



# The Healing, Teaching and Chivalric Order of St. Raphael



Newsletter - Spring/Summer 2008

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Dear Member

This year has been a time of steady growth for St. Raphael and I have represented the Order at a number of different events in the chivalric calendar, to ensure it is more widely known and appreciated.



The investiture in Peterborough last January was well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy it greatly. I would, however, like to see still more of you participating in our annual assembly.

Having now adopted Whizz-Kids as the Order's chosen charity, I should like to see us raise more in charitable donations, to help badly disabled children acquire and use specialised equipment provided by Whizz-Kids. It is now more possible than ever for such unfortunate children to lead a normal, independent life and our donations will really make a lasting difference.

With this in mind, the Grand Council has resolved to increase the annual oblation from £10 to £20, £8 of which will be earmarked towards the Order's charitable effort, which I hope you will all welcome.

Our Secretary, Chevalier Barry Uttley, continues to manage the administration of the Order with great success and our thanks are

due to him. He has been approached by the British Commander of the Teutonic Knights [Ordo Militaris Teutonicus], who would like to have closer links between the two Orders. I welcome the renewal of our traditional relationship and I have invited Chevalier David Starritt, the Commander of OMT for Great Britain, to give us a short talk on that Order next January.

I would like to thank all the Grand Officers for their help and support over the past year and would particularly mention Chevalier David Haywood, who keeps our excellent website up to date and produces this top quality newsletter.

Finally, despite the current economic downturn, I wish you a very happy 2008 and look forward to seeing you at Peterborough next January.

M.E. The Chevalier Howard F Doe, GCSR, GCSM, Baron St Raphael,  
Grand Master

## **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Subscriptions for 2007 fall due on 1st July, and as you will have read in the above article from the Grand Master, these have now increased to £20. If you are a member of a Conclave you should receive notification from your Treasurer and payment should be made direct to him. If you do not belong to a Conclave, then please forward your cheque for £20 direct to the Grand Treasurer – contact details at the end of this Newsletter.

## **INSIGNIA**

The Grand Custodian of Insignia, Margaret Gunnell, wishes to let everybody know that we are currently in the process of changing regalia suppliers. It may take a while to finalise everything so please be patient. She will issue a statement to say when new regalia is readily available.

## **ST MARTIN'S TRIP**

At the beginning of July, members of the Conclave of St Martin at Sées gathered in the beautiful market town of Skipton, in North Yorkshire, for their annual lecture. Skipton was chosen as a venue central for the majority of members, and proved to be a good move, with the 16 present travelling from Northumbria, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cumbria, from where we were pleased to welcome the Grand Chancellor, R.E. Chevalier Barry Uttley and his wife Dianne.

Many of those present took the opportunity to browse the market and historical sites before we all gathered in the function room of a local hostelry, where the Commander, E. Chevalier David Haywood welcomed the informal gathering before introducing the guest speaker, Gordon Hill.

Gordon is a self-employed consultant in analytical and clinical hypnotherapy, and his talk explained how these therapies work, and gave examples of the types of habits that could be "cured". He then gave a practical demonstration of relaxation hypnotherapy. He had spoken earlier of how the client could only be hypnotised if they really wished to be, and it was unfortunate, therefore, that the person who volunteered to be hypnotised did not 'succumb'. However, three of those watching who chose to close their eyes and go along did actually go into a meditative state!

Unfortunately, Gordon was not able to stay after the talk, but he received grateful thanks from those present for such an interesting and informative session. However, following the demonstration an enjoyable meal was had, with an excellent opportunity to 'catch up' with friends.

At the end of the meal, the Commander announced that no charges had been made by either the venue or the speaker, and he had therefore decided that the amount set aside for this would instead be donated to the Grand Master's chosen charity, Whizz-kidz, which met with unanimous approval.

The Grand Chancellor added his own thanks, and also brought best wishes from the Grand Master.

# ORDER ACCOUNTS

## INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007

<b>INCOME</b>	<b><u>2006 - 2007</u></b>		<b><u>2005 - 2006</u></b>	
Annual Subscriptions	390.00		370.00	
less Reserve for Doubtful debts	0.00	390.00	25.00	345.00
Admission fees		200.00		60.00
Insignia Sales	359.63			
less Purchases	0.00	359.63		0.00
Functions Income			460.00	
less Cost of Functions			432.50	27.50
Donations Received		55.00		2.50
Proceeds of Raffle		55.00		101.00
		<u>1059.63</u>		<u>536.00</u>
 <b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Printing, postage, stationery & sundries	515.62		83.52	
Purchase of capes	417.13			
Bad Debts – subscription arrears written off	0.00		55.00	
Benevolence – flowers	0.00		34.95	
Charitable donations	0.00	932.75	101.00	274.47
		<u>126.88</u>		<u>261.53</u>
<b>SURPLUS</b> for the period to Accumulated funds		126.88		261.53

## BALANCE SHEET as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007

	2007	2006
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>		
Balance as at 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2006	3987.89	3726.36
Add Surplus for year	126.88	261.53
	<u>4114.77</u>	<u>3987.89</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Ceremonial Cushions, Sword & Gavel	62.00	62.00
Cash at Bank	3997.97	4026.09
Stock of Rituals	54.80	54.80
Sundry Debtors – Subscriptions in arrears		25.00
Less Reserve for Doubtful Debts		25.00
	<u>4114.77</u>	<u>4142.89</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Sundry Creditors	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions received in advance	0.00	155.00
	<u>4114.77</u>	<u>3987.89</u>

Kenneth W Bamber, KSR, KSM, Hon Grand Treasurer

## **ANNUAL INVESTITURE AT PETERBOROUGH**

On 12th January 2008, 38 members and guests attended the annual Ceremony of Investiture at Peterborough – one of the best attended occasions in the history of the Order. Many members arrived well before the ceremony to meet up with friends old and new, and once again ten members from the Conclave of St Martin at Sees stayed the previous evening at a local hotel, and enjoyed a wonderful meal at a nearby restaurant.

At 11am, the Grand Master's procession entered the Chapel, where the guests and 2 Postulants awaited, and for the first time at an Investiture we were treated to processional music and hymns from our new Grand Director of Music.

The Grand Master used his introduction in the Business section to talk about the Charitable aims of the Order. In the past we have donated money to local charities, but he would now like to concentrate fundraising on a single national charity, with everybody giving this their full support. He has done some careful research, and proposed that we adopt the charity Whizz-kidz. This was agreed by the meeting. Full details of this charity can be found in the link on the News page.

Following the Investing of the Postulants and the promoting of five existing members, the Grand Master made his Appointments of Grand Officers, and five members also received promotions in the Meritorious Order of St Mark. Congratulations to all those who received awards.

After the formalities had been completed, we retired into the adjoining dining area for lunch, where everybody had the chance to get to know each other or renew old acquaintances. After the dinner, a raffle was held which raised £120 towards our new Charitable objective (see separate item on News page).

We then heard a short, passionate speech from Chevalier Arnold Baker. Last year his doctor had told him that because of his weight his life expectancy was extremely short. He had undergone a major operation to staple his stomach, and with the grace of God and the support of his friends he said that he now stood before us some nine stone lighter, and a different man! He

wanted to share his story to show what modern medicine and traditional prayer could do.

Photographs of the event can be viewed in the Gallery.

A meeting of the Grand Council was held after the dinner, the main agenda items being as follows:

Regalia suppliers - we have been obtaining these through a local supplier, but the Grand Master is not entirely happy at the service. We will persevere for the time being to see if they can improve their service. In the meantime, the Custodian of Insignia has for sale Order ties and Paperweights. These can be viewed and ordered through the link in the News pages.

Constitution - the Grand Chancellor has almost completed the new Constitution and as soon as it is available a copy will be posted on the website.

Ritual update - the Grand Marshal has now revised the ritual and it will be re-printed in good time for the next Investiture.

Venue - although there had been some discussions last year about changing the venue, it was unanimously decided to stay at Peterborough for the time being, where we are well looked after in comfortable surroundings, so you can now put Saturday 17th January 2009 in your diaries so that you do not miss it!

New Conclave - Chevalier David Donachie has built a castle on his land in Scotland and is in the process of having a Chapel built in the grounds. It is his intention to try and form a new Conclave in Scotland with that as the base. The Grand Master promised that we would go up to consecrate the new Conclave when it was complete.

Any other business - the Grand Herald asked that Officers try to let him have news, photos and event details so that there would be continuing stories to publish both on the website and in the Members' Newsletter

Subscriptions - the Grand Master said that the Order was costing more to run with our various new initiatives and he proposed an increase in subscriptions to cover this. With effect from July,

therefore, subscriptions will rise to £20 per annum. The proposal was seconded by Chevalier Charles Holloway.

The Grand Steward made an observation that it had been difficult getting money from everybody attending the dinner, particularly when they said they would pay on the day and did not then turn up. The Grand Master made a declaration that in future *all* payments for dinner must be received in advance, and anybody not conforming to this would not receive a meal.

The Grand Master thanked everybody for attending and declared the meeting closed.

#### New members

Richard Hugh Thomas - KSR

Helen Neaves-Wilde - DSR

#### Promotions

Alan Blackstone - KCSR

Ian Burnett - KCSR

Julian Gunnell - KCSR

Charles Holloway - KCSR

Leslie Grout - KCSR

Arnold Baker - KCSR

Margaret Gunnell - DCSR

#### Promotions in St Mark

Terence Bowler - KSM

Steven Turner - KSM

Kenneth Bamber - KSM

Dianne Uttley - DSM

Lesley Doe – DSM

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### The Healing, Teaching and Chivalric Order of St. Raphael

The Order is not an Order of Merit, but a stateless International Order of Chivalry. It exists for the express purpose of healing the sick, giving spiritual refreshment to those who suffer, the protection of the Wisdom Religion of the Ages and the creation of a Nobility of Spiritually Enlightened men and women to work for Universal Brotherhood.

All communications should be addressed to:- 89 Haig Road, Bury, BL8 2LG. Tel: 0161 764 4786  
email: [gh@orderofstraphael.org.uk](mailto:gh@orderofstraphael.org.uk)

## **KEY CONTACTS**

Information removed from online version for security reasons