



The Healing, Teaching and Chivalric Order of St. Raphael



Newsletter - Spring/Summer 2007

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A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND MASTER

There have been many highlights this year which has seen the Order grow in both quality and quantity.

We were all very saddened by the sudden death of our Grand Chancellor, E. Chevalier Keith Ansell who for many years has done so much valuable work for the Order, as well as being a good friend and a lively colleague. It was therefore with much pleasure that I was able to confer on Dame Patti Ansell the Grand Cross of the Order to recognise her help and support for Keith and the Order and we hope she will remain closely connected with the Order which her husband did so much to promote. I am also pleased to invest Keith's son, Chris, as a Knight of the Order at the Annual Grand Council Meeting.



Keith was a very hard act to follow but the Order has been very fortunate that E. Chevalier Barry Uttley has agreed to serve as the Grand Chancellor. His skills were amply illustrated by the smooth way in which the Grand Council Meeting proceeded, due to the thoroughness of his arrangements – well done, Barry!

Three really exciting developments have given me particular pleasure:

- the establishment of the St. William of Rochester Conclave in Kent on a strong and thriving basis and a full report on the first Meeting is given in this newsletter

- the new form of newsletter, for which I am very grateful to Chev. David Haywood
- the development of the Order's website, which will have gone "live" in the last few days – please see the article on page 3 for details.

We now have the opportunity to extend the Order to reach other parts of the British Isles and Europe. I have even had enquiries from Norway and Sweden with a view to opening up new Conclaves abroad, so Barry and I are looking out our cold weather gear!! If you would like to develop a new Conclave in your area under a new Knight Commander, please do contact our Grand Chancellor – we would love to hear from you.

M.E. The Chevalier Howard F Doe, GCSR, GCSM, Baron St Raphael, Grand Master

THE ORDER – A BRIEF HISTORY

The Grand Chancellor has put together an excellent booklet giving an Introduction to the Order. If you require a printed copy then please contact the Grand Chancellor, but you can also now view the content of the document on our website.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for 2007 fall due on 1st July. If you are a member of a Conclave you should receive notification from your Treasurer and payment should be made direct to him. If you do not belong to a Conclave, then please forward your cheque for £10 direct to the Grand Treasurer – contact details at the end of this Newsletter.

INSIGNIA

The Grand Custodian of Insignia, Margaret Gunnell, wishes to let everybody know that we are currently in the process of changing regalia suppliers. It may take a while to finalise everything so please be patient. She will issue a statement to say when new regalia is readily available.

A NEW WEBSITE

For the first time, the Order has a website containing lots of useful information, and photographs of recent events. Please try to find time to have a look, and don't forget to "add it to your favourites" so that you can return to it in the future. The address is: www.orderofstraphael.org.uk

If you find any parts of the site do not work properly, or have suggestions for future development, then please contact the Grand Herald with details.

GRAND OFFICERS OF THE ORDER – 2007

(All offices to take effect for 3 years from 13th January 2007, but can be terminated by the Grand Master at his discretion)

Grand Prior	M Rev'd Norman Dutton
Grand Chancellor	Barry F Uttley
Grand Marshal	Alan Blackstone
Grand Treasurer	Kenneth W Bamber
Grand Lecturer	Leslie Grout
Grand Registrar	Arnold Baker
Grand Sub Prior	Rev'd David Hallam
Grand Herald	David Haywood
Grand Deputy Marshal	Ian Burnett
Grand Custodian of Insignia	Margaret Gunnell
Grand Sword Bearer	Charles Holloway
Grand Banner Bearer	Leonard Feist
Grand Guard	Simon Downs
Grand Steward	Julian Gunnell
Grand Director of Music	Geoffrey Robinson

ORDER ACCOUNTS

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 30th June 2006

INCOME	<u>2005 - 2006</u>		<u>2004 - 2005</u>	
Annual Subscriptions	370.00		250.00	
less Reserve for Doubtful debts	25.00	345.00	35.00	215.00
Admission fees		60.00		45.00
Insignia Sales			70.75	
less Purchases		0.00	70.75	0.00
Functions Income	460.00		391.00	
less Cost of Functions	432.50	27.50	394.00	-3.00
Donations Received		2.50		145.00
Proceeds of Raffle		101.00		72.00
		536.00		474.00
 EXPENDITURE				
Printing, postage, stationery & sundries	83.52		128.80	
Bad Debts – subscription arrears written off	55.00			
Benevolence – flowers	34.95			
Charitable donations	101.00	274.47	100.00	228.80
 SURPLUS for the period to Accumulated funds		261.53		245.20

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June 2006

	2006	2005
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
Balance as at 1 st July 2005	3726.36	3481.16
Add Surplus for year	261.53	245.20
	<u>3987.89</u>	<u>3726.36</u>

Represented by:

ASSETS

Ceremonial Cushions, Sword & Gavel	62.00		62.00	
Cash at Bank		4026.09		3851.36
Stock of Rituals		54.80		54.80
Sundry Debtors – Subscriptions in arrears	25.00		80.00	
Less Reserve for Doubtful Debts	25.00	0.00	80.00	0.00
		4142.89		3968.16

LIABILITIES

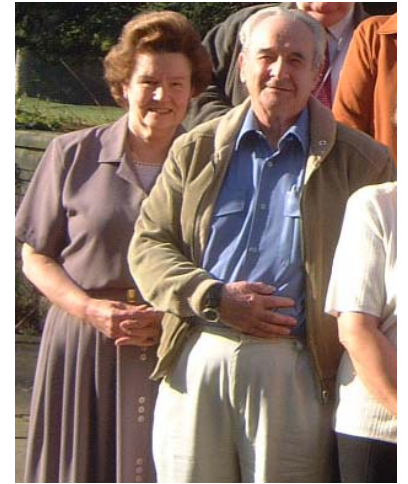
Sundry Creditors	0.00		101.80	
Subscriptions received in advance	155.00	155.00	140.00	241.80
		<u>3987.89</u>		<u>3726.36</u>

John W Mitchell, KCSR, GCSM, FCA
Hon. Grand Treasurer

OBITUARY

Keith Ansell 1930 – 2006

Keith Ansell was born in London in 1930. His father was an ambulance driver for the St John Ambulance Brigade. He joined the Royal Air Force in 1947, as officer aircrew. Trained as a navigator on transport aircraft, he took part in the Berlin Airlift of 1948. Subsequent service tours included North Africa, the Far East and Canada, where he flew on board reconnaissance Lancasters with the Royal Canadian Air Force as they mapped the polar regions of Canada in the late 1950s. During the 1960s and early 70s he was an advanced navigation instructor for the RAF, and shortly before leaving the RAF in 1972 he was appointed the first full-time RAF Public Relations Officer. In the mid 1970s, Keith joined the Civil Service as a Ministry of Defence Public Relations Officer, which included a tour of duty in the Falkland Islands in 1985.



He was initiated into Freemasonry in London in 1971. For the next 35 years Masonic and Chivalric Orders became the focus of his interests. He was a Past Master of three Craft Lodges and a Past District Grand Prefect for East Anglia in the Allied Masonic Degrees. At the time of his passing he was Grand Preceptor for the Province of East Anglia in the Order of St Thomas of Acon, and Provincial Grand Master (East Anglia) of the Masonic Order of Athelstan. He was Grand Supreme Ruler of Canada in the Order of the Secret Monitor from 2001 – 2003.

Keith's interests were wide and varied, encompassing history, chivalry, the occult and world travel. He wrote and presented many papers relating to the history and traditions of the Knights Templar, holding Grand Rank in the Masonic Order, as well as in many others. He was instrumental in propagating new Masonic and Chivalric Orders not only in the UK, but also as far afield as North America and Australasia.

Keith passed away on 12th August 2006, following a short confinement in hospital. He was mentally and physically active right up to admission and even from his hospital bed was in regular contact with colleagues concerning Masonic matters. His funeral was held in the Centenary Baptist Church, March, Cambridgeshire and he is interred in the Eastwood Cemetery. On 24th September 2006 a Thanksgiving Service was held in his memory at Great Shelford Parish Church, near Cambridge, at which over 100 of his friends heard his son, Dr Christopher Ansell, give a warm eulogy on Keith's remarkable life.

ANNUAL INVESTITURE AT PETERBOROUGH

On 13th January 2007, around 40 members and guests attended the annual Ceremony of Investiture at Peterborough. Many members arrived well before the ceremony to meet up with friends old and new, and in fact ten members had travelled down from the North West the previous evening, and enjoyed a wonderful meal at a local restaurant.

At 11am, the Grand Master's procession entered the Chapel, where the guests and 11 Postulants awaited.

With so many new members to Invest into the Order, it could have been a logistical nightmare, but despite being new to their roles, the Grand Chancellor and Grand Marshal conducted the proceedings impeccably!

Following the Investing of the Postulants, the Grand Master made his Appointments of Grand Officers, and nine members also received promotions in the Meritorious Order of St Mark. Finally, the Grand Master made a special presentation, promoting Dame Patti Ansell to the Honorary position of Dame Grand Cross, in recognition of the work done by her and Keith, and Barry Uttley was also promoted to Knight Grand Cross. Congratulations to all those who received awards.

After the formalities had been completed, we retired into the adjoining dining area for lunch, where everybody had the chance to get to know each other or renew old acquaintances.

A selection of photographs taken at the event appear on the new website – www.orderofstraphael.org.uk

Although there had been some discussions about changing the venue, it was unanimously decided to stay at Peterborough for the time being, where we are well looked after in comfortable surroundings, so you can now put Saturday 12th January 2008 in your diaries so that you do not miss it!

New members

Nicholas George KCSR
Peter Robins KSR
Simon Polkinghorne KSR
Geoffrey Robinson KSR
Vincent Gillibrand KSR
Simon McIlwaine KSR
Christopher Ansell KSR
Barry Wilde KSR
Steven Turner KSR
Lesley Doe DSR
Pamela Robinson DSR

Promotions in St Mark

Alan Blackstone CSM
David Haywood CSM
Ian Burnett KSM
Margaret Gunnell CSM
Arnold Baker CSM
Charles Holloway CSM
David Donachie CSM
Julian Gunnell CSM
Dianne Uttley CSM

CONSECRATION OF NEW CONCLAVE

It was with great pleasure that the Grand Master consecrated the new St William of Rochester Conclave on the evening of 21st February 2007, accompanied by the Grand Chancellor. A total of 14 members were in attendance at the short ceremony, where the Grand Master also invested three new members into the Order - *Trevor Harrison, Richard Andrews and Ian Mackenzie* – and promoted Terence Bowler and Steven Turner to Knight Commander, as well as confirming them as Commander and Vice Chancellor respectively of the new Conclave.

After the service, a convivial meal was held in the same building.

The Healing, Teaching and Chivalric Order of St. Raphael

The Order is not an Order of Merit, but a stateless International Order of Chivalry. It exists for the express purpose of healing the sick, giving spiritual refreshment to those who suffer, the protection of the Wisdom Religion of the Ages and the creation of a Nobility of Spiritually Enlightened men and women to work for Universal Brotherhood.

All communications should be addressed to:- 89 Haig Road, Bury, BL8 2LG. Tel: 0161 764 4786
email: gh@orderofstraphael.org.uk

KEY CONTACTS

Information removed from online version for security reasons