



The Healing, Teaching and Chivalric
Order of St. Raphael



www.orderofstaphael.org.uk

Newsletter – 2016 - XMAS EDITION

Introduction and Apologies from the Grand Herald

First of all, a brief introduction, My name is Ian Cameron of the The Lion Rampant Conclave in Scotland and I am duly honoured to be elected as Grand Herald for the Order of St. Raphael, It's often been said about me that I would be late for my own funeral, and the publication date of this newsletter would appear to bear that summary out. However, in my own defence? I am not very conversant with the job description. But, having now taken over I feel that I can now possibly add new and interesting content to the Order of St. Raphael Newsletter.

As we grow in strength of numbers, it is important that we know the other Conclaves and their members, that's the criteria that this newsletter is intended to promote and broadcast. When I spoke to our own Commander Dr. David Starritt about who to contact, he gave the names and information requested and then advised me to look at the website of the Order for any other information I needed. It struck me at that time that unless you were computer literate you would have little access to information that would enable you to make contact with the other Conclaves. I have therefore taken the liberty of including the information required to make contact by means other than e-mail.

I look forward to your comments" good or critical" and would sincerely welcome either. It is the intention of the newsletter to promote communications between both individuals and Conclaves. And, if you feel that there is some aspect of your Conclave that helps promote the Order or have some ideas on this newsletter and its format, please contact myself in the first instance, either by telephone or e-mail and I will be more than happy to review your comments or suggestions.

Yours in the Bonds of the Order.

Ian R Cameron, Grand Herald.

E-MAIL: IANCAMERON.INVERURIE@SKY.COM

TEL: 01651 873 315 (ANSWER MACHINE)

IN THIS ISSUE

INTRODUCTION FROM THE GRAND HERALD

Page 1

<u>GRAND CONCLAVE</u>	PAGES	<u>GRAND CONCLAVE</u>	PAGES
Investiture of New Grand Master	2,3,4	Insignia	14,15,16
message from New Grand Master	5	WEARING OF INSIGNIA	17, 18
Annual Investiture	5,6,7		
New members to Grand Conclave	8	<u>CONCLAVES OF THE ORDER</u>	PAGES
New Office Bearers	8	CONCLAVE OF THE LION RAMPANT	19,20
Office Bearers Duties	9,10,11	CONCLAVE OF ST MARTIN AT SÉES	21
Grand Treasurers Report	12		
Grand Conclave Accounts	13	CHARITABLE DONATIONS	22



Investiture of New Grand Master Julian K Gunnell GCSR, GCSM August 21st 2016

Many members went to stay at Rugeley the Saturday night before the event and as such had a very enjoyable impromptu Saturday night gathering arranged by David Haywood in a nearby hostelry. A careful eye was kept on Julian just to

ensure he did not have a “wee dram” too much before his big day! On a bright and sunny Sunday morning, members started to arrive at Hawkesyard Estate; one just knew how impressive it was as you drove into the estate - in front of you the large rambling Mansion, flanked on one side by a golf course and on top of the hill our destination, the Cathedral & Priory Church of St Thomas the Apostle. On arrival coffee and tea was available as always and we were all able to make our way around this lovely Cathedral, with its magnificent stained glass windows, carvings and superb roof structure.

Julian was taken off for his vigil in a side Chapel and we all lined up for the procession. After being seated, the congregation was welcomed by Most Rev John Lycett Archbishop, with a little history of Hawkesyard, a place known to previous generations by a variety of names including Hawkeserd in Hondesacre, Armitage Park, Spode House and Hawkesyard Priory.

The original hall, pulled down in 1665, was much closer to the River Trent, about half a mile to the west of Armitage Church. In 1760, when the estate was renamed

'Armitage Park' by Nathaniel Lister, he built a gothic style mansion on the sandstone hill above the site of the original hall. The building of the Priory and Church began almost immediately. Some say that this decision was inspired by a vision of the Virgin Mary appearing to someone in the grounds of the estate.

Then to business of the Installation of our New Grand Master. Everything went so smoothly thanks to our two Marshals, and soon Julian was brought in to be installed with due reverence by the Grand Master and Grand Prior. After rousing applause from the congregation, and greetings from members of Grand Council, Commanders of Conclaves, the Chaplaincy and a Member of the Order, Julian then called upon David Haywood to be installed as his Deputy Grand Master. We were all lined up for the photographs, got changed and wandered or drove down the hill to the mansion house.

On our arrival we were greeted by staff, shown the way to the bar (of course) and then to the room where we were to eat, with bright surroundings and large glass chandeliers. We sat down to a splendid lunch, following which Julian was called upon to make his maiden speech, which he did with humour. Finally, the Quaich was passed around with one of the finest Malt Whiskeys I have ever tasted! That done, it was time to leave and wind our way home. A super weekend and one well worth repeating.

Lawrence Day

N.B. Photographs of the occasion can be found in the Gallery section of the website.

www.orderofstraphael.org.uk



MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW GRAND MASTER

JULIAN K GUNNELL GCSR, GCSM

- This is my first newsletter as your new Grand Master and I am very aware the privilege given to me by being your Grand Master. This is the end of a very prestigious and successful term of office by our Grand Master Emeritus, Howard Doe. We all owe him a very great debt of gratitude for the way he has steered our Order through some choppy waters at times, to the vibrant Order we now have. I hope to continue the work he started.



For those of you unable to be at the Installation at Rugeley, you missed a wonderful and very moving ceremony. For this I am very indebted to the Arch Bishop for allowing us to use the Cathedral, our Grand Prior Geoffrey Robinson and Grand Chancellor David Haywood for the extremely detailed organisation and preparation for this event. Following a period of private vigil in prayer, I was obligated and invested as Grand Master. I then had the privilege of investing my Deputy Grand Master, David Haywood, as if he hasn't enough work to do!

In an Order such as ours everyone is part of the machine and their contribution to its welfare and growth will be greatly valued by me. I hope that all of you will get behind my officers and pull together as a team. Where anyone has a realistic idea that will expand the Order or make it simpler to run, then I and the Team will be always ready to consider it. It may not happen overnight but you may rest assured, it will not be dismissed out of hand.

Please wear your lapel pins with pride so that when someone says "What is that pin?" you will have the perfect lead to expound the pleasures of our wonderful Order. Since the Installation, David, Geoffrey and I have a few ideas and if they are workable, I hope you will embrace them with the spirit that they are intended. May the Order only progress from strength to strength. Bless you all.

[ANNUAL INVESTITURE 2016 @ PETERBOROUGH](#)

This year's meeting took place on 14th May at the Masonic Hall, Peterborough. The meeting commenced with the promotion of RE Chevalier David Haywood to Grand Chancellor, and he

took over the chair from RE Chevalier Barry Uttley at this point. The Grand Master went on to thank Barry for his loyal and efficient service as Grand Chancellor.

There were two postulants this year – Ian Bates and Helen Wilson, and we welcome them both to the Order.

There were four St Raphael promotions this year, including the Grand Prior, the Rt Rev'd Geoffrey Robinson, to the newly created rank of Ecclesiastical Grand Cross. The Grand Master then had great pleasure in making a number of awards in the Order of St Mark.

The Grand Master then had pleasure in appointing E Chevalier Alan Blackstone as Commander of the Conclave of St Martin at Sées, and E Chevalier Lawrence Day as Commander of the Conclave of St Thomas Becket – Martyr.

Following the service, the usual convivial meal took place, attended by 31 members and guests. Unfortunately, no representative from *Whiz-Kidz* was able to attend, but the Grand Master read out an update from the charity.

The Grand Council meeting took place after lunch, and items discussed were as follows:

- The GM made a formal announcement to the Grand Council that he was stepping down as GM this summer after 25 years in the role. His nominated successor is RE Chevalier Julian Gunnell. A vote to this effect was passed *nem con* and the GM wished his successor every success in his new role. Julian responded to say that it would be a hard act to follow Howard, but he is mindful of the Honour, and willing to listen to any ideas anybody might have for the benefit of the Order.
- The Grand Chancellor announced that in its previous form the Constitution and Statutes did not allow for the resignation of the GM. Accordingly, a few minor changes to the C&S were suggested earlier in the year, and put to members of the Grand Council by email. These were approved unanimously and a copy of the revised document can be found on the Order's website.
- The GM announced that the Installation service of his successor would be held at Rugeley, Staffordshire, on Sunday 21st August, and encouraged everybody to attend. The Grand Chancellor added that we were most grateful to the Grand Prior for the use of his Cathedral church, and that a special Order of Service had been written specially for this occasion. Full details and application forms will be sent out shortly.
- The Grand Treasurer circulated a copy of the accounts to 31st December 2015, which showed a surplus for the year of £328.70. Only one member is now in arrears with subscriptions, and it is reported that he is very poorly. He added that this year the accounts had been independently examined by Dame Rhoda Ross, and at the GM's suggestion she was approved as the Order's Accounts Examiner.
- The GT went on to add that following today's raffle, and with membership donations and donations from Conclaves we had around £600 to distribute to our nominated Charities. A suggestion was made from the floor to make a large distribution but both the Grand Chancellor and Grand Master Elect advised against this, particularly as there were as yet

unknown costs associated with the Rugeley event, and that we should defer this decision until next year, when we would have a better idea of our financial position. The GM suggested that we make donations of £350 each to Whizz-Kids and Combat Stress, and this was unanimously approved. Chevalier John Goodenough spoke briefly about the work of Combat Stress and thanked the meeting for the donation.

- The Grand Custodian of Insignia said that we were continuing to make progress with the supply of our insignia from new suppliers, but her job was being made difficult by members not advising her of requirements for new insignia in good time. It was stressed that all insignia should be ordered from the G.C. of I. and that all members should be encouraged to wear the Order's mantle and correct insignia on all formal occasions.
- Each of the three Conclave Commanders gave brief reports of their activities, and it is pleasing that we now have three active Conclaves. Copies of the reports or events can be found on the website.
- The Grand Master announced that the Grand Officer appointments would be made for the year but it will be up to the GM Elect to make his own appointments after August. However, in practice, most of the appointments will run until the next Annual Investiture.
- In addition to the existing Grand Officers, the following were appointed:
 Grand Herald – Chevalier Ian Cameron
 Grand Registrar – Dame Elaine Starritt
 Deputy Grand Marshal – Chevalier David Gibb

<u>Promotions:</u>	<u>St Mark Awards</u>
Rt Rev'd Geoffrey Robinson (EGCSR)	RE Chevalier David Haywood (GCSM)
Chevalier Lawrence Day (KCSR)	Dame Lesley Doe (GCSM)
Chevalier Lawrence Bell-Wright (KCSR)	Chevalier Michael Stephen (OSM)
Dame Pamela Robinson (DCSR)	Dame Anne Stephen (OSM)

- Any other business – mention was again made about the time and location of the National Investiture Service. We will be going to Rugeley in August, on a Sunday, and will see how this works out, but the GM is of the opinion that at Peterborough we have a good venue, all under one roof, with an excellent meal at a very good price, and that unless anybody could come up with an alternative providing better value then we would remain here in future. The Grand Chancellor added that he would be putting out a member survey later in the year which should give us a much better idea of what members think individually, and this will hopefully allow us to plan better for the future. The Grand Master closed the Grand Council Meeting at 3.30pm.

New members admitted:

Chevalier Ian Bates (KSR)
 Dame Helen Wilson

2016 – 2017 GRAND OFFICE BEARERS & Their Duties.

Grand Master

R.E. Chevalier Julian Gunnell GCSR, GCSM

Tel: 01522 394965

Email: gm@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Master has overall command and Responsibility of the Order.

Grand Prior

Rt Rev'd. Geoffrey Robinson EGCSR, KCSM

Tel: 01704 512170

Email: gp@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Prior is responsible for the spiritual welfare and growth of the Order.

Grand Chancellor

R.E. Chevalier David J Haywood OSTJ, GCSR, GCSM,

Tel: 0161 764 4786

Email: gc@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Chancellor is responsible for all administrative matters within the Order.

Grand Marshall

E. Chevalier David T Gibb KSR

Tel: 01506 670098

Email: gmarsh@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Marshal is responsible for the conduct of the ceremonies.

Grand Treasurer

Chevalier David Starritt KCSR, GCSM

Tel: 01339 881271

Email: gt@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Treasurer is responsible for the financial affairs of the Order.

Grand Hospitaller

R.E. Chevalier Ian Tough GCSR, KSM

Tel: 01322 529606

Email: ghos@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Hospitaller is responsible for the Charitable objectives of the Order.

Grand Lecturer

E. Chevalier Leslie Grout KCSR, KSM

Tel: 01753 851947

The Grand Lecturer is responsible for all teaching aspects of the Order.

Grand Registrar

Dame Elaine Starritt, DSR,

Tel: 01339 881271

Email: gr@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Registrar is responsible for the records of the Order. The Grand Herald will also take responsibility for the production of all certificates presented to members at investitures.

Grand Sub Prior **Vacant**

Tel: & Email: gsp@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Sub Prior is responsible for supporting the Grand Prior in his duties.

Grand Herald

Chevalier Ian Cameron KSR, MSM

Tel: 01651 873315

Email: gh@orderofstraphael.org.uk

E Mail: iancameron.inverurie@sky.com

The Grand Herald is responsible for the publication of a newsletter. The Grand Herald liaises with the Grand Chancellor.

Deputy Grand Marshal

The Grand Deputy Marshal is responsible for assisting the Grand Marshal.

Grand Custodian of Insignia

R.E. Dame Margaret Gunnell GCSR, DCSM

Tel: 01522 394965

Email: gcoi@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Custodian of Insignia is responsible for the supply of Insignia in accordance with the Constitution and Dress Regulations of the Order.

Grand Director of Music

Chevalier Clive Warham KSR, CSM

Tel: 01282 703177

Email: gdom@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Director of Music is responsible for the arrangement of music at our ceremonies.

Grand Steward VacantTel: & Email: gs@orderofstraphael.org.uk

The Grand Steward is responsible for all dining arrangements at Meetings.

Grand Sword Bearer**E. Chevalier Leslie Grout** KCSR, KSM

Tel: 01753 851947

The Grand Sword Bearer will carry the Sword at all ceremonial occasions.

Grand Banner Bearer Vacant

The Grand Banner Bearer will carry the Banner at all ceremonial occasions.

Grand Cross Bearer Vacant

The Grand Cross Bearer will carry the Cross of the Order at all ceremonial occasions.

Grand Guard Vacant

The Grand Guard traditionally guards the entrance to the venue.

A Message from the Grand Treasurer

I am pleased to report that our finances are sound, and that there will be no need to increase fees for the foreseeable future. Two thirds of our active members have paid their oblation (subscription) for the current year, which is good. But that also means a third have not – yet. I don't think that it is right to expect the Grand Treasurer to have to pester members for their contributions:

Easy Way: So I would encourage you all to consider paying by Standing Order. If you do, you will never need to worry about it again, and you won't even notice the payment going out. If you do on-line banking, then setting up a standing order is easy. If you don't, please ask me for an STO form in which you fill in your own details and give it to your bank.

Hard Way: Put a recurring note on your calendar and send me a cheque to Postal address below.

David Starritt, The Red Lodge, Tarland, Aberdeenshire, AB34 4UD

Tel: 013398 81271

email:David@tarland.com

CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO**"ORDER OF SAINT RAPHAEL" SORT CODE: 30-98-74 Acct. No: 03007698**

GRAND CONCLAVE ACCOUNTS

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 31st December 2015

	2014	2015
Income		
Subscriptions	689.29	1260.00
Admission fees	210.00	100.00
Sales of regalia	522.20	108.00
Donations	550.00	377.00
Raffle proceeds	128.00	
AGM luncheon	750.00	775.00
Interest	0.66	0.37
	2850.15	2620.37
Expenditure		
To Conclaves	140.00	100.00
Regalia	1116.74	38.84
Donations	350.00	633.00
Catering	800.00	950.00
Bank charges	35.00	0.00
Postage, stationery	12.59	
Website, newsletter	216.48	222.83
	2670.81	1944.67
Drop in value of stock		347.00
Surplus (Deficit) for the period:	178.68	328.70
 Balances as at 1st January		
	currant a/c	608.07
	deposit a/c	1065.34
	Cash	2001.16
	Float	0.00
	Assets	34.00
		87.41
		2856.80
Add surplus (deficit) for year	178.68	328.70
	2887.91	6074.07
Represented by: Assets		
Insignia stock	2740.00	2393.00
Ceremonial cushions, sword, and gavel	62.00	62.00
Chain of office	54.80	54.80
Closing balances	currant a/c	1065.34
	deposit a/c	3313.51
	cash	202.19
	float	0.00
	3805.34	48.57
		6074.07

I, the undersigned submit this statement of accounts as a true and accurate record of the accounts of the Order for the year ending 31st December, 2015

David R. Starritt

David R. Starritt, K.C.S.R, G.C.S.M., Grand Treasurer

Dated: 19th February, 2016

EXAMINERS REPORT: I have examined the books and vouchers of these accounts, and am satisfied that the above is a true record of the accounts and funds for the year ending 31st December, 2015

Rhoda W Ross

Dame Rhoda W. Ross, D.S.R., Examiner of Books

Dated: 19th February, 2016

'THE ST RAPHAEL LINK'

Those of you for whom we have a registered email address should have been receiving copies of a regular e-newsletter from our Grand Prior, Rt. Rev'd Geoffrey Robinson, which has proved to be a popular and welcome addition to the ways in which we communicate with our membership. If you have not been receiving this, please contact Bishop Geoffrey at gp@orderofstraphael.org.uk so that he can update his mailing list.

INSIGNIA

Grand Custodian of Insignia

R.E. Dame Margaret Gunnell, GCSR, DCSM

Moleside, Church Lane, Sudbrooke, Lincs, LN2 2QH

Tel: 01522 394965

email: gcoi@orderofstraphael.org.uk

Margaret reminds members that a variety of gifts and insignia is in stock, and that orders are now being taken. The price list appears below, and pictures of the various items appear on the website. Margaret's details are above and also at the end of this newsletter.

The Grand Custodian of Insignia now has some new gift items available for members of the Order to purchase, and other items will be available shortly.

If you wish to order, please get in touch with the Custodian of Insignia to make arrangements. Purchases can be made direct by telephone – 01438 811404

[email](mailto:gcoi@orderofstraphael.org.uk). gcoi@orderofstraphael.org.uk

Please make cheques payable to **"The Order of St. Raphael"**.

The Grand Master has approved all of these items and is keen that members purchase them in aid of our charitable causes. If you have any other suggestions for gift items, then please let us know.



New St Raphael Tie

Dark blue/Shadow
print/Arms of the
Order/Gold stripes.

£16.00 incl. p&p



Paperweight

Flat crystal engraved
St. Raphael paperweight.
Felt backing to protect
surfaces.85mm (3 ½ ins.)
diameter.

£17.00 incl. p&p



Cuff Links

13mm (½ in) diameter

£15.00 incl. p&p



***Order of St Raphael
Miniature Medal***

£18.00 incl. p&p



Lapel Pin

13mm (½ in) diameter
£3.50 incl. p&p



***Order of
St Mark
Miniature Medal***

£20.00 incl. p&p



**Order of
St Raphael
Breast Star**

£40.00 incl. p&p



**Order of
St Raphael
Miniature Medal –
Ladies**

£18.00 incl. p&p



Order of St Mark Medal

£20.00 incl. p&p

Regalia

Breast Star		£40.00
Collarette & Jewel	(KSR)	£34.00
Bow & Jewel	(Dame)	£38.00
Collarette	(KSR)	£10.00
Collarette	(KCSR)	£18.00
Collarette & Jewel	(KCSR)	£40.00
Bow only	(DCSR)	£20.00
Miniature Jewel (Mark & Raphael)		£18.00 (Ladies bow also)
St Mark Breast Medal		£20.00
Rosette with flashes (Silver)		£ 2.00
Mantle Cross		£20.00
Mantle (Direct order from suppliers)		£117.50 inc. VAT

Miscellaneous

Cuff links	£15.00
Lapel Pins	£ 3.50
Tie of the Order	£16.00
Paper weight	£15.00

Prices are, of course, subject to change as stock is replenished, so please check with Margaret before placing any orders.

WEARING OF INSIGNIA

It is expected that members will purchase and wear the Insignia of their rank at all ceremonial events held by the Order. Insignia for the Orders of St Raphael and St Mark should be obtained only from the Grand Custodian of Insignia.

Only the insignia for the *current* rank held by the member should be worn.

Insignia for other Orders should not be worn except for medals awarded by the Sovereign.

Members (male) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon on the left breast. A miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions, and may be mounted on a bar with other decorations.

Members (female) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon on the left breast.

Officers (male) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon with a silver metal button rosette in the centre of the ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions.

Officers (female) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon with a silver basket weave button rosette in the centre of the ribbon on the left breast.

Assistant Chaplains should wear the breast medal and ribbon as for Officers (male). A cope, tippet or stole may be decorated with the badge of the Order.

Commanders (male) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon with a gilt basket weave button rosette in the centre of the ribbon on the left breast. A miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon with a gilt metal button rosette in the centre of the ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions.

Commanders (female) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon with a gilt basket weave button rosette in the centre of the ribbon on the left breast.

Knights should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple collarette. A silver plated breast star may also be worn showing the badge of the Order with a white Maltese Cross and gilt Potent Cross. A miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon with a silver metal button rosette with silver flashes in the centre of the ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions.

Dames should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple bow.

Chaplains should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a collarette or bow depending on whether male or female, as for Knights and Dames. A breast star may also be worn as for Knights. A cope, tippet or stole may be decorated with the badge of the Order.

Knight Commanders should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple collarette with silver Russia braid to both edges of the ribbon. A silver plated breast star may also be worn, as for a Knight. A miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon with a silver metal button rosette with a silver and gilt flash in the centre of the ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions.

Dame Commanders should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple bow with a silver metal button rosette with a silver and gilt flash on the centre of the bow.

Knights Grand Cross should wear a 100mm wide purple cordon (sash) with bow; 100mm gold bullion fringe; the medal of the Order suspended from the bow worn from right shoulder to left hip. A gilt breast star may also be worn showing the badge of the Order with a white Maltese Cross and gilt Potent Cross. A miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon with a gilt metal button rosette with gilt flashes in the centre of the ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions.

Dames Grand Cross should wear a 100mm wide purple cordon (sash) with bow; 100mm gold bullion fringe; the medal of the Order suspended from the bow worn from right shoulder to left hip.

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Master Emeritus, Grand Prior and Grand Chancellor may wear a chain of office, each of specific design. A Commander of a Conclave may, in his Conclave, wear a purple collar, which may be decorated with a silver chain.

The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Chancellor may carry a baton, each of specific design, in which case no sword is worn.

CONCLAVE OF ST THOMAS BECKET – MARTYR

The Conclave Commander is R.E. Chevalier Lawrence Day, CStJ, KCSR
You can contact Alan at ctb@orderofstraphael.org.uk or telephone: 0208 3904642

At the previous meeting and at the Grand meeting in Peterborough as well as by email correspondence members of the St William of Rochester Conclave had decided that it would be sensible to place the Conclave into abeyance and transfer into St Thomas Becket – Martyr. Following a brief discussion at which the Kent

members present had voiced their agreement with this view and following a proposal from Penny Bell-Wright seconded by Peter Robins, the members of St Thomas Becket – Martyr voted unanimously to accept the Kent members. A general discussed then ensued and it was agreed that all members should be encouraged to attend and that those who did not generally respond should be telephoned.

It was agreed that a Conclave meeting would be held in Kent, probably at Dartford, on a date to be decided. It was also agreed that a Dinner would be held on the Friday before the 29th September each Year, three courses excluding drinks. To encourage members to become more active, 3 or 4 activities per year would also be arranged. The following initial suggestions were put forward, a tour of Windsor Castle, to be arranged with Leslie Grout, renowned expert, a trip on the London Eye and a trip down the River to Greenwich, possibly with a meal in the O2.

CONCLAVE OF LION RAMPANT

The Conclave Commander is E. Chevalier David Starritt, KCSR, GCSM
 You can contact David at gt@orderofstraphael.org.uk or telephone 013398 81271
 David is supported by the Conclave Officers: -

Chancellor	Dame Elaine J Starritt, DSR, MSM Tel: 01339 881271	
Treasurer	Chevalier Gordon Wackett KSR.	
Meetings 2017	Dates	Venue / Address
AGM		The Lodge of St. Anthony, 22 High St. Inverurie Aberdeenshire, AB51 22XQ Scotland U.K.
INSTALLATION		
SUMMER MEETING	Fri. 16th June	STIRLING – (Weekend Away)
FUND RAISING EVENT	Aug. 2017	BARBEQUE & “Entertainment” Mosseye Steading, Oldmeldrum, ABERDEENSHIRE AB51 0BN U.K.

Should any other Members of the Order wish to attend, please do not hesitate to contact our Chancellor Dame Elaine Starritt for venue location and hotels etc. all are most welcome to sample Scots Hospitality at its most creative.

Events / Occasions 2016 Lion Rampant visit to Inspire

Inspire is a local charity in the North East of Scotland supporting young adults with various disabilities after other support is withdrawn when they reach the age of 18, and are then adults. The St. James’s Court is a facility that Inspire supports. We were given a tour of the building and its gardens which were all very impressive, and we were “inspired” to continue to support this good and worthy cause.



On Saturday 31st October 2015, members of the Lion Rampant Conclave went to St. James's Court in Inverurie to present a cheque for £500 made out to "Inspire".

The photo shows our Treasurer, Dame Rhoda Ross DSR, presenting the cheque to Mr. Duncan Peter from Inspire. Also in the picture are the Commander of the Conclave, Chevalier David Starritt KCSR GCSM, and the Vice-Chancellor, Dame Elaine Starritt DSR, both wearing the mantle of the Order. Also you might spot Chevalier Gordon Wackett KSR, Chevalier Michael Stephen KSR and Dame Anne Stephen DSR amongst various residents and members of staff. The lady holding the banner of our Conclave is Joyce, one of the residents.

Once again this year, we returned to "INSPIRE" to continue our support and I am very proud to report that on virtually all members of the Lion Rampant Conclave turned out this morning for the visit to St James's Court, for the presentation of a cheque for £400 to Inspire, and for the draw for Melanie's lucky square.

Lucky square draw for Xmas Hamper



I am very proud to report that virtually all members of the Lion Rampant Conclave turned out for the visit to St James's Court, for the presentation of a cheque for £400 to Inspire, and for the draw for Melanie's lucky square.

The draw for the Hamper was drawn by one of the residents and the winner was Mrs Moira Scott.

Members all contributed to the cost of the Hamper and this raised another £169.00 for further good causes.

Pictured - the presentation of the cheque for £400.00



Photo shows us all in the garden there with residents and staff, and with a resident receiving the cheque

We then went to “The Fly Cup”, a cafe nearby run by this charity. It serves to train young disabled people in various catering skills in the hope that some may be able to subsequently take on paid employment. There we enjoyed some really fine soup, sandwiches and coffee in a lovely modern, bright, clean setting before heading home.

And Finally, a recent message from our Commander.

Dear Knights, Dames, esquires, demoiselles and friends,

The weekend for our June meeting of the Lion Rampant Conclave has been chosen. Remember that this shall be a weekend away – in Stirling.

We shall gather in the evening of Friday 16th June, ie after the meeting of SGRACS in Auld Reekie. What we shall see and do has not yet been ironed out but shall conclude with a jazz session at a small brewery at Bridge of Allan on the Sunday afternoon.

It will be possible to join us later than Friday evening, or to leave earlier than the jazz session, but I hope as many as possible will stay for the whole event. Please also think about inviting any friends that you think may be interested in joining our Order. Accommodation is still being looked into.

PUT THIS IN YOUR DIARY NOW - and don't let anything else get in the way !!

Should any of the Members from other Conclaves wish to attend, please contact our Chancellor Dame Elaine Starritt for further details, it would be nice to be able to extend our Scots Hospitality to one and all.

CONCLAVE OF ST MARTIN AT SEES.

The Lancastrian Conclave of St Martin at Sées was consecrated in August 2002. The Conclave Commander is R.E. Chevalier Alan Blackstone, GCSR, KCSM. You can contact Alan at csm@orderofstraphael.org.uk or telephone: 01925 487427

Events / Occasions 2016

The annual outing is one which many of our members enjoy, as it enables them to get to know each other better in informal surroundings, whilst at the same time allowing us to participate in the Order's objectives of Healing and Teaching, and to raise a small amount of money for the Order's charity.

On a beautiful weekend in September, members of the Conclave made their way to the stunning region of Dumfries and Galloway for our annual outing, which this time was a long weekend away.

The majority met up on the Thursday for a convivial meal in Dumfries before our weekend got underway on the Friday with a walk across the ancient bridge over the River Nith to the Dumfries Museum and Camera Obscura. A heavy shower on the way up threatened our visit to the Camera, which operates only when dry, but miraculously the sun came out and we were able to view minute details of the Town and surrounding countryside through this ancient equipment.



A short visit to the Robert Burns Museum was followed by lunch then on to Sweetheart Abbey, which dates back to the 13th century. It is now in ruins but is brought back to life by its wonderful history and stunning surroundings. From the Abbey we made a short detour to the home of our Grand Almoner, Helen Neaves-Wilde, who has a cottage overlooking the estuary and the fells on three sides. A delicious afternoon tea was followed by a short and tranquil prayer service in the lounge.

Our base for the weekend was at the Kings Arms, Castle Douglas, from where we were able to make visits to Threave Castle and Kirkudbright, to Broughton House and Garden. Both evenings were spent enjoying each other's company over dinner.

The annual outing is one which many of our members enjoy, as it enables them to get to know each other better in informal surroundings, whilst at the same time allowing us to participate in the Order's objectives of Healing and Teaching, and to raise a small amount of money for the Order's charity.



Members of St Martin Conclave enjoying some Scottish hospitality

“ORDER of St RAPHAEL” Charitable Donations for 2016

Donated to:	Presented by:	Amount:
Whizz Kids	Grand Conclave of St. Raphael	£350.00
Combat Stress	Grand Conclave of St. Raphael	£350.00
INSPIRE	Order of Lion Rampant	£400.00
		£1100.00

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 the Grand Chancellor, details as above: