



## Pilgrim's Preceptory Gives Image of its Malta Degree a Make Over

- ✦ Change is a good thing, but Pilgrims Preceptory has been like a whirling dervish. Two Knights appointed by the Grand Master, have been quietly and studiously beavering away revising the ritual book to help make it easier to follow and learn. Once complete, this will be used by the two Preceptories who have had dispensation to conduct all their ceremonies in the English language, dating back to their consecrations.
- ✦ Dressing the Priory has been a hot topic for both RE Kt Shiny Mckinnon GCT and RE Kt Ian Harper KCT, both Infantry veterans from the Army. The initial surge took place in the summer of 2023 with RE Kt Ian travelling over from the UK to work with RE Kt Shiny to paint the bases and poles for the banners. This led to work to commission the two main banners of St Pual and Malta, following their completion were handed over to RE Kt Shiny when he paid a visit to RE Kt Ian's Craft Lodge in Croydon. Both banners looking spectacular. Following this, RE Kt Ian then commissioned the making of the five small Malta banners that signify the symbolic journey from Jerusalem, via Rhodes to the Mediterranean Island of Malta.



- ✦ With time pressing, RE Kt Ian used his time whilst attending Provincial Knights of Malta duties in Newcastle to drop in to the Crafty Freemason shop and pick up the five banners as well as regalia for two candidates due to be admitted to the Order on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024.

**Left:** Susan Blackett, owner of the Crafty Freemason, having handed over the five Malta degree country banners to RE Kt Ian Harper KCT, ready to be taken to Pilgrims Priory No.5, who is holding up the new Malta banner.

- ✦ Further work is planned to refurbish the kneeling pedestal for the passing degree and make table clothes for the octagonal and pentagonal tables, which is hoped will be complete during 2024. The later being RE Kt Shiny's domain with help from his wonderful partner, Loni. With a full make over, Pilgrims Priory and its Preceptory are worthwhile Templar and Malta destinations for those wishing to expand their knowledge and understanding of the two Masonic chivalric Order.

