



KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

PROVINCE 30 - WESTMINSTER WESTERN

ROUNDABOUT

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF PROVINCE 30 SINCE APRIL 1994

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JULY - AUGUST 2020

<i>Councils in Province 30 Westminster Western</i>	<i>Hanwell – Hayes – Sudbury – Harrow & District – Ruislip Uxbridge – High Wycombe - Feltham & Cranford - North Harrow Yeading – Whitton – Wembley – Thames Valley</i>
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Dear Brothers,

Brothers, I do hope that you and your families are well and keeping safe.

The Coronavirus has stopped us from doing a lot of things this year; we have missed our annual pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory and our group elevation of members to Full Knighthood. We have cancelled a few of our usual activities, but we managed to do a few new things. We joined the Supreme Knight in rededicating our Order to the Immaculate Heart of Mary by meeting on every Monday in May to recite our prayer of Dedication and joining together to say the Rosary. We also prayed the Rosary every weekday of May in honour of Our Lady of Fatima.

There is still a lot more that we can do, but I cannot do it by myself. We have invited the new officers waiting for installation into Office via zoom, but the response was weak, I only had one reply. The Supreme Knight has also invited members awaiting elevation to Full Knighthood to come forward again with no response. It seems that ZOOM has a negative effect on everyone.

However, it looks like we might soon be able to go back to Church so plan ahead and invite the Provincial Officers to install your new officers when it is convenient. One Point of Order; if you were elected last December/January as the Grand Knight for 2020/21, and not officially installed, please rest assured that you are in office and have been, the Grand Knight since 1st April 2020 regardless of the colour of your collar, don't worry you will be installed at the earliest opportunity.

We are currently putting together a programme of Skills Improvement and Team Building Seminars for GK's, DGK's and other officers (see page 8). I would like to know from you how many brothers would be interested in such Seminars before we set any dates.

Some of the Councils have been meeting via Zoom Conferencing and making a success of it. I am hoping that

the practice will catch on and that all Councils will follow suit. As the government is easing restrictions, I must remind you that the VIRUS is still out there, so let us not rush to have face to face meetings just yet. To that effect our next Provincial Committee meeting, due to take place on 20th July will be by Zoom Conferencing.

The Churches are slowly reopening their doors under cautious guidance; it will be a welcome return to normality.

Brothers, please do not forget our elderly Brothers, Chaplains, Widows and neighbours who might still be requiring help with fetching and carrying and maybe the odd phone call. I happen to be one of the recipients of such a service from my neighbours and friends for which I am incredibly grateful.

Coronavirus Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages curing every disease and illness, at your command, the sick were made well.

Come to our aid now, during the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love. Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fears, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another.

Lord Jesus give us your peace. Amen.

Yours sincerely & fraternally,

Eric Joseph

Provincial Grand Knight – Province 30.

PROVINCIAL 100 CLUB

CASH PRIZES EVERY MONTH

1st Prize - £50.00 2nd Prize - £25.00
(Three extra prizes at Christmas)

April	1st	No 86	Council 243
	2nd	No 20	M Murnane Council 963
May	1st	No 100	B Rodrigo Council 163
	2nd	No 115	E Tidon Council 163
June	1st	No 140	Council 514
	2nd	No 42	P Costley Council 243

The 100 Club is open to all, including family, friends and neighbours, not forgetting your Council Chaplain.

Please encourage membership from all the Brothers in your Council especially any new brothers who may have recently joined the Order/Council, in fact anyone who is willing to support our Province.

In the current 100 Club year from October 1st 2019 to September 30th 2020, there are 111 members spread over thirteen Councils. ®

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Provincial Council Minutes

Minutes of the last Provincial Council meeting and other Council & Provincial information can be viewed on the Provincial website by using the hyperlink on page one of Roundabout.

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Roundabout Distribution

A reminder to Grand Knights.
Please forward Roundabout to all Brothers of your Council who are 'online' and any other persons who may be interested.

During this period of isolation, when normal Council meetings are not being held, printed copies of Roundabout are not being produced. This will resume when Council meetings are reinstated.

Michael Bagness – Editor.





Council Meetings & Reports

from Bro Tony Berkeley
Provincial Officer for Action & Youth
& DPGK Province 30

Going back before current IT Tools became as common as telephones, Council Officers were issued with a triple copy yellow report book, where reports were handwritten (in triplicate), one copy goes to the PGK, one copy to the Council GK and one copy remained in the book for the record.

Each of the elected Council Officers, Membership & Dev, Finance & Administration, Spirituality & Welfare, Action & Youth were expected to submit a report outlining what was happening in their area of accountability. Every officer always made sure that he had something to report on, as a NO REPORT could be interpreted as a lack of commitment and energy.

As we moved forward to the 21st Century, and Desktop PC, Laptops and Tablets became common tools and emails replaced Royal mail letters, many brothers stopped using the yellow report book and produced a Word-report in hard or soft copy formats. The distribution of the yellow pages now became a verbal report at the Council meeting, and the Council Secretary now produces a Council meeting minutes report, which is copied to Province and the Council GK. Over time, Province committed to distributing each council monthly report to the elected Provincial Officers as listed above. This improved communication and fraternity considerably, as each Provincial Officer took keen interest in what each Council was doing in his area of accountability.

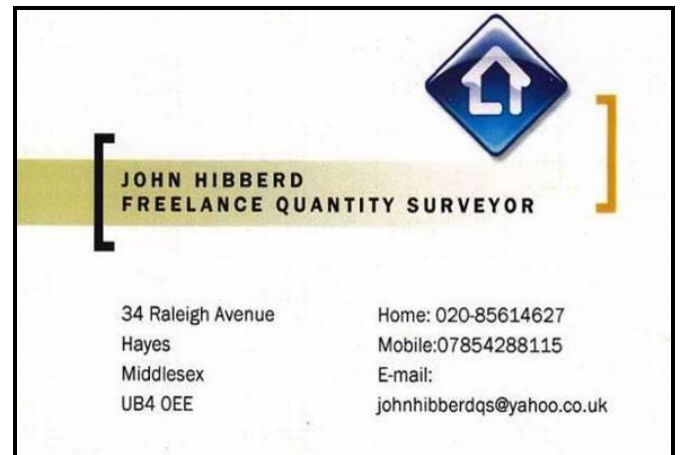
A lot has been said and written about lack of Council participation at Provincial Committee and some Provincial Council meetings. Some Councils sent apologies and the concerns were not about those Councils present. That apart, Committee meetings are necessary to enable Councils to talk about work and initiatives they were running or planning and exchange ideas about plans being hatched to achieve improvements in their area of responsibility. There is a saying that; "One watches what the other is **doing well and successfully** and compliment them by copying their initiatives." The Committee meetings also help the Provincial Officers compile their reports to the Provincial Council.

The Council minutes also help Provincial Officers in monitoring which Councils are doing well, which are just cruising along and which Councils are struggling. This is often obvious from what is recorded, and therefore a Council Officer submitting a NO REPORT or NOTHING to Report, or even worse not present at the meeting without having left his feedback is often what Provincial Officers are looking out for in order to be able to help achieve an improvement.

In my area as Provincial Officer for Action and Youth, I find it really worrying if the Council meeting agenda sometimes does not list any items at all. There is enough going on with Youth Competitions, National Project, Provincial Project, and of course the relevant own Council project(s), be it fundraising, or spiritual. There are also suggestions to lobby your MP's about Euthanasia or Birth Control etc.

This is why I issued a flyer saying **ACTION IS THE ENGINE OF YOUR COUNCIL**, hoping that this will generate discussions in my area of accountability. I hope reading this will help Councils ramp up their energy and devotion in the **ACTION** area.

Finally, I want to reassure Councils who feel they need help and inspiration in the Action and Youth area, to attend the Committee meetings but also be mindful that I am always available to help and assist and can be contacted by phone or Email. ®



Brother Tim McCarthy RIP (1931 – 2020)



Brother Tim McCarthy, a Golden Jubilarian member of Hayes Council 243 passed away peacefully surrounded by his family at his home in Hayes on Sunday 24th May. Bro Tim had had a short spell in hospital and only returned home the previous day Saturday 23rd May.

The following is taken from the July issue of Roundabout 2009 and it explains something of Bro Tim's life in Hayes.

"Congratulations to Bro Tim McCarthy who was enrolled as a Golden Jubilarian member of the Order of the Knights of St Columba and was presented with a Golden Jubilee medal and a Certificate of Membership at the end of the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 19th July 2009..

It has been an interesting time for Brother Tim as only a few days earlier to his presentation he was a guest of Her Majesty at a Buckingham Palace Garden Party in recognition of his kindness to others and his voluntary contribution to the parish of Botwell Church in Hayes.

The following address was given by the PGK at the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 19th July 2009: -

The Hayes Council of the Knights of St Columba has served the Community and the Claretian Missionaries since its inception in 1931 with many members coming and going over the years, but there is a gentleman here this morning who joined the Order in May, 1959 and has had 50 years of unbroken membership ever since.

As well as being a member of the Knights of St Columba he is a very active member of the parish and of the Society of St Vincent de Paul and a school governor in the Deanery for which he received the Bene Merenti medal. . Being a retired banker, he also has a special interest in the finances of the parish, and uses his talents and time to give dedicated support to many vital activities in the parish.

This accolade I am about to present is reserved for those men who have given loyal service for 50 years and it therefore gives me great pleasure to enrol our Brother Tim McCarthy as a Golden Jubilarian member of the Order of the Knights of St Columba and to present to him, on behalf of the Supreme Knight, his Golden Jubilee medal and his permanent Travelling Card, which confirms membership of our Order for the remainder of his life." ®



Brother Tim O'Connor looks back on his long term friendship with Brother Tim McCarthy.

I came to this country in 1957, Tim must have been here at least four years before me because as far as I can remember he had completed his National Service by then and was working for British Rail. I remember when he moved from British Rail to NatWest but I cannot remember the year but it was before he got married. (You may not know but citizens of the Irish Republic were required to do National Service when they were two years in the country. I got my call-up two years to the day after I arrived but as I was registered disabled they had no use for me.)

I cannot remember when I first met Tim but as he lived with my uncle and his wife and I lived with my aunt there was always toing and froing between the two houses.

We both went to the same Church – Our Lady of Lourdes in Acton – where Tim was more involved than me. I really got to know Tim when I joined the Knights in 1959. My uncle was also a member so they got me in as quickly as they could. When I joined, Tim was Chancellor and remained Chancellor until he was elected Grand Knight in 1965 and I became Deputy Grand Knight. I was quite happy with this because I assumed Tim would do his three years.

I cannot remember what year Tim and Laura got married though I was at the wedding and I was there when they first met. Tim and Laura were living in a flat in Acton and around that time decided to look for a house. Unfortunately for me they found a house in Hayes. Tim had only served one year as Grand Knight and at the young age of 29 I was the unanimous choice to succeed him as I felt that I did not have enough experience.

I cannot remember when it started or when it finished but St Aidan's Church in East Acton was being rebuilt. Some members of the Council, probably one of the prison Officers from Wormwood Scrubs suggested that the Council run Bingo Friday nights to raise funds for the Church. Tim was involved as a helper and sometimes he was the Caller if the regular Caller was missing.

The Council raised a lot of money from the Bingo and as well as giving money to St Aidan's as a by product they sent me to Lourdes in 1961. I do not know who suggested sending me to Lourdes but I expect Tim was involved because I remember that he talked to me about it.

During the sixties up to '64 or '65 we worked together on the Aylesford Pilgrimages. There was plenty of support for Aylesford in those days; I remember that one year at least if not two we had two 52 seater coaches, I was in charge of one while Tim was in charge of the other. During that era also there used to be an outing every summer from Our Lady of Lourdes to some seaside place organised by the Legion of Mary.



One year the destination was Beachy Head a place I knew nothing about at that time. On this occasion when we got off the coach everyone went towards the sea. After half an hour or so everyone had scattered leaving Tim and I walking towards Eastbourne. After a little while we saw an opened topped coach which said "Top of Beachy Head". We decided that we would go for a ride on the coach which to our surprise brought us to where our coach was parked and beside it was a Café. We knew that the coach was to leave at 5.00pm and it must have been about 4.00pm at this time giving us ample time for some tea. We had out tea and a pleasant conversation, not rushing because we knew from experience that coaches never left on time. We came out about 5.05pm and to my surprise the coach was driving away. Tim was just behind me and I can still hear his voice "Is it gone?" I said, "Yes, it has gone, Tim but there seems to be nobody on it".

It was a lovely fine evening and there was nothing else to do but sit on the grass and wait. We must have sat there for half an hour or so and we saw our coach coming back for us and I can still remember the "CHEER" we got as we boarded the coach. We soon learned the truth, most of the party had come back to the coach and told the driver they were going to Eastbourne for a swim and asked him to pick them up from the coach station at Eastbourne. As usual there was some clot in the party who came back to the coach with a few others and told the driver that everybody was here and so off they went into Eastbourne leaving us two stranded. Fortunately, my sister was in charge of the coach and when it reached Eastbourne we were immediately missed.

Two other places where Tim and I went together which were not memorable for the same reason as Beachy Head. The first was to the "Welcome Home" to the Hierarchy from Vatican II in 1966. We sat in the front row probably because it was easy for me to stretch my leg and our pictures appeared in a Catholic paper which did not last very long, as part of the audience. I can still remember a phrase which the Supreme Knight at the time (Bro Bill Austin from Brentwood Province 10) used. Bro Bill said, "As was said during the war, 'Give us (meaning the Laity) the tools and we will do the job'" We all thought at the time that the Laity would have a good deal of influence in this decision making within the Church. Fifty-four years later and we are still waiting for "The Tools".

We also went to the Mass for the Order's 50th Anniversary at Westminster Cathedral. I have little recollection of the Mass but I can remember we went for a meal at the KSC Club in Holland Park afterwards.

By now Tim and Laura were living in Hayes but we kept in touch largely by telephone with Tim calling me in 1987 to tell me of Laura's death which was quite a shock.

**Brother Tim moved to Hayes in 1967 transferring from Acton Council 252 to Hayes Council 243 in September of that year.*

Building for the Future

from Bro John O'Brien

GK Harrow & District Council 295

In April 1985 I became Grand Knight of Council 295 and subsequently served four terms in that office, three of those three years and the last of four years until 2011. All the in-between years I have served as Provincial Officer in Action and Youth and Social Secretary simultaneously.

When I finished the last of these offices I had no intention to take an office again but to commit my time to my wife, two children and seven grandchildren and also having the freedom to pack a suitcase and jet off freely.

Fast forward to the elections for GK in December 2019, Brother Martin Clancy needed a break from the office after a long run, so I offered to take over and was duly proposed and elected thus ending my happy retirement.

Harrow & District Council 295 is badly in need of a rebuilding programme so my foremost intention is hopefully to recruit some new blood in both of the parishes we work in, namely St. Joseph's, Wealdstone and All Saints, Kenton.

I have liaised with both Parish Priests who have agreed to recruitment ventures, which would be underway now but for this deadly virus which has grounded us all, but when our churches are full again we can continue with our task. I don't anticipate we can build it up to the fifty-two members we had around 1980 but we will have a go.

Let's hope we get enough interested gentlemen to build our Council up and take it forward to be the successful Council as we were in the past and I can resume my retirement.

On behalf of Council 295 brothers I thank Bro Martin for all his hard work and commitment during his extended term of office.

I look forward to all the new names (to me) I see in the Provincial Directory and catching up with those who are still in office! ®

**Join Thames Valley Council 984
for their ZOOM Prayer Group –
Daily online Rosary
11.00am Monday - Friday.
Subscribe through
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All our Yesterdays!

Thank you to Brother John O'Brien for supplying the following photographs from the Provincial Dinner & Dance held at the Four Pillars, Osterley Hotel on Saturday 31st October, 1998.

The Provincial Project for 1998 was The Hillingdon Diabeticare Unit, and during the evening we were pleased to present a cheque for £6,739.00 to Dr Rowan Hillson, a consultant physician from the Unit.



Brother Jim & Mary Keating



Jim Keating with John O'Brien



Mary Keating with Jim Keating and John O'Brien



l-r: Bros John O'Brien, Clive Rodrigo, Bertie Grogan and Tim Kelleher.



John O'Brien and Les Ford.



Fr Michael Doherty & Kathleen O'Brien



PGK Bro Chris Allman presents the cheque for the Provincial Project to Dr Rowan Hillson.

Provincial Project 2020 'The Uganda Street Children'

*from Bro Tony Berkeley
GK Thames Valley Council 984*

INSPITE OF Covid-19 the Provincial Project still exists and if anything with the Pandemic spreading across Africa, it's even more important that we continue to support the project adopted by the councils attending Provincial meeting few months ago.

Councils undertook to support this project in their own way, fundraising in whichever way they felt best suited their circumstances. Unfortunately, the virus made fundraising less easy to operate, but not impossible if the will existed.

This project was proposed by Council 984 Thames Valley, as part of the support for the Verona Missions in Uganda that looked after children who lost their family, either being abandoned, or through war and conflict or just by losing their parents for whatever reason, and finished by roaming the street of Kampala, with no food, no clothing, no education, no shelter, often being abused physically, mentally or any other way because they did not have anyone to protect them.

I often wonder when the media shows us scenes of racial abuse and suffering, sad and extreme as it may seem as we watch TV in our comfortable sitting rooms with our children and grand children round our sofa, how different is this compared with what these children suffer day-after-day. I often wonder if I could put together some placards saying **THESE INNOCENT CHILDREN MATTER** how many would follow me marching down Oxford Street ?

I urge councils to remember the slogan **ACTION IS THE ENGINE OF YOUR COUNCIL** and in spite of the difficulties fundraising at the moment, I challenge you to stretch your initiative and find ways of raising some money for these children. They still need us.

Now that self isolation is being eased and people are permitted to walk by themselves or with selected others, whether councils can organise walk sponsorship to raise money ? Walks do not have to be made up of groups of people. All it takes is to draw up some banners, posters, flyers promoting the cause, and distribute sponsorship forms. People can get sponsorship from a few family members or friends and then just go out for 3-4mile walk and collect the money. Just an idea, I am sure there are many other ways of raising money for this good cause.

Another way, cannot be simpler than finding a Jam Jar, place it somewhere where you cannot miss it, and at the end of each day, just put in it your coins and small change you finish up with at the end of the day. Ask

grown up members of your family to do the same. **MONEY FOR JAM** I call it! The most difficult thing I found using jam jars is that at some point I had to go to the bank with heavy bags of coins..... I wasn't always welcome – but it was for a good cause.



The project does not come to an end until the end of September - first week of October, so all councils still have time to get something organised. I **HOPE YOU WILL**. My council started early during Lent and our Parish Priest agreed to extend the Christmas Jam Jar collections into Easter. This way we have already raised £3,700.00 or thereabouts and when the congregation return to the church we hope to go over £4K.

PLEASE DO TRY YOUR BEST. We may even find a way to restore the planned Provincial Walk ! ®

Nativity Scene Painting Competition 2019

from Bro John Lynn - Thames Valley Council 984

The photograph below shows the 2019 Nativity Scene Painting Competition entries from St Mary's School, Maidenhead with two of the three entries going on to represent Province 30.

This year the school, sponsored by Thames Valley CI 984, was very successful in the national competition. The picture shows Headmistress Sandra Barry with the Age 8 - 11 years entry (LHS) which was rewarded with £20.00 for second prize and the Age 5 - 7 year's entry (RHS) which was rewarded with £30.00 for the first prize. The school itself received a much welcome cheque for £150.00. ®



Skills Improvement & Team Building

Bro Tony Berkeley - DPGK Province 30

Some call it **TRAINING**, some call it **DEVELOPMENT**. Whatever one calls it, the truth is that if anyone stops self examining one's performance, stops learning new tricks, only boasts of past achievements and does not endeavour to improve, one will surely fall back into bad habits, stand still or does not score any big new trophies.



It is Province's responsibility to help Councils achieve the best results in all the major areas of our activities. Just having Provincial Officers meetings, Committee meetings and Provincial meetings and spending time either moaning at poor membership, lack of Action, lack of participation, or even poor turn-out, does not really move the mountain we need to climb.

Province has asked that **Council GKs and Council Officers** acquire a free ZOOM conferencing system. There are reasons for repeating this request. One may think it's the COVID-19, self isolation or shielding..... I see opportunities arising out of the Pandemic. The inability to hold meetings and get together in the usual way has made it possible for more Provincial Officers to visit Councils and for Councils to attend Provincial meetings. But there is one added benefit which Province is going to grab with both hands in the current situation and also in the future. We are going to run a set of SEMINARS to share and promote the SKILLS that are necessary to effectively grow more efficient in the work we do.

There will be a suite of three SEMINARS planned :- one for **Grand Knights and their Deputies**, one for **Action / Development and Membership** and one for **Welfare and Finance**.

These will be online seminars using ZOOM. The benefits of online facilities are that people will not need to travel from home, or be away from their family possibly late in the evening. Senior Council officers cannot shy away from participating in this innovative approach to achieve improvements.

When we undertook the **SOLEMN DECLARATION**, each brother promised to be a TRUE and FAITHFUL Knight of St Columba, and the **MISSION STATEMENT** (we often recite at Provincial and Council meetings) **"Through working together we are able to commit to an open and collective debate, establishing new ideas, setting goals and achieving quality changes**

for the good of our Province and Council." Therefore, Province will hope for full participation at the Seminars of the key brothers from each Council.

The Seminars are made up of two 30 minute ZOOM sessions – back-to-back. They are currently being developed, and the first to be invited will be the Grand Knights and their Deputies. Bro Eric our Provincial Grand Knight will coordinate with you to agree a common convenient and acceptable slot in the coming weeks.

Look forward to your participation in this our new 21st century approach to practicing of our UNITY – CHARITY and FRATERNITY. ®

Dates for your Diary

ALL DATES AND EVENTS SHOWN BELOW ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR CANCELLATION.

The July – August – September meetings are likely to be by Zoom Conferencing.

JULY	20 th – Provincial Committee meeting.
AUG	5 th – Provincial Officers meeting
SEPT	1 st – Provincial Council meeting
OCT	2 nd / 4 th – Supreme Council meeting. 19 th - Provincial Committee meeting
NOV	4 th - Provincial Officers meeting 15 th – Westminster Mass for Deceased Brothers – 10.30am.
DEC	1 st - Provincial Council meeting

The Editor welcomes contributions for the next issue which should reach him by Saturday 22nd August 2020.

Opinions expressed in articles and letters are those of the authors only.

