

# June 2022 PROVINCIAL NEWSLETTER Arundel and Brighton Province 34



# CORPUS CHRISTI

# Carpet of Flowers 15-16 June 2022

Join us for an occasion like no other this June, celebrate Corpus Christi at Arundel Cathedral.

View our world-famous Carpet of Flowers and witness the extraordinary procession of the Blessed Sacrament from the Cathedral to Arundel Castle.

### Tuesday 14 June

Watch the Carpet of Flowers being laid.

# Wednesday 15 June

View the completed Carpet 9.30am- 6.00pm.

### Thursday 16 June

The Cathedral opens at 9.30am. Mass with Bishop Richard is followed by the procession of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction at 5.30pm.



www.arundelcathedral.uk/corpus-christi

# **Provincial Grand Knight**

It is such a pleasant feeling and a great joy to see lives and businesses getting back to near normality as most Covid-19 restrictions have now been lifted. It is also great to have my first Provincial meeting as a sitting Grand Knight surprisingly falling on my birthday -5<sup>th</sup> June.

# **Membership and Recruitment Drive:**

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May, a Membership and Recruitment drive was hosted by Bishop Richard at the Church of Our Lady of Consolation at West Grinstead. Bishop Richard is very interested in the work of the Knights and offered his valuable time to discuss how to recruit new members to the Order. Over 50 Brothers in the Province attended including two eminent guests from the Supreme. We had the honour and presence of Bro. Daniel O hEarchai, Supreme Director for Membership and Bro. Michael Akinrele, Supreme Director for Youth and Young People and Deputy Supreme Grand Knight.

The day started with Mass at 11.00 am, followed by lunch and thought-provoking discussion on Membership, and ended with Benediction at 3.00 pm. The Bishop offered his support and suggestion on how best to recruit members working with the Parish priests and Clergies in the Diocese.

### **Visits to Council:**

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May, I visited and attended KSC Eastbourne Council 433 meeting at the little church hall, St Wilfrid's, Hailsham. Also visiting and in attendance was Bro. Bertie Grogan, Immediate Past Supreme Knight. We were warmly welcomed and had a very useful meeting.

# **Provincial Chaplain:**

Fr. Tony Lovegrove as you are all aware, has kindly been stand in Provincial Chaplain for Prov 34 until the bishop appoints a permanent Provincial Chaplain. Fr. Tony has now stated that he wishes to stand down and so the appointment of a permanent chaplain is now very urgent. I have contacted the Bishop's secretary to schedule a meeting with the Bishop in this regard. She has promised to fix up an appointment for me in due course.

### **Provincial Treasurer:**

The audited Financial Statements for Province 34 has been finalised and audited and ready to be presented at the Provincial meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May. Bro. Bob Waters will be handing over all financial papers to Bro. Bertie Grogan.

I wish to seize this opportunity to thank Bro. Bob. who has been an excellent and hard-working Treasurer for many years. I have enjoyed working with him as Provincial Auditor.

### **Bro Solomon Ezobi PGK**

## **Chichester Council 546**

This last quarter has been mainly welfare. As most of you know our GK brother Richard France was rushed to hospital and is still there. He was rushed to Brighton hospital and had a major operation for bowl cancer, it took 9 hours. He was returned to the ward and had to rest. They found that he had a leaky valve in his heart so he needed rest. After a few weeks he was sent back to St Richards hospital Chichester as he was weak through being in bed for 4 weeks he had to learn to walk again.

It was planned to send him home ( with a care package in place) but the day before he was sent home he fell and damaged his hip. He had to have an operation to repair the hip. He was moved to his 4th ward which has been locked down (Covid). That is the story so far.

Membership:- We have a gentleman interested. The paper work has been passed on. We have carried out our normal duties within the parish.

We all attended West Grinstead on 14th May and were pleased to have our deacon there as well. We felt that the meeting was very motivating and sent us back with hope.

**Bro Ray Webb Acting GK** 

# **ACTION**

My thanks to the two Councils who this year supported the Easter Scene Painting Competition. Co 551 Guildford & Godalming and Co 280 Worthing & District. Again Brother Roderick O'Connor facilitated entries from three schools in his area. Co 551's entries were very successful and three of their pictures went forward to represent Province 34. They were:







**Zoom meeting for Action Youth & Social Officers on 23rd April** organised by Supreme Director for AY&S Brother Stephen Ferris from Birmingham addressed particularly the National Action Project for the John Foster home for boys in rural India. Because of the Pandemic this will now run for an extra year. For £200 they manage to feed, clothe, house and teach one boy for one year who would otherwise live in abject poverty. They desperately need £30,000 to build new premises. Please make every effort to support this worthy cause.

Brother Stephen spoke about creating a spreadsheet which covered all activities undertaken by each Council. I have forwarded him the one that I evolved a few years ago.

**Small Snippets**: The Action Committee is permitted to co-opt non members to work with them, such as women, other faiths, other organisations such as Rotary or Lions for joint local projects. One council has a retired teacher (non KSC) who liaises with local schools for them.

Brother Stephen asked for details of how brothers organise events that have proved to be successful. He will make details available to all via the Order's web site. I undertook to supply details of how the Worthing Race night works, to supply templates for the programme and odds calculations etc.

One brother makes it very profitable to collect aluminium cans from the local churches who have collecting points. To crush and take to local scrap merchants.

Also discussed was recruiting and the use of the new "Parish Packs" recently advertised as available from Head Office. (I ordered 10 packs and supplied for each Council at the Recruiting Day with Bishop Richard)

The Aylesford Pilgrimage will be on 23rd October.

The Grand National Draw created a surplus of £6,585 to fund youth projects.

The Mary's meal project raised sufficient funds to continue feeding the current number of children until 2046.

A show of hands revealed it was unanimously agreed that the Head Office Bulletin was far too long. There was not enough time to read it at Council meetings. Its length at 20+ pages made brothers reluctant to print it or read it. Copy and pasting into MS Word to remove all of the wasted white space brought it down to 9 pages but this was also very time consuming to achieve.

**Bro Trevor Stauss Provincial Action Youth & Social Officer** 

# **Guildford Council 551**

KSC Holy Week Posters were distributed to parishes in Woking, Guildford and Godalming.

The Council contacted local Catholic Primary Schools and extended invitations to enter the Junior 2022 Easter Scene Painting Competition, and was pleased to be informed by PPGK Bro. Trevor Stauss that three of the entries have been submitted to Head Office.

At the request of the Catholic Prison Chaplain to one of our Brothers who is on the Prison Ministry Team, the Council made a monetary donation to Coldingley Prison towards the cost of cakes after the celebration of Mass on Easter Sunday.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022 four Brothers attended the Recruitment Workshop, led by Bishop Richard Moth, and held at the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, West Grinstead. Both the discussions and the recruitment material were greatly appreciated.

On Sunday 22nd May 2022 the 10am Mass at St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth, was celebrated for the intentions of all the Brothers of the Knights of St Columba. After Mass, refreshments were served in the Abbey's Guest Lounge, and a talk was given by one of the monks on life in a Benedictine Monastery.

Brothers of Guildford & District Council 551 have been invited by Farnborough Council 385 to attend the noon Mass at St Michael's Abbey, Farnborough on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022. After the Mass the relics of St Edmund Campion will be venerated, followed by a Rosary procession in the Abbey grounds, and a shared lunch.

**Bro Roderick O'Connor GK** 

# **Bognor Regis Council 324**

Ten Brothers from this Council attended the recent membership discussions with Bishop Richard and Bro Danny, Supreme Director for Membership, at West Grinstead. All have agreed that it was a great day.

Two Brothers attended at the Chrism Service at Arundel Cathedral, and more were pleased to steward at the Walk of Witness from Our Lady of Sorrow in Bognor.

Through the endeavours of our Social Committee, we were able to visit the Planetarium and have a Spring lunch at a local Italian restaurant. Additional events such as Quizzes, race nights and a canal trip are all being planned to result in a full Social Calendar.

Brothers continue to do welcoming duties at Our Lady of Sorrows and still come together on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month for the Rosary for Life, following Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows. All are welcome to join us. Our Membership officer, together with our Action and Youth officer are working hard to raise our profile within the student groups and parish Churches organising membership drives.

It was a great joy to attend the Easter Vigil service at which our Alex Nagle was confirmed. Furthermore, we are currently organising for Alex to have his initiation service.

All Brothers report being well, and we pray that this continues to be the case. We continue to pray that conflict in Ukraine may soon end with a peaceful and stable conclusion.

**Bro Tony Moran GK** 



Council 280 Worthing members at their recent Mass to celebrate their 1000<sup>th</sup> meeting.

This was followed by a celebratory lunch with wives, family members and widows.

# **Hastings and Rother Valley Council 630**

We have about 10 Brothers who meet at 7.00 pm on the third Tuesday of every month at the John Fisher Room, St. Thomas of Canterbury Church, St Leonards on Sea.

We had 2 brothers (Neil Callaghan and Brian Fitzgerald) initiated to our council on the Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April. We were truly blessed for such a lovely Mass, initiation, and the delicious food in the John Fisher Room. I want to sincerely thank all Brothers, family and friends who provided excellent choice of food, snacks and drinks for the occasion in the John Fisher Room. Our special thanks go to our Chaplain Fr. Míceál and Deacon Ian Moon for such a lovely Mass, for their prayers and for their support. I also want to thank and pray for our Brothers and families who were not able to attend, with the hope that they will join us next time. On Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 7 Brothers from our council travelled to The Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, West Grinstead for the meeting with our Bishop Richard Moth. It was beautiful weather on the day, a lovely Mass, Benediction, and very inspiring presentation by Bishop Richard, Brother Danny and Brother Michael from Supreme.

We had very successful Christmas and Easter poster campaigns. Basically, this involved our Brothers handing out posters to parishioners at the end of Mass. We wore our regalia and had a collection bucket for parishioners who wish to donate to our charities. I would like to thank Fr. Mícéal Beatty of the Parish of the Good Shepherd, St. Leonards on Sea and Fr. Eamonn of St Mary Star of the Sea Church, Hastings for their continued support.

We were asked to support Father Mícéal in the 40 hours Adoration at St. Thomas' of Canterbury on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May. He was particularly looking for men to cover the late night to early morning hours and the Knights responded fantastically well to ensure the Adoration was successful.

**Bro Fidelis Okoliko GK** 





# Welcome

to Brothers

Neil Callaghan and Brian Fitzgerald who joined the Order on 9 April 2022 Hastings and Rother valley Council 630



Brother Bertie with the Installed Officers of Provincial Council 34 at Patcham, Brighton March 2022. Bro Bertie is wearing the Treasurers collar because having installed the new provincial officers he was then installed by Bro Charles (Acting PGK at that meeting) as Provincial Treasurer.

# **Worthing and District Council 280**

The major event this quarter has been Worthing & District Council's  $1000^{th}$  meeting on Tuesday 12th April. The Council was founded in September 1934. Our older members reminded the Council that in years gone by individual meetings were also held each month for the Membership, Welfare, Action and Social Committees in advance of the Council meeting. The GK also attended all of these meetings each month. The Council marked their  $1000^{th}$  meeting with a ceremonial toast to all members past and present.

The main celebration took place at a Mass on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April at St Michael's Hayling Rise where we were joined by brothers' wives and some of our widows. The Mass was celebrated by Fr Chris Ingle MoH and Council Chaplain Brother Deacon Mark Woods MoH. This was followed by a celebratory lunch in the adjacent hall. Fr Chris and Deacon Mark, with his wife Jane were guests of honour, together with Fr Liam MoH from English Martyrs' parish. The lunch was followed by an impressive raffle in aid of Ukrainian refugees which raised £170. The occasion was greatly enjoyed by all. Many had not seen others in the group for two years or more.

The Council had previously responded to the Supreme Knight's request that Councils donate £100 to the Disasters Emergency Committee DEC appeal for Ukraine.

Around 450 Holy Week posters were distributed to our 8 local parishes.

Brothers attended the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral on 13<sup>th</sup> April to assist with car parking and stewarding.

Our Treasurer (and Assistant YO) Brother Damien O'Hagan, arranged, collected and submitted entries for the Easter Scene Painting competition for Council adjudication from our local primary school. Three winning pictures were forwarded to Province.

I regret to inform brothers of the death of Jo-Ann Hudson, who passed away on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Jo-Ann was the wife of Brother Pat Past BoD, our condolences to him and to his family.

Two of our brothers have also gone to their eternal reward during this quarter. Brother Jim White on 27<sup>th</sup> March and Harold Blackaby 18<sup>th</sup> May. May they rest in peace. Our condolences to Jim's widow Krisse, and her family. Sadly we are not currently aware of Brother Harold's next of kin.

Ten members of the Council attended the Provincial recruiting Day at West Grinstead with Bishop Richard on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May. All felt that it was very worthwhile and hope that it bears fruit when the plans that evolved are put into action.

The Council held a Race Night, their first since the pandemic, on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May at St Michael's church Hall. This was very successful, raising around £1,100 to be shared between perennial local projects, Ukrainian Refugees, who will be moving into our area shortly and for Brother Richard McGuire's son Peter. Peter is going as a Red Shirt helper on this year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Our Council Action, Youth and Social Officer, Brother David Wynn-Davies has organised the annual Netball and Football tournament for our five primary schools on the 8th June at English

# **District Deputy East**

I received confirmation that the UCM pilgrimage to Our Lady of Consolation Shrine at West Grinstead will take place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 10.30 Coffee with a talk from Canon Tom finishing at 11.45. Quiet prayer for 15 minutes Mass at 12.00 noon. We have been invited to join them again. In the afternoon there will be Rosary in the Garden and also in the church followed by Benediction. Last time there were 15 knights who made the decision to come, some with their wives. It proved to be both a spiritual and enjoyable occasion for everyone.

The Parish of the Shepherd held a 40 hour Adoration devotion at St Thomas of Canterbury Church. Bishop Richard opened this period of prayer with an opening Mass. In his homily he indicated the benefits for the Diocese and for all our other intentions. The Knights played their part by watching and praying during the difficult to cover the night hours, our contribution as Knights was commented on and greatly appreciated. The Devotion ended with morning Mass on the Feast of the Ascension.

**Bro Sean Harkins Deputy District. PGK East** 

# Membership

On May 14<sup>th</sup> Members of the Knights from the Province met with Bishop Richard to discuss recruitment to the Knights. The day began with Holy Mass, followed by lunch and most interesting and challenging talks given by Bishop Richard and Bro Danny Ó hEarchaí on the theme of recruitment. Bro Danny's wife also gave a most helpful reflection on the supportive role that women can play for the Knights. Brother Danny emphasised that women would not be able to join the Knights but that they can be involved and supportive in many other ways. Bishop Richard asked the Knights the questions how is our mission lived out today? and what is it specific that God has given as a Knight that is unique to the Order? Points identified in the ensuing discussion included:

The support of the clergy is vital and we need to have a more relaxed approach and be more approachable, We should make the council chamber a more welcoming environment. Look at targeting other cultures and races who are in our parishes

A suggested way forward for recruitment: is to identify a parish to approach. Bishop Richard agreed to write to the PP, asking him to support a KSC recruitment presentation. In advance of that (2/3 weeks?) the Council 280 display, of what we are about (like that shown at West Grinstead) is installed in the church. The Brothers should man the display and remain for one Mass to be seen by parishioners. The Parish Priest could introduce them and say that information about KSC is available in church. On the

presentation day at least three brothers should attend the main family Mass, One should make the address. The Brothers then remain afterwards to talk to parishioners. They could attend refreshments after Mass if provided.

I am grateful for the regular reports received from Council 280. I look forward to receiving reports from other Councils regarding membership.

**Bro Stephen Horsman Provincial Membership Officer.** 

# WELFARE

Form SW4a's have been received from Councils. The number of Brothers requesting assistance from the Provincial Benevolent Fund to pay for their annual membership subscription from Councils total 11.

Please pray for the souls of:

Jo-Anne Hudson, wife of Bro Pat. Jo-Anne passed away on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Please remember her and Bro Pat and family in your prayers.

Bro Harold Blackaby of Worthing Council 280 passed away on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May May perpetual light shine upon them,

May they Rest in Peace.

Bro. Hugh Brentnall Provincial Officer for Spirituality & Welfare

# **OBITUARY**

Brother Harold Blackaby Worthing Council 280 Aged 81 Died 18th May 2022 R.I.P. Bro Harold Blackaby was brought up by his mother and Doctor (MD) father in East Africa – Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika. He was an only child of 'older' parents.

He was educated in a college in South Africa. Life in Africa for senior colonials was

extraordinary.

When his father retired, they had to return to England and bought a property in Worthing. This would have removed much of the personal support that he had grown accustomed to for about twenty five years in Africa. The changes in his life from then on must have had an indelible and upsetting effect on Harold, lasting for the remainder of his life.

Harold joined the Order in 1966. He was presented with his Golden Jubilarian award in 2016. He was the Council Warden from the early 70's for many years.

His father passed away not long after moving to England leaving Harold to care for his aged, widowed mother.

Sadly, Brother Harold suffered from significant health problems, but he kept to his faith and was a regular Mass attender, cycling to local churches.

He always supported council events such as Race Nights and fetes. Wives and brothers helped him wherever they could .

After his mother died, he continued living alone for many years and was visited regularly by the SVP.

Eventually he went into care supported by his nephew. R.I.P.

# **Provincial Officers and Councils 2022**

Provincial Grand Knight Solomon Ezobi 01424 422712 pgk_province34@ksc.org.uk	Imm Past Provincial Grand Knight Geoffrey Breeze 01243 671082 geoffreybreeze@btinternet.com
Provincial Secretary Patrick David Coates 01424 439871 p.coates625@btinternet.com	Provincial Spirituality & Welfare Hugh Brentnall 01903 715958 hugh.brentnall@sky.com
Provincial Finance Bertie Grogan 0771 4763862 ipsk@ksc.org.uk	Provincial District Deputy East Sean Harkins 01424 442018 judesean@hotmail.com
Provincial Warden Tony Moran 01903 774804 tonymoran07@gmail.com	Provincial Membership and Development Stephen Horsman 01293 540112 spe.horsman@btinternet.com
Provincial Action & Youth Trevor Stauss 01903 366152 trevor.stauss@hotmail.co.uk	Provincial Press Officer Charles Yarham 01243 582908 rooksfold@btinternet.com

Council Grand Knight	Meeting time	Council meeting Venue
Bognor Regis 324 Tony Moran 01903 774804 tonymoran07@gmail.com	2nd Mon 7.30 pm	St Peregrine's Hall, The Parish Centre, Hislop Walk, Bognor Regis
Brighton 277 Paul Lowry 01273 565437 pelowry@aol.com	2rd Wed 7.30pm	St Thomas More, Patcham (Provincial Council meetings also take place at this venue first Sunday of each quarter at 3pm)
Chichester 546 Richard France richardfrance67@gmail.com	3rd Mon 7.30 pm	St Richard's, Cawley Road Chichester
Crawley 358 Stephen Horsman 01293 540112 spe.horsman@btinternet.com	4th Tuesday 7.30pm	The Friary
Eastbourne 433 Rod Barker 07729936666. barkeruk@btinternet.com	2nd Mon 3pm	Venue varies. Please check with GK
Hastings 630 Fidelis Okoliko 07946689934 okoliko61@hotmail.com	3rd Tues 7.30pm	St Thomas of Canterbury and English Martyrs Magdalen Road. St Leonards-on-Sea.
Guildford & Godalming 551 RoderickO'Connor mocandroc.uk@gmail.com)	3rd Mon 8pm	St Pius X, Lauston Close, Merrow, Guildford, GU1 2TS
Worthing 280 Trevor Stauss 01903 366152 trevor.stauss@hotmail.co.uk	2nd Tues 7.45 pm	English Martyrs Goring Way, Goring, West Sussex, BN12 4UH