

## The people of Japan assist St John



*Members of St John Bloemfontein proudly show off their new ambulance*

Thanks to the generosity of the Japanese Government, the people of Japan and NTT Nissan Bloemfontein, members of our volunteer Brigade in the Free State now have an additional ambulance with which to serve local communities.

The donation of the Nissan 2.5L Diesel LWB vehicle, valued at R498 000, was made possible through the Grass Roots Human Security Project of Japan. After initially applying for funds in 2015, the dream finally became a reality in 2016. However, during the year long waiting period, the cost of purchasing the vehicle here in South Africa had increased somewhat owing to a shift in the exchange rate. That is when NTT Nissan in Bloemfontein came to St John's rescue. They generously added an additional R30 000 and the deal was sealed!



*Centre Chairman, Richard Marston, Alan Engelbrecht (Nissan Bloemfontein) and Rt Rev Mahlapo*

VIP members of the surrounding community joined the St John family at the blessing of the new ambulance. The Rt Reverend Lazarus Mohapi led the dedication at the Cathedral of St Andrew & St Michael.

St John Bloemfontein now has two ambulances that can be used to attend local events including school sports meetings, music festivals and the farmers' market, as well as provide a much-needed patient transfer service between homes, hospitals and oncology divisions. St John Bloemfontein currently has 65 active members who make up two youth divisions and two adult divisions.

# Christmas at Stella Londt means a time to give



*Santa's Elves arrive at Ekuphumleni. From left to right Nomvuyo Ngwabana (Ekuphumleni Home), Roger Trollip, Daphney Mtyenene and Marlene Reid (Stella Londt)*

Residents and staff of the St John Stella Londt Retirement Centre ensured that their fellow 'oldies' at the Ekuphumleni Retirement Home in Zwide weren't forgotten this past festive season.



*Daphney helps a resident enjoy one of the Christmas treats*

Answering the call to be generous, residents donated enough toiletries, sweet treats and clothing to ensure their counterparts felt the spirit of Christmas for days and weeks to come. Sixty 'goodie bags' were donated in total to the residents of Ekuphumleni, most of whom have been living on the streets with no families to care for them. Marlene Reid, one of the team who went along to hand over the bags said, "It was quite an experience; the recipients were really overwhelmed and excited. It was a very humbling time for my colleagues and me".

## Installation of Great Officers

The Lord Prior is the third most senior member within the Order of St John, under the Sovereign Head the Queen and the Grand Prior. It was therefore appropriate that with ceremonial splendour Sir Malcolm Ross GCV OBE was installed as the eighteenth Lord Prior by the Grand Prior, His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester on 10 November 2016 in the Priory Church, London.

At the same ceremony The Right Reverend Timothy John Stevens CBE was enthroned as the eighth Prelate and Mr John Mah CD QC was installed as the fourth Sub-Prior.

The role of the Prelate is to advise the Grand Prior in all matters ecclesiastical concerning the Order, while the Sub-Prior ensures all circumstances and concerns of Independent Commanderies and St John Associations around the world are brought to the attention of the Grand Council.

In attendance at the Installation of Great Officers were representatives from the Priors of Australia, Canada, England and the Islands, Hong Kong, Kenya, New Zealand, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, USA and Wales.



*The Installation Party on the steps of the Priory Church in London*



*John Mah*



*Lord Prior, Sir Malcolm Ross*

From the Priory in South Africa we wish Sir Malcolm Ross, The Right Reverend Timothy Stevens and Mr John Mah our congratulations on their appointments and look forward to seeing the results of their leadership in the new positions they hold.

# St John around the world

## KENYA

St John Ambulance volunteers in Kenya are continuing their efforts in reaching out to families in places such as Shinyalu where many households have become infested with Jigger fleas.

Jigger, or Chigoe fleas, are sand fleas, found in Sub-Saharan climates, that burrow into the skin and lay eggs. They cause swellings, itching and infection that can lead to amputation and even death. Cutting the fleas out of the foot (a painful process) and soaking the foot in alcohol or other disinfectants, is the only way to treat the disease once the infestation has occurred.

In Kenya, an estimated 1.4 million people, roughly 4% of the total population, suffer from this debilitating infestation.

Not only are the St John volunteers helping those who have been infected but also they are cleaning the homes and teaching household members how to control the Jigger flea infestation.



Treating the Jigger flea infestation

## AUSTRALIA

Since 2012 St John Ambulance Australia has trained more than one million school children across the country in First Aid to ensure they know how to assist in emergencies.

We read from down under of an eight year old child realising that her mother was having serious problems with her breathing and knowing that she should phone the emergency number, did so and with the steady guidance of the operator calmly performed CPR compressions on her mother until the paramedics arrived. Unknown to Charlette, her mother Jessica had suffered a stroke which might have been fatal had she not acted so quickly; her First Aid raining saved her mother's life.



St John Rescue Corps in Malta

## MALTA

For the past 30 years, the St John Rescue Corps in Malta has been the only one of its kind worldwide, providing a uniformed voluntary corps of fully trained volunteers to carry out various rescue operations and first aid efficiency in support of the constituted authorities of the Maltese Islands.

The Corps has about 90 volunteers, most of whom are involved in rescue operations whilst others are involved in logistics, support and administration. The volunteers undergo an intensive six to nine months training programme involving first aid, casualty handling, basic firefighting, use of ropes, radio communication and map reading.

Inspired by rescue operations in Malta, St John Ambulance in Malaysia have set up an Emergency and Rescue Unit. They will receive technical assistance in its development from the established Rescue Corps in Malta.

## JAMAICA

Hurricane Matthew began as a tropical storm off the coast of Africa in late September. Within six days it had intensified to a strong tropical storm, escalating to a highly destructive hurricane. As part of Jamaica's national support and recovery efforts, St John Ambulance Jamaica mobilised teams of volunteers and members to visit major shelters to assist vulnerable groups in addition to providing their regular ambulance services.

Although Jamaica was in the storm's path, it managed to escape with minimal damage.



St John team members were on hand to assist during Hurricane Matthew

# Admissions and Promotions

The Chancellor, the Revd Canon Sharp was delighted to announce that the following promotions within, and admissions to the Order of St John had been approved by the Sovereign Head, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, at the end of last year. Our sincerest congratulations go to:

## PROMOTION TO COMMANDER GRADE III

Vaughan André Rautenbach  
Louise Pretorius  
Roland Williams

## PROMOTION TO OFFICER GRADE IV

Richard Leslie Brown  
Craig Brian Visagie

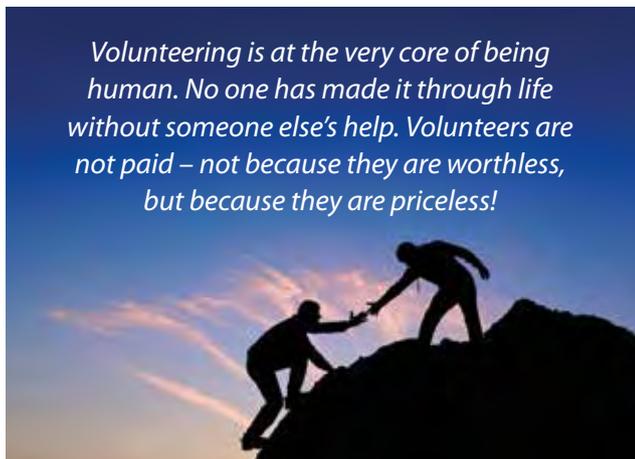
## ADMISSION AS OFFICER GRADE IV

Major General Hendrik Christoffel Grobler  
The Right Reverend Luke Lungile Pato

## ADMISSION AS MEMBER GRADE V

Merleen Elaine Ah Chong  
Kurt Hagan Backeberg  
Gary Peter Banbury  
Faheem Shakeel Ahmed Meer  
Margaret Elsie Redman  
Arthur Francis Sands  
Natalie Juliette Seldon  
Dianne Patricia Silva  
Tiago Adriano Soares  
Jonathan Stols  
Brenda Alison Stott  
Lynette St Leger van Zuylen

*Volunteering is at the very core of being human. No one has made it through life without someone else's help. Volunteers are not paid – not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless!*



# Knighthoods...



Craig Hartley



Ricky Kleinhans

At the recent Annual Investiture in Cape Town's St George's Cathedral paramedics Ricky Kleinhans and Craig Hartley, long-standing members of St John Brigade were awarded Knighthoods for their loyal and faithful service over a collective sixty-four years within the Order.

Ricky said after the occasion that as paramedics they did what they did in the service of humanity, the reward for which is the appreciation and satisfaction of aiding their fellow men. Craig added that among the many duties they perform is the teaching of communities to take charge of their own health and wellness.

Both men joined the Brigade as volunteer Cadets whilst still in primary school and through their dedication and determination, they have made a valuable contribution to the Order. Craig is now the Centre Manager of St John - Cape Town and Ricky the Assistant Chief Commissioner overseeing the development of St John youth members. He was also the contingent manager of the South African cadets, taking them to the international cadet camp and competitions hosted in Sydney and Hong Kong in 2014.

We congratulate both Ricky and Craig on receiving their well-deserved Knighthoods.

## Note:

If you did not receive your oblation statement for the period 2015 to 2016 or have an outstanding oblation payment, please contact the Order Secretary, Jean Gair on 011 6465520 / [jean.gair@stjohn.org.za](mailto:jean.gair@stjohn.org.za) so that she may assist you.

# Youth leaders shine at Adult Competition

Readers may recall the article in the August 2016 edition of *The Call* on the establishment of a Youth Leadership Academy at a Youth Development programme designed for Junior Cadet Officers.

After spending an intense week learning in-depth information about Brigade, five Junior Cadet Officers from 2015 and 2016 who had attended the newly formed Youth Academy and selected by Officers Commanding nationally, and had passed the age of 19 years, were ready to participate in their first Adult Competition. For the Cadet Leaders participating in these competitions it was a serious learning curve, as it is a big jump from the standards and intensity of cadet competitions to those of the adult competitions



YLA 2017 attendees with their facilitators

One of the many interesting and challenging scenarios devised for the First Aid section was how to handle the event in which a paraglider had crashed into a family enjoying a picnic on the beachfront in Sea Point and another was of a mob protesting in the local public Gardens!

By looking at the picture opposite, the number of trophies and medals awarded to these young cadet leaders for success in a number of different categories at the Selbourne Shield Prize Giving Ceremony in Cape Town, it would suggest that they will be a force to be reckoned with in future competitions. Oldies: Stand back!



Attendees in ceremonial uniform at the Graduation Dinner held at Priory



Youth Leadership Academy 2016 attendees doing so well in their first Adult First Aid competition in Cape Town



The whole YLA 2016 group

## Sadly we bid farewell

Since the September 2016 edition of *The Call*, Priory has been advised that the following members of the St John Family have passed away:

Tessa van Antwerpen  
Theunis C Barry  
Don Wolmarans



If you are aware of any member of St John who has recently passed away, please notify Jean Gair in the Order Office on 011 646 5520 or send an email to [jean.gair.stjohn.org.za](mailto:jean.gair.stjohn.org.za)

# SA to Host Grand Council 2017

It is once again our privilege and honour to be hosting Grand Council in South Africa as we did in 2007. Grand Council can be considered as the annual general meeting of the Order of St John International, where delegates from around the world come to meet from 22-25 May 2017. The meeting is scheduled to take place at the Vineyard Hotel and Conference Centre situated at the foot of Table Mountain, a World Heritage site in Cape Town, of which we as South Africans are very proud.

Grand Council will be attended by the Great Officers of the Order comprising the Lord Prior, Sir Malcom Ross who will be attending his first Grand Council in his new capacity, the Chancellor of the Order Mr. Patrick Burgess, the newly elected Prelate The Right Reverend Timothy Evans and the Sub-Prior Mr John Mah.

Chancellors and CEO's from St John Pories worldwide together with the Chairman of the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem, Mr Nicholas Woolf, are included in the list of delegates.

The Pories of the Order of St John are spread around the globe. From Europe we have England, Wales and Scotland; from Australasia, Australia and New Zealand; from Asia, Singapore and Hong Kong; from the Americas, the United States and Canada and from Africa we have South Africa and Kenya.

*Order of St John delegates from around the world will gather in Cape Town*

The preparation for Grand Council is a colossal and arduous task involving complicated arrangements for hotel accommodation for the many delegates, transport arrangements to and from various venues, daily conference schedules, various excursions around the Cape and much more. All this is now at a very advanced stage under the professional leadership of our CEO Craig Troeberg and his dedicated team assisting him at Pory and elsewhere.

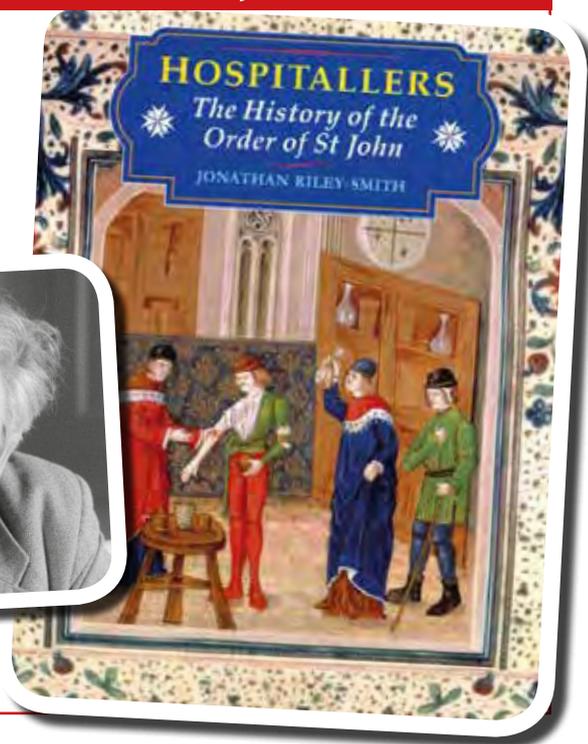
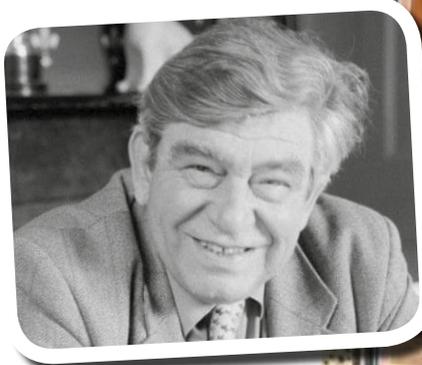
We can therefore look forward to a memorable Grand Council.

Rev. Canon GC Sharp  
Chancellor

## Tribute to Prof. Jonathan Riley-Smith

It is with great sadness that we report the passing away of Professor Jonathan Riley-Smith on 13 September 2016 after a long battle with lung cancer. Prof Riley-Smith was a Bailiff Grand Cross of the Order of St John, Librarian of the Order and a great advocate for the Museum of the Order of St John situated in Clerkenwell, London.

Professor Riley-Smith, a former Dixie Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Cambridge, was one of the world's greatest historians of the medieval crusades and a major figure of crusades studies. During his lifetime he wrote and edited 17 books on the crusades after having made his name with his first book titled 'The Knights of St John in Jerusalem and Cyprus'. He was the editor of 'The Atlas of the Crusades' in 1991 as well as 'The Oxford Illustrated History of the Crusades' in 1995.



# Tessa Van Antwerpen... 29/06/1932-29/12/2016

## A TRIBUTE from Thomas Horne

Tessa's involvement with St John began in 1980 when at the age of 48 she joined the Port Elizabeth Centre as Director of the Ambulance Brigade and Training Department, introducing many innovative approaches in marketing, training, public relations and management. Included in her many activities were organising and taking part in symposia, one of which on heart disease was headed by Prof. Chris Barnard and televised. She also ran a series of training courses on Xhosa Television, and organised Outreach programmes into surrounding rural areas.



Twelve years later in 1992, Tessa was given the additional responsibility and oversight of the Stella Londt Retirement Centre. This dual role continued until 1999 when she was appointed sole Director of the Centre and remained at the helm until her retirement in 2012, having served St John for nearly 33 years.

Under Tessa's tenure she launched a programme of expansion but not before she had instituted stringent financial constraints ensuring that the Home was on a secure financial footing. Accommodation in St John Gardens was increased from 12 cottages to 98 cottages and garden flats; the Fail Care facility was extended to accommodate 20 people; the new Memorial Wing was built to replace the older wing, gutted by the devastating fire of 2000, thus increasing Assisted Living accommodation from 11 to 22 rooms; a new library facility was provided; a beautiful on-site Chapel was built and an Allen organ installed and a new perimeter fence erected.

For these projects to be completed and for her introduction and establishment of new approaches in her work with the Brigade, much hard work and sacrifice of personal time was required and Tessa worked tirelessly to achieve her goals for the enrichment of all with whom she was involved.

It is therefore not surprising that from being admitted as a Member of the Order in 1984 and an Officer in 1989, a Commander in 2003, she was finally invested as a Dame of the Order of in 2004. The investiture was conducted in St George's Cathedral in Cape Town in October 2014, with her family and close friends in attendance.

After her retirement five years ago, Tessa continued to support her successor in the many aspects of the smooth running of Stella Londt. She passed away at the age of 85 after a short illness bravely borne.

A moving Memorial Service was held in the small St John Chapel at Stella Londt and was attended by our Chancellor Gerard Sharp and CEO Craig Troeberg and the current General Manager of Stella Londt Thomas Horne, each of whom paid tribute to Tessa's dedicated and selfless service,

and her initiative and achievements within the Order. Knights, Dames, Commanders and members of the Order attended, together with many other friends who were accommodated in the Dining Hall equipped with audio and video relay from the Chapel.

May her dear soul rest in peace.

*We at Priory wish Tessa's family our heartfelt condolences with the certainty that all the fond memories of her life and work will weave together into the colourful tapestry that was her life. Ed.*

## New appointment

We are delighted to announce that The Reverend Neville Naidoo was appointed Priory Chaplain in October last year.

Neville Naidoo, born in Durban, the youngest of four children, is a fourth generation South African of Indian origin with members of his extended family living not only in South Africa but also in Australia, Canada, USA, UK and Malta.

Neville is an Anglican priest in the Diocese of Johannesburg and currently Chaplain at Bishop Bavin School in Bedfordview, Johannesburg. He has been Assistant Priest at St Thomas' Anglican Church in Linden and latterly Priest-in-Charge of St John the Divine Anglican Church and of St Mary's the Less Anglican Church.

As a human dignity activist Neville says he unashamedly stands in solidarity with those who are marginalised, vulnerable and at risk. He believes in full inclusivity as the only way of living in any community of faith and that this belief should be the fundamental basis of teaching and pastoral care of all Chaplains in our institutions.

Neville holds a BA in both Theology and Fine Arts. His interests besides his busy life as a school Chaplain include research into orthodoxy and ecumenism within Monastic traditions, Jungian psychology, child abuse, sexuality and the cognitively impaired, HIV/AIDS Counselling and many other social concerns.

Welcome to the St John Family!



Reverend Neville Naidoo

# Selborne Shield Adult Competition Results

## FIRST AID THEORY

- 1st Place** Carmo-Lee Jantjies  
Central Division, Cape of Good Hope
- 2nd Place** Alistair Murdoch  
2nd Vereeniging Division, Gauteng
- 3rd Place** Sandy Williams  
Central Division, Cape of Good Hope

## FIRST AID INDIVIDUAL

- 1st Place** Peet Krige  
2nd Vereeniging Division, Gauteng
- 2nd Place** Earl Kruger  
Central Division, Cape of Good Hope
- 3rd Place** Carmo-Lee Jantjies  
Central Division, Cape of Good Hope

## INDIVIDUAL SKILLS

- Pairs Test** Sandy Williams & Carmo-Lee Jantjies  
Central Division, Cape of Good Hope
- Drill** Earl Kruger  
Central Division, Cape of Good Hope
- Presentation** Murphy Nganga  
Central Cadets, Cape of Good Hope

## FIRST AID TEAM

- 1st Place** Central Division, Cape of Good Hope
- 2nd Place** 2nd Vereeniging Division, Gauteng
- 3rd Place** Kraaifontein Division, Cape of Good Hope



Winners of the Troeberg Shield

# Craig Troeberg Shield For Emergency Care

## EMERGENCY CARE COMPETITION THEORY

- 1st Place** Jafar Arend  
Central Division,  
Cape of Good Hope
- 2nd Place** Sherwin Vaughan  
Wellington Seniors Div.,  
Cape of Good Hope
- 3rd Place** Corp. van der Vyver  
SAMHS

## EMERGENCY CARE INDIVIDUAL

- 1st Place** Sherwin Vaughan  
Wellington Seniors Div.,  
Cape of Good Hope
- 2nd Place** Lezani September  
Wellington Seniors Div.,  
Cape of Good Hope
- 3rd Place** Shevonne Bruce  
Central Division,  
Cape of Good Hope

## EMERGENCY FIRST AID TEAM

- 1st Place** Wellington Seniors Division,  
Cape of Good Hope
- 2nd Place** Central Seniors Divisions,  
Cape of Good Hope
- 3rd Place** Central Seniors 2 Division,  
Cape of Good Hope



Winning team of the Selborne first aid competition