

*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 Provinces Overseas.*



King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement
Annual Report 2019-2020

This year has been devastated by the Coronavirus Pandemic which effectively reduced the holding of King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement (POI) to six months. Since 23rd March 2020 all Masonic Meetings have been cancelled and the situation subsists. Hence, the delayed meeting of the Executive, which is now being conducted by way of a Virtual Meeting over the Internet.

Following discussion at the last Annual General Meeting the Registrar, E.Kt. Harry Randell, arranged for the POI to hold Satellite Meetings at Moseley Masonic Hall, Kings Heath, Birmingham on three separate occasions – Third Tuesday in October, First Tuesday in April and Second Tuesday in July. However, only the meeting in October 2019 has been held to date. This was very well attended by many Knights from Worcestershire, including the Provincial Prior, R.E.Kt. Eric Bourne, and other Knights from Warwickshire and as far away as Lancashire, Kent and Somerset.

The Masonic Hall at Kings Heath is currently undergoing refurbishment and is due to re-open in January 2021, Government Covid19 restrictions permitting.

Following a request from the Provincial Prior of Durham, R.E.Kt. Richard Scott, the Registrar attended the Provincial Priory of Malta Meeting in Durham on Thursday 11th July 2019 to observe and assess the Provincial Sub.Prior, E.Kt. Richard Tucker BEM whilst performing the Installation Ceremony of a Malta Candidate. The Sub. Prior acquitted himself very well and hopes to be able to progress to the Preceptor Instructor's Test. E.Kt. Harry Randell was thanked by the Provincial Prior for his attendance and for the constructive advice given.

A Demonstration/Workshop had been arranged to take place at Holy Cross Preceptory No.332 in Kings Heath Birmingham on the first Tuesday in May 2020 but had to be cancelled. Preliminary arrangements with other Provinces to organise Workshops have been shelved for the time being.

The Annual Dinner for the members of the Preceptory of Improvement was this year held at the Civil Services Club, Great Scotland Yard, London on 7th February. There was a good turn out from all over the country to welcome as guests the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master – Paul Raymond Clement, and the Very High and Right Eminent Great Seneschal – Andrew Christopher Rainbow. Other guests

included were R.E.Kt. Richard Scott, Provincial Prior of Durham; E.Kt. Richard Tucker BEM Provincial Sub. Prior of Durham; R.E.Kt. David Gallear , Provincial Prior of Lancashire and E.Kt. Antony Legge, Provincial Sub. Prior of London. The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master presented Preceptor Instructor's Certificates to E.Kt. Harry Randell, Monmouth & South Wales and Worcestershire Provinces and E.Kt. William Whitehead, Somerset Province and congratulated them both on their achievement. A delicious meal of their own choice, with the appropriate wine, was enjoyed by all in a convivial atmosphere.

During the year the Preceptory gained nine new members but lost three through illness and moving abroad. Although there have been over a hundred Knights who have paid their life subscription of £2, there are only about twenty Knights who regularly attend the Preceptory of Improvement and these are mainly from the South East Provinces. We would like to remind all Knights that the King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement is open to all Knights regardless of their rank.

V.E.Kt. Victor Parnis, Provincial Sub. Prior for London, who was also the Appointed Executive Member by King Edward Preceptory No.173 relinquished his position when he stepped down as Sub. Prior due to him spending more time abroad and not being able to attend. We thank him for his input and support of the POI over the years and welcome E.Kt. Antony Sidoli onto the Executive as the nominated member of King Edward Preceptory.

The dates for 2020 - 2021 King Edward VII POI are on an information card situated in the Mark Mason's Hall lobby. They can also be found on the website – www.kingepoi.org or via the link on the Knights Templar website – <https://markmasonshall.org/orders/knights-templar>.

Any Province wishing to be provided with assistance by way of a 'workshop' or 'demonstration' from King Edward VII Preceptory of Improvement need only to contact the Registrar, Eminent Knight Harry J Randell P.Dep.Gt.Mar., on e-mail: harryrandell@btinternet.com or telephone 01437 766524.

Yours in the Bonds of the Order,

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