



THE **Royal**

October '12 Issue No 1

BLACK



**The Official Publication of the Imperial Grand
Black Chapter of the British Commonwealth**

FREE

Welcome to 'The Black'

WELCOME to the first edition of "The Black" - the first official magazine of the Royal Black Institution.

"The Black" is a publication *by* the Royal Black *for* the Royal Black.

It will feature all that is happening in the Royal Black Institution, through photographs, articles and special features.

Three years ago the Royal Black Institution took the decision to publish events and happenings within District Chapters and Preceptories and we were kindly facilitated through the Orange Standard newspaper.

The four-page supplement, published quarterly, was called the "Royal Black Review" and our sincere thanks and gratitude go to all at the Orange Standard for their help & support.

Such was the interest shown by Districts and Preceptories that the Royal Black Institution felt a magazine was required for its many members.

As previously stated, this magazine is by the Royal Black for the Royal Black and how it develops depends on you our members. Please feel free to submit photographs and stories etc of Royal Black events via info@royalblack.org. All will be gratefully received.

Thanks are extended to all those who kindly placed advertisements in this the first edition of "The Black". Please give them your support. Also thanks to the editorial team behind this publication.

We hope you enjoy "The Black" magazine and its contents.

**Most Wor Sir Knt
Millar Farr, Sovereign
Grand Master.**



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Last
Saturday
Parades
inside**

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RBP 1104 WM, Sir Knight Alastair McFarland and DM, Sir Knight Peter Craig, with Bangor District No 13 WM, Sir Knight Gavin McCullough, members and visitors pictured outside Crawfordsburn Orange Hall prior to the annual Floating of the Banner parade. RB47

POIGNANT YEAR FOR BANGOR SIR KNIGHTS

IN what was a poignant year for the Sir Knights of Sir Henry Wilson Memorial RBP 1104, Bangor, the members commemorated the 90th anniversary of the murder of Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson, MP, on 22nd June 1922.

He was assassinated by two IRA men, Reginald Dunne and Joseph O'Sullivan, on the doorstep of his home at 36 Eaton Place in London.

Dunne and O'Sullivan were caught, subsequently tried at the Old Bailey, found guilty of the murder and hanged at Wandsworth Prison.

Sir Henry, who was an Ulster Unionist MP for North Down at Westminster, was born at Ballygraine, Ballinalee in County Longford. He was one of the most senior British Army officers of World War I and played an important role in Anglo-French military relations both before the war and in 1914. He was also military advisor to the Prime Minister, serving as Chief of the Imperial General Staff.

It is generally thought that the IRA's commander-in-chief, Michael Collins, ordered his murder to provoke the British Government into retaliating to the continu-

ing Troubles in Northern Ireland. Two weeks after the murder, Collins was ambushed and shot dead in his home county of Cork by anti-treaty IRA men.

The preceptory paraded in Ballynahinch on Black Saturday as part of the County Down Grand Black Chapter demonstration.

As well, RBP 1104 held its annual "Floating of the Banner" parade in the village of Crawfordsburn prior to the County demonstration.

Ancestral painting finds new home in Brownlow House

A BEAUTIFUL painting of Tynan Abbey, ancestral home of the Stronge family, will occupy a prominent place in Brownlow House, as the result of a kind gesture by the owner of the painting.

Ballymena woman Mrs Doris Spence handed over the painting at an informal ceremony in Brownlow House when it was accepted by Sir Knight William Abernethy, Imperial Grand Treasurer, on behalf of the Royal Black Institution.

Tynan Abbey was destroyed during the murderous attack by an IRA gang in 1981 which claimed the lives of Sir Norman Stronge and his son James.

Sir Norman Stronge, Speaker in the Northern Ireland House of Commons for many years, was Imperial Grand



Mrs Doris Spence presents a painting of Tynan Abbey, to Sir Knt William Abernethy, Imperial Grand Treasurer. RB46

Master of the Royal Black Institution and he gave a lifetime of service to his country and to the Crown.

The painting of Tynan Abbey, which depicts the Manor House and its colourful grounds contains the name "D Stronge", and the year 1912, and the painter was presumably a member of the Stronge family.

It belonged to Mrs Spence's father, the late Mr George Hanthorn, who was

prominent in the Ulster Unionist Party in Portadown some years ago. Mrs Spence wondered if the Royal Black Institution would be interested in acquiring the painting, and her husband, Billy, contacted his friend and journalistic colleague, Brian Courtney.

Brian, a member of the Royal Black Institution, spoke to senior Officers and they were delighted at the offer by Mrs Spence.

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Centenary celebrations



Above: Centenary Installation: Pictured at the Centenary Installation of Sir Kt David Bill Memorial RBP No 822, Templepatrick are, back row, from left, Sir Knt Wesley Black; Sir Knt Jim Robinson; Sir Knt Tom Montgomery; Sir Knt Nigel McBurney; Sir Knt John Carruthers. Front row, from left, Sir Knt Colin Patterson, Deputy Master Templepatrick; Sir Knt Roland Hill, County Grand Master; Sir Knt Kenneth Hull, Deputy County Grand Master and Sir Knt Michael White, Worshipful Master Templepatrick. RB48



Ballyclare District Officers at the the Centenary Installation of members of Sir Kt David Bill Memorial RBP No 822, Templepatrick. RB49

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Officers and Sir Knights of Rising Sons of Saintfield RBP No 73 along with the Most Worshipful Sovereign Grand Master, Sir Knight Millar Farr, at the Royal Black Institution Headquarters at Brownlow House, Lurgan. County and District Officers also attended a Centenary Dinner to celebrate the formation of the Preceptory on 1st May, 1912. RB50

Ballynahinch Preceptory celebrates 150 years



Officers and Sir Knights of King Solomon's Golden Star RBP No 56, Ballynahinch which is celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year. RB51

MANY congratulations to the Officers and Sir Knights of King Solomon's Golden Star RBP No 56, Ballynahinch on the Preceptory's 150th Anniversary celebrations this year.

Preceptory Registrar,

Sir Knight Ivan Nelson told "The Black": "This is a very significant year for our Preceptory as we celebrate our 150th Anniversary. The Warrant was issued to Sir Knt William Dodds on 18th June, 1862.

"Although we have

always encamped at Ballynahinch, for the first 50 years we belonged to the Saintfield District until Ballynahinch District Chapter was constituted on 7th September, 1910."

Continued Sir Knight

Nelson: "This year we received a special invitation from the Imperial Grand Black Chapter to attend the Scarva demonstration. We had a most enjoyable day accompanied by our band, Ballynahinch Protestant Boys."

The Preceptory will hold an Anniversary Dinner in Rockmount Golf Club on 12th October, when members will share fellowship and reflect on a special year for the Preceptory.



Agivey RBP 843, Aghadowey officers, from left, Sir Knights David McFetridge, Treasurer; Robert McCahon, Registrar; William J Knox, WM; Daniel McAleese, DM and John Davis, Lay-Chaplain. RB52

Aghadowey Centenary

AGIVEY RBP 843, Aghadowey is celebrating its Centenary.

In July 1912 a Warrant was issued in the name of Agivey RBP 843 and the first meeting was held in Agivey Orange Hall on the 29th August.

The first Worshipful Master, Sir Knight Samuel Shiels, was elected and installed and the meeting then proceeded to initiate five Sir Knights with the work of the Lecturers being carried out by two Sir Knights from RPB 99.

In September 1912 more young men were initiated into the Preceptory and one of them was a young man by the name of Norman Stronge, better known in later life as Sir Norman Stronge, Sovereign Grand Master. He

remained a member until 1945 when the family left the area to live in Tynan Abbey and he then transferred to RBP 264.

During the last 100 years the members have played a full part in the Royal Black Institution with the Preceptory providing four Sir Knights as Worshipful District Masters of Coleraine Royal Black District Chapter No 1; two Sir Knights as County Grand Masters of County Londonderry Grand Black Chapter; one Sir Knight as Assistant Sovereign Grand Master and many others holding office at District and County level.

A Special Service was held on Sunday 23rd September in Aghadowey Parish Church with a Centenary Dinner planned for Oct 5.

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Presentations



East Tyrone RBDC No 5 District Master, Sir Knt Cuthbert Mannagh, left, presents Past Master Sir Knt Jack Irwin of Kingsmills RBP No 239, Coagh with his Past Master's Certificate. RB57

Sir Knight Arthur Hanna, of RBP 122 Killinchy Link and Chain, who served as District Master of Comber District No 10 from 2011-2012. RB58



Sir Knts of Ballantine Heroes RBP No 94, Fawney Fort RBP No 143 and Foyle Defenders RBP No. 237, who attended the presentation of Long Service Jewels and certificates in Killaloo Orange Hall. Included is Most Wor Sir Knight Millar Farr, Sovereign Grand Master. RB59

'Heroes' receive Long-service Jewels

BALLANTINE Heroes Royal Black Preceptory, encamped at Killaloo held a special meeting to award long-service membership jewels to a number of Sir Knights.

Twenty-five Year Jewels were presented to Sir Knights Kenneth Houston, Arthur Donnell, Alan Miller, William Moore and Adrian

Hamilton.

Thirty Year Membership Jewels were awarded to Sir Knights William Miller, Samuel Reilly, William John Reilly, Ivan Montgomery, George Thompson and Rodney McCombe.

Forty Year Jewels were awarded to Sir Knights Allison Miller, Ivor Canning,

Alan Lindsay, Robert Lindsay, Victor Whiteside, William Ross and Robert Leslie.

Fifty Year Jewels were presented to Sir Knights William Meenagh, Matthew Poston and Hubert Connor, whilst Sir Knight Victor Thompson was awarded a Jewel for Sixty Years membership.



Pictured front row, from left, Sir Knights Stanley McFarland, Omagh District Master RBC No.4; Victor Warnock, who was presented with a 50-Year Membership Jewel; William Pinkerton with his 57-Year Membership Jewel and Sammy Scott, who was presented with a 50-Year Membership Jewel. Back row are the officers of Plumbridge Royal Black Preceptory (RBP) 1017, Sir Knights Austin Duncan, Chaplain; Ronnie Orr, WM; John Pinkerton, Treasurer and Derek Reaney, Registrar. RB55

Right: Sir Knight Stanley McFarland, Worshipful District Master of Omagh District RBC No. 4 presents Sir Knight Jim McKernan, of Plumbridge Royal Black Preceptory, with a 60-Year Membership Jewel. RB56



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Two dedicated members of Tamlaghtmore RBP 693 in Cookstown have been honoured by their Preceptory. Sir Knt Albert Bownes received a Past Master's Certificate and Jewel while Sir Knt John McIvor received a watch to mark his 32 years service as Registrar. RB61



Sir Knights of Castlewellan RBP No 15 who received Long Service Jewels, from left, Sir Knt John Brown, 40 Year Jewel; Sir Knt Thomas McNeill, 60 Year Bar; Sir Knt Trevor Hawthorne, DCGM of Down, who presented the Jewels and Sir Knt Thomas Wright, 50 Year Jewel. RB62



Sir Knights of Tobermore Olive Branch RBP No 390 have been presented with 40 Year Service Medals. Pictured, front row, are the recipients, Sir Knights Thomas Scott, Robert Stewart and Noel Henderson. Back row, Sir Knight Gregory Moore WM RBP 390; Sir Knight David Montgomery, Worshipful District Master South Londonderry No 4 District and Sir Knight David Johnston, Deputy Master, RBP 390. RB60



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Comber service

ON Sunday 7th August, Comber RBDC No 10 and Raffrey Guiding Star RBP No 1139 held a joint Divine Service in Raffrey Presbyterian Church.

The speaker was the Rev Brian Small, Minister of Raffrey and two items were sung by Newtownards and District Orange Male Voice Choir and an Anthem by the Church Choir.

Sir Knts assembled at Raffrey Orange Hall and they were escorted to and back from the church by Raffrey Pipe Band.

The offering was in aid of the Alzheimer's Society and it amounted to £500.



Killyman Temperance RBP 511 recently met to honour 11 Sir Knights of the Preceptory who had given 40, 50 and 60 Years service. The recipients were Sir Knights David Blair, George Hughes and John Hadden (60 Years); Sir Knights George Hazlett, Alan McMullan, Robert Coulter and Henry and George Courtenay (50 Years) and Sir Knights Alfred Emerson, David Gallagher and Will Patterson (40 Years). RB63



Red Cross

Left: Sir Knight Brent Diffin from RBP No 1 Tandragee is presented with his Red Cross Certificate by Sir Knight Alan Wilson, Worshipful District Master, Tandragee RBDC No1. Brent's grandfather, Worshipful Sir Knight, Robin Diffin, County Grand Registrar of County Armagh, is included in the picture. RB64



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Anniversary congratulations

THE Imperial Grand Black Chapter of the British Commonwealth congratulates the following Preceptories/Districts who will be celebrating their significant anniversaries in 2013.

We wish them continued success and God's richest Blessing for the future.

Celebrations in 2013

150 Year Celebrations (1863)

RBP 159
Niagara Falls, Canada issued on 31.08.1863

Centenary Celebrations (1913)

PRECEPTORIES
RBP 67 Donaghcloney,
Lower Iveagh District issued on 15.05.1913
RBP 353 King David's

Morning Star, Lurgan orig issued 17.02.1913 (original in Portadown). Transferred to Lurgan District 15.06.1942

RBP 873 Star of the East, Ballymacarrett District issued on 26.04.1913

RBP 890 East Belfast Volunteers, Ballynafeigh District issued on 30.10.1913, (orig Ballynafeigh No 4 District, transferred 1920 to Ballynafeigh No 7 District)

RBP 867 Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada issued on 31.01.1913

RBP 869 Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada issued on 22.04.1913

RBP 893 New Zealand issued on 12.12.1913

DISTRICT
Coleraine District No 1 issued May 1913
South Londonderry issued 1913



Sir Knt Herbie Hawthorne, Scarva RBP 1000, left, presents Sir Knight Fred Dinsmore with his 50 Year Medal. RB65



Sir Knt Herbie Hawthorne, Scarva RBP 1000, left, presents Sir Knight Mervyn Magee with his 50 Year Medal. RB66



Right: A 60 Year Jewel is presented to Sir Knight Robert McCarten of RBP 82, Armagh on the Last Saturday at Tassagh Orange Hall after a glorious day at Cookstown with East Tyrone District RBC No. 5. Pictured are, from left, Sir Knts John Herron, WM RBP 82; Robert McCarten and DM Cedric Crozier. RB71

Left: Sir Knt Herbie Hawthorne, Scarva RBP 1000, left, presents Sir Knight John Whiteside with his 50 Year Medal. RB67



Sir Knt Norman Allen, Scarva RBP 1000, left, presents Sir Knight William Flemming with his Red Cross Certificate. RB68



Sir Knt Norman Allen, Scarva RBP 1000, left, presents Sir Knight Keith Anderson with his Red Cross Certificate. RB69



Sir Knights of Tassagh Temple of Royalty RBP No 82, Armagh at the presentation of 50 Year Medals to two Sir Knights, Robert Wright and Thomas Marshall. Pictured are, front row, Sir Knts John Herron WM, Robert Wright and Thomas Marshall recipients of medals and Ronald Watt, Chaplain. Back row, Sir Knts Alex Patterson, Treasurer, Stanley McCarten, Stephen Herron, James Johnston and David Brownlee Registrar. RB70



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Banners Unfurled and Dedicated



Batt's Golden Star RBP 116, Purdysburn unfurled a new banner on 20th August, 2011. The Preceptory's new banner was unfurled exactly to the day, 44 years after the previous one. The banner was unfurled by one of the longest serving Sir Knights, Sir Knight Peter Donaldson, Preceptory Chaplain. The picture shows members of the Preceptory together with the local clergy who Dedicated the new banner. RB77



Left: Kilnacart Star of Bethlehem RBP No 882, Derrygortreavy, Co Tyrone, has Unfurling of new banner. Pictured are Most Wor Sir Knight Millar Farr, Sovereign Grand Master; Wor Sir Knight Willam Scott, Imperial Grand Registrar and Wor Sir Knight William GC Abernethy, Imperial Grand Treasurer, with Officers and Sir Knights of RBP No 882. RB78

New banner Unfurled for Ballygawley Preceptory

THERE was a good attendance at the ceremony of Unfurling and Dedication of a new banner for the Dr Moutray Memorial RBP 163 at Ballynanny Methodist Church Hall on Wednesday 15th August.

The WM RBP 163 Sir Knt Jim Patton welcomed all present and Sir Knt Harold Erskine WDM acted as Chairman. All joined to sing, "Brightly gleams our banner, pointing to the sky" and "To God be the glory" and the praise was led by Ballinamallard Accordion band.

The Rev William Newell expressed how happy he was to be back on former territory and led in prayer. The scripture lesson was read by Sir Knt the Rev Nick Cooper, RBP 194, Dundrod. The address was given by Sir Knt David Todd, RBP 163, Diocesan Lay Reader.

The presentation of scissors for the Unfurling of the banner was by Leah Maxwell and

Sam Barrett, to Sir Knt Bertie Mulligan, RBP 163, who Unfurled the new banner and the Act of Dedication was by WDC Sir Knt the Rev Geoffrey Abraham.

An address was also given by the Most Worshipful Sovereign Grand Master Sir Knt Millar Farr, QPM who said it was a pleasure to be at the Dedication of the new banner and to have the honour in taking part. The Sovereign Grand Master also congratulated the Preceptory on their new banner.

Greetings were brought by Sir Knt Robert Dane, ASGM; Sir Knt William Abernethy, Imperial Grand Treasurer and Tyrone County Grand Master; Sir Knt William Scott, Imperial Grand Registrar.

The offering, in aid of the Grand Master's Appeal 2012 for Alzheimers, was taken up by Sir Knts RN Givan and R Gilchrist.



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Family link

THE Sovereign Grand Master, Most Wor Sir Knight Millar Farr, was the Guest of Honour at the recent unfurling and dedication of a new banner for Mullaglass Link & Chain RBP No 997, Newry.

The banner was unfurled by Mrs Betty Whiteside, wife of the Worshipful Master. A historic and family link was thereby maintained as the Preceptory's first banner was unfurled by RT Wor Sir Knt Whiteside's great grandmother in 1929, when his great grandfather was the Worshipful Master.

The same scissors that were used in 1929 were used to good effect again on this occasion.

The Venerable Archdeacon RG Hoey read some passages of Scripture, Dedicated the new Banner and addressed the assembled Sir Knights and friends.



The new banner of Mullaglass Link & Chain RBP No 997. RB79

New Banner for Mount Carmel

THE Sir Knights of Mount Carmel RBP 131, Banbridge will mark yet another milestone in the history of the Preceptory on Thursday 8th August, 2013 when a new banner will be unfurled.

This will be the fifth banner the Preceptory has unfurled since the Warrant was issued to Sir Knight James Greer in 1873. The present banner was unfurled back in 1991

and was painted by Tommy Strain from Omagh, with the paintings of David and Goliath and Elijah on Mount Carmel.

The Sir Knights of RBP 131 look forward to 2013 with Most Wor Sir Knight Millar Farr, Sovereign Grand Master and Most Wor Sir Knight William J Logan MBE, PSGM among the special guests attending.

The Preceptory is led by

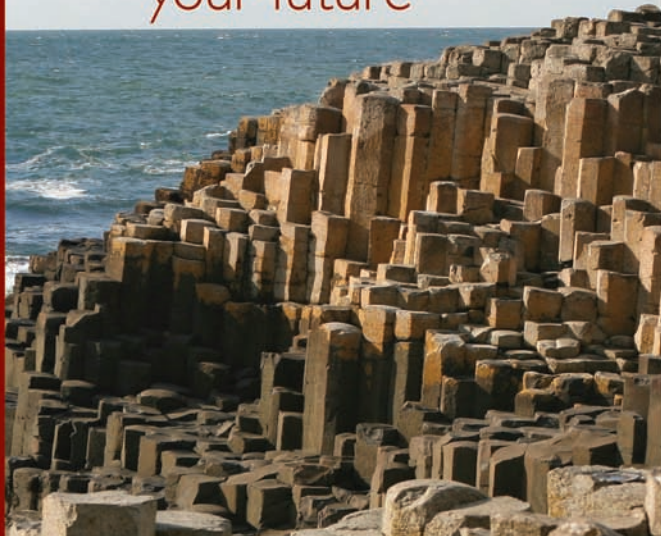
Ballycoan Flute Band on the 13th July each year, and Pride of the Birches Accordion Band has a long association with RBP 131 by leading the Preceptory for over 30 years on the Black Saturday. Both bands will be in attendance at the banner unfurling.

An invitation is extended to all Sir Knights when it is hoped that old friendships will be renewed and new friendships forged.

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Kingsmills Banner



This new banner for Kingsmills "Star of Erin" RBP239 was Unfurled in Coagh by Past Masters Sir Knights Jack Irwin and Robert Junk, who have over 100 years service between them. RB80



Officers and Sir Knights pictured at the Unfurling and Dedication of First Royals of County Down RBP 18 and Gifford True Blues RBP 66 new banners in Gifford Orange Hall. Included are Most Wor Sir Knight Millar Farr, Sovereign Grand Master and Wor Sir Knight William Scott, Imperial Grand Registrar. RB81



Officers of Aughalarque "Crimson Arrow" RBP 231 and Ochill "Lily of the Valley" RBP 727 pictured with their new banners. Also pictured are, front row, from left, the Rev Dr Robert Coulter MBE, a native of Stewartstown and the Countess and Earl of Castlestewart who Unfurled the banners. RB82

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Two Tyrone Banners

A VERY special occasion took place at Stuart Hall, Stewartstown, the home of Earl and Countess Castlestewart, in June, when two new banners were Unfurled and Dedicated for the Sir Knights of Aughalarque "Crimson Arrow" RBP 231 and Ochill "Lily of the Valley" RBP 727.

All present were welcomed by Sir Knt David Miller, DDM East Tyrone RBDC and WM RBP 231.

Chairperson for the evening was Sir Knt George Cuddy, WM RBP 727.

The proceedings opened with the singing of the Hymn "O for a closer walk with God", accompanied by Bro David Accordion Band, Ochill. This was followed by prayer by Sir Knt the Rev Dr Robert Coulter MBE PASGM and two scripture readings by Sir Knts Darren Hardy, Lay Chaplain

RBP 231 and Eric Black, Registrar, RBP 727.

The Chairman then invited Sir Knt the Rev Dr Robert Coulter MBE to Unfurl the new banner for RBP 231 and Earl Castlestewart to Unfurl the new banner for RBP 727.

Sir Knt the Rev Robert Boyd, Chaplain East Tyrone RBDC and RBP 727

Dedicated the two banners and also gave a short address.

Greetings and good wishes were extended by Most Worshipful Sir Knt Millar Farr QPM, Sovereign Grand Master of the Royal Black Institution.

The singing of the Hymn "Abide with me", accompanied by Aughalarque Accordion Band, was followed by a Vote of Thanks, proposed by Sir Knt William Abernethy, Imperial Grand Treasurer and new County Grand Master and seconded by Sir Knt Allen Burrows, DM RBP 231.



The biggest demonstration of the Last Saturday was in Ballynahinch where 5,000 Sir Knights were on parade. RB2

17,000 Sir Knights step out for Last Saturday parades

THE Royal Black Institution held parades in six locations across Northern Ireland to mark the Last Saturday.

Approximately 17,000 members of the Institution, from 390 preceptories, were on parade in the following locations:

Ballynahinch (Co Down preceptories); Larne (Co Antrim preceptories); Belfast (Belfast preceptories); Cookstown (South and East Tyrone and west Armagh preceptories); Portrush (Londonderry and Donegal preceptories); Plumbridge (west and north Tyrone preceptories).

There were opportunities at most of the venues for people to contribute to the Royal Black Charity Appeal for The Alzheimer's Society.

In the past decade the Institution has raised £420,000 for a number of different charities and this year it has chosen to support the Alzheimer's Society.

'The Black' reports from each of the locations...

BALLYNAHINCH

THE biggest demonstration of the Last Saturday was in Ballynahinch where 5,000 members of the Royal Black Institution were on parade.

A total of 113 preceptories and 100 bands took part in the parade.

The districts represented were Lower Iveagh, Lecale, Castlewellan, Newry, Banbridge, Rathfriland, Mourne, Largymore, Comber, Newtownards, Saintfield, Bangor and Ballynahinch.

A crowd of approximately 50,000 turned out to watch the parade, which was last held in Ballynahinch in 1999. Earlier this year a Flagship Twelfth demonstration was held in the town. The main procession moved off at mid-day via Spa Road, High Street, Lisburn Street, Lisburn Road and the Belfast Road. The platform proceedings began at 3pm and were Chaired by Sir Knight Colin Whiteside, County Grand Master, Down.



Officers of County Down Grand Black Chapter. RB3



Above: Standard bearers in step. RB4



Left, a flute band plays in Ballynahinch. RB5



Sandy Row Royal Black District Chapter No 3 pictured at the City Hall as they make their way to the Assembly Field. RB6

BELFAST

THE City of Belfast Grand Black Chapter demonstration was held in Belfast, for the first time ever.

Previously the Belfast parade was held in various provincial towns.

A drumhead service was held in Denmark Street at 10.30am when the Belfast Grand Master William Mawhinney was the principal speaker. The service of worship was conducted by the Rev Malcolm Anderson.

The parade moved off at 11am and the procession route was via Clifton Street, Donegall Street, Royal Avenue, Donegall Place, Donegall Square North, City Hall, Chichester Street, Victoria Street, High Street, Bridge Street, Waring Street, Lower Donegall Street, St Anne's Cathedral, Donegall Street, Royal Avenue, North Street, Peters Hill, Shankill Road, Lanark Way, Mayo Street and Ainsworth Avenue.

There were 63 preceptories on parade, including 2,300 members of the Institution. They were accompanied by 33 bands.



Looking smart for the Last Saturday in Belfast. RB7



Left, the platform party pictured in the Demonstration Field at the Last Saturday in Belfast. RB8



Sir Knights stepping it out on the way to the Demonstration Field at the Last Saturday in Belfast. RB9



Cookstown, with its long and wide street, was the ideal venue for the Last Saturday. RB10

COOKSTOWN

A TOTAL OF 72 preceptories and a similar number of bands took part in the demonstration in Cookstown.

The parade began at 12 noon and paraded via Grange Road, Tullywiggan Road, Church Street, Chapel Street, Loy Street, James Street, William Street, Oldtown Street, Milburn Street and Moneymore Road to the Demonstration Field.

The districts represented were from the Republic of Ireland, Fermanagh, Primatial, Summerisland, Killyman, Aughnacloy and East Tyrone.

There were 4,000 Sir Knights on parade.

The platform proceedings began at 2.30pm and the Chairman was Sir Knight Cuthbert Managh, East Tyrone District Master.

The principal speaker was the Rev Nigel Reid.



The George brothers -W.A. pictured left and Harold enjoy ice cream in the field at Cookstown. RB11



Pictured on the platform at the Cookstown Demonstration were from left Sir Knights William Scott County Grand Master of Armagh, Rev Nigel Reid Assistant Sovereign Grand Master, Cuthbert Managh Worshipful District Master East Tyrone and Richard Emerson Deputy County Grand Master of Tyrone. RB12



Members of the Lily of the Valley Choir drawn from Ochill RPB 727 who sang during the platform proceedings. RB13



Left: Sir Knights Armagh City Grand RBP No8. RB14



A happy exchange at Cookstown. RB15

Scarva Sham Fight spectacle



Communicate and eat! Sir Knight Alan Milligan from Portadown. RB33



Greetings from Bergen, Norway. RB34



B.P. 1000 Sir Knights on parade! RB35

THE sun shone on the annual Sham Fight at Scarva with a massive crowd enjoying the spectacle in the Co. Down village.

The annual clash between King William and King James and the massive procession through the beautiful village is now firmly established as a major tourist attraction.

Senior representatives from

the Northern Ireland Tourist Board and Tourism Ireland attended the event last year to see the spectacle for themselves. This year the special guest was the Northern Ireland Secretary of State Owen Paterson and the Tourism Minister Arlene Foster.

Last year a survey was carried out at the Sham Fight on behalf of the Institution.

A team of 15 researchers interviewed 559 people who were spectators along different parts of the parade route.

Of those interviewed, 52.8% came from Co. Armagh, 24.3% from Co. Down, 10.7% from Antrim, 5% from Co. Londonderry and 1.1% came from outside Northern Ireland.

Twenty six per cent of the male spectators interviewed

were in the Orange Order and 6% of the women belonged to the Women's Orange Institution. Twelve per cent of the men watching the parade were in the Royal Black Institution.

Only 5% of spectators interviewed were making their first trip to the Sham Fight and 63% had been there every year for the previous five



Above: A section of the capacity crowd which packed Scarva for the annual Sham Fight. RB36



Left: King James is defeated at Scarva - again!! RB37

Below: All lived happily ever after! RB38



is still a resounding success!



Wor Sir Knt William Abernethy, Imperial Grand Treasurer; Most Wor Sir Knt Millar Farr, Sovereign Grand Master; the Rt Hon Owen Paterson, MP, Secretary of State and Wor Sir Knt William Scott, Imperial Grand Registrar, at Scarva. RB39



Coleraine Royal Black District Chapter No 1. RB43



Yvonne McDonnell & daughter Grace from Ballinderry. RB40



Enjoying Scarva. RB41



Drumderg band from Keady stepping out in style at Scarva. RB44

Photographs by:
Rowland White



County Armagh Royal Black Chapter. RB42

years. Ninety-seven per of people said they would return in 2012.

When asked which part of the day they enjoyed the most 67% said the parade, 18% the social aspect and 10% the music.

The Sovereign Grand Master, Millar Farr, said the survey had given the Royal Black Institution a lot of valuable information.

The organisation of the Sham Fight is the responsibility of Royal Black Perceptory 1000, who work painstakingly to ensure that everything goes according to plan. Each year there are 3,000 members of the Royal Black Institution on parade, accompanied by about 80 bands. King William is played by John Adair and King James by Colin Cairns, both members of RBP 1000.



Markethill District Officers. RB45

Scarva 2012 DVDs
are available to purchase from
the Royal Black Institution
Headquarters, Brownlow House,
Lurgan at a cost of £5 each (if
collected), £6 (if posted).



The platform party at the County Antrim Grand Black Chapter Demonstration in Larne. RB16

LARNE

EIGHTY preceptories took part in the demonstration in Larne.

The parade assembled at Bridge Street and made its way via High Street, Upper

Main Street, Main Street, Curran Road, Bay Road, Chain Memorial Road, and Rugby Road to Sandy Bay Playing Fields.

The preceptories came from six districts - Lisburn, Ballymena, Antrim, Larne,

Ballymoney and Ballyclare.

There were 78 bands and 3,000 members of the Royal Black Institution on parade.

The platform proceedings began at 3pm under the Chairman, Sir Knt Paul Gregg, Larne District Master. The preacher at the service of worship was Sir Knt the Rev Robert Campbell, Co. Antrim.

The demonstration was last held in Larne in 2006.



Sir Knight John Crothers (District Lay Chaplain, Ballyclare District No 6) pictured with his grandson Aaron Duncan at the "Last Saturday" in Larne. RB19



Antrim District No 3 office bearers at picturesque Larne. RB17



Ballymena District No 2 office bearers. RB18



Larne District No 4 Office Bearers pictured prior to leaving the Demonstration Field at Larne. RB20

PLUMBRIDGE

THE Last Saturday demonstration was held in the Tyrone town of Plumbridge, for the first time since 1958.

There were approximately 1,000 members of the Royal Black Institution on parade, in 24 preceptories and accompanied by 22 bands.

The parade started at 1pm and moved via Glenelly Road, Main Street and Ligford Road to the Demonstration Field.

The districts on parade were Strabane, Castlederg and Omagh.

The platform proceedings began at 2.45pm and the Chairman was Sir Knight Stanley McFarland, Omagh District Master.

The service of worship was conducted by the Rev Ivan Dinsmore and the Guest Speaker was the Sovereign Grand Master of the Royal Black Institution, Most Worshipful Sir Knight Millar Farr.

Right: Large crowds turned out to watch the Last Saturday in Plumbridge. RB22



The parade passes Plumbridge Orange Hall on its way to the village at the demonstration field at Plumbridge. RB21



Sir Knight James McKernan, of Plumbridge Ark of Safety RBP 1017 for 60 years, took part in the Plumbridge parade. RB23



Sir Knts of Cloughfin RBP 58, from left, Ronald Oldcroft, Cyril Dixon, William Pauley, Irwin Anderson and William Hetherington. RB24



Most Wor Sir Knight Millar Farr, Sovereign Grand Master, pictured with Officers and visiting dignitaries at the head of the parade in Plumbridge. RB25



Officers of No. 1 District RBP, Coleraine, march through the streets of Portrush on the Last Saturday. RB26



Members of the Knights of the Bann RBP 37, Coleraine, ready for the off. RB28



Above: A Sir Knight whistles a merry tune on parade in Portrush. RB30

Below: Sir Knights Robert Moore, Billy Dougan, Sammy Watt and Mervyn Stewart, from Garvagh, enjoyed the Portrush parade. RB32

PORTRUSH

THE demonstration in Portrush saw 36 preceptories representing districts in Raphoe, South Londonderry, City of Londonderry and Coleraine. The parade was last held in Portrush in 1987.

Thirty-four bands accompanied the parade which began at mid-day and marched via Eglinton Street, Kerr Street, Ramore Avenue, Landsdown Road, Bath Street, Main Street and Causeway Street to the Demonstration Field.

The platform proceedings began at 2pm and the Chairman was Sir Knt Ivan Kelly, County Grand Master of Londonderry.

The principal speaker was Very Wor Sir Knight Robert Dane, Assistant Sovereign Grand Master.



Wor Sir Knt William Campbell, father of Olympic rowing medallist Alan, on parade at the Last Saturday in Portrush. Sir Knight Campbell is a Past Assistant Sovereign Grand Master. RB31



Former Mayor of Ballymoney, Alderman and Sir Knt Cecil Cousley. RB27



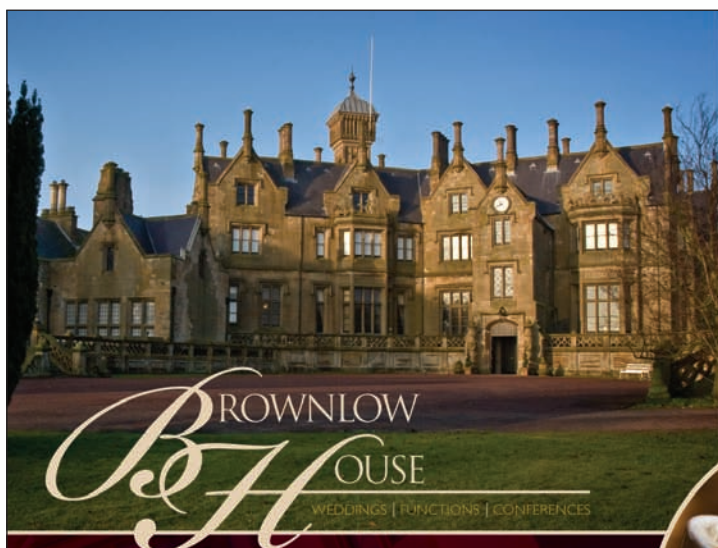
Old friends Ronnie Orr and Alfie Gurney catch up in Portrush on the Last Saturday. RB29



Sir Knights from RBP 34 who received their Red Cross certificates. Front row, from left, Sir Knight David McConnell (Lecturer), Deputy District Master; Sir Knight John Hanna; Sir Knight Samuel Baird; Sir Knight Rea McConnell; Sir Knight David Shields; Sir Knight Trevor McKibbin, Worshipful District Master; Sir Knight Robert George Graham; Sir Knight Newell Edgar (Lecturer). Missing from the photograph is Sir Knight Ivan Gordon.RB53

RED CROSSES

The presentation of Certificates has taken place to Sir Knights of the Star of the East RBP No 251. Pictured are, back row, from left, Sir Knight Brian Heaney, Sir Knight Simon Stevenson, Sir Knight Graham Annett, Sir Knight Richard McKee, Sir Knight Timothy Burden and Sir Knight Nicky Scott. Front row, from left, 2nd Lecturer Sir Knight Charles Martin, Deputy Master Sir Knight David Annett, Worshipful Master Sir Knight Robert McConnell and 1st Lecturer Sir Knight Stanley Martin. RB54



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Red Cross certificates have been presented to Sir Knights of Erin's First Royal Blues RBP No 1. From left, WDM Sir Knight Alan Wilson presents a Red Cross certificate to Sir Knight Thomas Brownlee; WM Sir Knight Timothy McClelland to Sir Knight George Quinn and DM RBP No 1 Sir Knight Richard Whitten to Sir Knight Keith Ratcliffe. RB72



Left: Erin's First Royal Blues RBP No 1 WM, Sir Knight Timothy McClelland, presents a 50-Year Medal to Sir Knight Jim Neill. RB73

Right: Sir Knt Robert Martin WM and Sir Knt Ian Ward DM who presented Sir Knt Teddy Carey with a plaque and certificate in recognition of the outstanding achievement of 65 years membership of County Down's Skeogh Royal Black Preceptory No 1072, 10th April 1947-2012. RB75



Right: Sir Knight Freddie Burke (left) receiving his Red Cross Certificate from Sir Knight Gamble Moore, WM of RPB 416 Glentimon, Sion Mills on the morning of Black Saturday in the new Glentimon Orange Hall. RB74



Reflections

I CAN'T help noticing that every time I go to the barber the hair that lands on the floor seems to have more gray in it. I've tried convincing myself that it is getting mixed up with someone else's...but that's just wishful thinking! It happens to all of us - quickly or slowly - when we're younger or when we're older...that is if we hang on to it at all!

The Bible tells us in Proverbs 16:31, "The hoary [or grey] head is a crown of glory". So we shouldn't really look on it as such a bad thing.

The Psalmist in Psalm 71:18 pleads: "Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come". The Psalmist sees the passing of the years in his hair and this acts as a spur to him. He declines to succumb to age or melancholy, but rather feels challenged and so cries for help. He wants enablement to tell others about the Lord. This desire is not limited to his own generation - we read that he looks to the future and wants others to know - that means he wants us to know.

So what is his message? It comes straight from the Bible, God's Word to us. It is our standard. It is our rule of faith and practice. This compilation of books is centred on Jesus Christ: who he is, why he came, and what he did.

Who He Is: Jesus is the eternal son of God, the second person of the Trinity, or as it is summed up in Matthew 1:23, "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." Why He Came: Jesus came as a substitute - as sinners we cannot stand before God who is pure and holy because of our sin. What He Did: Jesus suffered and died in the place of sinners, and that means everyone because "...all have sinned and come short of the glory of God!" (Romans 3:23) Jesus died the agonising, horrific death of crucifixion so that we could obtain salvation. John 3:16-17 states, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

This most precious of gifts can be accepted by repentance and faith. We must abhor our sin, and turn to Christ asking him to forgive and accept us into his family. It is all about Jesus and what he has done. And when Christ has saved us from our sin we can wholeheartedly join with our Protestant forefathers in doing everything to the glory of God - Soli Deo Gloria.

We may well feel just a little overwhelmed by this challenge to do everything to God's glory, but the Apostle Paul gives encouragement in 2 Corinthians 4:5-7: "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord...that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." This means we simply do what we can in our families, communities, and globally, to the very best of our ability. Our involvement with the hospital in Kiwoko, Uganda, or the 20,000 tracts that have been printed to mark the Ulster Covenant of 1912, should encourage us that we can do something.

**Wor Sir Knt the Rev Robert Campbell,
County Antrim Grand Chaplain.**

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Black Institution praised for demonstration Open Letter

THERE was wide praise for the Royal Black Institution's Open Letter following the events of the Last Saturday demonstration in Belfast.

The Institution showed a true Christian spirit by reaching out to people of another faith.

While standing firm to the principles of the Reformed Faith, the Institution apologised to the clergy and parishioners of St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church and in so doing helped calm a tense situation in Belfast.

OPEN LETTER

THE Royal Black Institution wishes to respond to comments made following the Last Saturday demonstration in Belfast on August 25.

The Belfast demonstration consisted of 63 preceptories and 33 bands. The "contentious" part of the route, as defined by the Parades Commission, consisted of approximately 200 yards, past mostly commercial premises and a Catholic Church, on a main arterial route into the city centre.

Throughout Northern Ireland that day, a total of 390 preceptories, including 17,000 members of the Royal Black Institution - and bands - paraded at six locations.

The City of Belfast Grand Black Chapter had never previously held its Last Saturday demonstration in the city. This was a special parade to mark the centenary of the signing of the Ulster Covenant. Each year their Last Saturday parade is held outside Belfast and that arrangement will resume next year, as planned.

Through its stand for the Reformed Christian Faith, the Royal Black Institution has doctrinal differences with the Roman Catholic Church but we want to make it absolutely clear that the anger of the Royal Black Institution is not directed at St. Patrick's Church. We apologise for any offence to the clergy and parishioners of St. Patrick's Church.

We have always had good lines of communication with the Roman Catholic Church

and we would intend to continue to maintain and consolidate these, away from the public gaze.

The sense of injustice and hurt felt by the members of the Royal Black Institution is focussed on the Parades Commission and its irrational and often irresponsible determinations.

Parading is embedded in the DNA of the Protestant community but the Parades Commission has shown an appalling lack of understanding about what that means.

They consistently pander to the demands of people who have gone out of their way to be offended and whose aim is to remove all traces of the Reformed Christian Faith and cleanse Protestant culture from society.

The Institution calls on our politicians to remove the Parades Commission, an unelected quango, and to have it replaced within a democratic framework where decisions will be held accountable to the people.

To that end we are hoping to have an early meeting with the Northern Ireland Secretary of State to repeat our message that the current Parades Commission is a major hindrance to the development of democracy within this country. We have asked to meet the leaders of the three unionist parties in the Northern Ireland Assembly to enlist their support in bringing about the demise of the Parades Commission. We have also requested meetings with Protestant church leaders to give them an insight into the strength of feeling on the ground. The Royal Black Institution is founded on Christian principles and all of our processions are to and from an act of worship.

Our Institution is determined to play its full part in civic society and make Northern Ireland a peaceful and prosperous part of the United Kingdom, where cultural diversity is respected.

**Millar Farr, Sovereign
Grand Master
William Scott, Grand
Registrar**



In celebrating 400 years of the King James version of the Bible, St Vindic's Parish Church, Tynan, Co Armagh was recently presented with a copy of the King James version of the Bible by Portadown RBP District Chapter No 5. The Bible was Dedicated in memory of the late Rev Tom Taylor, a former Rector of the Parish and Chaplain to Portadown District. Pictured are Mrs Hilary Taylor, her son John (extreme left), her daughter Judy (second left), Sir Knt Robert Wallace WDM, the Rev Matthew Hagan and Sir Knt Raymond Walker DDM. Also in attendance at the Dedication were representatives of RBP No 25. RB76

Markethill WM in Canadian visit

THE Worshipful Master of "Grip Fast The Light" RBP 54, Markethill, Sir Knight Andrew Spence, was in Canada in early April 2012 and took the opportunity to attend a meeting of "The Temple" RBP 292 in Toronto.

The meeting was held in the County Orange Hall on

Tuesday evening, 3rd April and Sir Knight Spence thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

He presented gifts to the Preceptory and in addition, he received a 150th Anniversary Medallion of the Toronto County Orange Parade.

*Come now and let
us reason together,
saith the Lord:
though your sins be
as scarlet, they
shall be as white as
snow; though they
be red like crimson,
they shall be as
wool.*

ISAIAH 1, V. 18



Collarettes and Cuffs Dedicated for Enniskillen RBDC

Above: Enniskillen Royal Black District Chapter No 1 had a Dedication Of Collarettes and Cuffs in Ballinamallard. The DDM Sir Knight Robert Keys welcomed everyone and the District Master Sir Knight David Black gave a short history of the Chapter pointing out it was 27 years since the last regalia was purchased. A collection in aid of Alzheimer's amounted to £703.45. Photo: Valerie McMorris. RB87



Enniskillen Chosen Few RBP No 36. RB88

Gifts presented

ENNISKILLEN Chosen Few RBP No 36 had a very pleasant and Informative evening in Enniskillen District Orange Hall recently.

A Service of Dedication took place for Sir Knights and friends who were interested in the Institution.

These days the Preceptory has the assistance of Wor Sir Knight John Trimble, Deputy District Lecturer; Rt Wor Sir Knight Cecil Brownlee, Deputy County Grand Lecturer and Rt Wor Sir Knight Robert Dane, Assistant Sovereign Grand Master, who was congratulated on the evening by the Preceptory.

In earlier years the Preceptory was the largest in Fermanagh with a membership of 275 Sir Knights. The years have brought many changes, yet RBP 36 is still called by some the "Mother Preceptory" in the County.

Wor Sir Knight Robert Donaldson PM presented new Table Covers to the WM, Sir

Knight Geoff Woods for use in Ceremonial work.

Rt Wor Sir Knight the Rev William Anderson, PASGM, Dedicated the Table Covers along with six Collarettes and two Cuffs.

ADVERTISING

Thanks to all those who have kindly supported this issue of "The Black" through advertisements. Please give them your support. If you would like to advertise in future issues of this supplement, please contact Headquarters: at 028 3832 2518 or by e-mail at: info@royalblack.org for a quotation.

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Booklet launch and cheque presentations

ON Friday 25th May 2012 at Belfast Orange Hall Clifton Street the 2012

A Demonstration Booklet was launched by the City of Belfast Grand Black Chapter at Belfast Orange Hall.

This year's booklet is an A3 Covenant Centenary special edition. The booklet contains 100 pages of educational, informative, challenging and interesting content all for the extremely low price of £3.

Sir Knt Ed Spence, the Convenor of the Booklet Committee, presented the City Grand Master with the first booklet.

As in previous years the City Grand Chapter used the booklet launch to present various cheques.

This year the cheques were presented to:

- * City of Belfast Black Benevolent Fund by Sir Knight Andrew Johnston. Received by Sir Knight Ronald Walker, Chairman of the Fund.

- * City of Belfast Loyal Orange Widows Fund by Sir Knight Steven Gallagher. Received by Wor Brother Robert McCallister.

- * Lord Enniskillen Memorial Orange Orphan Society by Sir Knight Thomas Hefferon. Received by Sir Knight Rev Mervyn Bishop.

- * No 7 RBDC by Wor Sir Knight William Elliott. Received by Sir Knight Edward Totten.

Arising from one of the action plans adopted by the City Grand Chapter was the revival of the Annual Scripture Quiz. The scripture quiz was relaunched this year for children up to the age of 12.

The winners were Kai Hefferon and Rhianon Young. Both were present at the booklet launch and received their shield and prizes.



Below: A charity cheque for £250 is presented to Guide Dogs for the Blind by the PWDM Lower Iveagh District RBP No 1, Sir Knight William Hobson, realised at collections during meetings in his term of office. Photo courtesy of Dromore Leader. RB90

Cheque presentations



Sir Knight William Magee, Treasurer of RBP 312, Lurgan, presents £300 to Margaret Gordon for Marie Curie nurses. Included are officers, Sir Knights Norman Cullen, Isaac Douglas and Tommy Matthews. A cheque for £300 was also presented to Lurgan Hospital for the care and comfort of patients. RB89

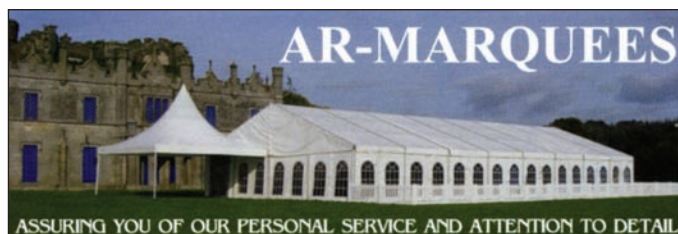
Ballygawley Annual District Service

THE annual Aughnacloy Royal Black, Chapter No3. Annual District Service was held in St James' parish Church, Aughnacloy in August at which there was a large attendance of Sir Knights.

The Sir Knights assembled at the Fingerpost and marched to and from the church headed by Loughans Accordion Band. The District Bannerette was carried by Sir Knight Stephen Erskine and Flag

Bearers Sir Knights, Victor Brush and David Allen, members of Ballygawley RBP 281.

The service was conducted by the Rev Dr William Long, assisted by Bro Gary Lee.



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RBP 393 The Birches pictured on the morning of the Last Saturday, 2012. The Preceptory photograph includes visitors and was taken as a memento to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. RB91

Irvinestown parade

MEMBERS of the Royal Black Institution from Fermanagh and the Republic's border counties were on parade in Irvinestown on Saturday 4th August for their traditional mid-August demonstration.

Forty preceptories and bands from three Fermanagh districts and from counties Cavan, Monaghan and Donegal assembled at Lack Road before parading to the Demonstration Field at Lisnarick

Road.

Platform proceedings took the form of a religious service with the main speakers the Institution's Deputy Grand Master, Sir Knt Robert Dane and Canon William Johnston.

Royal Black Services held

ARDESS "Crimson Star" Royal Black Preceptory No 463 held their annual Anniversary Service and parade to St Mary's Parish Church, Kesh, Co Fermanagh.

The service was conducted by Sir Knight Kenneth Rutledge, of Lisbellaw "Crimson Arrow" RBP No 392.

The scripture lessons were read by Sir Knight Ashley Knox, Registrar of Ardess and Sir Knight Rutledge and the offering for the LEMOOS was taken up by Sir Knight David Black, District Master of Enniskillen District RBC No 1 and Sir Knight Paul Stevenson, Deputy Grand Lecturer of County Fermanagh Grand Black Chapter.

After the return parade, tea was served in Ardess Black Hall and Sir Knight Thompson Anderson, District Master of South Donegal District RBC

No 3 extended thanks.

Castlederg District Royal Black Chapter No 6 had a good turnout of members and visitors for their annual Parade and Anniversary Service in Castlederg Methodist Church.

The Rev John Beacom conducted the service.

Prior to the service the parade assembled in the Albert Street car park under the command of Sir Knight Jim Emery, District Chaplain.

During the service the offering for the LEMOOS was taken up by Sir Knight Wilson Henry, Past Master of Necarne RBP No 1236 and Sir Knight Addison Stevenson, Registrar of Tubrid "Royal Marksmen" RBP No 1235.

The District Standard Bearer was Sir Knt Steven Patterson.

Castlederg District Master Sir Knight Harry Monteith proposed the Vote of Thanks.

Praise for Pomeroy RBP

A GOOD turnout of the local Royal Black Preceptory No 259 headed by Kilnaslee Pipe Band attended the Royal Black Demonstration held this year in Cookstown.

On their return home all paraded from Dungannon crossroads to the Presbyterian carpark and dispersed following the playing of the National Anthem. Mulnagore RBP

was headed by their accordion band while Pomeroy True Blues Flute Band led Aughtintober RBP and Sandholes Accordion Band led Donaghrisk RBP.

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Officers, Sir Knights and Guests at the Unfurling and Dedication of a Past Master's Board for Macosquin Smith's Defenders RBP No 256. RB92

Solomon's Temple foundation stone is in Macosquin!

A Past Masters' Board was Unfurled by the Most Wor Sir Knight Millar Farr, Sovereign Grand Master and the County Grand Master, Wor Sir Knight Ivan Kelly, at the Installation Night of Macosquin Smith's Defenders RBP No 256.

After a lot of research through Minute books and a visit to Brownlow House by the Treasurer, Sir Knight Mark Kelly, he was able to get all the Past Masters from 1878 - 2011.

It was then decided to have a Past Masters board painted by Kenny Warke Acme Sign Co. of Coleraine to go up in the hall. (Thanks to Alison in Brownlow House for all her help)

The Sovereign Grand Master spoke on the amount of work that had been done in marking the Past Masters back to 1878.

Sir Knight the Rev Keith McIntyre DGC, who is also the Preceptory Chaplain, Dedicated the new Board.

Following the Installation of Officers, the Sovereign Grand Master and the WDM Sir Knight Samuel Calvin presented Long Service Jewels and Bars.

Sir Knights Ivor McPherson received a 50 Year Bar; Hugh Caskey, Thomas Hunter, Jim McIntyre, Douglas Nevin and David Taylor 30/40 Year Bars (Sir Knights William Black, Robert Kennedy and Jim Watson were unable to attend); Sir Knight Kenneth Hutchinson, DM, with his 30



The Mallet which is part of the foundation stone of Solomon's Temple. RB94

Year Bar (Sir Knight William Black was unable to attend) and Sir Knights Marcus Kerr, George Blair, DGC and the Rev Keith McIntyre with 20 Year Jewels and Bars.

After the meeting all went on to St Mary's Parish Church Hall for a sit down meal, at which the Rev Roemmele Dedicated two swords to be used by Macosquin Smith's Defenders RBP 256 and Macosquin LOL 310.

Afterwards, the Treasurer, Sir Knight Mark Kelly, showed all present a Mallet in a wooden case and explained the history behind it. He recalled that on Monday 20th March 1944, Sir Knight Humphrey Baillie sent a gift of a Mallet from the Middle East while on active service. The Mallet was made of a piece of stone from the Jews Wailing, a wall in Jerusalem that is alleged is the foundation stone of Solomon's Temple.

The Mallet was put in a case to be displayed. The cost of the case was 17 shillings and 6p (around 87p).

Events

* Friday 2nd November 2012

Ballymoney Town Hall

8.00pm

Variety Concert

Compere: William Knox

Various marching

bands and singers

Admission £5

* RBP 26 Peels Chosen Few "Songs of Praise Evening" in Ballyrea Orange Hall on Sunday 18th November at 7.30pm.

* On Friday 30th November Mr George Conn (Faith Mission) is coming to the Golden Star Temperance RBP 979 Preceptory Hall in Castlecaulfield to tell "The Harry Ferguson Story", talking about his Life, Works and Faith. Supper will be served and a retiring offering will be taken for the Grand Master's Appeal and The Faith Mission.

* RBP 18 and RBP 66 Gilford Annual Songs of Praise Service in Tullylish Parish Church on Sunday 24th February, 2013 at 7.30pm

* The Red Star of Drumcree RBP 30 held a Harvest Service and Supper in Drumena Black Hall, Dungannon Road, Portadown on Friday 28th September at 8pm. The Preacher was Sir Knight the Rev William Anderson and the Service was led by Sir Knight Cecil Allen. Proceeds were in aid of the Alzheimer's Society.

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Golden Star Temperance RBP 979, Castlecaulfield pictured at Brownlow House on 24th February, 2012. The Preceptory, formed in 1918, held their Election of Officers and was delighted to be joined by the Most Wor Sir Knight Millar Farr, Sovereign Grand Master and the Officers of Killyman Royal Black District No1 on the historic occasion. RB86

Donegal RBC Service

MEMBERS of the Royal Black Institution from Fermanagh and Tyrone travelled to Rossnowlagh in County Donegal for the Annual Anniversary Service, hosted by South Donegal District Royal Black Chapter No.3 in St John's Parish Church.

Prior to the service, the parade assembled on the Ballyshannon Road and marched to the church led by Moynes Pipe Band.

The service was conducted by the Rev Ian Henderson, former President of the Methodist Church in Ireland, who welcomed the members of the host district and all the visitors.

The lessons were read by Sir Knt Andrew Boyd, Lay Chaplain of South Donegal District and Sir Knt Philip Anderson, Deputy District Standard-bearer and the offering for the LEMOOS was taken up by Sir Knt Robinson Crawford, Registrar of Ballintra "Chosen Few" RBP No 128 and Sir Knt David Graham, a member of Moynes and Laghey "Star of Peace" RBP No397. The organist was Mrs Daphne Elliott.

Sir Knight raises funds for Uganda

SIR Knight Joe Moorhead, WDM Rathfriland District No 7, took part in a trip to Uganda from 20th January to 4th February this year as part of the Fields of Life Hope team to build an addition to a secondary school, dormitories and a large store.

This school was started by the Hope builders two years previously, when cooking pots were supplied to the school on behalf of the Rathfriland District.

It was here that Joe met up with Roger Annett from Kilkeel, a former Hope builder who started an orphanage just two miles from the school in Nakansagola.

Joe was asked by Roger to repair an old motorcycle which was used for outreach work and to carry children to hospital for check-



Roger Annett receives the motorcycle from Sir Knight Joe Moorhead. RB85

ups and treatment.

The motorcycle was in bad repair but was running... just! Joe decided to raise £800 to purchase a reliable motorcycle for Roger and put out a plea to friends,

neighbours and workmates and with a month had £2,500 collected!

As a result he purchased a Honda Varadero 125 complete with some spares, for example tyres, brake

pads, filters and cables.

Joe extends thanks to all who gave donations, which he says have made a vast difference to a lot of children in Uganda.

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It's a family affair at Montober RBP!



Montober Royal Black Preceptory is certainly a family affair! Montober RBP 598 is encamped in Montober Orange Hall, about five miles west of Cookstown and belongs to East Tyrone District Number 5. In the picture are three grandfathers, 21 fathers and 28 sons. RB95



Scottish Sir Knights

Left: Officers and Sir Knights of RBP No 476, taken after this year's Provincial Grand Black Chapter of Scotland Celebrations in Govan. RB96

Wishaw plays host

THE Sir Knights of Wishaw Knights of Saint Andrew RBP 476, Scotland is hosting several events over the coming months.

Firstly the Preceptory is holding a fundraising Bingo Evening on Friday 19th October at 7pm.

The Annual Ball of RBP 476 is this year being held on Saturday 24th November. As

in previous years the Preceptory is pleased to be hosts to the Glencairn Dance Team from Co Antrim who will demonstrate the opening and closing ceremonies of a traditional Black Ball.

Lastly the very popular Senior Members Annual Dinner takes place on Saturday 19th January 2013.

Annual Burns Supper

MOTHERWELL RBDC No 6 will be holding their Annual Burns Supper in Motherwell Orange Hall on Saturday 12th January 2013.

Amongst the invited guests are Sir Knight Alan Goody, Past Assistant Sovereign Grand Master; Sir Knight JG

McLean, Provincial Grand Master and Sister Rhona Gibson, Grand Mistress, Ladies Orange Association Of Scotland.

This is always a popular event and this year the tickets are priced at £5 each.



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Volunteers' life-changing trip

THE Royal Black Institution sent a team of volunteers to Uganda to help a hospital which has special links to Northern Ireland.

The Institution made a community-based hospital in Uganda its designated charity for 2010 and sent 20 volunteers to work there for three weeks in the Summer of 2011. They provided a wide range of skills to support the hospital.

Kiwoko Hospital is a community-based facility of 245 beds in the Luwero area of Uganda and was chosen by the Institution to benefit from fundraising over the year.

Kiwoko Hospital was opened in 1988 by Dr Ian Clarke, formerly from Bangor in Co. Down. He became the only doctor to tens of thousands of people in an area, half the size of Northern Ireland.

The Kiwoko Hospital is a Christian-based centre, which also has a special dedicated mission, helping to spread the Christian message in the area. The motto of the hospital is "We treat, Jesus saves".

These are some of the comments from Royal Black Sir Knights and volunteers who helped at the Kiwoko Hospital...

Sir Knight Andy McRoberts, Banbridge RBP District No 6: "I belong to Banbridge RBP District No 6 and was District Master for three years. It was during my term as District Master that the idea of a trip going out to Kiwoko was mentioned. I had considered it at the time but due to work commitments was unable to do more about it. It wasn't until later on that I finally decided to go.

"The group consisted of 17 men from across Northern Ireland. At first I was a bit nervous as I did not know any of the other men that were going out, but that was soon to change as we all got on so well and we made friends so quick.

"There was a team of builders, mechanics, some electricians and a few farmers. Everyone soon got to know what sort of job they were there to do and we all got started.

"We had to do some work in the theatre

inside the hospital. We changed plugs for them and put in new emergency lights so that the doctors in the theatre could still work if the electric went off. We had to be in the theatre at 7am to get the work finished before the doctors' day would begin. There were oxygen machines needed for the theatre and premature baby unit that were not working and some of the extra money that we all got from the sponsorship helped buy new machines and it was lovely to see these machines being used for the small babies.

"Personally, it gave me such a good feeling to see the babies and children that we could make such a change to their lives with the stuff we brought out with us and the work we did to help. It was just amazing."

Sir Knight Keith Black, Ahoghill RBP 173: "I have decided to talk about a typical day in Kiwoko as part of the Royal Black Institutions team to Uganda in 2011.

"A working day began early with breakfast and then off to Morning Worship held in either the Hospital Canteen with the Doctors, Nurses and staff or with the builders at a container in the hospital grounds. This gave us a good chance to interact with those round us and be part of their everyday hospital life.

"After morning worship it was off to work, during which we got the chance to go out and see how the people of Uganda go about their lives how they live and work and it was such a blessing to be able to tell them who we were and where we had come from.

"Tea break and lunch gave us a time to rest during the day and with such a warm climate we really needed it with temperatures hitting nearly 40 degrees on the warmest day, but that still didn't stop us from having a good cup of tea.

"After the working day was done we usually had the chance to go to student prayer meetings or meet with the key people that play such a big part in the hospital. This was such an encouragement to us and to them as well, as we got to share a lot about ourselves and the Institution."

Ian McCafferty: "Arriving in Entebbe and traveling to Kiwoko was a mind-opening experience in itself, seeing the poverty and the numbers of people lining the sides of the road was amazing and really quite humbling.

"Working with the locals, meeting and getting to know a little bit of their culture, language, life style, attitudes to life and their sense of humour was very fulfilling and great fun.

"At Goshen School, I felt despair that so many children are orphans and abandoned, but the work of the school and the care and education they are getting is an inspiration.

"While I found some of it emotionally difficult and challenging, I really enjoyed the trip and seeing the work that is being done at Kiwoko."

Tommy McAllister: "I helped carry out maintenance checks and essential repairs to ambulances and to mini-buses, which the hospital use to transport patients and to provide medical care to people living in the bush.

"Our visit to Goshen Primary School was inspiring. Some of the children there are orphans and although they were happy with the care they were given, it was lovely to see their pleasure in the few gifts we brought with us.

"It was also very moving to watch as a family had fun choosing clothes they liked from a selection of second hand items

"The most enjoyable activity was handing out gifts which we brought for the local children. They were thrilled with the skipping-ropes, bouncy balls and frisbees but their favourites were the football kits and balloons!

"Although it was quite a tiring few days it was a privilege to meet and work with such lovely people.

"The purpose of my visit to Uganda was to help the people there and hopefully I did, but they taught me to appreciate the important things in life."

Alan Goody: "The need here is appalling. Everywhere you turn there is squalor, poverty dirt and disease. The people are delighted to have a doctor and the response has been overwhelming.

"The main work project was the building of two houses, essentially required to attract doctors to the hospital. However our group's talent was further put to good use in upgrading the electrical system and repairing various forms of transport.

"No matter where you are in Uganda you are never far from their children. They love the Muzungu (pale visitor) always coming to welcome us. They are such a happy wonderful people, who whilst they have nothing, they want for nothing.

"May God continue to bless them as they do His work at Kiwoko Hospital, Uganda."

Alex Skuce (Age 16): "At times, life may throw difficulties at us and we may think we have nothing at all, but compared to people in Kiwoko, we have everything we need. Nothing will prepare you for the reality of how these people live.

"I had a life-changing experience during my time in Uganda. During our stay we were building accommodation for doctors and nurses to help attract them to the remote hospital of Kiwoko. The work was physically demanding in the heat but despite this the team worked exceptionally well together, guided by the team leader, Ian McCafferty.

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Above and below, Sir Knts and guests of RBP 206 Liverpool pictured in "The Field" at their annual demonstration in Southport. RB83 and 84



Blackskull charity walk

TO help raise money for the 2012 designated charity Alzheimer's Society, members of Blackskull Star of Liberty RBP 95, Co Down, are planning a sponsored walk/cycle on Saturday 13th October.

The Sir Knights will set off from Blackskull Orange Hall and hope

to visit every hall within No1 District that has a Preceptory attached to it.

Half of the route will be on foot and the remainder on bicycle.

All Sir Knights from the surrounding area and beyond are encouraged to come along and lend their support.

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