



Annual Malta Ceremony Conducted in English



The annual Great Priory Muster of Knights of Malta was held in Bremen on Saturday 28th October 2023, under the watchful eye of the Grand

Master, Most Eminent Knight Roddy Mackenzie GCT. Prior to the meeting much work was done in the lead up in

Above: Re Kt Shiny MacKinnon GCT doing the final inspection the Temple is set and in good order the evening before the meeting.



and around Herford and Bunde by RE Kt Shiny MacKinnon to assemble the Temple furnishings and artifacts to ensure all was set for the meeting.

Left: Taking a break and admiring the view, RE Kt Shiny MacKinnon GCT contemplating the ceremony for tomorrow.

This year, there was one candidate, Bro Kt Craig Tiims hailing from Pilgrims No.5 to undergo the Malta ceremony who was installed a Knight of the Order of Temple in July 2023. With only one candidate being installed and being English, it was



Above Left: The Pilgrim starts his journey to become a Knight



Above Right: The magical moment, Craig is Knighted.

decided the ceremony this year would be conducted in his mother tongue and delegated to Grand Sub Prior of Malta, RE Kt Lt Col (Retd) Ian Harper KCT. Under his direction Offices for the day along with speaking parts were allocated well in advance as it was his wish the ceremony should learnt be run without the use the book.

With all key offices filled and following a short rehearsal, the Temple was opened eloquently and in due form by the Grand Prior of Malta, RE Kt Dirk Holtermann, with the both VE Kt Norbert Schoen GMO (acting Grand Maraschelle) and Bro Kt Mic McCarthy (acting Grand Captain of Outpost) conducting their parts of the ceremony word perfect without the book. The opening was seamless, however, what was not immediately evident was that the ceremony of opening (and closing was conduct in both English and German and tribute to the flexibility and skill of the Knights concerned. Shortly after opening, the Grand Prior of Malta then handed the baton over to the Sub Prior of Malta to continue the ceremony in English.



Above: Grand Master, ME Kt Roddy Mackenzie GCT, with the banners of the Order in the background welcoming Bro Kt Crag Timms into the Order



Above Left: VE Kt Holtermann congratulates and welcomes Bro. Knight Craig into the Order whilst on above right, RE Kt Lt Col (Retd) Ian Harper KCT follows the same theme.

Following a knock on the door, it was determined there was a candidate seeking admission to the Order. Confirming he possessed the necessary qualifications Kt Craig Timms then undertook the passing degree of Knight of St Paul in front of a wonderfully atmospheric Templar-stained glass window. The ceremony was then continued in English with VE Kt Norbert doing an excellent job choreographing the movement of the candidate, perfectly complimented by the Grand Prior, VE Kt

Dirk Holtermann. Having conducted the figurative passage from the Holy Land to the island of Malta, Kt Craig was then made a Knight of Malta, dressed as such with the symbolism of the cross of the Order being explained to him. After which, he was personally welcomed and congratulated by the Grand Master and the Grand and Sub Priors of Malta on joining the Order.



Above: Attending Knights of the 2023 annual muster of Knights of Malta with the newly installed Knight, Kt Craig Timms on the left.

Following the meeting the Brother Knights were treated to a sumptuous Festive Board during which toasts were proffered to the Grand Master and the newly joined Knight. With the night waning fast and journeys far and long to undertake, the brother Knights departed in good heart knowing the ceremony had been done well and lasting happy memories created. Until next year !

