

THE TRAVELLING KNIGHTS OF OXFORDSHIRE, BERKSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

May 2025





In this month's newsletter Feedback from Apr 2025 Feedback and Pictures from:

St Hugh 314 – Wednesday 2nd April (I) Beaumont 323 – Friday 4th April (I) Outremer 474 – Wednesday 16th April Robert Loyd 438 – Thursday 17th April (extra) Bisham Abbey 691 - Tuesday 22nd April

Read about the journey of the Sagoo Brothers into our order

Meet our New Knights and a Handy Guide

The Siege of Malta – A History

Details of our Church Service and Gala Dinner and much more!

May 2025 Knights are out visiting

See the Provincial Calendar for dates (page 21) Contact the Registrar to book in !

OUR GOALS-

Attract new Knights to the Order. Focus on "assisting where required" with Preceptories. Assist with Ceremonies to ensure standard of KT ritual remains respected.

Introducing team communications that work!

KNIGHTS AROUND THE TABLE THE KT HUB

The one stop information centre for the Province! *DO YOU NEED-*

Any advice? Assistance with Ceremonies? Require an officer to fill a spot? Do you have any good ideas? Do you think your skills would be useful? let us know- Are you a new Knight and want some assistance?

USEFUL IDEAS CENTRE- send us your ideas-



MONTHLÝ ROUND UP FROM THE PROVINCE



R.E.Kt. Dean Robert White - The Provincial Prior

Dear Brother Knights,

Brother Knights, it has been a very busy April with ceremonies taking part in all 4 corners of the Province. It was very heartwarming to see just shy of 60 Knights at Outremer.

May continues to be busy with the trip to Great Priory undoubtedly the highlight of the Month. We have a Malta ceremony to look forward to at the end of May at Leslie Felgate Dring. I encourage all new Knights to complete this part of your journey.

As always, I look forward to seeing many of you on my travels around the Preceptories.

Yours in the Bonds of the Order

R.E.Kt. Dean Robert White

The Provincial Prior

NEWS OF OUR CHURCH SERVICE 8TH JUNE & BINGDON



"All Ye Knights of the Province"

Our Church Service is returning on Sun 8th June in Abingdon.

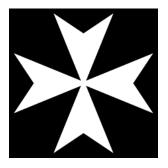
All Knights are cordially invited to attend with Partners! Look out for details from the Province soon.

NEWS FROM ALL CORNERS OF THE PROVINCE



Hold the date! -Thursday 29th May 2025 MALTA meeting – this will be completed at the Leslie Felgate Dring Preceptory Do you have knights who need to complete their KT Journey by taking the Malta Degree?

Details are out and with your preceptory registrar !



YOUR 2025 GALA DINNER IS HERE – 1ST NOV 2025



Scan me to book



Click on book here

Book Here



STARTERS Spiced Sweet Potato Soup, Toasted coconut

(VE, GF) Chicken Liver Parfait, Red chard and watercress salad, red onion jam, toasted sourdough shards (GFA)

MAIN COURSE Breast of Chicken, Garlic dauphinoise potatoes, co carrot and thyme jus (GF)

x Butternut Squash, Kale, Harissa & Vegan Feta Cheese Parcel, Pomegranate, orange and pine nut dressing (VE)

DESSERTS Sticky Toffee Pudding, Toffee sauce and vanilla cream (GF)

> Lemon Tart, Raspberry compote (V) (GF) Tea Coffee

Preceptory of Improvement and update from the Sub-Prior

Dates for the Preceptory of Improvement. 7:30 start time

Look out soon for further dates

All Knights are welcome, new, old, any office you wish to try-just come along and enjoy learning!

For more info contact-

Malcolmg.woolgar@talktalk.net



E.Kt. Malcolm Woolgar The Provincial Sub-Prior runs the Preceptory of Improvement.

Finally let us look forward to a very enjoyable year in Knights Templar.

Yours in The Bond of the Order Eminent Knight Malcolm Woolgar Provincial Sub-Prior



BODYGUARD NEWS







Kt. Mark Harry P.Prov.A.-de-C. Commander of the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard

Kt. Dougie Leacy P.Prov.Gd Deputy- Commander



Follow our Bodyguard events diary.

Forthcoming BG dates-

Leslie Felgate Dring 29th May

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING THE BODYGUARD TEAM? - send an email to the Commander-<u>mark@airl.co.uk</u>

JUST AROUND THE CORNER KT CLUB

Introducing a new concept for learning -

This is for those Knights who wish to learn about going through the Chair

best suited to those who are 1st or 2nd Constables or perhaps you are now

almost or just in the Chair of your Preceptory.

It is not about Ritual but more importantly the JAtC KT Club hopes to assist you in how to get the best out of your year as Eminent Preceptor.

We meet online each Monday at 7pm- if you would like to join us

Contact- Martin Sando

t. 07740-983130 e. martin.sando@outlook.com

There is no test- we read ritual from the KT red-book and work from various Preceptory summons

The JAtC KT club does not replace our regular Preceptory of Improvement evenings at Wokingham & Marlow





LESLIE FELGATE DRING PRECEPTORY NO. 637 (LFD) YOUR INSTALLED PRECEPTORS PRECEPTORY

(above - left to right)

R.E.Kt Ray Cochrane K.C.T. / the Provincial-Prior R.E.Kt. Dean White / the Past Preceptor E.KT. Trevor Austin & R.E.Kt. Norman Bliss K.C.T.

All Knights of any Preceptory office/ rank are welcome to attend and enjoy!

All Installed Preceptors (past & present) are welcome to join the Preceptory.

Contact the Registrar for more information-

E.Kt. John Stribling e. interface.p@talk21.com



BEAUMONT (323) PRECEPTORY – INSTALLATION OF. E KT DON BISHOP AND OVER 20 JOINING MEMBERS

IN EARLY APRIL – BEAUMONT PRECEPTORY ROSE LIKE A PHOENIX FROM THE BATTLEFIELD WITH AN INSTALLATION AND OVER 20 JOINING MEMBERS..

Do you want to be part of this ? Then contact the registrar – E Kt Mark Slaymaker. <u>mark.slaymaker@gmail.com</u>

The Siege of Malta – a History part two (Source Wikipedia)

The Great Siege of Malta (Maltese: L-Assedju l-Kbir) occurred in 1565 when the Ottoman Empire attempted to conquer the island of Malta, then held by the Knights Hospitaller. The siege lasted nearly four months, from 18 May to 8 September 1565.

The Knights Hospitaller had been headquartered in Malta since 1530, after being driven out of Rhodes, also by the Ottomans, in 1522, following the siege of Rhodes. The Ottomans first attempted to take Malta in 1551 but failed. In 1565, Suleiman the Magnificent, the Ottoman Sultan, made a second attempt to take Malta. The Knights, who numbered around 500 together with approximately 6,000 footsoldiers, withstood the siege and repelled the invaders.

This victory became one of the most celebrated events of sixteenth-century Europe, to the point that Voltaire said: "Nothing is better known than the siege of Malta." It undoubtedly contributed to the eventual erosion of the European perception of Ottoman invincibility, although the Mediterranean continued to be contested between Christian coalitions and the Muslim Turks for many years.

Arrival of the Ottomans

Before the Turks arrived, de Valette ordered the harvesting of all the crops, including unripened grain, to deprive the enemy of any local food supplies. Furthermore, the Knights poisoned all wells with bitter herbs and dead animals.

The Turkish armada arrived at dawn on Friday, 18 May, but did not at once make land.[21] The first fighting broke out on 19 May. A day later, the Ottoman fleet sailed up the southern coast of the island, turned around and finally anchored at Marsaxlokk (Marsa Sirocco) Bay, nearly 10 kilometres (6.2 miles) from the Grand Harbour region. According to most accounts, in particular Balbi's, a dispute arose between the leader of the land forces, the 4th Vizier serdar Kızılahmedli Mustafa Pasha, and the supreme naval commander, Piyale Pasha, about where to anchor the fleet. Piyale wished to shelter it at Marsamxett Harbour, just north of the Grand Harbour, in order to avoid the sirocco and be nearer the action, but Mustafa disagreed, because to anchor the fleet there would require first reducing Fort St. Elmo, which guarded the entrance to the harbour. Mustafa intended, according to these accounts, to attack the poorly defended former capital Mdina, which stood in the centre of the island, then attack Forts St. Angelo and Michael by land. If so, an attack on Fort St. Elmo would have been entirely unnecessary. Nevertheless, Mustafa relented, apparently believing only a few days would be necessary to destroy St. Elmo. After the Turks were able to emplace their guns, at the end of May they commenced a bombardment

WELCOME TO OUR ORDER

New Knight Installed into Outremer Preceptory 474 16th April 2025



Welcome to Knight Stephen Hieke



WELCOME TO OUR ORDER

New Knight's Installed into the Robert Loyd Preceptory 438 17th April 2025



Welcome to Knights Alexandre Corlos Bruscato and Raymond Alan Mills – a double installation!



BROTHER KNIGHTS: OUR JOURNEY SO FAR... By Kt. Sunny Sagoo

In the summer of 2024, my elder brother Ranj and I were en route to the Beaconsfield Masonic Centre for a Lodge of Instruction. We happened to be discussing the historical and Masonic Knights Templars. Upon arrival, we met and greeted the Beaconsfield Centre Steward, W.Bro. Nick Holden, a truly wonderful brother, in centers' bar. There, we bumped into another wonderful Nick! – W.Bro., and in fact also Kt., Nicholas Wilson. He and a few other brethren were awaiting the call to their Festive Board. His red-colored cross lapel pin caught my eye, which Nick explained represented the Knights Templars. Ranj and I were just talking about them 10 minutes earlier! This led to an intriguing conversation about KT. It concluded with Nick keenly saying he'll put us in touch with E.Kt. Graham Snell, the Registrar of the Cygnet Preceptory, No. 464, which meets at the Centre. In short order, an informal interview and presentation was arranged for us, which was truly illuminating!

Ranj and I found ourselves scheduled for a double Installation ceremony on Friday 14th February 2025. I promptly acquired two KT kits from Crest Regalia. I was slightly concerned that attendance might be low due to the ceremony falling on Valentine's Day, but to my surprise and delight, there was a significant turnout, featuring brother knights Malcolm Woolgar, Victor Bickers, Nick Wilson, Graham Snell, Jeff Sirrell, David Harfield, Mark Kentfield, Danny Peacock, among many others!



BROTHER KNIGHTS: OUR JOURNEY SO FAR... Continued.....

Our Installation ceremony was an extraordinary and unforgettable experience, surpassing all our expectations. My brother and I were absolutely captivated by the religious and martial essence of the Order. Moreover, this ceremony wasn't just a double, but a double-double! The second double took place immediately after ours, in which E.Kt. Graham Snell even granted us the honour of participating in the Installation of the two new candidates, Companions Dave May and Graham Turnball. Ranj was appointed as First Herald, while I had the honour of serving as a Standard Bearer. A fascinating experience, thankfully delivered without a hiccup!



The ceremony was followed by a fantastic Festive Board. E.Kt. Graham Snell did a truly superb job beautifully arranging the tables and adorning them with St. George's Cross tablecloths, real candles, and even some armour on a central table. During the delectable meal, Ranj and I got further acquainted with several wonderful brother knights.

It may be interesting to mention, Ranj and I were brought up in the Sikh faith, and in our exploration of books and novels related to the Knights Templars and Freemasonry, we noted remarkable similarities between these Christian saint-soldiers, Freemasons, and the Khalsa ('pure') brotherhood, a martial Sikh order founded by Guru Gobind Singh Ji (1666—1708), the tenth Sikh guru, in 1699 (approximately 80 years prior to the formation of the Masonic Order of the Knights Templar).

BROTHER KNIGHTS: OUR JOURNEY SO FAR... Continued...

The Knights Templar and Khalsa orders both merge spiritual devotion with martial duty to safeguard the vulnerable and uphold righteousness. During the inaugural Khalsa ceremony, the guru called upon five dedicated Sikhs to volunteer for baptism with amrit (holy water) stirred in a sarbloh batta (large iron bowl) with a khanda (double-edged broadsword), after which the guru requested the five amritdhari (baptized) devotees to baptize him, echoing the humility demonstrated by Jesus of Nazareth when he sought baptism from John the Baptist. This is all performed in the presence of the Guru Granth Sahib Ji (which is both the Sikh scripture and eternal guru of the Sikhs), while the initiate adopts a kneeling position known as veerasan (warrior pose). This kneeling posture is reminiscent of Freemasons who also kneel while taking their obligations before the Holy Bible. After their initiation, Khalsa Sikhs are bestowed with five articles of faith-kacchera (shorts), kesh (keeping hair unshorn), kangha (comb), kirpan (sword), and kara (iron bracelet)-which parallels the tradition of a Master Mason receiving an apron during his Raising ceremony. Furthermore, initiated Sikhs are honoured with the title 'bhai' (brother), akin to the designation conferred upon Freemasons after their initiation. There is in fact another traditional Sikh order known as the Sevapanthi ('selfless service path'), founded in the 17th century, which is akin to the Knights Hospitallers (a.k.a. Knights of Malta); they both managed hospitals and cared the sick and needy without discrimination.

A day following our Installation, I attended a Craft meeting in Marlow as a guest, where I surprisingly encountered Nick Wilson again! During the Festive Board, he described the Provincial Prior's Bodyguards and encouraged me to connect with the Bodyguard Commander, Kt. Mark Harry, which I did the very next morning. After the meeting, Ranj and I were thankfully established as probational members of the Knights Templar Bodyguards, visiting preceptories throughout the Province of Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, and Oxfordshire, having the honour of forming the Arch of Steel, guarding the Sepulchre, heralding, standard bearing and banner bearing! We are both privileged to be part of such an esteemed band of brother knights, under the very capable leadership of Kt. Mark Harry. These meetings provided us the opportunity to meet and engage with numerous other brother knights, including the distinguished Eminent Preceptor Dean White, E.Kt. Martin Sando, E.Kt. David Parry, E.Kt. Bruce Hartrup, E.Kt. Douglas Leacy and countless others whose names I cannot fully enumerate without completely transforming this newsletter into a names list! Each one of these brother knights truly excel in ritual, leadership, and brotherly love.

BROTHER KNIGHTS: OUR JOURNEY SO FAR...

Continued...



While Ranj brought me into Freemasonry, it was in fact I who sparked his interest in exploring the various orders beyond the Craft. We were very fortunate that our Exaltation into the Royal Arch, Installation into Knights Templar, and Perfection into Rose Croix were each a double ceremony!



We are now both eagerly anticipating the Malta Meeting scheduled for Thursday 29th May at the Beaconsfield Masonic Centre!



and Buckinghamshire

Province of Oxfordshire, Berkshire

and Provinces Overseas.

&t John of Jerusalam, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta in England and Wales

The United Religious, Military and Masonic Order of the Temple and of



Knights Templar Toxet List

THE KING

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master

PAUL RAYMOND CLEMENT, G.C.T.

(11 succession)

Very High and Right Eminent Great Seneschal

ANDREW CHRISTOPHER RAINBOW, K.C.T.

(9 mointuins) Janq hun trasert, present and past (Smithtion 9)

Provincial Prior

R.E.Kt. DEAN ROBERT WHITE

(7 smithable)

Provincial Sub-Prior

E.Kt. MALCOLM GEORGE WOOLGAR

Jarq has arosen ground laionivo fi lo aroshlO oth haA

(subiations)

The EMINENT PRECEPTOR (Subminue 3)

The NEWLY INSTALLED KNIGHT (s) (Subminime 3)

The VISITORS (Substation for most series)

nmyt ralgmed stagens

For all the saints who from their labours rest Who Thee by faith before the world confess'd Thy name, O Jesu, be forever blest.

.

O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold Fight as the Saints who nobly fought of old And win with them, the victors crown of gold

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

n(m)∂p/

PROVINCIAL INSTALLATION KIT



The Provincial Prior has kindly given permission for OBB to stock some very useful regalia when installing multiple Knights in Ceremonies.

Your Preceptory may be having to perform multiple Ceremonies for candidates and locating spare pilgrim kit can be difficult.

We have available to loan-

Pilgrims Habit x3 / hat x3 / staff x3 / scrip x3 / water bottle x3 / cord x3 / Shields x3

Advice & assistance is also available.

Contact- Mark Harry (Bodyguard Commander)

e. mark@airl.co.uk



PROVINCIAL DIARY 2025

Leslie Felgate Dring – Thursday 6th May Terra Sancta – Friday 9th May Aylesbury - Monday 12th May William Warde – Wednesday 14th May (I) **GREAT PRIORY – Wednesday 21st May Robert-de-Turnham - Tuesday 20th May** Crusaders – Wednesday 28th May (I) Leslie Felgate Dring – MALTA 29th May Coeur-de-Lion- Saturday 7th June (I) CHURCH SERVICE Sunday 8th June St Helens Abingdon Cygnet – Friday 13th June Friendship & Care – Wednesday 18th June Robert Loyd – Thursday 19th June (I) Sir Oliver Starkey – Tuesday 24th June Cressing – Wednesday 25th June (I) Beaumont – Friday 4th July Wellesley- Tuesday 8th July (I) Outremer – Tuesday 9th July Outremer – Wednesday 20th August (I)

Aylesbury – Monday 8th September Terra Sancta – Friday 12th September (I) **PROVINCIAL PRIORY** Monday 15th September Bisham Abbey – Monday 22nd September Sir Oliver Starkey – Tuesday 23rd September St Hugh – Wednesday 1st October Beaumont – Friday 3rd October Robert-de-Turnham -Tuesday 7th October Robert Loyd – Thursday 16th October Cressing – Wednesday 29th October **Provincial Priors Gala Dinner** 1st Nov 2025 Wellesley- Tuesday 11th November Cygnet – Friday 14th November (I) GREAT PRIORY MALTA- Tuesday 18th November Crusaders – Wednesday 19th November PROVINTIAL PRIORY MALTA - Monday 24th November St Hugh - Wednesday 3rd December William Warde – Wednesday 10th December Friendship & Care – Monday 15th December

> Installation of Eminent Preceptor (I) Please confirm dates with the Registrars

PRECEPTORY REGISTRARS

Couper-de-Lion. No. 29 Registrar- Graham Pattenden t.07710-667330 e. grahampattenden@btinternet.com

Wellesley. No. 204 Registrar- Dave Capel t.07768-007489 e. <u>capel.dave@btinternet.com</u>

Crusaders. No. 264 Registrar- John Foster t.01628-473462 e. johnforster10@sky.com

Cressing. No. 264 Registrar – Neil Harvey t. 01189-793209 e. <u>neilrharvey@icloud.com</u>

St Hugh. No. 314 Registrar – David Wallis t.01869-243009 e. davidwallis910@gmail.com

Beaumont. No. 323 Registrar – Mark Slaymarker mark.slaymaker@gmail.com

Aylesbury. No. 389 Registrar – Ray Harrison t.07939-005646 e. raymhar@aol.com

Sir Oliver Starkey. No. 430 Registrar Vincent Peacock t.07771-760915 e. <u>SOSP430@gmail.com</u>

Robert Loyd. No. 438 Registrar Alan West t.07920-231051 e. <u>westowers@btinternet.com</u> Cygnet. No. 464 Registrar -Graham Snell t.07900-220390 e. gssnell@aol.com

Outremer. No. 474 Registrar Vic Bickers t. 07591-241808 e. <u>bicvic@tiscali.co.uk</u>

Terra Sancta. No. 487 Registrar – Ron Bridger t.01608-678779 e. <u>ronaldjbridger@gmail.com</u>

Robert-de-Turnham. No. 499 Registrar Aleks Muncan * t.07769926702 e. <u>muncan71@googlemail.com</u>

Friendship & Care. No. 514 Registrar – Guy Barlow t.01753-861115 e. gb@charles-coleman.com

Leslie Felgate Dring (LFD). No. 637 Registrar – John Stribling t.01753-578485 e. interface.p@talk21.com

Bisham Abbey. No. 691 Registrar – Bob Diplock t. 07860-753084 e. <u>bdiplock@aol.com</u>

William Warde. No. 705 Registrar – Chris Hughes t. 07915-088521 e. williamwardepreceptory@gmail.com

PROVINCIAL VICE-CHANCELLOR

E.KT. MARTIN JAMES SANDO t. 07740-983130

e. martin.sando@outlook.com

Update Apr 2025

Ask VicProvincial or General KT Questions?

Do you have questions about Knights Templar or the Province in general?

Just send Vic an Email. <u>kt1873info@gmail.com</u>

q. Hi Vic- I got a letter in the post with provincial honor's. What badge do I need to get?

Provincial Officers

Provincial Prior Provincial Sub-Prior Prelate Chancellor First Constable Second Constable Vice-Chancellor Treasurer Registrar Marshal Almoner Deputy Marshal 1st Herald 2nd Herald Standard Bearer (B) Standard Bearet (VB) Banner Bearer Sword Bearer Assistant Vice-Chancellor Aide-de-Camp Warden of Regalia Chamberlain Capt. Of Guards Organist Outer Guard



Outer Guard



Chamberlain



Organist

GREAT WARDEN OF REGALIA

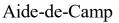


Warden of Regalia



Captain of Guard







Sword Bearer



Standard Bearer (B)



Deputy Marshal



Registrar



Banner Bearer



Herald



Marshal



Treasurer



Standard Bearer (VB)



Provincial Almoner



Vice-Chancellor



1st/2nd Constable



Chancellor



Prelate



Provincial Sub-Prior



Provincial Prior

Some of the roundels shown above are of Great Priory rank - the only difference being it would be of Provincial rank on the outer edge.



ANOTHER CHAPTER



Charles Nicholl Chapter no 7318

This is our very own KT linked Chapter (In Berkshire), why not come along to support our next meeting.

Wednesday 14th May 2025, at Sindlesham.

Contact - Scribe E- Comp Robin Kent- <u>robin.kent@live.com</u> Dining- Ass Scribe E. Comp Ian Mitchell- <u>ian.mitchell09@aol.com</u>

BOOK NOW!!! And enjoy a Royal Arch meeting with a KT twist.



OUT & ABOUT IN THE PROVINCE





WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR PRECEPTORY THIS MONTH

Let us know what is going on, send some pics, ask some questions, request some assistance.

Contact:

E.Kt. Martin James Sando

Martin.sando@outlook.com Tel. 07740-983130

Kt Dougie Leacy or Kt Rob Hawkins

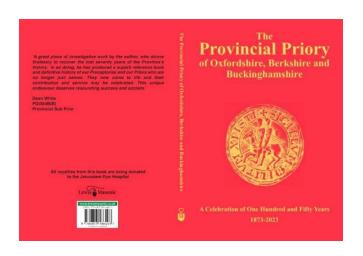


KNIGHTLY ARTEFACTS FOR SALE

CELEBRATING THE 150[™] ANNIVERSARY

The Province authorised the writing of a commemorative book called *A Celebration of One Hundred and Fifty Years 1873-2023* which has been kindly printed by the Lewis Masonic publishing house to commemorate our 150th anniversary.

It has a page designed to receive a signature and dedication by our Provincial Prior and Sub Prior; including a section to record the highlights of one's time within our Order, it will be available from the Lewis Masonic online catalogue (February 2024) at a cost of £12.00 with all profits being donated to the Jerusalem Eye Hospital.





Bodyguard cufflinks

£20.00 per pair, all profits will go to the Jerusalem Eye Hospital

YE KNIGHTS OF OLDE REGALIA

Don't leave those unwanted KT regalia items gathering dust at the back of the cupboard.

tunics / mantle / badges / old swords / belts that no longer fit etc

Don't waste!!! RECYCLE to our new Knights.



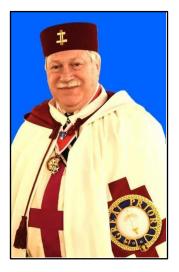
Recycling contacts-

Provincial Warden of Regalia-

Kt. Denis Williams t.07860-547577 e. deniswilliams5@aol.com

OR

Provincial Vice Chancellor and Travelling Knights co-ordinator- E.Kt. Martin Sando



ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM EYE-HOSPITAL NEWS

E.Kt. Jamie Ingham Clark KStJ, Past Dep. Gt.Swd.B. Trustee of the Jerusalem Eye Hospital

Dear Knights, 3rr4

Report to follow next Month

YitBotO

Jamie

Jamie Ingham Clark, KStJ Trustee



Join the Provincial O.B.B. WhatsApp group- let us know what is going on and keep us up to date.

https://chat.whatsapp.com/EyFyBj6N7VnDZNVNVCN4Y0



Join us on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/share/86jx9i6tZCDpYs6k/?mibextid=K35XfP

Travelling Knights newsletter written & produced (inc. photography) by E. Kt. Martin James Sando, Kt Dougie Leacy and Kt Rob Hawkins

