistance we can as a Great Priory, and an action plan is being formed.

‘Remember, as in previous years, our Christmas Day observance at 5pm, which brings together Knights Templars throughout the world in Christian unity and hope. Where there is hope, there is faith. Where there is faith, miracles happen. I wish you all well.’

8. ALMS

During the singing of the hymn, ‘Praise my Soul, the King of Heaven’, alms amounting to £2,091.86 were collected for the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Great Vice-Chancellor reported that he had no further business to bring before the Chapter of Great Priory of Malta.

10. CLOSING

By command of the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, the Chapter of Great Priory of Malta was closed by the Great Prior of Malta.

