



Provincial Prior's Bodyguard

Bodyguard Report 2018 - 2019

The Provincial Prior's Bodyguard has had a busy 2018 - 2019 season so far and this report covers the period from 23/09/2018 to 30/04/2019.

Family Church Service Sept 2018

There have been various highlights in the year to date, first that of the Church Service on Sunday 23rd Sept 2018, which was well attended and the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard paraded in and out and formed an escort for the Provincial Prior and the various dignitaries and processions at Wymondham Abbey.

The afternoon Tea was also well attended with excellent food and refreshments laid on and the whole event as usual was a great success. All nineteen members of the bodyguard took part in the in the Church Service and escorts to the Right Eminent Provincial Prior.

Knight Templar Banquet Nov 2018

The Provincial Prior's Banquet was also well attended and held at the Dunston Hall Hotel Norwich. The Provincial Prior's Bodyguard Past and Present had two tables again this time, the third Banquet where there has been specific Bodyguard tables allowing them to sit and socialise together.

This was as usual a thoroughly splendid occasion especially for the bodyguard members and their wives/partners. There must be a special mention for our own E. Knight Roger Dor who was in great pain with a trapped nerve in his hip was ably assisted by members of the Bodyguard who put themselves at his disposal and put in a lot of hard work to decorate the tables and Banquet Hall to a high standard which made it look fabulous for the evening.

To E. Kt. Mike Smith who although not a member of the Bodyguard he has always been very supportive to us. Of course we could not forget the Provincial Prior Stewart and his wife Sally and the Sub Prior Bill who collectively made it a great evening.

Installations & Provincial Visits 2018-19

The various Preceptory installations and Provincial visits at the end of the year 2018 were all well attended and on one occasion at St Johns Preceptory 13 members of the bodyguard were in attendance with 8 members on parade to escort the Provincial Prior and Sub Prior.

Provincial Meeting Feb 2019

At the Provincial meeting on Saturday 23rd February 2019, at Ashlar House Bury-St-Edmunds the Provincial Prior re-appointed eleven of the Knights of his Provincial Bodyguard.

He also re-appointed into their existing position E. Kt. David Hedges as Commander, E. Kt. Ian Gray as Deputy Commander, Zone Commanders East and West respectively were Kt Mike Hawkes and E. Kt. Craig Carr, E. Kt. Mark Prince as Registrar and E. Kt. Roger Dor as Quartermaster all of which are more than happy to remain members of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard.

It is worthy of note that at the Provincial meeting eighteen of the twenty Provincial Prior's Bodyguards were on parade with an additional four probationers who were appointed to the Bodyguard as follows, Kt. Andrew Klausner of Beeston Regis Preceptory No 667, Kt. Clive Oldham of Lynn Regis Preceptory No 330, Kt. Stuart Smith of Tancred Preceptory No 102 and Kt. Jeremy Winder of Lynn Regis Preceptory No 330.

Some of the Bodyguard were also on duty as E. Preceptors and Preceptory Banner Bearers and afterwards joined the Bodyguard for the rest of the meeting, E. Kt Roger Dor despite his ongoing hip problem still managed to parade with the Bodyguard for re-appointment.

At this meeting we said farewell to E. Kt. Glen Rae of Prudence Preceptory No 16 who after several years of loyal conspicuous service on the Bodyguard has stood down to concentrate other Masonic duties and due to his work commitments, we all wish him for the future.

The Malta and Templar meetings were well organised and the appointments and promotions carousel went reasonable well. E. Kt. Peter Coles was unwell but after a drink he was able to continue and everything resumed as normal.

At the Provincial meeting the Commander of the Bodyguard handed the Right Eminent Provincial Prior a cheque for £500.00p to be donated to The Eye Hospital of Jerusalem.

All of this was finished off with an excellent Festive Board with good food and good company. A thank you to the Bodyguard members who assisted the Commander by acting as wine waiters with him.

Spring Activities 2019

Our drill and general military bearing continues to advance over the year, as in previous years, and we have received very laudatory compliments on our demeanour and turnout in the Preceptories that we visit. This was exemplified by the Provincial Bodyguard's turnout at the Provincial Meeting February 2019.

Our attendances at all the Knight Templar installation ceremonies in support of the Right Eminent Provincial Prior and Very Eminent Sub Prior and at the Provincial visits, through the spring will continue and we hope will be well attended and consistent with our aims as a Provincial Bodyguard.

Probationer Knights 2019

We welcome five new potential probationer Knights to our ranks and hope that they enjoy being part of this select group of Knights Templar who serve the Right Eminent Provincial Prior and Very Eminent Sub-Prior whilst ensuring that the virtues of belonging to a Religious Military & Masonic Order are upheld.

They are Kt. Alan Barrett Dunwich Preceptory 538, Kt. Paul Davies Martyn Preceptory 544, Kt. David Goode Holy Rood Preceptory 179 & Isle of Ely Preceptory 677, Kt. Ian Hugget Lynn Regis Preceptory 330 and Kt. Luke Loades Peter Cannon Meridian Preceptory 692.

Provincial Bodyguard of East Anglia Bank Account

Finances, the Commander of the Bodyguard at the moment also acts as treasurer and can report that the Provincial Bodyguard of East Anglia bank account is currently showing a balance of £873.32p in the black.

Provincial Prior, R. E. Kt. Stewart Charles Lambert Middleton I am pleased to inform you that at the time of writing this report you have twenty two appointed Knights in your Provincial Bodyguard and five other Knights in the process of joining as probationers.

This means that in your Province, thirteen of the fifteen Preceptories/Priories are now represented by their members serving on the Provincial Bodyguard, the only exception to that are the Prudence Preceptory 16 and the Preceptory of St John 418 at Ipswich and Diss respectively and I will make contact in the near future with a view to recruiting one of their members onto your bodyguard.

Contact Details

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The 22 currently appointed Bodyguard members are:

Comm E. Kt. David Hedges Beeston Regis 667, Walsingham 497 & Peter Cannon Meridian 692

Dep Comm E. Kt. Ian Gray Tancred 102 & Ely 677 & Peter Cannon Meridian 692

Registrar E. Kt. Mark Prince Hereward the Wake 439

Zone Commander East Kt. Michael Hawkes Royal Plantagenet 80

Zone Commander West E. Kt. Craig Carr Walter Short 451

Quartermaster E. Kt. Roger Dor Martyn 544

E. Kt. Richard Brown Beeston Regis 667

Kt. Robert Clack Cabbell 69

Kt. Graham Clapperton Hereward the Wake 439

Kt. Melvyn Eke Martyn 544

Kt. Nigel Hood Cabbell 69

Kt. Andrew Klausner Beeston Regis 667

Kt. Warren McShane Lynn Regis 330

Kt. Nicholas Mills Peter Cannon Meridian 692

Kt. Clive Oldham Lynn Regis 330

Kt. Andrew Panter Beeston Regis 667

Kt. Ian Phillips Holy Rood 179

Kt. Andrew Seales Cabbell 69

Kt. Anthony Smith Dunwich 538

Kt. Stuart Smith Tancred 102

Kt. Anthony Wooderson Dunwich 538

Kt. Jeremy Winder Lynn Regis 330

***Yours in the Bonds of the Order
E. Kt. David B. Hedges Commander
Of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard
For the Province of East Anglia***