



L AZARUS L ETTER

March 2005

The Journal of the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem
Grand Priory of Australia

VALE

MAJ. GEN. (Ret) **Duncan Mackenzie Michael FRANCIS**, AO, OBE, KLJ,

20 MARCH 1937 – 26 OCTOBER 2004

DAME **Shiela Mary PRIOR**, AM BEM DLJ

6 MAY 1914 – 12 DECEMBER 2004

FROM THE GRAND PRIOR

Having spent most of January in hospital I have had a great deal of time to give careful consideration to the question of all our Members having the opportunity to meet the Duke of Seville before final commitment to re-unification with the Malta Obedience.

It seemed very important to me that you should all hear the man who will be so deeply involved with our future. Prior to my hospitalisation I had sought the approval of the National Council to invite the Sevilles to attend the National Chapter Meeting in Hobart. Whilst there was a very strong majority in favour, it was not unanimous, and so the Chancellor decided to call a meeting of the Chancellor's Committee to further discuss the matter by telecom hook-up. The members were divided on the question of it being an official visit, so I decided the best way to ensure that members have had the opportunity to meet them, was for the Duke and Duchess to be my personal guests.

It will therefore be a private visit but it will give everyone a chance to meet and hear the Duke. Whatever the future holds, the Duke of Seville, as Grand Master of the Malta Obedience and

presently Grand Master Elect of the Paris Obedience, will have the most significant

influence of all on the Order, its continuance and to future directions.

I am mindful, that in Perth, members passed a resolution that re-unification within the Paris Obedience was the prior commitment before the re-unification of the Two Obedience. It should be remembered however that those who separated in Toronto are no longer members of the legitimate Paris Obedience, nor do they appear to have any intention of returning. Having been disowned by both our Spiritual Protector and the Acting Grand Master, the Duke of Brissac, approval would be required for any re-entry into our ranks. Currently these "*dissidents*" are not legitimate members of the Paris Obedience and those jurisdictions which remain, are loyal and are united.

The Chapter General of the Paris Obedience overwhelmingly elected the Duke of Seville as its next Grand Master and voted for re-unification with the Malta Obedience as was approved in Dublin. The Malta Obedience has done the same. The report on how this is to be achieved, and the

necessary new Constitution acceptable to both Obediences is well underway and I would hope to have the final draft available for our members before Hobart. It is envisaged that it will be adopted by both Obediences at a Chapter

General 2006. The re-unification Commission comprising four members from each Obedience is working in full agreement and goodwill, and despite the many rumours that get promulgated in these situations, neither Obedience (or for that matter any jurisdiction) is trying to “take over”. There is a very strong current of confraternity and co-operation at every level.

The dissidents formed themselves into a bogus order under an invalidly elected Grand Master, and have since been refused recognition by our Spiritual Protector and also been declined by the Archbishop of Canterbury whom they sought in his place. While they claim to be under the protection of the French Crown – we should remember that France is a Republic and likely to stay so.

TSUNAMI APPEAL

After the devastating destruction and chaos of the Tsunami, both Grand Masters called for a joint effort by their members to make our contribution to help the victims. Chev. Klaus-Peter Pokolm and Lazarus Hilfswerk were already in place and immediately swung into action, representing both Obediences. Malta has a medical representative Dr. Peter Kremser who lives and works in Indonesia and is on the spot. He has been joined by a team from Germany and their mission is under way. This combined group has identified Nias, an island of some 600,000 inhabitants north of Sumatra as our humanitarian project. It was completely decimated and there will be ongoing great need. We have proceeded very carefully and given much consideration as to how best help. The extraordinary world-generosity has seen vast financial sums made available, more than the present infrastructure can absorb, and the Lazarus Disaster Relief Program will focus not only on present aid but also ongoing rehabilitation.

The European Humanitarian Commandary (Lazarus Hilfswerk) is the main conduit for our aid, and its Chancellor, and acting Federal Director of LHW, Chev. Blessman KCLJ, was invited to attend a meeting last month of accredited NGO's who are involved directly in Asia relief. He presented our recently developed humanitarian project at NIAS for the next six months and our joint project was endorsed. The Lazarus project on Nias will be sponsored with a

total fund sum of €465,000, the first payment of €100,000 is to be transferred very soon. The LHW as the practical executive part of the program is efficient, organised and highly experienced, and the St. Lazarus Asia Disaster Relief Commission, of which I am Chair, has the greatest confidence in their ability to represent our combined Obediences' contribution to humanitarian relief, together with Dr. Peter Kremser and his team on the field.

Our Chancellor, Chev. John Bishop AO. KLJ GOMLJ has graciously accepted my invitation to head the Australian Grand Priory's support for this appeal, and already private donations of over A\$8,000 have been sent in the interim. It is very difficult under Australian legal requirements to obtain tax deductibility, particularly for overseas projects, but this was effected through the offices of Melbourne Overseas Missions Fund, which has helped us in the past, and I am most grateful and appreciative of their Chief Executive Kevin Blake for his willingness to once again help the Order of St. Lazarus. I also wish to express my deep appreciation to our Chaplain Mons. Anthony Toms, JChLJ OMLJ who conducted an appeal in his Seymour parish and raised some \$6,000 which was added to by two of our members bringing the total to \$8,000. I hope we will all be able to give our help large or small and I assure you of my full support.

ADDENDA

Since writing my report to you, a meeting of the Joint Reconciliation Commission was held in February, at which the main thrust was to finalise the new constitution acceptable to both Obediences and to plan future joint directions. The final draft of this constitution is now in place, and after some polishing up, should be ready to submit to both Governing Councils for their approval, following which it will be circulated to all Jurisdictions for their perusal, prior to the calling of a Chapter General for adoption.

As you will see in Tony Sallmann's report, the situation has changed in Europe and the Grand Magistry and the Governing Council realise that the hoped for reconciliation within the Paris Obedience is not now achievable. The future way forward is seen to be a merger with the Malta Obedience.

Primrose Potter

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL GOVERNING COUNCIL

In November last year, the Grand Prior issued a report on the meeting of the Council which was held in Germany in October 2004. Since then, a number of things have happened:-

- In accordance with the decision at that meeting and the wishes of the Dukes of Brissac and Seville, the Paris Obedience representatives on the Joint Reunification Commission (JRC) have been administering the Order's affairs. The membership of the JRC comprises:-

Paris Obedience	Malta Obedience
Chev. Bruce Harrington Co-Chair	Chev. Maj. David James Co-Chair
U.S.A	U.K.
Chev. Robert Vandewater	Dr. Ronald H.M. Hendriks
Canada	Netherlands
Lady (Primrose) Potter	Rear Adm. Kenneth P. Moritsiugu
Australia	U.S.A.
Chev. Mitchell Lathrop Constitution Commission Chair	Chev. Joaquin Cayuela Vergés
U.S.A.	Spain

- The Duke of Brissac has “stood back” from his role as Acting Grand Master and allowed the Duke of Seville to attend to any requirements for the time being.
- The Grand Magistry of the Paris Obedience is firmly of the opinion that reconciliation with the members who withdrew from the International Chapter in Toronto is unattainable and that the long sought-after reunification with the Malta Obedience is now an achievable objective in view of the excellent progress which has been made by the JRC.
- The JRC met in USA in February 2005 and has been asked to provide details of the memberships of the two Obediences and recommendations for future administration of a merged Order as soon as possible. The Grand Commander of the Malta Obedience has confirmed that the Malta Obedience is staunchly Ecumenical.
- I expect to convene a meeting of the Governing Council to receive the JRC report and merger proposal later this year. This report will be considered by the various jurisdictions and subsequently submitted to an International Chapter of the Paris Obedience for approval. A similar process will be followed by the Malta Obedience.
- There is a general perception overseas that the merger will be ratified with Seville as Grand Master.
- In the meantime, a Joint International Asia Disaster Relief Commission has been established with Lady Potter as Chair.

If anyone would like more information regarding the international scene, please contact me.

Tony Sallmann

FROM THE CHANCELLOR

The next National Chapter will be held in Hobart from 8 to 11 September, 2005 and I hope that as many members and accompanying persons as possible are making plans to attend what undoubtedly will be a very interesting meeting.

Earlier this year, in responding to a letter from the Grand Prior, the majority of members of National Council indicated that they were in favour of the Duke & Duchess of Seville being invited to come to the Hobart Chapter. However, a number of sensitive issues in relation to the proposed visit were considered by the Chancellor's Committee and it was decided that it was not appropriate to issue an official invitation on behalf of the Australian Grand Priory, largely because this could be seen as in conflict with the expressed wish of the Perth Chapter that reconciliation within the Paris Obedience was the Australian Grand Priory's first priority.

The Grand Prior indicated that she believed it was desirable that members have the opportunity to meet and hear from the Duke and that she would therefore invite the Duke & Duchess to Hobart as her personal guests, rather than as guests of the Grand Priory.

In subsequent discussions with the Grand Prior and Tony Sallmann (Chairman of the International Governing Council) I was advised that there have been some major developments on the international scene during the last few months – details of which are set out in the attached reports. It is clear that reconciliation within the Paris Obedience, which was seen as the first priority by Members at the Perth Chapter, is no longer considered to be achievable and the International Governing Council is now concentrating on re-unification with the Malta Obedience.

It is expected that by September, the International Governing Council will have issued a plan and recommendation for re-unification with the Malta Obedience for consideration by our National Council and National Chapter. Hopefully, this will include some current statistics regarding the strength and status of the various groups which claim to be part of the Order world wide.

In the light of this information, the Chancellor's Committee agreed that the Duke of Seville, as Grand Master of the Malta Obedience and Grand Master Elect of the Paris Obedience, will be a significant player in determining the future of the Order internationally and should be provided with the opportunity to meet and address the National Council and/or National Chapter on a basis to be decided in the light of developments in the intervening months.

The Chapter will also consider the constitutional amendments referred to in the Referendary's report and provide an opportunity to discuss other matters of mutual interest, including Australia's response to the Tsunami Relief Appeal, which the Grand Prior has asked me to coordinate.

I look forward to a large attendance of members and accompanying persons in Hobart in September.

John Bishop

The Following is the Text of a Letter from Monsignor Toms to the Grand Prior, Lady Potter,
on 18 February 2005

BACKGROUND

1. Thank you for your call today, I appreciate your invitation to me to recount my recollections of events in Toronto, particularly in regard to discussions which took place during the meetings of the Governing Council. I would like to remind you that I was invited to attend the five sessions of the Governing Council as Canon Lawyer to advise on points and matters of Church Law as and when required.

2. On the morning of the first scheduled meeting of the Governing Council I was asked by Chev Bob Vandewater of Canada to assist him in vetting the *bona fides* of members who were authorised to attend and to seek admittance to the meeting room of the Governing Council. During that process an argument ensued between Mr Piccapietra, Mr Hopkinson-Wooley and Chev Bob Vandewater (Chancellor and Grand Prior Elect of Canada) who both insisted that they be permitted entry to the meeting room. Neither were members of the Governing Council nor their names on the official list and were subsequently declined entry. A rather violent scuffle followed in which Mr Piccapietra pushed past Chev Bob Vandewater knocking him to the floor and then proceeded to walk over him followed by Hopkinson-Wooley and unidentified others while Bob Vandewater was trying to get to his feet. The rest of the melee and ensuing discussions are well documented and you were present at the time.

THE ELECTION OF THE DUKE OF SEVILLE

3. The discussions and events which took place at the Plenary Meeting of the Chapter General are well known and need not be repeated here. My report to the chaplains of the Australian Grand Priory, the subsequent detailed and comprehensive report of our Chancellor Chev John Bishop and your own report accurately record the events. The result of the election was a landslide vote for the Duke of Seville, 542 to 47 votes for Prince Charles-Philippe d'Orleans.

4. The Chapter General elected Don Francisco de Borbon y Escany Grand Master of the Malta Obedience, 49th Grand Master of the Paris Obedience. It is important to note that he was not elected with the title Grand Master Elect.

INSTALLATION OF THE NEW GRAND MASTER

5. Following the election of Don Francisco, His Beatitude the Spiritual Protector, reminded the Chapter General that the election of HRH the Duke of Seville was the prerogative and business of the members of the Order, they could elect whom they wished. He, as a Catholic Bishop, was unable to invest the Duke of Seville until his matrimonial situation was resolved.

6. There was an air of relief among the assembled members and with closing remarks from the Chairman the meeting adjourned for lunch. The Chairman of the Governing Council then scheduled a meeting to take place after the luncheon break to discuss the ramifications of the Duke of Seville's election and the dilemma of the Spiritual Protector.

7. The afternoon meeting of the Governing Council began with an evaluation of the morning's procedures and the situation of the Spiritual Protector who was not able *in conscience, at that time*, to install the newly elected Grand Master of the Paris Obedience.

8. Subsequently the Duke of Brissac was asked to withdraw his resignation and to remain as Grand Master in an acting capacity until the matter of the Duke of Seville's matrimonial annulment was resolved. The Duke of Brissac agreed and stipulated that he would do so for a period of two years. The Spiritual Protector concurred with the arrangement.

9. The Patriarch then informed the Governing Council that he would allow the newly elected Grand Master also a period of two years to resolve the matter of his annulment.

10. *As this matter is out of the hands of the plaintiff and at the disposition of the Marriage Tribunal of Madrid, it would not be unusual or unreasonable for an extension of time to be granted if no verdict is handed down within the Patriarch's two year grace period. This however would be up to His Beatitude – AKT.*

11. Discussion followed on titles for the Duke of Seville and the Duke of Brissac. In the course of the ensuing discussions the Chairman of the Governing Council asked me a canonical legal point and within the response I suggested the words *Acting* and *Elect* were commonly used titles and would fit the situation. Discussion followed and the terms *Acting* and *Elect* were adopted. The two Grand Masters would work in consultation with one another.

REUNIFICATION WITH MALTA

12. In reference to the other matter we discussed concerning the phrase: *The Paris Obedience had approved a reunification with Malta*, the semantics lie in the word *approved*. One interpretation of the word *approved* could mean a situation which is completed and *ready to be ratified*. Another interpretation of the word *approved* could be that a situation has *already been ratified and completed*. Another interpretation of the word *approved* could mean that a situation has been approved to commence *and is still ongoing*.

13. This third interpretation is the situation of our case where the Dublin Chapter General *approved* the commencement of a process where a future reunification of the two Obediences would take place. That process is still ongoing. Subsequently a Joint Reunification Commission was established with two Chairmen, and with four representatives from each Obedience as members of the Commission.

14. The formal ratification and reunification has not yet taken place as everybody well knows, however this has not prevented the European dissident group from continuing their mischievous statements and outright mistruths on their web sites in stating that it has in fact taken place.

15. To imply that the word *approved* suggests that reunification has taken place is quite contrary to the facts. In fact, at every National Chapter since 2001, Tony Sallmann has given a verbal report on the progress of the Joint Reunification Commission to members present. I would like to draw your attention to the Minutes of the National Chapter held in Brisbane in 2002, where "the Chancellor spoke to the process (strong support for the ecumenical nature of the Order and re-unification with the Malta Obedience), at the (*forth coming, my words of addition*) Chapter General and the need of the Grand Prior to have formal authority to be recognised by the Governing Council to speak and to commit on behalf of the Australian branch of the Order."

16. A drafting committee was formed consisting of Margaret White, Michael White and Barry O'Keefe to write a draft which read:

"The Grand Priory of Australia, meeting at its National Chapter 2002 resolves:

- a. that the Chapter strongly supports Christian ecumenism as a principle and practice of the Order;
- b. that the Grand Master be requested to accept the principal and practice of Christian ecumenism;
- c. that the Australian Grand Priory desires that negotiations for reunification with the Malta Obedience proceed, and
- d. that the Grand Prior be authorised to take such steps as she may decide appropriate to give effect to the above resolutions.

17. It is my understanding as a member of the Order's International Committee for Public Relations (ICPO) that the work of the Joint Reunification Commission is almost complete and ready to be presented to the respective Governing Councils.

CONCLUSION

18. Almost twelve months have passed since the Toronto Chapter General with the above recollections still clear in my memory and with the help of my notes, this is to the best of my knowledge, a factual and unbiased account of what transpired. The sequence of events however are most important, what was said, by whom, when and where.

19. A point almost overlooked in the heat of the argument is that His Beatitude, the Spiritual Protector gave the Duke of Seville two years to get his matrimonial situation resolved. There are still twelve months to run on the time allocation and as I wrote in para.10, it is not unusual for a further extension of time to be granted in such circumstances particularly where natural justice and truth are being sought.

I hope that these recollections are of use to you, as we prepare ourselves and thoughts for the reunification of our two Obediences.

FROM THE REFERENDARY

Since the Perth Chapter meeting a number of proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Order have been foreshadowed for discussion at the Hobart Chapter. Notice of exact proposals must be give at least one month before the Chapter meeting and will be circulated in good time. They are as follows.

1. The proposed motion re the tenure of Office bearers which was discussed at the Perth Chapter and was then withdrawn, has been redrawn to comply with the directions given at Perth and will be proposed at Hobart .
2. As discussed at Perth, a motion will be proposed to ensure that candidates meeting all other requirements for promotion to the rank of Knight or Dame should have served at least five years as Commander.
3. The Committee of Chev Will Bailey, Chev Reg Hession and Brig. Ellis

Wayland reported on membership issues and advised on the following matters:

- (a) the ownership and medals and insignia when a member resigns
- (b) Inactive membership
- (c) Senior membership and
- (d) Friends (Cohorts) of the Order.

Appropriate proposed resolutions will be formulated and circulated.

Some time ago I requested the Secretary of each Commandery to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that the name of the Order could not be registered or used by any person or organisation other than the Order. I have received replies from some and would appreciate replies from the other Commanderies.

David Crossin

FROM THE MARSHAL

My Regimental crest carries the motto - Nec Aspera Terrent. The accepted translation is "Let Nought Deter" - accepted, I suppose, because Cavalry Regiments do not usually have Latin scholars amongst their officers to provide literal translations.

I seek comfort in this motto because in this article for LazarusLetter I know I am heading into dangerous territory. I do not do so willingly, but there are times when serious matters normally avoided by the wise or the faint hearted do need to be addressed, and so I shall not, therefore, be deterred.

No one with any sensitivity could not continue to be worried about the serious problems facing our Order at the International level, which were debated with such vigour at the Perth Chapter meeting. Even though that debate, robustly argued for two and a half days, resulted in unanimous resolutions, there is still a strong

feeling of frustration in all of us that the split in what was our old Paris Obedience fraternity could even have happened, let alone that it still continues to fester. That some of the people involved could behave so appallingly simply compounds our frustration and our disillusionment. Then again, we could be forgiven for wondering what it was that caused confreres of such seniority and high standing in our fraternity to behave so appallingly in the first place.

Let me hasten to assure you that I would not even attempt to try and offer any resolutions because the issues are so complex and so enmeshed in the emotions of those involved that any such attempt would be either pompous or foolhardy, or both. As the unofficial historian of our Order in Australia and as the keeper of its traditions I hope that I will be forgiven, however, if I make some observations.

My first observation is that what is happening in our Order now is nothing new. Unseemly squabbles and power struggles at the leadership level have in fact been the dominant characteristic of not only our Order throughout its history but also of every Order of Chivalry throughout the ages.

Some have been so serious that they have resulted in the destruction of their Order -the Templars being the most notable example. In the Order of St John, leadership struggles have been so intense that there are now no less than twenty six (at last count) Orders of St John, all who claim to be the true Order and several of whom claim to be a Sovereign Order even though only one (The Sovereign Order of Malta) is the proprietor of a sovereign territory.

As mentioned in my previous articles, our own Order of Lazarus, as a result of such squabbles over the years, has been forced to amalgamate with the Order of St John, the Order of Mt Carmel, and the Order of St Maurice, who incidentally still claim to be the true order of St Lazarus under their current title of the Order of St Maurice and St Lazarus.

At the root of all of these arguments has been the reality that all of these orders of chivalry have for centuries been ancient military orders governed by aristocratic autocrats. Even as late as the 1900's modern armies were autocratically run by generals (mostly aristocratic) individually and independently, without the benefit of trained and experienced general staffs. As late as 1915, for example, the whole Gallipoli campaign, including the biggest amphibious landing at that time in history, was run solely by General Sir Ian Hamilton standing imperiously alone on the bridge of his battleship anchored off the coast.

Warfare then became so complex that Generals could not possibly function without trained expert staffs to advise them on the complexities of artillery, engineering, medicine, communications and logistics. In my latter days my staff also had the addition (unwelcome but necessary) of lawyers and public relations officers. In the commercial world staff officers took the form of Head Office accountants, human relations experts, information technologists, administrators, and financial controllers as well as the inevitable lawyers and public relations experts. Chief Executives who ignored their

advice, or who did not seek it in the first place, invariably suffered the consequences.

Today in our Order we still delight in using our ancient titles for our leaders. Grand Master has a lovely old world ring to it and I for one enjoy this title's resonance with our ancient past and our ancient traditions. But, like modern Generals and Chief Executives, our Grand Master now has the benefit of expert advisers who should provide him with the advice he needs to help him through the trials and tribulations of his responsibilities.

Also essential to the proper governance of our Order today are our Constitutions – the constitutions governing our organisation internationally and, of course, the constitutions of our Grand Priory and our State Commanderies. But in the context of our 900 year history, constitutions are a very modern phenomenon, and like armies, it takes a disaster of the like of Gallipoli, for Generals to also recognise that proper governance can only be achieved by listening to, and taking the advice of, their staffs.

We could perhaps ponder on whether the Order of the Temple might still be around and thriving if it's Grand Master had a constitution and a general staff to guide him.

So, I guess my second observation is that our current problems, as serious as they are, can and will be resolved, but only if the collective advice of our "General Staff" – our Chancellors, Referendaries, Treasurers, Commandery Presidents etc is freely and honestly given, and that they ensure that our Order continues to be governed and managed at all levels within the provisions of our Constitutions.

When I was being trained at Staff College, I was told that the true test of a staff officer's loyalty was whether he had the courage to tell his General what he needed to hear rather than what he wanted to hear. Later in life when I was doing my General's course, I was told that bad Generals were those who inflated their egos by making autocratic decisions and then relied on the loyalty of their staff officers to dig them out of the hole in which such decisions invariably landed them.

Talking about Staff Colleges, the most prestigious of them all – the Royal Military

College, Sandhurst, notes somewhere in its teachings that the wisest general in military history was General Hindsight.

Sandhurst, incidentally, was founded by a brilliant British cavalry officer – a Frenchman, by the name of Jean Gaspard Le Marchant. His spectacular career came to an equally spectacular end in the Peninsular War where he commanded the cavalry under the Duke of Wellington.

Whilst leading the Charge of the Heavy Brigade at the Battle of Salamanca, he was shot out of his saddle by one of his own countrymen - a French infantryman. Just goes to show that when leading from the front you can sometimes be too clever by half!

So, disillusioned we may well be, but soldier on we must! Nec Aspera Terrent!

Ellis Wayland

TASMANIA COMMANDERY
PRELIMINARY PROGRAM HOBART – SEPTEMBER 8-11 2005

DAY 1 Thursday September 8 2005

11am optional excursion to Salmon Ponds and Moorilla Winery. Day Tour includes luncheon, admissions, tours. Details will be provided in registration information, but excursion will be subject to a minimum number wishing to go. Early advice appreciated.

6pm reception at Government House.

Optional dining arrangements - experience a wide range of facilities available on Hobart's dockside.

DAY 2 Friday September 9 2005

Registration – Hotel Grand Chancellor

Various meetings of Order, all at Hotel Grand Chancellor.

Light lunch.

Vigil Service – All Saints Church 6pm.

Dinner – Cocktail function at Classics Museum, University of Tasmania and dinner at Lazenbys (University).

DAY 3 Saturday September 10 2005

Meeting of Chapter, lunch, followed by meeting continuation if required.

Postulants rehearsal 5.00pm.

Investiture at St David's Cathedral 6.00pm

Dinner at Hotel Grand Chancellor.

DAY 4 Sunday September 11 2005

St Mary's Cathedral Mass – 10.30am

Farewell lunch Hotel Grand Chancellor.

NOTE: Registration information will be forwarded to members in May 2005.

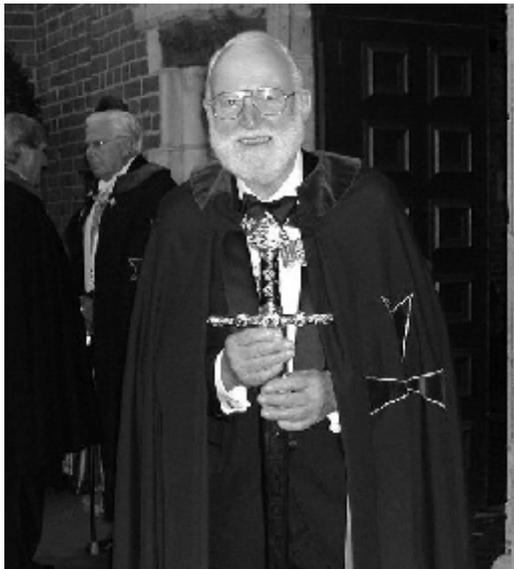
Accommodation will be at Hotel Grand Chancellor but with a lower cost option at Mid City Hotel.

Virgin and Jetstar provide direct flights to Hobart from Brisbane, Sydney and Adelaide and Qantas has direct flights from Sydney

NEWS FROM AROUND THE COMMANDERIES

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

The Commandery has suffered two losses in recent months. The National Herald Major-General Duncan Francis AO OBE KLJ became ill soon after the Perth Chapter and after a short illness died late last year. Chev. Duncan was a member who lived to the fullest, the aims and ideals of the Order. Of latter years he was the organiser of our major fund raising activity, the annual dinner at the Southern Cross Club for the L'Arche Homes and the other members only really appreciated his contribution over the years when he was too ill to run the last dinner. Duncan assumed many roles, amongst which he was the President of the L'Arche Homes for the past three years as well as being an active member of many Church organisations.



Maj-General Duncan Francis AO OBE KLJ at the Perth Investiture, August 2004

Duncan was given a funeral with Full Military Honours. The presence of His Excellency the Governor General and Mrs. Jeffery, the Chief of the Defence Forces, General Peter Cosgrove, and many of his Military colleagues was a mark of the high respect in which he was held. Bishop Max Davis, the Military Ordinary, and one of the Commandery's Chaplains was the principal celebrant of the Mass. St Christopher's Cathedral was filled with people from all walks of life who had been fortunate enough to have fallen within Duncan's sphere of influence. May he Rest in Peace

Not long after Duncan's death Chev. John Kelly suffered the loss of his beloved wife Rachel. John has been a member of the Order since 1981 and was the first member of the A.C.T. Commandery. Rachel Kelly had suffered ill-health most of her life but bore her sufferings with a stoic calm that excited the admiration of all who knew her. She was gentleness personified and although not a member of the Order, she was a person of great charity. Once again St. Christopher's was filled as her many friends paid their respects to the memory of a very special lady. The members extend their deepest sympathy to John in his loss.

On a happier note our Treasurer and former President Frank Long and his wife, Gabrielle, recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Their seven children, twenty grandchildren, other relatives and friends helped Gabrielle and Frank mark the occasion in a most fitting manner. They first attended a Mass at the Chapel of the Royal Military College concelebrated by their friends Bishop Max Davis and Rev. Fr. John Eddy, which was followed by a wonderful luncheon. Congratulations to them both. May they celebrate many more years together.

The Annual Fund raising dinner for L'Arche Homes was held in October and once again was a success both socially and financially. Over the eleven years this dinner has been held, over \$100,000 has been raised to help the work of L'Arche. This year over \$ 11,000 was raised. Many thanks to our loyal supporters

In March we will again be hosting the residents of the three L'Arche Homes at a Barbeque. This is usually followed by a cricket match, which provides no challenge to Ricky Ponting and his team.

David Crossin

NEW SOUTH WALES

PATRONAL FEAST DAY. The latter part of 2004 was highlighted by the attendance of our Grand Prior Lady Potter AC DLJ GOMLJ Brule SMLJ and our National Chaplain Cardinal George Pell KGCHSJ ECChLJ GCMLJ DD at our Commandery's Patronal Feast Day celebration. This activity was initially conducted in the chapel of Sydney Church of England Grammar School (Shore) followed by dinner at a nearby harbour view restaurant. Heraldry expert Michael Spencer delivered a very interesting after dinner address. Our thanks and appreciation go to Colette Cowle for capably managing this activity.

EMILIE BEATRICE PAINE. We were saddened by the passing of Emilie Beatrice Payne, mother of our distinguished member, Cara Brett Hall OAM DLJ CMLJ. Emilie had accompanied Cara to many a National Chapter meeting and she was well known to many members throughout Australia. A eulogy given at her funeral is published in this issue.

CHILDREN GIFTS. A large number of Christmas gifts were distributed to patients at the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children - Westmead. We are indebted to Raphael Panetta, Ivan Petch and Bishop Patrick Murphy for their efforts in arranging and executing this high visibility activity.



Dr Raphael Panetta KLL, Florence Panetta & Ivan Petch OLI at Westmead Hospital

TSUNAMI AT BANDA ACEH. Gynecologist Major Michael Campion OLI is a member of the First Parachute Surgical Team of the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps. His team was lodged at Banda Aceh with the Australian Military Field Hospital shortly after the disaster on 26 December 2004. The devastation faced by members of the unit was horrific. All reports indicate that they did a wonderful job not only with patients but also getting the local major hospital up and running. Staff of the original Banda Aceh hospital was decimated following the catastrophe and only a small number could be found.

One interesting aspect that Michael struck was the presence in the city of a German medical facility which flew a flag of the Maltese cross on a white ground. This was a very professional non-government organization (NGO), with some nine Doctors plus supporting staff. The Commander was a senior Berlin consultant. Michael visited them and asked about their affiliation. They said they were an operational arm of the Sovereign Order of St. John. Michael asked about whom in the unit was a member of the order. The Commander said, "No one. We are not of noble birth."

We were delighted to see Michael return home safely and we all thank him very sincerely for his excellent efforts and valuable contribution.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The Annual General Meeting saw the following officers elected:

President:	Ross Brown
Secretary:	Bill Killinger
Treasurer:	Lindsay Kidd
Almoner:	Colette Cowle
Herald:	Aidre Sinclair
Hospitaller:	Raphael Panetta
Chaplain:	Jim Pettigrew

Positions were largely unchanged, however we were sorry that our President, Bishop Patrick Murphy GCLJ GCMLJ made it clear that he wanted to stand down. Bishop Murphy has been a wonderful member for over 22 years, he has served in many of our

positions and has made a major contribution to the spiritual development and focus of our Commandery.

VALE SHEILA PRIOR. Members of our Commandery were greatly saddened by the passing of one of our very illustrious members, Sheila Mary Prior AM BEM DLJ. Sheila was a major charity worker and a great supporter of OSL activities. Barry O'Keefe AM KCHS KLJ wrote and delivered a beautiful eulogy, which is published elsewhere in this Lazarus Letter.

DINNER AT ABERCROMBIE HOUSE. We have planned a splendid dinner to be held in one of the finest stately homes in Australia, the home of Rex Morgan AM MBE OLG and Mary Morgan. The Morgan family is most generously donating this fundraising event. Abercrombie House is located at Bathurst which is about a three hour drive West of Sydney. The evening will benefit the Jean Colvin Hospital/Hostel which provides housing for country cancer patients whilst they are receiving specialist medical treatment in Sydney.

COMING UP. Our Restaurateurs, Santo Severino KLJ and Alba Severino, are building a major restaurant and function centre on the Mona Vale Road on Sydney's North Shore. We will hold an important event at this venue when it opens in the second half of this year.

PATRONAL FEAST DAY. This year we have two splendid venues for this activity to be held on Friday 25 November 2005. The service will be held in the Crypt of St Mary's Cathedral followed by dinner at the adjoining Cardinal's residence, Cathedral house. Both beautiful venues. An invitation is cordially extended to all OSL members from all Commanderies.

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

Ross Brown

QUEENSLAND

The Queensland Commandery completed a very successful year on the 19th of December when many members, spouses, friends and members of kindred Orders

joined to celebrate the St Lazarus Feast Day. This event was held at Our Lady Help of Christians, Hendra, the church of our member, the Very Reverend Jim Spence. This was followed with a gathering at the home of Mrs Regina McGuire. It was a great way to finish what had, in many ways, been a very successful year. During the year we were able to raise a record amount of money. This included a personal donation from one of our members which was most appreciated. The monies raised were distributed to a number of charities including the School of St Jude, Tanzania, The Trinity Pantry, Catholic Psychiatric Pastoral Care, the Missions to Seaman and the Apostleship of the Sea. The responses that we received from a number of our charities made the effort so much more rewarding. The principal of a small donation being directed at a local problem without the drain of administration costs came to the fore many times.

Hands-on activity has proceeded well throughout the year. Many members are dutifully helping visiting sailors at the Mission to Seaman. Michael White and Gordon Mor are still helping Mr Stan Gray, a quadriplegic aboriginal man. It is felt that without this help Mr Gray's perilous condition would have been much worse than it is. He has been visited and helped in a number of ways for the past five years. At times it would appear that no progress is being made but Stan is still alive and appreciates the interest, help and advice that he receives. One of our members very generously spent her Christmas helping Catholic Psychiatric Care. Her presence was much appreciated. It was also a very rewarding experience for the concerned member.

There are a number of interested people who are being assessed for membership in the Order. Three people have transferred to our Order from other Commanderies and Orders in the past twelve months. As yet not much contact has been made with these people but they have been included on our emailing list. Hopefully in the near future their involvement will be more significant.

Because of the need to talk about the Tsunami disaster and other matters our

year started early with a General Meeting held on the 18th January. It was very gratifying to see such a great turnout for a rather precipitous meeting. One of our members is looking into how we may be able to help victims in Sri Lanka without the problem again of dealing with big organizations and the attendant dilution of support through administration costs.

Plans are already in place for our first fund raiser. This will be a film day to be held on the 6th March.

Members are being encouraged to attend the September Chapter Meeting in Hobart.

In summary the Queensland Commandery is off and running.

Gordon Mor

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Since September 2004, the only major function has been the St Lazarus Day Service which was held at St Peter Claver Church at Dulwich on Sunday 12 December 2005. This was a successful and happy gathering of the Commandery. Representatives of the Order of Malta and The Venerable Order of St John also attended. A representative of the Equestrian Order was due to attend but had to cancel at the last moment owing to a death in the family. The ladies of the parish provided an excellent lunch for the attendees of the Service.

The Commandery held its Annual General Meeting on the 22 February, when the following office bearers were elected:

President: Hon Justice Kemerl Murray
AO DLJ

Secretary: Ian Chesterman
AM KLJ OMLJ

Almoner: Pat Schroder DLJ

Hospitaller: Peter Hetzel AM KLJ

Herald: Don Sarah AM CLJ

Archivist: David Seaton K¹NO KLJ

The Hospitaller's Committee is investigating several projects for our financial support in the coming year including the viability of assisting a school that was devastated by the recent Port Lincoln bushfires. The Almoner's Committee has a proposal for a film night. John Bishop also reported that the Order internationally has proposed to take longer term responsibility for the Indonesian island of Nias which was devastated by the Tsunami. No precise plans have yet been finalized.

The audited financial statements for 2004 show a healthy balance.

Discussions at our General Meeting on 22 February about the forthcoming Annual Chapter meeting in Hobart in September have been lively. I anticipate that some members of our Commandery will be able to attend.

We are hopeful that two new members, Christopher McLaughlin and Meredith Chesterman, will be invested at the Hobart Chapter meeting and I am very pleased that a further proposal for the induction of another new member is now with the Membership Committee.

Kemerl Murray

TASMANIA

The Commandery has welcomed the admission of Father Brian Nichols ChLJ, taking the total active membership to 17. Father Brian is the Administrator of St Mary's Cathedral in Hobart.

The Annual General Meeting held on 29 September 2004 saw the reappointment of all existing office bearers for a further term of 12 months.

The presentation of a cheque for \$5,000 for the purchase of an electric-lift bed for the Whittle Ward in Hobart occurred on 9 November 2004.

The Feast Day of St Lazarus was celebrated with a service at St David's Cathedral

followed by an enjoyable dinner at the nearby Hadley's Hotel.

The next fundraising event in the form of a cocktail function has been planned for Wednesday, 6 April 2005 at the historic Cathedral Presbytery in Barrack Street, Hobart.

The Commandery has received encouraging support for the idea of providing "Hearing Aids for Russia" and this will be developed further by Hospitaller Brian Gallagher CLJ.

The Commandery was delighted to learn of the recognition of Past President Dan

McNeill KLJ in the Australia Day Honours List with the Award of the Medal of the Order of Australia.

The major focus of the Commandery is planning for the National Chapter from 8-11 September 2005.

The Convener, Ron Banks AM CLJ, is working closely with an executive group and a number of sub-committees to ensure that the Hobart Chapter will be a pleasurable experience for all attendees.

Kerry Bowerman



Tasmanian President, Kerry Bowerman CLJ presenting a cheque for \$5,000 to Sister Ann Allanby, Clinical Coordinator of the Palliative Care Whittle Ward.

VICTORIA

Members of the Commandery and friends attended our Annual Saint Lazarus Day Church Service at St Peters in December, followed by a very enjoyable Dinner during which we were entertained by singers from the Melbourne Opera Ensemble.

In September Beverley and Bill Charlton hosted, at their home, a most enjoyable

and informative gourmet wine tasting and buffet meal fund raising evening.

During November members and guests travelled to the Mornington Peninsula for lunch at Willow Creek Winery followed by a visit and afternoon tea at Lady Potter's wonderful Rose Garden, in full bloom, at Merrick's Beach. Members continued the practice of attending devotions led by our Chaplains in the

Lazarus Chapel at St Peters prior to each bi-monthly business meeting.

We welcomed The Very Reverend David Richardson CHStJ ChLJ, Dean of Melbourne, (new member), and Father Desmond Dwyer ChLJ, (transferred from NSW), to membership of the Commandery.

The Commandery continues to support the work of Lazarus Centre operating at St Pauls and St Peters facilities where about 50 homeless or disadvantaged people attend, at the Cathedral, for advice, counselling and other services, and an average of some 40 attend for breakfast at St Peters Eastern Hill.

It is planned this year to also support the activities of the Wellington Community Centre based at St Joseph's Church Collingwood, under the leadership of Father Ern Smith. The Centre provides support and programs for disadvantaged low income and welfare-reliant people in that community.

Planning is well in hand for this year's activities which include:

- bi-monthly meetings,
- Quiet Day and Luncheon at Monsignor Tony Tom's church, Seymour in March,
- Italian Dinner in April,
- Film afternoon in June,
- Major fund raising Dinner in July,
- Literary/cocktail function in November and
- Saint Lazarus Service and Dinner in December.

Max Carr

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The success of the W A Commandery continues to grow. After a concerted effort to lift Membership we have been fortunate in gaining two new Members, Mrs Irene Davies O LJ and His Hon. George Sadlier RFD O LJ. Two more prospective lady Members are in the process of collating the necessary papers prior to the formal process of

Membership. Two gentlemen have been interviewed and are giving serious consideration on the matter.

Our Commandery Meetings continue to be very well attended and the Dinner after the Meeting at the Weld Club is exceedingly well patronised by the attendance of a number of spouses and from time to time the adult children of some Members.

The camaraderie generated at this event, I am sure, helps us to function as a more tightly knit and effective group when going about our St. Lazarus work.

Our St. Lazarus Day Service on the 17th December 2004 had a record attendance made up of thirty eight Members and Guests.

The Service at St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church, East Perth [the oldest Church in the State] is traditionally a special event, and once again our thanks must go to Bishop Brian Kyme ChLJ and The Rev. Dr. John Shepherd ChLJ for compiling and officiating at this very special Ceremony.

The tiny wooden Church was filled to capacity with Members in Cloaks and Regalia, whilst the Dean of Perth managed to play beautiful music on the antique pedal organ so that we may be in full voice.

Bishop Kyme led the Service. His Homily was inspirational and thought provoking in dealing with today's social problems.

The St. Lazarus Day Dinner after the Service was a very joyous and friendly event. The Weld club must be congratulated for the care and attention to detail which they put into making the Function such an elegant and memorable occasion.

The recipients of our Donations for 2004 were:

- Parkerville Children's Home [FAST PROJECT] - \$4,000
- St Bartholomew's Home for Men - \$4,000
- An allocation of funds has been made to Dr. Fiona Wood, to pay

for the return airfare of a Tanzanian Plastic Surgeon, to enable him to train at her burns unit in Perth - \$3,000 approx.

We continue to support Passages Referral Centre, with one of our Members Mr. Maurice Rousset CLJ on the board.

A possible project in East Timor introduced by Maurice is being looked into by the Almoner Chev. Kevin Fox-Slater.

Our Major Fundraiser will be a Garden Party on the 30th October 2005 in the garden of Peter and Tania Young, and we aim to make this a very special event. The garden is set in three acres of garden rooms, with a Folly, garden sculpture and many wonderful fantasy views as you

move through Architectural arches and garden walls which segregate the spaces. The roses and the beautiful vegetable parterre are my particular favourites.

The dates for the remaining Commandery Meetings are:

Tuesday 19th April AGM

Tuesday 21st June

Tuesday 16th August

Tuesday 18th October

Tuesday 13th December - St. Lazarus Day Service and Dinner.

Elizabeth Summerhayes

OBITUARIES

Duncan Francis 1937 - 2004

Major General Francis died on 26 October after a short illness. He was buried with full military honours on 3 November. St Christopher's Cathedral accommodated family, military colleagues including Governor General Maj Gen Michael Jeffery, General Peter Cosgrove, representatives of the Government of Papua New Guinea and international, national and local philanthropic organisations with which he had been closely associated over a number of years.

The son of Lt Col Duncan Francis and Marie (nee) Collopy, he was born on 20 March, 1937, in Perth. He was educated at Aquinas College and matriculated with outstanding academic results in 1953. He graduated from RMC Duntroon in 1957 as dux of his class and with the Queen's Medal for academic excellence. He completed his BE (Civil) degree at Melbourne University with second class honours. In the course of a 34-year military career he attended the Australian Staff College, the Joint Services Staff College and the National Defence College (Canada). A gifted teacher, he was an instructor at the School of Military Engineering, a lecturer in the Engineering Department at RMC and a member

of the Directing Staff at the Australian Staff College.

He saw active service in South Vietnam as Commander of 17 Construction Squadron, RAE, and served in Papua New Guinea in four different appointments and ranks. His contribution to the formation of the PNG Defence Forces was widely appreciated in both Australian and PNG government circles.

Throughout the 1980s, Maj Gen Francis was involved at the highest level of defence management in material acquisition. In 1980 his exemplary military service was recognised when he was appointed an Officer of the British Empire (OBE) for services to the PNG Government and military, and in 1988 he was appointed an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO).

Duncan Francis was regarded as a leader and manager who believed that the people he served and those who served him were always more important than the material. He understood that service was the highest calling and rendered it in abundance.

On retirement, it was the people of Canberra and particularly those of the Archdiocese of Canberra

and Goulburn who were to benefit from his wisdom, his capacity for hard work and his compassion for those in any need. He was appointed chairman of the ACT Block Grant Authority for Non-Government Schools and chairman of the Archdiocesan Aged Care Board. He was elected president of the L'Arche Genesaret Community in Canberra, and the Serra Club. As a member of the Order of St Lazarus (a Military and Hospitaller Order) he was able to continue to live out a life-time devotion to the principles of chivalry, steadfastness and compassion for the needy. As president of the Knights of the Southern Cross, he became a formidable debater and defender of the Church position on euthanasia and abortion.

This Christian gentleman was very committed and incredibly generous to his close and extended family. He attracted friendships with people in many countries and he maintained an engaging correspondence with them. His advice was sought by many. His generosity in making himself available to listen, to provide care and help where possible marked him as a most honourable and devoted friend for whom gospel values were always paramount.

Duncan Mackenzie Michael Francis served God, the Church, the nation, the needy and his family and friends with dedication and distinction. All of those he touched throughout his life are the better for the contact.

Catholic Voice December 2004

Sheila Prior 1914 - 2004

Eulogy delivered by The Hon Justice Barry O'Keefe, AM KCHS KLJ At The Funeral of Sheila Mary Prior, AM BEM DLJ at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney on 17 December 2004

Mr Brian Davies, representing Her Excellency the Governor Professor Marie Bashir Companion of the Order of Australia; The Hon Bronwyn Bishop; representatives of The Australian Opera Auditions Committee and the Sydney International Piano Competition; friends of Sheila Prior.

When Sheila Mary Prior passed peacefully from this life to her eternal reward in the early hours of Sunday, 12 December 2004, Sydney lost one of its Grand Dames, a number of charities lost an indefatigable worker and we all lost a dear friend.

Sheila Prior was a remarkable lady. She was born at Waverley on 6 May 1914, the year in which the Great War began. She was a Taurus (if I might mention star signs in this holy place) - with the classical characteristics of warmth, enthusiasm, energy, loyalty and happiness that are commonly attributed to people of that sign.

She grew up in the aftermath of World War I and then lived through the Great Depression., World War II and the Cold War that followed. Yet none of these cataclysmic events dulled her natural enthusiasm or sapped her ebullient energy.

She was an accountant by profession. That was unusual for a lady of the era in which Sheila

reached adulthood - but then Sheila was an exception of human being. A loving wife to Lance, a devoted mother to Peter, a committed Catholic holding fast to the faith. In the words of the great hymn Faith of Our Fathers she was "true to death". All of these roles she fulfilled to her utmost - and with signal success.

She was petite but dynamic. She was a lady of enormous energy, not just during her younger years but throughout her life, despite the fact that she attained an age that was venerable.

Her energies were put to good purpose. Over the course of much of her life they were directed towards doing good, helping others.

For nigh on 40 years she dedicated a large part of her life to music; encouraging and supporting Australian talent in various fields - vocal, instrumental and conducting. Following the death of her beloved Lance in 1992 she threw herself even more fully into her fundraising activities. As I have said she was a remarkable lady.

As we will hear from Professor Warren Thomson, she was Founding President of the Australian Opera Auditions Committee and throughout her long and distinguished life, and throughout the whole of the life of that Committee; she remained as its Chairman.

But although she was the Chairman of the Committee, Sheila was no mere figurehead. She was a worker. Over the years many of us would

have recognised our names on invitations in her neat crisp hand, written with a fine nibbed pen asking us to attend various functions to support Australian talent in opera and other fields of musical endeavour.

Her dedication, determination and enthusiasm were infectious. Who could refuse her invitations - she who went to so much trouble to ensure that the functions with which she was associated would be great successes. Many of us will have experienced a pang of regret, perhaps even a feeling of guilt, if another engagement prevented us from attending. However, so great was our respect and love for her that even when we could not attend, a donation to the worthy causes that she had embraced would be forthcoming.

A mark of her determination is that as short a time as three weeks ago she was up until 11pm and 12 at night writing 400 invitations for one of the functions which she and her Committee had organised. Ninety years of age but still hard at work for others.

Her Piece de Resistance each year was the highlights of Opera. She was always able to have a major figure, often Vice Regal, as the guest of honour on such occasions. Through her drive, she and her Committee have raised an amount approaching \$2M over the last 40 years. The list of beneficiaries of this great endeavour is somewhat like the Litany of the Saints. For those of you who do not know, the Litany of the Saints is very, very long. Such names as Yvonne Kenny, Bernadette Cullen, Robert Gard, John Pringle, Donald Shanks, Deborah Reidel, John Wegner, Michael Lewis etc etc are included in that list. Australian Opera is the better, our singers the more renowned because of the work of Sheila Prior and her Australian Opera Auditions Committee. The respect in which she was held is well attested by the presence today of the great Joan Carden - who will, a little later, sing in jubilation for the life and service of Sheila and has already sung a magnificent descant during the Crimond.

Sheila's recognition by an award (in what are now the old days) of the British Empire Medal gives some indication of how long it is that Sheila has been involved in charitable works. Her more recent award in the Order of Australia, is an indication of her ongoing charitable endeavours and the high regard in which she was held.

Yet although recognition came her way and although Sheila walked with the great, she was an

essentially humble person. Dame Joan Sutherland, Richard Bonyngé as well as many other towering figures in the musical milieu were her close friends. She rubbed shoulders with Vice-Regal personages, all of whom knew her well and respected her. Yet she eschewed personal aggrandisement. You will look in vain in Who's Who in Australia for an entry on Sheila Prior. She repeatedly declined to be included on the basis that what she did, she did for others, not to gain publicity for herself. Such a lady was Sheila Prior!

I came to know Sheila most closely through her work in the Military and Hospitaller Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem. It is an ecumenical order of chivalry stemming from the time of the Crusades. In modern times it assists the needy, those who are on the fringes of society, the outcasts - in the same way as the monks of the Middle Ages did. Sheila was inducted as a Commander of the Order in 1990. She served as Almoner in 1992, 1993 and 1996, was Almoner and Hospitaller in 1994 and 1995 and Hospitaller from 1997 to 1998. In 1996 she was created a Dame of the Order. I thought that Dame Sheila" had a fine ring about it and was very apt for a grand lady like Sheila Prior. I know that she secretly enjoyed being referred to as "Dame Sheila".

Just as Sheila was a great fundraiser for the Australian Opera Auditions and the Sydney International Piano Competition, so too was she a great fundraiser for the charitable works of the Order of St Lazarus. In the 7 years she occupied the offices of Almoner and Hospitaller the fundraising for charity by the Order reached new heights. Sheila was a great organiser, a marvellous motivator and had an excellent eye for the function that would appeal and hence succeed. Many members of the Order are present here today and with me pay their respects to Sheila as a marvellous member of, and great figure in, the Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem. She will occupy a place of honour in the history of the Order in Australia.

And now she has gone from us - full of years and achievement and honour. We will all miss her and are saddened by her passing. On behalf of all present at today's beautiful Mass may I extend sincere sympathy to Peter. He has been a tireless supporter of his late mother and our hearts go out to him at this time.

Although we are all saddened by Sheila's death, yet we will be consoled by the fact that we have known her, a significant figure in our community,

a great lady and a good friend. Her passing was peaceful. She died as she had lived, very much the lady. We will also be consoled by the knowledge that for her life is changed, not taken away and that whilst she has gone from this life, with its infirmities, she has gone to a better place to enjoy the reward of her labours for good during her life here. I have no doubt that she will now be

enjoying with her much loved husband, Lance, the celestial music, and the choirs of angels so beautifully referred to in the Preface of this Mass, in the same way she enjoyed music whilst she was amongst us.

Vale Sheila Prior.

Cara's Mum 1911 - 2004

The follow eulogy was given by Dr. Joseph Braysich at the recent funeral of Elle Payne, devoted member of the Masonic Club. Thank you to Joseph and Elle's daughter Cara Brett Hall for sharing this with us. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Emilie Beatrice Sabelberg was born in Melbourne on 5th January 1911. She was in her 94th year.

She was the eldest of five children and the only daughter of Margaret Darcy (an Irish lass) and Fredrick Sabelburg, a descendant of John Henry Sabelburg, who immigrated to Australia from Germany in December 1854.

Emilie married Arthur Murray Payne in Melbourne on 5th December, 1934, at the age of 23. They had only one daughter, Cara. Emilie and Arthur were extremely happily married and lived for each other. On more than one occasion Ellie has recounted to me various incidents of their marriage, how happy she was and how her husband never spoke a cross word to her over the 40 years of their marriage!

Emilie, or Elle as she has always been known to me, had a privileged upbringing and a very gentle life. She enchanted her grandchildren and great grandchildren with stories from her childhood, especially those that included horses and carriages and the fashions of the day. Her family lived in a grand home that had a gate directly into the church where the family prayed - she often spoke of her great friendship, as a teenager, with Archbishop Mannix whom she regarded as a mentor.

She had fond memories of her father taking her on outings into the country where she would often watch him pan for gold. She told stories of watching, from the balcony of her home in the evenings, the lamplighter light the gas street lights. As a young girl she enjoyed riding side-saddle on her grandparents' estate and travelling

in the family carriage with her mother, grandmother and the maid to shop for lace and ribbons.

Emilie was brought up to be seen and not heard, which was the custom of the day (she certainly made up for it in her latter years!) So, while her grandmother and mother made the purchases, she waited patiently in the carriage, wearing her bonnet and gloves, for her favourite candy treat - pink and white sweets called "Satinettes."

Emilie was educated at St Patrick's College in Melbourne and went on to become one of the first fashion models in Melbourne in the 1920s at, the then famous department store, Buckley and Nunn. (So we know where her exquisite taste for fashion, fine garments, elegant hats, stylish glasses and matching long gloves originated.)

She continued her adventuresome ways throughout her life, as attested by the fact that just after the war, and much to the dismay of her husband, she lead him on several journeys on cargo ships, one in particular into China, where they were guests of Mao Tse Tung. On another such adventure they ended up in Poland where they were kept under house arrest for some weeks. (Such was the life of this young woman!)

Emilie was known as "Elle" to all her close friends. She, together with her dear friend, Dorothy Pidgeon, were valued members of the Bennelong Club and the NSW Masonic Club, and great supporters of the Military and Hospitalier Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem, and the charity raising, Cornucopia Committee. Emilie never missed a charity raising of the Cornucopia Committee, of which her daughter was the President for many, many years. She was seen at race days at Randwick, gala dinners, and breakfasts at a horse-trainer's stables and even a wet luncheon function at Harry's Cafe De Wheels. She went, supported and enjoyed them all.

Emilie was extremely proud of her daughter, Cara, and if she got you in a corner, with a whiskey in hand, she would regale you with stories and achievements of Cara. About how she and Cara's Aunts would teach Cara to sew, knit, crochet and embroider, (so we know where Cara obtained her millinery expertise), but not to cook - Elle hated the smell of meat and lived on fish, fruit and vegetables.

Emilie confided in me that if I hadn't personally met, and known, Sir Winston Churchill, Prince Phillip, The Queen, David Frost and Sir Laurence Olivier, I had certainly missed out for her Cara had! Emilie was the matriarch of the family and related to me her particular happiness on Christmas days, opening presents with Cara and her children and grandchildren around her. It was her wish to move to the city, her apartment overlooking Hyde Park and St Mary's Cathedral. She was very fond of the Archbishop of Sydney and thought he turned on the floodlights in the evening to illuminate the cathedral especially for

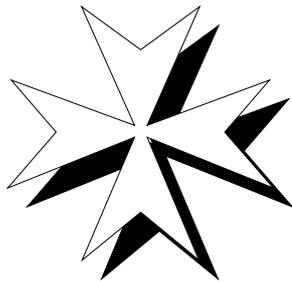
her. She loved her Swissotel and the staff who looked after her superbly.

In recent years Elle and her closest friend, Dorothy, could often be seen together attending opening nights at the opera and Club lunches, wearing the finest of fashion, sitting in a corner chatting to male members. Elle always had an eye for the handsome male and I am informed that even two days before she passed on, she was engaging the doctors at St Vincent's with her flirtatious comments.

She was blessed at being the great-grandmother of Chanel's children, Benjiman, Lucas, Alexandros and Valentina, and of Paris's daughters Viola and her namesake, Emilie.

She will now join her family and husband in heaven, and they will guide her family in their endeavours and lives, with wisdom and love from above.

God bless you Elle - rest in peace."



TONY'S STEAMED PORK BUNS – SARAPOW



The preparation of these delightful traditional Chinese steamed pork buns requires some careful preparation of the ingredients but the result will be very pleasing to the palate. Basically the preparation method will be in four parts:

1. preparing the pork for the filling,
2. preparing the dough for the buns,
3. cooking the pork marinade,
4. making and steaming the buns.

The following recipe should make about 24 steamed buns.

Utensils:

Chinese / Asian steamer with two or three trays.

30 small squares of grease proof paper (6x6cm) for the base of each bun.

Mixing bowls and measuring utensils as required

Pork Filling and Marinade Ingredients:

360 gm of pork loin

½ cup diced brown onions

½ cup thin sliced spring onions

½ cup tomato paste

2 teaspoons of brown sugar

1 tablespoon soy sauce

1 tablespoon Maggi seasoning sauce

1 tablespoon oyster sauce

1 tablespoon sesame oil

1 tablespoon hoisin sauce (recommended for those who like hoisin sauce)

Method:

1. Slice the pork loin into ten portions and add in all the marinade ingredients and stir well. Cover and set aside in the refrigerator for an hour until ready for use

Bun Dough Ingredients:

500 gm plain flour. Divide into two portions of 300 gm and 200gm

2 teaspoons of yeast powder

3 teaspoons sugar

1 teaspoon of salt

½ teaspoon of baking powder

2 tablespoons of cooking oil or 3 tablespoons of unsalted butter

2 ½ cups warm water

Method:

1. Divide the 500gm of plain flour into two portions of 300gm and 200gm and sift into separate bowls. Set the 200gm bowl aside.
2. Add to the 300gm bowl all the dry ingredients; yeast, sugar, salt, baking powder and mix in well.
3. Add the warm water slowly to the dough mixture and knead. It is important to gradually use all of the 2 ½ cups of water, this is where the 200gm of flour already set aside is used in gradually adding to the dough mixture while it is kneaded to give the dough mixture its correct firm consistency.
4. Slowly add the cooking oil or the unsalted butter to the dough and knead for twenty to thirty minutes depending on your physical strength, the longer the better but not more than one hour!
5. When you are satisfied put the dough into a bowl in a warm place to rise and double its size.
6. While the dough is rising return to the pork marinade.

Cooking the Pork Filling:

1. In a saucepan pour the pork marinade adding two cups of water and bring to the boil then simmer until almost all the liquid has been absorbed while stirring frequently.
2. Remove the pork and slice into *pea* size portions. When finished add just enough marinade residue to give a gravy constituency, as we do not want the pork to be *soupy*. Set aside and keep cold.

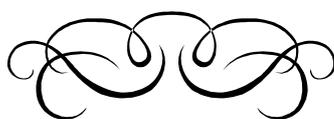
Making and Steaming the Buns:

1. Remove the dough and knead for a minute or two, if it is sticky add a little flour and knead till it does not stick to the hands.
2. When satisfied, shape out the dough in a *Vienna* shape loaf and cut off a slice about 4cm wide and knead it into a palm sized ball, tease out the dough into a circle the size of your palm and add a teaspoon or two of the pork mixture, then place it on a flat surface and tease the edges of the dough closed in the shape of a ball to enclose the pork. When finished put the pork bun on one of the pre-prepared squares of grease proof paper and set aside for 30 minutes.
3. It is now time for the steaming which takes only 15-20 minutes. Fill the lower section of the steamer with water and bring to the boil. Place the pork buns on the steamer trays making sure that they do not touch as they will expand about thirty percent in the steamer.
4. Place the steamer trays in the steamer and cook for approximately 15-20 minutes.
5. Test a bun for its texture and when you are satisfied remove from the steamer and allow to cool. When cool the paper base is easily peeled off.

Chinese steamed buns are very popular in restaurants and are usually served with *Dim Sum* menus.

I have given this menu a three mortar & pestle rating as care needs to be taken. I had no difficulty in doing this recipe after watching it done on a Thai Sunday afternoon cooking program. I would be happy to hear from readers of your success or failure in this recipe.

Tony



NEW MEMBERS

2004

Dr Michael Champion OLJ	NSW
Mons Brian Rayner OAM ChLJ	NSW
Mr Rex Henry Morgan AM MBE OLJ	NSW
Mrs Jean Burt OLJ	SA
Mr Christopher McLaughlin OLJ	SA
Very Rev David Richardson ChLJ	VIC
Mr George Sadleir OLJ	WA
Fr Brian Nichols ChLJ	TAS
Mrs Irene Davies OLJ	WA

2005

Mrs Meredith Chesterman OLJ	SA
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AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

Our congratulations to the following members who have been recognised under the Order of Australia Honours on Australia Day 2005:

Mr Dick McKay AM CLJ	A Member (AM) in the Order of Australia
Prof Dr Walter Uhlenbruch AO CLJ	An Officer (AO) in the order of Australia
Dan McNeil OAM KLJ	Awarded the Medal (OAM) in the Order of Australia

GRAND PRIORY OF AUSTRALIA WALL PLAQUES

Order of St Lazarus wall plaques are still available from:

Dr F. Schubert
Unit 1
88 Macquarie Street
St Lucia Qld 4067
Telephone: (07) 3870 7009
Cost: \$50 + \$5 postage

FORM OF BEQUEST

**“I GIVE AND BEQUEATH to the Military and Hospitaller Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem for the general charitable work of the
Commandery of the Grand Priory of Australia the sum of \$..... and I
declare that the receipt of the Commandery Secretary or Treasurer will
constitute a sufficient discharge for my executors or trustee.”**

