

LAZARUS LETTER

THE JOURNAL OF THE MILITARY AND HOSPITALIER ORDER OF SAINT LAZARUS OF JERUSALEM
GRAND PRIORY OF AUSTRALIA

April 2008

FROM THE GRAND PRIOR

The National Chapter of the Australian Grand Priory that was held in Canberra in April was a great success in every way. The number of Members from around Australia who attended was almost 100. Total registrations exceeded 130. The Chapter Meeting went smoothly and there was a general feeling of satisfaction amongst the Members with the way in which the Grand Priory and the various Commanderies were functioning.

Thanks are due to the ACT Commandery for the work which the Members put into organising the National Chapter. The social functions were convivial, dignified and friendly and the Church services left nothing to be desired. I would like to express my personal thanks to Chev John Donovan, President of the ACT Commandery, and to his most effective assistant Ann Sutton, who shouldered most of the burdens. I would like also to thank our Chaplains for their work and in particular for selecting "singable" hymns for all of our services.

On the international front the developments have, in the main, been favourable. The Order is moving towards a Chapter General in Manchester in September 2008 at which a new Grand Master

is to be elected and a revised Constitution discussed. Negotiations for participation by the Australian Grand Priory are under way and later in the year I will be contacting the Members in order to elicit proxy from them for use at the Chapter General. All Members who are of the rank of Knight, Dame or above are entitled to vote at Chapters General.

Since the National Chapter in Canberra I have been working in Melbourne and as a result had the opportunity to attend and speak at the Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Commandery that was held on 28 April 2008. I am pleased to report that 30 Members attended the Annual General Meeting and that a spirit of friendship and a desire to serve were clearly manifest. I hope that I will have the opportunity to attend the Annual General Meetings of other Commanderies as well as significant functions, especially religious functions.

My sense is that things are going well in the Australian Grand Priory. Please pray that my sense in this regard is well placed and that this situation will continue, not only in our own Grand Priory but also in the international organisation of our great Order.

**The Hon Mr Justice Barry O'Keefe AM KCHS
GCLJ (Ret)**

Grand Prior of Australia

FROM THE CHANCELLOR

I am including a copy of the report I tabled at the National Chapter meeting in Canberra. The meeting was very successful with all the religious services and social events meeting the high standards we have come to expect.

It was a real pleasure to see and feel the genuine warmth of the personal contacts and exchanges.

I will be writing to Commandery Presidents during the next few weeks with a list of matters which were referred to the Chancellor's Committee to be progressed before the next National Chapter in Brisbane (30 April to 3 May 2009).

In my letter, it is my intention to ask Presidents to seek the view of Commandery members so that the Chancellor's Committee has the benefit of members views when discussing the matters. The results of the Committees review will be circulated and where necessary referred to the National Council. It is hoped that through this process papers can be submitted to a National Chapter meeting for a final decision where this is necessary.

At the National Chapter meeting the National Treasurer, Chev. William Tunny KLJ OMLJ, and

the National Hospitaller, Dr. Michael Campion KM CLJ were re-elected to their positions. Chev. John Castles AM KLJ was elected as National Almoner to succeed the retiring Chev. Geoffrey Summerhayes OAM KLJ CMLJ. Geoffrey's great commitment to his role and the benefit the Order has received from it was warmly applauded by the membership.

I am sure that all members were as pleased as I was to learn of the enormous amount of work the Commanderies have collectively made in pursuit of our goals to assist the less well off and marginalised in the community. Also the National Chaplain, his Deputy and the other Chaplains made their usual major contribution to the spiritual needs of the National Chapter meeting. It was a delight to participate in the services with them and to listen to eloquent and moving sermons.

I must record my personal congratulations for the organisation of the National Chapter meeting by the ACT Commandery and particularly the hard work undertaken by President, Chev Dr. John Donovan ED KLJ, and Mrs. Ann Sutton CLJ.

Will J Bailey AO KLJ OMLJ, Chancellor.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT TO THE NATIONAL CHAPTER MEETING CANBERRA ACT - APRIL 2008

The period since the last National Chapter has seen quite a deal of activity in the Order in Australia. The decision to review and update the Members' Manual, review State Commandery Constitutions to endeavour to ensure uniformity as far as possible, and to support the Spafford Centre has meant a small group of people have been very busy. It is pleasing that the result of this work will be presented to our meeting.

Shortly after the last National Chapter meeting I wrote to all Presidents to reinforce the requirements of our Constitution regarding membership, promotions and Awards. Also I indicated that it is necessary to prepare a written submission or proposal if matters of substance are to be raised at the meeting. In relation to promotions I emphasised that a members participation in all aspects of the Order, spiritual, hospitaller and military needs to be clearly demonstrated in the

recommendation. Promotion is not an automatic process; it has to be earned. Regular attendance at Commandery and National Chapter meetings, Quiet Days and Fund Raising Events are not optional if a promotion is to be approved. Not all Commandery recommendations will be approved by the Promotions and Awards Committee. They need to remain confidential until a decision is advised to the Commandery President by myself as Chancellor.

It is pleasing that we have been able to send \$17,500 to the Spafford Centre in Jerusalem. I thank those Commanderies and the individuals who contributed to the Appeal. As it was agreed at the last National Chapter meeting this is now a voluntary annual event. I am hopeful that all Commanderies are in a position to make a contribution in 2008.

In addition I should like to thank the NSW Commandery and President Chev. Ross Brown for inviting me, Dorothy and Secretary-General Chev. David Masters and Dame Glenise to their major event at Abercrombie House, Bathurst in October. The hospitality provided by Mr Rex Morgan and his family was splendid indeed.

International

There has been a considerable volume of activity on the International scene. I will not include details in my report as the Grand Prior and his International Reconciliation Advisor, Chev. John Bishop will cover this matter.

Finance

The annual accounts continue to be prepared on a cash basis. The accounts for the year ended 31 December 2008 have been signed and audited and copies have been sent to members. The Grand Priory is in a sound financial position. Our international obligations are in the process of being transferred subject to a number of conditions. The Grand Prior will report on this matter at the Chapter meeting.

Office Bearers

There will be elections for the positions of National Treasurer, National Hospitaller and National Almoner at this meeting of the National Chapter. The current National Almoner, Chev. Geoffrey Summerhayes OAM KLJ CMLJ retires having completed a period of 6 years in his role. I would like to record the my appreciation and that of the Grand Priory of Australia for his commitment, professionalism and success in the way in which he carried out his duties.

Membership, Promotions & Awards

I would like to offer my personal congratulations to the following members who have been recognised and will participate in the Investiture Service at Wesley Uniting Church on April 5 2008.

Postulants

Commandery -

NSW	Ms Ann Tolman.
Qld	Mr Ronald Phillips
Tas	Mr Christopher Merridew Lt Col. Robert Patterson
Vic	Mrs Dorothy Bailey Mr Barry Minster Dr Robert West

In addition we have three other new members who cannot attend the Canberra meeting; Mrs Dianne Andrews (Qld), Mrs Davina Johnson (Vic) and Dr Phillip Yuille (NSW).

A new Chaplain has been nominated by the NSW Commandery: Rt Revd Richard Hurford OAM.

Three new assistant Chaplains have also been nominated by the NSW Commandery: Bro. Charles Aquilina, Rev John Gardiner and Rev John Spooner.

To all the above we extend a very warm welcome to the Grand Priory of Australia

Promotions

Commandery Recommendations

Mr Peter Bearsley	OLJ to CLJ (Vic)
Mrs Irene Davies	OLJ to CLJ (WA)
Mr Christopher Jones	OLJ to CLJ (Tas)
Dame Aidre Sinclair	CLJ to DLJ (NSW)
Mrs Anne Sutton	OLJ to CLJ (ACT)
Mrs Antionette Franklin	OLJ to CLJ (NSW)
Mr James Winter	OLJ to CLJ (NSW)
Ms Bronwyn Wood	OLJ to CLJ (Tas)

National Recommendations

Chev. John Bishop AO KLJ GOMLJ	KLJ to KCLJ
Chev. David Crossin OBE KLJ	KLJ to KCLJ

Awards

OMLJ

Revd Msgr Robert Aitken ChLJ (SA)
Chev Max Carr KLJ (Vic) - *National Award*
Ms Colette Cowle CLJ (NSW)
Chev Frank Long KLJ (ACT)
Chev John O'Keeffe KLJ (Qld)
Revd Dr John Shepherd ChLJ (WA)
Chev William Tunney KLJ (Qld)
The Hon Justice Margaret White DLJ (Qld)

CMLJ

Chev Ian Chesterman AM KLJ OMLJ (SA)
- *National Award*
Revd Dr James Spence ChLJ OMLJ (Qld)

Australian Meritorious Medallion (Silver)

Chev The Hon Kenneth Lowrie
OBE OAM KLJ CMLJ (Tas)

Congratulations to all the recipients of a Promotion or an Award.

Bereavements

We sadly record the passing away of the following members since the last National Chapter meeting in Melbourne:

Dame Joyce Daws DBE DLJ GOMLJ (Vic)
 Mr Gerard J Freer CLJ (Qld)
 Chev Dr Mervyn Smith CBE GCLJ GCMLJ (SA)

“rest eternal grant them O Lord and may light perpetual shine upon them”

Will J Bailey AO KLJ OMLJ

Chancellor.

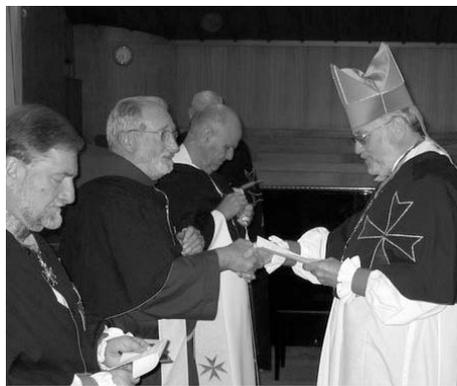
CANBERRA CHAPTER GALLERY



After The Investiture



Bill Tunney becomes an Officer of Merit



Archbishop George with Rt Rev Richard Hurford, Rev Fr Christopher Gardiner & Br Charles Aquilina



David Crossin becomes a Knight Commander



Ken Lowrie receives the Australian Merit Medal



Max Carr becomes an Officer of Merit



John Bishop becomes a Knight Commander

CANBERRA CHAPTER GALLERY



Kerry Bowerman marshalls the clergy



Rex Morgan and Lady Potter



Ruth Phels, Bernadette Layton and Warwick Wilkinson



Ross Brown and Justice Margaret White



Ken Lowrie, John Molnar, Frank Long and Walter Uhlenbruch



Robert West, Ross Brown, John Bishop, Barbara Pidcock and Jan

INTERNATIONAL

As International Reconciliation Advisor, I submitted a report to National Council and National Chapter in Canberra indicating that there have been a number of recent developments which have materially improved prospects for the reunification of the former Paris and Malta Obediences of the Order.

The major development is that in January 2008, the Duke of Seville formally advised that he intends to retire as Grand Master – thus clearing the way for the election of a new Grand Master under whom we would be willing to reunify. Invitations to submit nominations were sent to all jurisdictions, including Australia and others who have not been willing to re-unite under the Duke of Seville.

The Grand Magistral Council of the “united Order” (which was formed in Houston in October 2006) met in Toronto on 28 March 2008. Lady Potter reported that the Council had reviewed the nominations received, agreed on a “short list” to be interviewed and gave notice of a Chapter General to be held in Manchester UK on 12-13 September 2008 – the principal item of business being to elect a new Grand Master who would (hopefully) be acceptable to all jurisdictions.

The Grand Prior and I have kept in touch with the Norwich Group and France, Greece and other jurisdictions which have not accepted the Duke of Seville and are endeavouring to ensure that we are all given the opportunity to participate in the election process. This will involve agreeing on an acceptable basis of settlement of Australia’s international oblations, which we have withheld since January 1, 2006.

We are also supporting moves to amend the constitution of the “united Order” to ensure that the ultimate authority of the Order will in future rest with a Council comprising all heads of jurisdiction – and that all executive officers including the Grand Master will be accountable to that body.

There are still a number of matters to negotiate leading up to the Chapter General in September but it is pleasing to see that Australia’s concerns and wishes may well be accommodated at long last.

National Chapter received and endorsed the progress report and resolved that Chevaliers O’Keefe, Bishop, Crossin, Bailey and Mons Toms continue to follow the course we have consistently taken for the past four years.

John Bishop

International Reconciliation Adviser.

FROM THE REFERENDARY

The Manual of the Order

As reported elsewhere Chev. Bill Killinger was the recipient of well deserved praise for the excellent job he did to produce the Manual of the order. The ability to publish the document in two parts, the first to be a historical account of the origins and development of the Order will be of great help to all members both new and old. The other sets out the rules and procedures of the Order.

Standard Constitution

Again we are very much in Chev. Killinger’s debt for his preparation of a new Constitution for New South Wales which it is hoped will become the Standard for all Commanderies. The document is being fine tuned by Chev. John O’Keefe and Killinger and will be discussed at the Brisbane Chapter.

National Constitution

I advised the Chapter that the National Constitution needs to be amended to remove the provisions relating to position of Bailiff, which are no longer relevant. I will give due notice of my intention to move the necessary motion at the next Chapter meeting.

Trade Marks

I am happy to report that the Coat of Arms has been registered as a Trade mark until 21st June 2015 and the name Lazarus have been reregistered for a period of ten years. i.e. until 29th September 2017

David Crossin OBE KCLJ

Referendary

NEWS FROM AROUND THE COMMANDERIES

Australian Capital Territory

The ACT Commandery began 2008 with a Lent service and dinner, held respectively at the Carmelite Chapel in Red Hill and at the Commonwealth Club. Two guests attended, and the Commandery hopes they will consider membership of the Order in due course.

Much local committee effort was expended on arrangements for the Canberra National Chapter in early April, generally considered to have been extremely successful.

The Commandery's annual barbecue for L'Arche Genesaret friends was held on Sunday 20 April and once again we were blessed with beautiful

autumn weather throughout the day. This function is a regular feature of our program, and an opportunity for members and L'Arche residents to relax together over an informal meal and following sports.

The ACT's annual general meeting will be held 29 April 2008. Office bearers thereafter will be as follows:

President - Chev Jim Leedman AM, KLJ

Treasurer - Mrs Ann Sutton CLJ

Hospitaller / Almoner - Dr Bryan Cutter OLJ

Archivist - Mr Roger Beale AO OLJ

Secretary - Dr Peter Wilkins MBE CLJ

New South Wales

Life-long Relationships & Friendships

Our Order is fortunate to have achieved great progress with our program of building life-long relationships and friendships among our Members. A mutually beneficial environment augurs well for increased humanitarian activity within the Order.

We are Christians, we love the Lord and we love one another.

Commandery Chaplain – George Cardinal Pell

His Eminence George Cardinal Pell stood down as National Chaplain of the Order, having served for six years. Members of our Commandery were very keen to retain the Cardinal's participation in our Order. He graciously accepted our invitation to be Catholic Chaplain of the New South Wales Commandery of the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem. We are all delighted. Thank you Your Eminence.

New Members

It has been very gratifying to see new postulants seek membership of our Order and this growth will strengthen our Commandery's ability to achieve charitable works. We had five postulants

admitted at our Investiture Service held at the Wesley Uniting Church, during the National Chapter service at Canberra on Saturday 6th April 2008. We now have 50 members and we are growing stronger by the day.

Welcome to New Members

Earlier this year we held a delightful cocktail party at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron on Sydney harbour for prospective postulants to meet and talk with existing members. Name badges were provided for all participants, this activity proved to be very enjoyable and rewarding. The beautiful surroundings, delicious refreshments and delightful company all contributed to making an excellent and rewarding St Lazarus activity. Many of us stayed on to have dinner at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron.

We are all looking forward to appreciating the positive contribution we believe our prospective postulants will make to the activities of our Order. Members of our Commandery are in the process of building life-long relationships, friendships and a community of mutual support amongst each other.

Our thanks go to our esteemed member Edith Kidd OLJ for arranging this very enjoyable function.

Admissions and Advancements

We were pleased to admit five new members in Canberra. They are Rt Rev Bishop Richard Hurford, Rev Fr Christopher Gardiner, Bro Charles Aquilina, Ms Ann Tolman and Mr Simon Frame. Following the advancement last year of Rex Morgan from OLJ to CLJ, another of our members Aidre Sinclair was this year advanced from CLJ to DLJ.

Dining-In Night

On 8 March 2008 we held a Formal Dining-In night at Victoria Barracks Officers' Mess. This wonderful venue constructed in the 1840s is built of stone and features beautiful Georgian architecture. The main building is said to be the longest Georgian stone building in the World and housed a Battalion of British troops until 1870 when they were withdrawn. Our members and friends were the sole occupants of the mess and our thanks go to Col Bill Molloy who with Colette Cowle arranged access to the venue and organized the superb function.

Pascal Celebration

On 16 March 2008, the Pascal Celebration Palm Sunday Service was conducted at our garrison church, St John's Anglican Church Gordon, where we celebrated the passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ in word and song. We were grateful for the generous hospitality of the Rector Rev Father Keith Dalby, Wardens and Parishioners of St John's Church Gordon.

This service featured performances from two excellent choirs, The Jacobean Singers and the St Andrew's Cathedral Singers. The music was outstandingly beautiful, members looked splendid in their regalia and cloaks and were accompanied by numerous friends. Following the service a delicious supper was provided by the St John's ladies committee. This ceremony and supper gives us an excellent opportunity to further cement our member relationships.

Sunday Luncheons

Last August a luncheon was held at *Mirramare Gardens*, the function centre created by our very own Knight, Santa Severino KLJ and his wife Alba. Located on the Mona Vale Road at Terrey Hills this recently opened five star event centre is a magnificent venue and we all enjoyed the wonderful hospitality with good friends, good food, good camaraderie and great friendship.

Annual General Meeting

Last October the Annual General Meeting of the NSW Commandery was held in the historic National Trust building on Observatory Hill, Sydney. Built in 1815 this very early stone building was the originally the military hospital.

Office bearers were elected as follows:

President	Ross Brown AM RFD ED KLJ
Secretary	William Molloy RFD ED CLJ
Treasurer	John Pegg OLJ
Herald	Philip Clarkson OLJ
Almoner	Kerry Jones OLJ
Hospitaller	Michael Campion KM CLJ
Chaplains	Rv James Pettigrew ChLJ OMLJ His Grace Archbishop Aghan Baliozian OAM CChLJ

Since this meeting a Catholic Chaplain has been appointed:

His Eminence George Cardinal Pell
AC KGCHS ECChLJ GCMLJ DD

Three very valuable executive members retired by rotation and we are very grateful for and appreciative of their efforts. They are former Secretary Bill Killinger KLJ, former Treasurer Lindsay Kidd KLJ and former Almoner Colette Cowle MMLJ CLJ. We aim to encourage these valuable people to continue their very active involvement in our activities.

Visit by Chancellor & Secretary General



Abercrombie House

Abercrombie House Dinner

On 3rd November 2007 our Commandery held a beautiful formal dinner at Abercrombie House, the 1870s 52 room mansion owned by our very own esteemed member Rex Morgan AM CLJ. Abercrombie House is located on the outskirts of Bathurst which is a good two hour drive West of Sydney. Among other things Abercrombie House features 30 fire places. Fifty of us attended this gala event; we all thoroughly enjoyed a delicious fine-dining dinner, beautifully lit by candles, in a superb covered court yard. We were pleased to welcome the Bishop of Bathurst Richard Hurford to the function. Richard has subsequently joined our Order.

The highlight of the evening was the visit of our Chancellor and Secretary General with their wives. Chancellor Will Bailey proposed an excellent toast to our Order and Secretary General David Masters delivered a first rate response to that toast. We really enjoyed having them at our Regional dinner with their wives Dorothy and Glenise. In future we hope to have more Regional dinners and invite others including you.

Patronal Feast

On Friday 14 November, we will celebrate the Patronal feast of St Lazarus in the beautiful and historic St Mary's Cathedral. Our feast will follow at the prestigious Australia Club located nearby in Macquarie Street. Being a formal occasion we all will wear formal attire with cloaks, insignia and miniatures which help promote awareness of our Order.

Charitable Activities

We have up to recently supported the tsunami affected fishermen of Northern Sumatra by assisting in the purchase of new boats to replace those destroyed. We are currently assisting patients of the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children located at Westmead and have voted donations to the Country Hope support group and to Mother Teresa's Sisters, the Missionaries of Charity. We are also organising support for the Spafford Children's Centre (SCC) in Jerusalem.

Mother Teresa's Successors – The Missionaries of Charity

This item is provided as the Missionaries of Charity founded by Mother Teresa, do not promote their activities. The Missionaries of Charity wear their distinctive white habit and saris with blue striping which is made by lepers.

Having been in Australia for over 25 years, they have set up houses in 14 places around the country, four of these are located in the Northern Territory's main towns of Darwin, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Katherine. In Katherine they run an aged-care home for Aborigines and in Sydney where they are located in the depressed areas of Redfern and Surry Hills, they see their main job as combating loneliness. Much of their work is visiting people. There are lots of single, lonely, white people here, the Sisters can provide meals, and go to peoples' homes to talk and listen, or if required, roll up their sleeves and clean.

The poverty they encounter here is spiritual poverty, one Sister says the most affecting sights she has seen in Australia, repeatedly, are in nursing homes for the elderly. "You walk in and people are waiting, staring. Just hoping someone will come and talk to them." A wonderfully deserving charity recommended by the Cardinal.

Aidre Sinclair's Dolls

A distinguished Sydneysider inherited a valuable collection of over three hundred dolls and was wondering what to do with them. Our highly valued member Aidre Sinclair DLJ recognized an opportunity and encouraged the recipient to donate the dolls to our Order. Which he did. Aidre then set about organising collection, valuation, housing, distribution and marketing of the dolls. Over half have now been sold and some thousands of dollars have been raised to assist our good works. Aidre has been ably assisted in this activity by another good friend and member of our Order, Enza Messina OLJ. Thank you ladies.

Invitation

All members and their friends are cordially invited to attend any or all of our activities. You will be most welcome.

Atavis et Armis – Valour in the spirit of our forefathers.

Ross Brown
President, NSW Commandery

Queensland

The Annual General Meeting of the Queensland Commandery was held at the United Services Club on March 25 2008.

The following Office Bearers were elected:-

President:	Ms Regina McGuire CLJ
Secretary:	Dr Michael White QC KLJ
Minutes Sec.:	Justice Margaret White DLJ
Treasurer:	Mr David Slater OLJ
Almoner:	Mrs Pam Casagrande CLJ
Hospitaller:	Mrs Dianne Andrews OLJ
Herald:	Mr W Tunny KLJ

At this meeting the Assistant Treasurer Mr John O'Keeffe reported that twenty five thousand and five hundred dollars (\$25,500) had been distributed to the charities supported by the Queensland Commandery.

These are as follows:-

The Trinity Pantry
Catholic Psychiatric Care
Mission to Seafarers
Apostleship of the Sea Communitfy
Brisbane Valley Social Services
Spafford Centre Jerusalem

All members of the Commandery were saddened by the death of Mr Gerald Freer KLJ, a long standing member of the Order and husband of Mrs Maureen Freer OAM CLJ. There are several members of the Commandery who are seriously ill and all are asked to keep them in their prayers.

The Queensland Commandery was delighted with the awards conferred on the following members at the National Chapter in Canberra.

They were as follows:-

Hon Justice Margaret White DLJ
- Officer in the Order of Merit (OMLJ)
Rev. Dr James Spence ChLJ OMLJ
- Commander in the Order of Merit (CMLJ)
Chev. John O'Keeffe KLJ
- Officer in the Order of Merit (OMLJ)
Chev. William Tunny KLJ
- Officer in the Order of Merit (OMLJ)

It was also with great delight that the Queensland Commandery welcomed a new member Mr Ronald Phillips who will be a wonderful addition to the membership of the Order.

Members of the Queensland Commandery who attended the National Chapter in Canberra were most impressed with the hard work and organisation of the members of the Canberra Order. It was encouraging to be informed by our Grand Prior that the international situation appears close to a happy and unified solution.

At the National Chapter in Canberra it was decided that the National Chapter for 2009 will be held in Brisbane from April 30 to May 3. It is a great time weatherwise to visit Brisbane and we hope that many members of the other Commanderies will attend. A committee is already working on details and it is hoped that within a few months all Commanderies will be given information as it is finalised.

For several years now several members of the Queensland Commandery have been giving assistance to a severely disabled aboriginal man. Because of the determination of Michael White, Gordon Mor and John O'Keeffe it appears this young man will be placed in a facility which caters for mainly young disabled people. After spending several years in one of Queensland's Public Hospitals this is a wonderful step forward and we are all praying that this move will give this young man some hope and encouragement for the future.

Dr Gordon Mor (immediate past president) has returned from seven months in the Antarctic and we are all looking forward to hearing in detail about the work he was doing there.

The Queensland Commandery's first fundraiser for the year will be on April 27 - a movie morning which has always been a great success. In August a slight change in format from our usual Garden Party - a cocktail party held at one of Brisbane's prestigious art galleries. All in all we have a busy year ahead.

Regina McGuire CLJ
President
Queensland Commandery

South Australia



St Lazarus Day was celebrated with our Annual Church Service on 16 December 2007 at St Andrew's Church in Walkersville, an inner city suburb (photograph included). St Andrew's generously provides the Commandery with an excellent venue for our Commandery meetings.

The Commandery held its Annual General Meeting on 19 February 2008 at which the following were elected:

President	Ellis Wayland
Secretary	Ian Chesterman (continuing)
Treasurer	Basil Taliangies (continuing)
Almoner	Joan Paroissien (continuing)
Hospitaller	Judith Roberts (continuing)
Membership	Tony Cocchiario
Herald	Don Sarah (continuing)
Archivist	David Seaton (continuing)

On taking the Chair, the new President, Ellis Wayland, paid tribute to the leadership and commitment of the outgoing President, Kemer Murray during her term of office and also acknowledged the commitment and diligence of the Secretary, Ian Chesterman, whose ongoing service to the Commandery has been the key to the high standard of its administrative efficiency. These tributes were endorsed with enthusiastic acclamation by the Commandery members.

As President, I also reminded the Commandery of the urgent need to maintain the momentum of the resolutions which resulted from a workshop symposium held on 8 September 2007. The objective of this symposium was to develop a

more positive campaign to enlist a new cohort of younger members to ensure that the Commandery was structured for leadership and administrative succession and to expand our network of supporters for our fundraising activities.

I concluded by thanking the five office bearers who had volunteered to continue in office as office bearers thereby ensuring that the Commandery had the continuing benefit of their experience and leadership.

Immediately following the AGM, members and their spouses and guests gathered at a nearby restaurant for an informal fellowship dinner.

At its subsequent meeting on 15 April 2008, the outcomes of the National Chapter meeting held in Canberra on 4/6 April were reviewed and those who attended recorded their thanks to the ACT Commandery for their hospitality which had resulted in such an enjoyable Chapter. In particular, the reports from the Grand Prior regarding the international situation were received with optimism and hope for an auspicious resolution.

At this meeting the Commandery received a report from the Almoner's committee which is planning a diverse range of fundraising events for 2008 ranging from our established, and highly effective film nights to a Pizza night, a gourmet BBQ and a country luncheon.

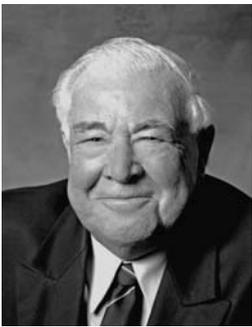
The Hospitaller's Committee also presented a report with recommendations for charities considered worthy of our support in 2008.

Ellis Wayland

Tasmania

This year's National Chapter Meeting in Canberra once again reminded us of our national, and indeed international, identity. When we come together we are able to pray, worship and plan together. We also receive encouragement from one another, and return to our own Commanderies with friendships strengthened, vision renewed and with some fresh ideas.

Meritorious Medal



For the Tasmanian Commandery, the April meeting in Canberra was especially exciting. We were delighted that national recognition was given to one of our founding members, the

Hon. Ken Lowrie OBE OAM KLJ CMLJ. During the Investiture Service he received the Australian Meritorious Medal (Silver), in recognition of his outstanding service and contribution to the Order in promoting the establishment of the Tasmanian Commandery, serving as its President, Secretary and Treasurer at various times. His energy and example have been, and continue to be, an inspiration to all our members. This is an honour well deserved by our "senior statesman".

New Members

In Melbourne last year, our Grand Prior challenged the Commanderies to work on recruitment, with the aim of raising the national membership to 350 over the next few years.

We have accepted that challenge, with two new members: - Mr Chris. Merridew OLJ and Lieutenant Colonel Bob Patterson OLJ being invested this year.



New members bring fresh energy and ideas to the Commandery, and our programme of steady recruitment will continue this year.



We are also pleased to welcome back to the Tasmanian Commandery Chev Dan McNeill. He transferred temporarily to the Victorian Commandery whilst he was acting Principal of Kilvington, a Melbourne Private School.

Palliative Care

Our Annual General Meeting was held in February, when a well attended meeting reviewed the past twelve months with thanksgiving for a year marked by growth in membership, a healthy financial position, and the completion of our special projects for patients in palliative care in the Whittle Ward of the Royal Hobart Hospital, and the Gibson Unit at Saint John's Hospital, Hobart.



The Whittle Ward now has two folding wheel chairs, easily able to be transported in the boot of a car. They are for use by patients on home leave from the Hospital.



The Gibson Unit has recently refurbished the Mary Potter Room, a “quiet room” for use by patients and their relatives. Our contribution of attractive furniture has added to the ambience and comfort of this facility.

As President, and accompanied by the Almoner and the Herald, it was a pleasure to visit both wards. It was clearly evident that what we have been able to do in both wards in the past and present is of great assistance to the patients and very much appreciated.

Leadership Team

At the election held during the Annual Meeting, all office bearers were re-elected for a further term of service:



President:

Bishop Phillip Newell
AO GCSJ CMSJ ChLJ
OMLJ



Secretary:

Mr Peter Bennison
OLJ



Hospitaller:

Mr Ron Banks
AM CLJ OMLJ



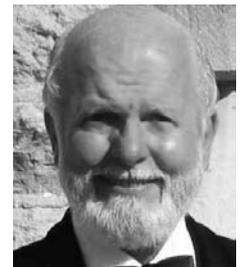
Treasurer:

Mr Chris Jones
CLJ



Almoner:

Mrs Bronwyn Wood
CLJ



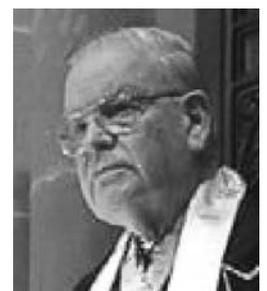
Herald:

Chev. Brian Gallagher
KLJ

Promotions in Rank

During the past year, the splendid service of our Treasurer , Mr Chris Jones and our Almoner, Mrs Bronwyn Wood, was recognised with their advancement to the rank of CLJ. Unfortunately, due to family illnesses, neither was able to attend the recent 2008 National Chapter to have their promotions formally recognised.

With a strong and experienced leadership team and a committed and energetic membership, the Tasmanian Commandery has begun 2008 with enthusiasm and confidence.



Bishop Phillip K. Newell
President

Victoria

A number of Victorian Commandery members attended this year's National Chapter in Canberra and very much appreciated the spirit of the gatherings and the efforts of the ACT Commandery members and our Chaplains.

We are pleased to have had applications of four new members approved in recent times. The spirit and activity of the Commandery is at a high level.

Invitations have been issued to some 11 persons, who have been closely associated with, and assisted in, the activities of the Commandery, to become Friends of the Order. We believe this will recognise their contribution and maintain their interest.

We have also sought approval to transfer to Emeritus status some older members who have given significant service to the Order and are no longer able to be active.

Our bi-monthly business meetings continue to be preceded by short devotional services conducted by our Chaplains in the Chapel of Our Lord and Saint Lazarus at St Peter's, East Melbourne, giving an opportunity for reflection before our meetings. In fact recently, attendance has exceeded the capacity of the Chapel and the service has been held in the Church.

An outing to Geelong was enjoyed when a number of Commandery members paraded at St Paul's historical Anglican Church in Geelong on Sunday 18th November where Bishop Bayton delivered the sermon and the work of the Order was recognised. The service was followed by a delightful informal B-B-Q lunch at the home of Dorothy and Will Bailey who had arranged the day's program.

Members and friends gathered on Friday 14th December at St Peter's Eastern Hill for the Ecumenical Church Service and Dinner to celebrate Saint Lazarus day and the joys of the Christmas season.

The Annual Quiet day, an event enjoyed now for a number of years, was again held in March at Monsignor Tony Tom's church in Seymour. The 100 km trip from Melbourne led us to a day of delightful fellowship, splendid salmon and steak luncheon, and spiritual reflection and inspiration led by Mon. Toms.

A very successful and well attended wine tasting and buffet dinner was held at the home of member, Margaret Pell, on Friday 8th February. Margaret's entertainment area was filled to capacity as members and friends enjoyed a review, and then sample, of a number of selected wines followed by excellent food.

Planning for a fund raising Gala Dinner at Quat Quatta on Wednesday 30 July is well advanced when entertainment will include a fun auction. This will be a major fund raising event in our 2008 calendar.

Following a comprehensive review in September and report by Hospitaller, John Castles, of the direction of our support programs, donations were approved to the major causes being supported by the Commandery. These were Lazarus Centre Inc, Wellington Centre, Green Cross Inc. and the Spafford Centre.

We have recently finalised the creation of a Victorian Commandery Charitable Foundation, formed with funds from some bequests and other specified donations. Investment income from the Foundation will enable additional support to be provided for our selected causes. Upon request, a copy of the documentation has been provided to one other Commandery as a pattern for a similar development.

Max Carr

Western Australia

The Order in WA enjoyed a rewarding and successful year in 2007, and looks forward to 2008 in which we will pursue our many goals both in the areas of Christian endeavour and helping the marginalized in our community.

The AGM was held on IO April 2007 and the following Office Bearers were elected:

President:	Elizabeth Summerhayes DLJ
Secretary:	Jock Morrison KU OMLJ
Treasurer:	Tony Gardner CU
Fleraid:	Richard O'Clery CU
Almoner:	Terry Jackson AM KU
Hospitaller:	Julie Gardner OLJ

Donations 2007/2008 financial year:

Parkerville Children's Home.....	\$5,000 00
St. Bartholomew's House.....	\$5,000 00
St. Patrick's Care Centre.....	\$5,000 00
Wynn Carr House.....	\$5,000 00
East Timor Students Support.....	\$2,000 00
Passages.....	\$2,000 00
New Norcia.....	\$1,000 00
Total:	\$25, 000.00

Wynn Carr House - additional donation of goods worth \$12,000 00 plus a private donation of funds to enable the staff and residents to enjoy a Christmas party.

Membership

We welcomed John Cunningham into the Order this year and he has already become a valued Member for WA

Membership has been a little frustrating, with one prospective Member at the point of signing his final papers but as yet failing to complete this final step.

I was approached by three couples, at our Fundraiser, who are interested in the Order and therefore will pursue this in due course..

National Conference 2007

National Conference in Melbourne was a great success, with some changes to National Office Bearers, amongst them Chev. Will Bailey AO KLJ OMLJ as the incoming Chancellor. Western Australia was well represented, with a great number of our Members attending.

Commandery Activities 2007

Parkerville

In April, thirteen Members and Spouses attended a tour and picnic at Parkerville Children's Home which was hosted by the CEO Mr. Basil Hanna and his farm manager Stan.

On arrival, we were shown over the historic Children's Cemetery, and one of the houses where the children are looked after and nurtured whilst at Parkerville. This was most informative and we welcomed the opportunity to meet with some of the House Parents and their charges.

A new playground with updated equipment and a gazebo with a shared barbeque, was in the process of being erected.

Building is about to begin on the Armadale Houses Project, to which our 2006 and 2007 donations have been directed. We look forward to seeing this dream become a reality.

Our picnic was enjoyed by all in the comfort of Padbury House, one of the historic buildings on the property, which has been restored with the help of some of disadvantaged young people learning tradesman's skills from staff at the facility.

New Norcia

July saw us heading to New Norcia to enjoy what has become an Annual Retreat. The attendees were again thirteen Member's and their spouses, albeit not the same as before, plus one member.

Dom Chris, Father Abbot Placid and Father Ian kept us on a roller coaster ride with interest after interest, punctuated by chanting with Monks, Mass in the Abbey and good fellowship.

We were most interested to learn more about the Yuan Aborigines and their families. New research is being completed about these people who lived, attended school and worked at the Abbey.

This of course ties in with the restoration of the only remaining Aboriginal Cottage, to which we have donated over the past two years.

Father Abbot Placid addressed us before dinner and gave a fascinating talk entitled, Ecumenism: a theological, spiritual, monastic, human and existential rationale.

St. Bartholomew's House

In August, a group of Members including the Hospitaller and the Treasurer, attended the St. Bartholomew's Day Service at St. Bartholomew's Church East Perth. This was followed by afternoon tea at The House, where Members had the opportunity to mingle with the board of Directors, the CEO and the Residents.

East Timor

Father Richard Daschbach SVD of Topu Honis Kutet, East Timor, continues to write with news of Jacob, the student which the WA Commandery is putting through Tertiary Education.

Jacob is doing well with his studies and we received our first letter from him last month. A second letter arrived today, this time in Indonesian.

Wynn Carr Women's Refuge

This facility goes from strength to strength. Our support to fund a Councillor, providing new and second hand equipment, clothing and a myriad of other services has been coordinated by the Hospitaller Julie Gardner OJL, who visits the facility regularly and reports to our Meetings. She continues to receive additional donations from friends and acquaintances, which are gratefully accepted by this most deserving cause.

Passages

Passages is now a highly professional organization which we continue to support financially. Maurice Rousset KLJ represents us on their Steering Committee and gives regular reports at our Commandery meetings.

St. Patrick's Care Centre Fremantle

St. Patrick's continues to support the marginalized in Fremantle, supplying free meals and low cost board and lodging for their clients. The Stella Mans merger continues to be sought after and looks like becoming a reality in the near future.

Evensong

September was marked with a beautiful Evensong Service at St. George's Cathedral, presided over by the Rev. John Shepherd ChLJ OMLJ and Bishop Brian Kyme ChLJ OMLJ. Eighteen Members and spouses attended.

Members sat in the Choir Stalls and I do think that we felt just a little bit closer to God. A glass of wine and Fellowship in the Burt Hall followed, and was most appreciated. A happy occasion with the Clergy, Choir and some parishioners joining us after the Service.

Annual Fundraising Function

November saw us working towards our Annual Fundraiser.

This year it was a Garden Party held in the beautiful garden, surrounding the magnificently restored home, of Ian and Susan Trahar, in Peppermint Grove. The total takings for the day were \$29,500. Inclusive of donations.

All Members worked as a team to produce an outstanding effort which was a tribute to meticulous planning and cooperation; not to mention a lot of hard work on the day.

St. Lazarus Day

Our St. Lazarus Day Service was held on the 11th December at historic St. Bartholomew's Church, East Perth, followed by dinner at the Weld Club.

We were honoured to have the Grand Prior, The Hon. Justice Barry O'Keefe AM KCHS KLJ in attendance, and extend our warmest thanks to him for taking the time, amidst a busy legal schedule, to be with us on this important day.

Bishop Don Sproxton ChLJ, Bishop Bryan Kyme ChLJ OMLJ and The Rev. John Shepherd ChLJ OMLJ Dean of Perth, concelebrated, and we extend our thanks to our clergy.

The Service and Dinner was attended by thirty eight Members, spouses and guests. A great occasion which is always the highlight of our year both ecumenically and socially.

Dates for Commandery Meetings 2008

Tuesday 19 February 2008

Tuesday 22 April 2008 - AGM

Tuesday 17 June 2008

Sat 26th - Sun 27th July 2008 - **New Norcia Retreat.**

Tuesday 19 August 2008

Tuesday 2 October 2008

Tuesday 9 December 2008.

- **St. Lazarus Day Service and Dinner.**

National Conference 2008

The Western Australian Commandery was represented at the National Conference in Canberra, 3rd - 6th April 2008, by nine Members and two spouses', all enjoyed the inspiring Services and camaraderie.

Our Members listened with interest to the resolving International Situation. And our thanks go to the Grand Prior and the group of three, who are pursuing a task which at times must have seemed to have no end.

Elizabeth Summerhayes
President of the WA Commandery

TONY'S CONSOMME

An invitation to friends for dinner, be it formal or informal, can present a dilemma for the host or hostess, in selecting the menu. I have found a light soup is always a good starter. For this edition of Lazarus Letter I have chosen a light

Consommé that I find easy to prepare and will compliment both Western and Oriental dishes alike. The listed proportions in the recipe will allow for four to six servings. All ingredients are available at good grocers and supermarkets.

Ingredients:

2 x 500ml Campbell's Real Consommé
(chicken or beef)

note: consommé not stock

1 cup of fresh water

1 cup Italian risotto

thinly chopped spring onions or a shredded
carrot to garnish

fresh cracked pepper

fresh Romano or Parmesan cheese

Preparation:

Two saucepans will be required one to simmer the consommé and the other to boil the risotto.

Depending on your preference of chopped spring onion or finely shredded carrot, clean and prepare your choice and set aside until just before serving.

Method:

1. Boil one litre of water, do not add salt, and when the water has boiled add one full cup of risotto and stir in well. The risotto should take about ten to fifteen minutes to become *al dente*, do not over cook the risotto.
2. To a large saucepan empty the two 500ml packets of Campbell's Real Consommé with one cup of fresh water and bring to the simmer but not the boil, add a little cracked pepper.
3. When the risotto is *al dente* strain and return to the saucepan.

Serving Suggestion:

1. Ladle the required amount to consommé into the soup plate then add a tablespoon of risotto according to your preference and finish by garnishing with the spring onion or carrot.
2. I find that it is better to place the Romano or Parmesan on the table and let the guest choose for themselves.

This is a quick and easy first course to prepare and it is a "light" dish for the counters.

Bon appetit



Tony

SERMON

“OUR IDENTITY - OUR COMMITMENT - OUR MINISTRY”

A sermon preached at The Service of Investiture
Wesley Uniting Church, Canberra
Saturday 5 March 2008

by

The Rt Rev'd P. K. Newell, AO GCSJ CMSJ ChLJ OMLJ

What we do tonight in this Investiture Service is both solemn and serious; for it is done in the presence of God; it is done in the name of God.

To mark that solemnity and seriousness we put on special dress. Already those who have been admitted to the Order of Saint Lazarus are wearing the distinctive cloak and regalia of the Order.

And soon, vows taken and oaths administered, we shall come to that fitting climax when the new members will be similarly invested.

Of course, dressing up can be little more than show, mere pretention, attention seeking even. But our wearing of these robes has an altogether different purpose.

They are intended to reflect the reality of the life beneath. Our dress must serve to express our identity, our commitment, and our ministry as members of the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem.

Our Identity

Our essential identity, that nature which gives our lives their special character and meaning, has already been bestowed on us by our God. For in Baptism he has adopted us as his sons and daughters.

In Baptism we died with him; in Baptism we rose with him. And so, as a result of this transforming grace, as Saint Paul says, “I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.”

Galatians 2:19-20)

It is our common Baptism which binds us together in this Christian and ecumenical Order. And it is the same Baptism, with water and in the Name of the Trinity, which gives us our inner identity.

The outward cloak, with its Maltese Cross, is a reminder that it is Christ who lives in us. It is the cloak, too, which is our protection, our armour, if you-like, in the fight against evil in all its forms.

As Christian Knights and Dames we must “Put on the whole armour of God, so that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil... Fasten the belt of truth around your waist. Put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet, put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. Take the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”

(Ephesians 6:10-17)

Our dress gives outward expression to our identity and reminds us who we are.

Our Commitment

It must also be a reminder of our commitment. Before God, and with the congregation bearing witness, those to be invested tonight will make their solemn promises.

But, Members of the Order, may I remind us all, that we are more than spectators. As our brothers and sisters respond to the questions put to them by the Chancellor, the Referendary, and the National Chaplain, we all have the duty to reflect on the ongoing quality of our own commitment, and, in our hearts, to re-affirm our solemn dedication.

Of course, first and foremost, our commitment is to God, which we proclaim in the Apostles' Creed which follows this sermon. Whatever our denominational allegiance, we share a faith in the One God who is the creating Father, the redeeming Son, and the sanctifying Spirit.

But, in case the mere formal statement of a creed should engage only the mind, we also remember the kind of commitment to God which Christ enunciated. We are called to love God above all else – with all our heart, soul, strength and mind. *(Luke 10:27)*

Then comes the commitment peculiar to the Order itself. This occurs in the examination of those to be invested.

Note well the three solemn promises:

- * to uphold the highest ideals of Christian devotion, service and charity;
- * to give loyalty, obedience and respect to those in authority in the Order;
- * to be an active participant in the good works of the Order and to work for its preservation and growth.

This is the depth of commitment which is sought in the famous prayer of Saint Ignatius Loyola:

Teach us, good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest:

to give and not to count the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds;
to toil and not to seek for rest;
to labour and not to ask for any reward,
save that of knowing that we do thy will.

Our Ministry

In addition to our identity and our commitment, the cloak which we wear also speaks of our ministry.

It signifies the scapular of humble service.

If a fruit tree, carefully tended, watered and nourished, bears no fruit, it may well be rooted out, no matter how grand it looks.

What we do tonight must bear fruit.

This is a Hospitaller Order, and has been from its very inception. Our ministry is to follow the pattern set by our Lord, who “came not to be served but to serve.” *(Matthew 20:28)*

So he took the towel, wrapped it around himself and washed the feet of his disciples, saying to them, and saying to us tonight, “If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.” *(John 13:14-15)*

Tended with love and nourished by grace, may our ministry with the sick and the dying, the hungry and the impoverished, the voiceless and the stateless, the unloved and the unwanted, those with disabilities, and those who despair of life itself— may these ministries of love and service prosper and flourish.

Every time we put on the distinctive robes of the Order of Saint Lazarus, pray that we may each be faithful to our identity as God’s baptised sons and daughters, true to our pledges of commitment to the Order, made or re-affirmed this night, and resolved to take a full part in the ministry of service to which Christ has called us.

It is almost as if the one-time soldier and later founder of the Jesuits had written his 16th century prayer with people like us in mind.

So we pray:

Teach us, good Lord, to serve thee as thou deservest:

to give and not to count the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds;
to toil and not to seek for rest;
to labour and not to ask for any reward,
save that of knowing that we do thy will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN.

NEW MEMBERS & ADVANCEMENTS IN CANBERRA

Postulants

Mrs Diane Andrews (Qld)
Mrs Dorothy Bailey (Vic)
Mr Simon Frame (NSW)
Mr Christopher Merridew (Tas)
Lt Col Robert Patterson (Tas)
Ms Ann Tolman (NSW)
Dr Robert West (Vic)

Advancement in Rank

Mr Peter Bearsley OLJ to Commander (CLJ)
Mrs Ann Sutton OLJ to Commander (CLJ)
Mr James Winter OLJ to Commander (CLJ)
Mr Maurice Rousset CLJ to Knight (KLJ)
Ms Aindre Sinclair CLJ to Dame (DLJ)
Chevalier John Bishop AO KLJ GOMLJ to Knight Commander (KCLJ)
Chevalier David Crossin OBE KLJ to Knight Commander (KCLJ)

Admission to the Companionship of Merit

Chevalier Maxwell Carr KLJ - Award, Officer of Merit (OMLJ)
Mrs Colette Cowle CLJ - Award, Officer of Merit (OMLJ)
Chevalier Dr Frank Long KLJ - Award, Officer of Merit (OMLJ)
Chevalier William Tunny KLJ - Award, Officer of Merit (OMLJ)
Hon Justice Dame Margaret White DLJ - Award, Officer of Merit (OMLJ)
Chevalier Dr Ian Chesterman AM KLJ OMLJ - Award, Commander of Merit (CMLJ)

Australian Meritorious Medallion

Chevalier Hon Kenneth Lowrie OBE OAM KLJ CMLJ - Australian Meritorious Medallion (Silver)

Newly Appointed Chaplains

Chaplain

The Rt Rev Richard Hurford OAM (NSW)

Assistant Chaplains

Bro Charles Aquilina (NSW)
Rev Christopher Gardiner (NSW)