

THE Bulletin

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE GRAND PRIORY OF AUSTRALASIA Edition 6: November 2021



GRAND PRIOR'S REPORT

Welcome to the Sixth Edition of the Grand Priory Bulletin which has been designed to keep the Members of the Order informed on matters before the Grand Priory Council.

At the October Grand Priory Council, it was pleasing welcome to our new Tasmanian Prior Ed Gauden.

It was regrettable that we were unable to conduct the Tasmanian Priory Induction of Prior Ed in July however the Induction in mid-September was a wonderful event conducted by our Prelate. Before the Service, the Tasmanian AGM was held, and it was pleasing to see so many members in attendance. I know Prior Ed will receive guidance, support, and loyalty from all the Members of the Tasmanian Priory.

In early October I attended the Victorian AGM by Zoom. Recently the Priory formed Operation Hospitalier which supports the Code 9 Foundation—the professional First Responders and Triple 000 operators suffering from PTSD. A guest speaker gave an inspiring account of his suffering and I commend the Priory for adhering to our Motto.

The Victorian Investiture will now be held in February next year with eight new Knights and Dames joining the Order. In addition, a member of the London Order will be joining OSJ (Malta) with a re-affirmation of the vow. Our thoughts and prayers have been with the Aspirants and all the members of the Victorian Priory, and we are glad to see the lock down being lifted and families being re-united for Christmas.

At the June Council Meeting the Grand Priory Hospitalier, Dame Jan Synot brought the attention to the Council Members the plight of our nearest neighbour, Papua New Guinea, struggling with third world medical facilities and Covid 19 spreading uncontrolled in the Highlands. The Council agreed in principle to donate \$10,000 subject to further due diligence. Recently we have received a professional Sponsorship Proposal from the Papua New Guinea Cancer Relief Society which will be circulated to the Council Members for their consideration at the next Council Meeting to be held in February 2022.

I was pleased to advise the October Grand Priory Council that I have appointed Deputy Grand Prior Richard as the Internal Governance Advisor for all associated entities of OSJ Australasia.

In a special advisory capacity, I also appointed Chevalier Peter Summers as Share Point Administrator for the Grand Priory Council.

Also, at the October Meeting the Grand Priory Chamberlain, Dame Leonie Clyne presented a revised Regalia Protocol which was endorsed by the Members of the Council. (attached)

At the February Grand Priory Council Meeting, Secretary Chevalier Graeme Gatley spoke on the importance of communication and exchange of ideas with the Priories. Recently the Victorian Priory has produced a well thought out Strategic Plan for 2021-2024 identifying the strengths and weakness, and the way forward including expanding the membership.

This paper will be circulated to the other Priors. It is also pleasing to note the Victorian Priory Web Page is now operational and Prior Ed is working on a Tasmanian Web Site to be operational very soon.



Following the Service of Induction of the Tasmanian Prior 18 September 2021

Above L-R: Chevalier Anthony Woods CJSJ (SA Prior) Grand Prior Chevalier David Wilckens CJSJ, Chevalier Edward Gauden KJSJ (Tasmanian Prior) , Grand Priory Prelate Chevalier Reverend Canon David O'Neill KJSJ

In the spirit of further communication, the Priors of Victoria and Tasmania were sent a graphical historical presentation of the Siege of Malta which was produced in September by Chevalier Emeritus Professor Henry d'Assumpção of the South Australian Priory.

The Grand Priory Secretary recently circulated the revised International Structure to all Council Members. I enjoyed working with the Lieutenant Grand Master over two weeks researching Petit Conseil and Grand Magisterium Minutes and reconfirming the 44 Priors and Commanderies spread throughout Europe, the USA, West Indies, Oceania, and Australasia.

I wish to thank Vice Chancellor Graeme for his assistance and computer skills to allow this document to be distributed word wide. OSJ (Malta) has nearly 900 Members world -wide and it is important we recruit as many new suitable Aspirants for our three Investitures to be next June. The Order needs young men and women to learn the running of our Grand Order and be ready to replace us.



By coincidence, the Commander of Oceania, Chevalier Peter Murray was present at the Tasmanian Induction of Prior Ed. Oceania is a Commandery of the Priory of Malta, and the Russian Grand Priory so it was helpful to have this knowledge to correct the Commander's interpretation of the status of the International Structure.

Since our last Grand Priory Council in March, I have attended in person and by invitation from the South Australian Priory Administration Council, and meetings with the Victorian Administration Council by Zoom.

As stated in previous reports I appreciate being able to attend the different Priory Administration Councils as it gives me a first-hand knowledge and understanding of the important business of the Priories.

With the assistance of Deputy Grand Prior Richard Trigg and Vice Chancellor Graeme Gatley, Duty Statements with Milestone Dates have been produced to assist the Chancellor, Treasurer, Chamberlain and Hospitaller to ensure compliance with the Grand Magisterium as well as document timelines for Investitures, Grand Chapter, Promotions and Audit. All members have since communicated with me resulting in minor changes.

Other Members of the Council with responsibilities have also been sent Duty Statements, which will clarify their present obligations.

The OSJ Australasian Charitable Foundation Ltd held its Annual General Meeting in October and approved the Audited Financial Accounts for the year ending 30th June 2021. I am pleased to report Chevalier John Emmerson has been appointed as a Director of the Foundation, and we look forward to his contribution in the future.

The next meeting of the Petit Conseil will be held on the 20th and 21st of November by WebEx. I have also been advised by the Lieutenant Grand Master Bailiff Paul Borg that the Sovereign Council will meet in Valetta on 23rd April 2022, and the Petit Conseil will meet two days earlier, all subject to world health restrictions. Vice Chancellor Graeme Gatley will co-ordinate hotel bookings and tours for members who anticipate attending the Sovereign Council.

At the October Grand Priory Council Meeting, it was with deep regret that I announced the retirement of Dame Mary Lewis as Grand Priory Archivist effective from 25th February 2022.

Dame Mary was appointed as Archivist by Grand Prior Emeritus Royce Pepin in 2011. She has diligently ensured the maintenance of the Orders historical records in a manner conducive to study and access by present and future members of the Order. Recording the 50 years of the Order and creating the Hymn to the order sung for the first time at the Hobart Investiture in September 2019 is one of the many highlights of Dame Mary. She will be missed

I wish to again thank Prior Dame Barbara for being the Editor of the sixth publication of 'The Bulletin'.

Once again in closing, I would like to thank the three Priors and the Deputy Grand Prior in establishing constant and valuable communication links with the Grand Prior.

Chevalier David Wilckens CJSJ

Grand Prior

November 2021





IMAGES FROM THE TASMANIAN PRIORY SEPTEMBER 18, 2021





INTRODUCING THE TASMANIAN PRIOR CHEVALIER EDWARD GAUDEN OAM KJSJ



L-R: Dr Michele Gauden, Edward and Tom Gauden

Edward was born in Hobart in 1960 to Polish parents who fled post war Europe in 1947. He was the youngest of three boys in the family. His father, a member of the Polish Independent Carpathian Brigade fought at Monte Cassino and at Tobruk alongside Australians and was proud to be known as a "Rat of Tobruk".

He joined his military unit of exiled Polish soldiers in Britain who had been specifically selected to work on the Tasmanian hydro-electric scheme. His mother suffered the torment of displaced camps in Europe especially Germany and fled to Australia with her sister. Edward's parents met in Tasmania and married.

The family were very devout practicing Polish Catholics. Their faith gave them the strength to face extreme hardship and the unknown. Edward's life formation was built on this tradition along with the tradition in the Tasmanian community he grew up in.

He attended Catholic Schools throughout his school years and was educated by both the Presentation Sisters and Christian Brothers. They were formative years and very different to today's experience.

As an eighteen-year-old, Edward made a difficult decision to enter Corpus Christi College- the regional Roman Catholic seminary for Victoria and Tasmania. He was able to take on a Theological Degree at the time and have the opportunity to teach in several Catholic schools throughout Melbourne as well as having the ability to work Pastorally at Maribyrnong with refugees especially Polish people fleeing a political charged Eastern Europe.

It was difficult work and emotionally challenging for a young enthusiastic man. Into his fourth year of a seven-year course, Edward requested some time out from his very supportive Archbishop Guilford Young DD KBE. The archbishop granted this, and he undertook a Bachelor of Arts / Law Degree at the University of Tasmania. During this time of soul searching, he made the decision to put off further his return to his studies for the Priesthood.

Whilst at University he met a beautiful young medical student, Michele, and his life took on a different course. His life had changed but he had no misgivings as he had learnt a great deal, formed lifelong friendships and has wonderful memories of meeting Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa.

After University he became involved in Business. Initially setting up a statewide marketing, and promotional business with a shop front in the centre of Hobart then later a construction company focusing on new residential homes.

In 1987 Michele, now a Doctor of Medicine, accepted his marriage proposal and they were married in Hobart's St Mary's Cathedral in December of that year.

On April 28th, 1996, many lives were impacted and tragically. A Massacre at Port Arthur had taken place. As part of the immediate response Edward being part of the Catholic Parish that contained Port Arthur took on a role assist the Parish priest in responding to the enormity of what had taken place with.

His role morphed continually as the response required changed. He became Tasmania's first lay Parish Pastoral Associate for the Parish of Richmond. His role was working pastorally with the community directly affected and with the authorities responding to the tragedy.



Above Tasmanian Governor Her Excellency Kate Warner presenting Chevalier Edward with a cheque for Food Bank



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Above: Chevalier Edward –a Sydney Olympic Torch Bearer at Port Arthur Tasmania in 2000

After a year the Federal Government funded the Local Council to engage Edward work with the community. His role was to coordinate the recovery process post Port Arthur, economically and socially.

A recovery response that was driven by the community. Edward continues to have strong linkages with the Tasman Community twenty-five years on and feels incredibly privileged to have been part of a recovery process after such a tragic event.

Thirty-five people tragically died and the impact worldwide was enormous. Being acknowledged in 2002 by the Tasman community and provided the honor to carry the Sydney Olympic torch through Port Arthur was very special for Edward.

During this time, August 1997 to be exact, Michele and Edward welcomed twin boys to the family. Life certainly changed very quickly, and the family was very busy and very blessed.

In 2002 Edward was invited to take on advisory role in the Howard Federal Government and work for Ministers, Senators, and the President of the Australian Senate. The role was exciting in that he was able to assist in some decision making and actively assist people who had genuine difficulties.

Edwards's network was further expanded, and he was invited to take on a directorship of Companies, and Not for Profits associations. In 2007 Edward joined Hobart's St Mary's Cathedral Restoration Committee and took on the role as Financial Director. The task to raise funds though difficult raised a significant amount for this beautiful Church.



Above: Chevalier Edward with Chevalier Peter Tullgren immediately prior to Peter's Investiture at All Saints Parish Church, South Hobart

In 2010 Edward assisted as a director in the establishment of a Foodbank for Tasmanians in need. He went on to be Chairman of the organisation and act as Managing Director and as Chief Executive. He resigned in 2018.

Throughout this period, he supported his alma mater, St Virgil's College by being a member and for a time President of the Association from 2007. He was recognised for his work with the college and the old scholars with Life membership in 2020.

In 2018 Edward was awarded a medal of the Order of Australia for his work feeding the hungry and his role in supporting the Tasman Peninsula community after the Port Arthur Massacre.

He was invested into the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller in 2007, and on Saturday 18th September 2021 Chevalier David Wilckens CJSJ, Grand Prior, inducted Edward as the Prior of the Priory of Tasmania. He is a member of the Grand Priory of Australasia Council, and the Sovereign Council (Malta).



Above: Chevalier Edward in his previous role as director of Food Bank Tasmania.



INTRODUCING VICTORIAN PRIOR, DAME BARBARA ABLEY AM GCSJ FACN MEDAL OF MERIT



Barbara, born and raised in the Victorian Mallee holds Tertiary & Graduate Qualifications in Applied Science, Health Management, Nursing, Internal Auditing (Aged Care), is a Fellow of the Australian College of Nursing and an Associate Fellow of the Australian College of Health Service Executives.

She was honoured to receive an Order of Australia, appointed as a Member (A.M.) in 2007 for "service to local government and regional development, particularly through the Geelong Region Alliance (G21) , and to the community through a range of aged care, disability, health and service organisations". Barbara served three terms 2001-2012 on the Greater

her role as Mayor, she presided over regular citizenship ceremonies when many newcomers to our country made the Australian citizenship pledge of commitment. For most people, this is the final step in the journey to becoming an Australian. She formally welcomed many nationalities and newly arrived persons including refugees. She counts this as a very great privilege during her time in Local Government.

Her previous and current committee involvements are numerous, ranging from local community groups to international and national bodies. Her nursing qualifications and broad management experience enabled her to work across many different fields at the former Geelong and District Kitchener Memorial Hospital which was renamed The Geelong Hospital, and finally as Barwon Health (now University Hospital Geelong) before she accepted an appointment to the Nursing Administration Department at the Grace McKellar Centre.

She was later appointed as the first CEO of one of the Uniting Church's largest Aged and Community Care Services—The Kalkee Community, a role she held for 18 years overseeing the growth in services across the board, particularly in specialist residential care for people with memory loss and Dementia.

After her election to the City of Greater Geelong Council on St Patricks Day 2001, Barbara reluctantly resigned from Kalkee – because there weren't enough hours in the day to do justice to her CEO role coupled with life as an elected Councillor and community representative. In so-called semi-retirement, she continues to serve on many committees including the Executive of Australian Local Government Women's Association (Victoria).



Above: in mayoral robes with "Mayor Howard Hitchcock" at an official unveiling of the original Portrait of Mayor Hitchcock who served from 1917 to 1922.

Geelong Council; Deputy Mayor (1 year); Mayor (2 years), the first female to hold this position in Geelong's history (1837); and had the privilege of welcoming the Dalai Lama to the region on two occasions. In her Council role, she led two delegations to Timor Leste in 2002 and 2005, the first as an Independent UN Observer to oversee the procedures and voting practices for the election of the first President of Timor Leste; the second delegation was as chair of Viqueque/Geelong Friendship Committee regarding the planning and resourcing of health and community services within this Region. In



Above: Wreath laying with Chevalier Major Ian Barnes OAM (now dec) on ANZAC Day –Geelong RSL



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Above: In the capital, Dili, Timor Leste with Manager Paul Jamieson (COGG) and a Delegate from the Viqueque District in 2005

She has strong ties & commitments to numerous other organisations including the RSL and National Servicemen's Association, is an independent Funeral Celebrant; serves on the RSL Chaplaincy team to conduct RSL Rituals ; is a current Rotarian of 28 years standing, serving two terms as President, a Past President, Paul Harris Fellow (with Sapphire) of the Rotary Club of Corio Bay Inc. and also formerly with the Rotary Club of Geelong Central.

Barbara is a long-term member of the Order of Australia Association (Victoria) Barwon Group Committee serving as a committee member and a former Chair; she has served on the Victorian State Branch Committee as a member and as a Vice President . She was awarded and presented with a Lions International Medal of Merit by the World President – a rarity for a Rotarian.

Interestingly, she is a Past President of the Geelong Rugby Union Football Club AKA the Geelong Rams. As a former Loaned Executive and Team Leader with United Way, she went on to serve as a Board member, as President, and on the committee for many years. She was honoured to be made Life Members of both United Way (now known as Give Where You Live) and of the Geelong Regional Art Gallery. She enjoyed the years of her involvement on these Boards and organisations

Barbara compiles and edits a number of regular comprehensive publications viz the expansive weekly Courier for her Rotary Club and circulated around Rotary District D9780; assists with the compilation of the Barwon Region Group Order of Australia Bulletin; and edits the quarterly Grand Priory Bulletin for the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, and also produces regular comprehensive editions of the Victorian Priory Herald which are distributed in Victoria, nationally and to an international readership.

She and Barry (OAM GCSJ) married in 1967, and they have two children, one sadly deceased. They have a wonderful daughter-in-law, three fantastic grand children and two very precious great grandsons. Being one of seven children, her siblings and large extended family are a very important part of her life. Her interests include reading, travelling, music of several genres, watching cricket and rugby union, & writing.

Barbara was invested into the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller in 1998, and currently serves the Priory of Victoria as its Prior. She is a member of the Grand Priory of Australasia Council, and the Sovereign Council (Malta).

Below: On a mountain range overlooking Dili, Timor Leste, she discovered this very special plaque, hence the placement of poppies, just prior to ANZAC DAY 2005





ONE THOUSAND MEN ARE WALKING

One thousand men are walking - Walking side by side
Singing songs from home - The spirit as their guide
they walk toward the light milord - they walk towards the sun
they smoke and laugh and smile together - no foes to outrun
these men live on forever - in the hearts of those they saved
a nation truly grateful - for the path of peace they paved
they march as friends and comrades - but they do not march for war
step closer to salvation - a tranquil steady corps
the meadows lit with golden beams - a beacon for the brave
the emerald grass untrampled - a reward for what they gave
they dream of those they left behind - and know they dream of them
forever in those poppy fields - there walks one thousand men

Lest we forget

Written by Joshua Dyer 2019 (aged 14) who is also the artist of this poignant painting:





*“The Grand Priory Councilors
wish all Members of the Grand Priory
a joyful Christmas
celebrating the birth of Christ
and a very happy and healthy New Year’*



GRAND PRIORY CALENDAR 2022				
February	25	Grand Priory Council	Quality Airport Hotel Tullamarine	Melbourne
February	26	Victorian Priory Investiture	Melbourne	Melbourne
April	21	Petit Conseil	Sliema	Malta
April	23	Sovereign Council	Sliema	Malta
June	4	South Australian Investiture	Christ Church	Adelaide
June	17	Grand Priory Council	Hobart	Hobart
June	18	Grand Priory Chapter	All Saints, South Hobart	Hobart
June	18	Tasmanian Investiture	All Saints, South Hobart	Hobart
June	25	Victorian Investiture	Mornington	Mornington Peninsula

Merry Christmas

May the peace of God fill
your heart and home this
Christmas and in the
coming new year.

Grand Prior-Chevalier David Wilckens CJSJ



For Faith for Service to Humanity