## Berlin Hosts Annual Muster In Great Style in 2023



Arrangements for this year's Annual Muster centred around meeting in Berlin on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>



June 2023, a pleasure and honour seldom experienced. Whilst numbers, including visitors from other Constitutions were modest, the ambience and camaraderie was outstanding with strong and positive memories being made.

The weekend started with a ceremony of the degree of St Andrew, more alternatively known as the Tutonic Knight held at the very opulent Masonic Hall (Ordenshaus) on Peter-Lenné-Straße. It is a unique ceremony and degree only conferred by the Grand Priory of Scotland and by their permission, we in Germany. It is in some respects a passing degree that allow

those who received it to considered for installation as a Knight Commander of the Order of the temple, of KCT in short. In our Constitution, there are nine who are holders of the KCT with the latest

RE.Kt Shiny MacKinnon GCT welcomes the Grand Master of Finland to the Great Priory of Germany

being RE Kt Lt Col (Retd) Ian Harper who was conferred it at the main meeting on Saturday. The ceremony was officiated over by the Grand Master, ME Kt Roddy MacKenzie GCT, assisted by ME Kt Ton Meuwissen GCT, RE Kt Shiny Mackinnon GCT, RE Kt

Preparations under way setting up the Temple (Left to Right: VE Kt Norbert Schoen, RE Kt Franz Aigner GCT, the Grand Seneschal, RE Kt Dirk Hennemann GCT).



Joseph Maison GCT, RE Kt Ian Livermoore KCT and attended as observers by the Grand Master of Finland. Following a short interval to return to hotels and change, the evening was given over to an informal reception enjoyed by all attendees.

Saturday was full of promise as we opened the meeting honouring our Grand Master, ME Kt Roddy Mackenzie GCT most appropriately. The Grand Master then went on to welcome guests from other

Constitutions of whom those hailing from the Congo, travelled the furthest, closely matched by the Grand Master of Finland (who else attended, do we have names).

The Grand Muster Roll was called with great reverence and solemnity, RE Kt Wolfgang Stark's name was called with his silence an acknowledgement he had been summoned to attend our Great Captain of Salvation beyond the celestial gates above. With great ceremony, RE Kt Wolfgang's regalia and GCT were ceremonially laid to rest in the centre of the Temple and respectful period of silence prompted to reflect his passing and honour his memory.



Grand Master with new members of his Body Guard attended by E Kt Blu Smith (Commander of the Grand Master's Body Guard) and in the rear, RE Kt Franz Aigner holding the Great Priory Banner.

Following the opening of the meeting, the Muster by Preceptories was called with most Preceptories

being represented. Business was brisk with the Grand Secretary, VE Kt Norbert Schoen being central in supporting the Grand Master in the efficient and smooth running of the meeting's agenda. Of great note was the award the Grand Master's Award for exceptional services to VE Kt Norbert Schoen, and honour seldom conveyed. Further honours were bestowed in the form of Knight Commander of the Order of the Temple (KCT) at the hand of the Grand Master to RE Lt Col (Retd) Kt Ian Harper KCT, who shortly after, was installed as the Grand Sub Prior of Malta.



The Grand Master, ME Kt Roddy Mackenzie GCT with the Grand Seneschal, RE Kt Dirk Hennemann GCT and the RE KT Franz Aigner GCT attending to the Banner of Grand Priory.





Distinguished visitors from affiliated Constitutions with the senior Knights of the Grand Priory of Germany.



The Grand Master, congratulating VE Kt Norbert Schoen for his outstanding service to the Grand Priory.







Grand Priory holders of the GCT and KCT (Left to Right: RE Kt Ian Livermoore KCT, RE Kt Shiny McKinnon GCT, ME Kt Ton Meuwissen GCT (Immediate Past Grand Master), ME Kt Roddy Mackenzie GCT, RE Kt Joseph Maison GCT and RE Kt Wolfgang Mann GCT (Grand Seneschal).



Time for a little contemplation between brother Knights



Happy we met, "We few, we happy few, we band of brothers" !



Basking in the moment and looking forward to our next merry meeting, !



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Following the closing of what was a delightful meeting, the Temple was packed away and the Brother Knights with wives and partners assembled for a sumptuous gala dinner hosted by the Grand Master in a spectacular Ball Room at the Masonic Hall (Ordenshaus), on Peter-Lenné- Straße. However, all good things come to end and hands on clock became reminder the day was fast closing, long journeys awaited all the next day with warm expectations of the next Grand Priory meeting in Bremen in October.



