

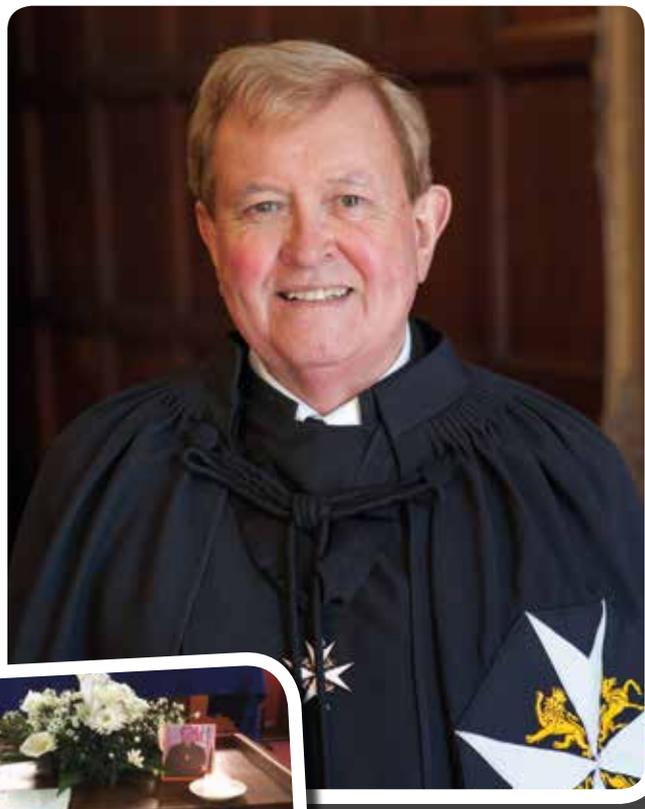
The End of an Era

A Tribute to Craig Troeberg

On 15 July Margaret Macdonald, Personal Assistant to Craig Troeberg, issued the following bulletin to members of the Order of St John:

It is with the utmost sadness that I have to advise that our CEO Craig Troeberg passed away in the early hours of Saturday 15 July 2017 due to a lung disorder complicated by a heart condition. Craig had devoted almost 20 years of his life to the work of St John and in the service of humanity. We deeply mourn his sudden passing.

A St John Funeral Service in Celebration and Thanksgiving for the Life of Craig Richard Troeberg KStJ was held at St George's Anglican Church in Parktown, Johannesburg on Tuesday 25 July 2017.



Many tributes and condolences have poured in to Priory from around the world.

We reproduce below a Tribute to Craig delivered during the funeral service by Brig Gen Deon Fourie KStJ, currently Chairman of the Order Affairs Council, on behalf of the Priory of the Most Venerable Order of St John in South Africa.

'At St John we all feel a deep void in the loss of Craig in both collegial support and companionship. And yet, despite the loss we all share, there is consolation in the memorials he left behind. Not those of stone or bronze

raised by politicians to atone for their errors that lead to wars, but living memorials of Craig himself.

I would say that the FIRST and most important memorial Craig has left us would be his remarkable contribution toward developing the Order of St John in South Africa and this through his devoted and zealous leadership.

Craig Troeberg became the first full time Chief Executive Officer of the Priory in South Africa in November 1997 after a distinguished business career of some 37 years with Ernst & Young. For 20 years Craig laboured with us to ensure that the Order would be able to

contribute significantly to the health of the economically disadvantaged who were unable to afford the critical treatment of disease in South Africa. His leadership and drive were particularly significant when the government of the time refused to take action against the human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) which was then sweeping through South Africa and stimulating the spread of TB and other infectious diseases.

When Craig joined us, the Priory and its Foundations, as with so many voluntary and part-time associations, were barely able to afford St John's traditional tasks of providing first aid facilities, teaching first aid and home nursing as well as maintaining the Stella Londt Home for the Aged in the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan city.

"What a magnificent man!"
– Archbishop Desmond & Mrs Leah Tutu

The Priory continually laboured under the burden of the shortage of finances. The Centres in South Africa were ill funded and were able to contribute only a symbolic annual tribute to the Priory which as a result had to rely on people's loyalty and devotion with little reward for their commitment. Under the leadership of previous Priors such as Arthur Johnstone and Ian Haggie the South African Priory had begun to think of developing beyond first aid training and services but its inadequate finances made this virtually impossible.



Craig and Maj. Ian Crowther outside the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem



Craig, the world traveller

Under the direction of Craig Troeberg as CEO together with the leadership of the then Prior, Ian Crowther, whose voluntary work was virtually full time, it is clear that the character and status of the Priory was directed into remarkable growth and expansion.

To strengthen the South African Priory and to make it possible for the Order to advance and become significant, Craig with his organisational skills, gradually worked toward building reserves of some millions of Rands and adding to the financial development of the Order to gain recognition for it as a dynamic contributor to the field of social development and health.

Craig's SECOND memorial was his unwavering devotion to hard work. Yes, he could enjoy himself and did so thoroughly when time allowed but his example as our CEO was seen very clearly by the extent to the work he undertook, for the Order always took top priority.

Craig with his PA and 'right hand', Margaret Macdonald



Craig presents the Troeberg Shield to winners of the BAA competition

During Craig's time with St John in South Africa the activities of the Order here changed its image remarkably from an old-fashioned common place first aid association undistinguished from other similar associations in South Africa to a dynamic, modern 21st century enterprise. He developed strong relationships with the South African Military Health Services and with other government departments. He proposed new directions for us to follow as a result of which it can fairly be said that he earned the acclaim of other Priors around the world. The Grand Prior sought assistance from us in the development of the Order's roles elsewhere in Africa and Craig worked dutifully visiting many of the struggling groups and strengthening links with them and with other Centres around the world. Craig was never one to reject a challenge.

Craig's THIRD memorial was his courage. He was never afraid of confronting government officials who did not share his devotion to duty and who did not seem to care for the sick and poor or the need for efficiency in the work. But that was not the only facet of his strength of character. For many years Craig suffered severely from diabetes and all its complicated side effects. He

was determined to see St John succeed; the cost to himself was immaterial.

And now Craig has gone. Whenever St John and its people, both here and around the world, devoting their services to the Venerable Order of St John come to mind, we will remember and reflect on the work of our colleague and friend, Craig Troeberg.

*"We mourn the passing of a great St John soldier"
– St John – Mauritius.*

*"He was always enormous fun to be with"
– Anthony Chignell (former Hospitaller of the Order of St John UK).*

*"His outstanding service and contribution to the Order and the people of South Africa will remain a living legacy"
– St John – Jamaica.*

*"What a magnificent man!"
– Archbishop Desmond and Mrs Leah Tutu.*

St John Around the World

In **ENGLAND** an animation film entitled *THE CHOKEABLES* wins *Charity Film of the Year* award!

The film is a campaign of St John Ambulance targeting parents and teaching them lifesaving cardiopulmonary resuscitation skills for their babies. It did not come as a surprise that the film was elected as the Charity Film of the Year from over 375 entries from other charities as it has been reported that since its launch earlier this year 55 parents have declared that the film has helped them save their own babies' lives. What an impact!



Miss Lim Han Ying (in black) and her students

To **KENYA** where we read that part of the Government's plan for prison reforms and improving safety, St John Kenya is training prison wardens and prisoners in first aid.



"Let us stop labelling prisoners, because human beings can change. They have skills which can benefit the society. The training is one of the benefits of prison reform in the country. This prepares prisoners for integration back into society; they

have something positive to give back." So says Senior Assistant Commissioner in charge of Kamiti Maximum Security Prison, Henry Kisingu. The latest report by the Kenyan Prison Services indicates that over 1 700 inmates have died from health emergencies over the last five years. Overcrowding in prisons exposes inmates to health related emergencies.

In **SCOTLAND** defibrillators are being fitted in Edinburgh's trams in a bid to save the lives of cardiac arrest patients. This innovation will increase survival rates by up to 75%. Not only can the machines help passengers in need, they can be taken off the carriage and used at tram stations. The project is funded by public donations and businesses. The Prior of St John – Scotland said, *"Defibrillators are critical should someone experience a cardiac arrest and by making these life saving machines readily available, we hope that more lives can be saved, should the worst happen."*



Over to **SINGAPORE** where we read of Miss Lim Han Ying, who has been a part of St John for over 12 years, initially joining as a cadet and later becoming a Zone Nursing Officer. As a state registered nurse she runs training courses in Basic Home nursing. In a recent interview she said, *"St John certainly provided a platform for me to hone skills that are essential to nursing. It was through the exposures provided me by St John that my decision to become a nurse was reaffirmed and I can't be more grateful for that."* Currently Miss Lim works as a nurse in the high intensity major operating theatres in hospitals. Recently she travelled to Phnom Penh, Cambodia where she addressed medical students and St John members of the exciting and fulfilling career of nursing.

In **JERUSALEM** the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital, in collaboration with Johanniter GERMANY and the Israeli Hadassah Medical Centre, have launched a new research programme "Peace for Sight". It aims to develop better ways to monitor and treat genetic eye conditions in the Palestinian territories and wider region where the number of cases is three times higher than in the West. The programme is currently in operation and its findings were presented at the Israeli Society for Vision and Eye Research Conference 2017.



Johannesburg Investiture

This year's Johannesburg Investiture was held in the beautiful St George's Anglican Church in Parktown, one of the gems of architect Herbert Baker's stone buildings, on the crisp yet sunny morning of August 19 where mantles were worn as garments with a little more significance than that of representing ancient symbolism!

After a brief welcome and explanation of the historical roots of the ancient ceremony given by the Priory Librarian Mr Mike Stalley, the ceremony, in all its colourful grandeur, symbolism and dignity, which never ceases to impress, commenced. The traditional slow procession of the St John Brigade, preceded by the St John Colour Party, members of the Clergy, Representative Knights, Dames and their Esquires, the Priory Officers and the Bailiff Grand Cross, Major Ian Crowther JCD MBE made their way to their seats.

Trumpeters from the National Ceremonial Guard and the South African Military Health Service Bands heralded the entry of the Chancellor, The Revd Canon Gerard C Sharp, and his procession, who after taking his seat, presided over the Investiture.

THERE WERE FOUR PROMOTIONS TO COMMANDER OF THE ORDER OF ST JOHN:

LOUISE PRETORIUS who joined the Brigade in 2001 has been a member of the Priory Brigade Executive Committee since 2008. She joined the Tshwane Brigade as its Officer Commanding and created structures in a much neglected District establishing a functioning Finance Committee and an effective leadership team. She loaned her own personal funds to keep the District afloat and acquired a fully equipped ambulance. Louise raised funds to restore and equip a local school in a previously disadvantaged area. She is Assistant to the Chief Competitions Officer at national competitions.



Louise Pretorius



Vaughan Rautenbach

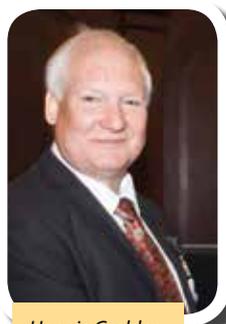
VAUGHAN ANDRE RAUTENBACH who within the Brigade serves as Treasurer of the Gauteng District. His knowledge of mechanics has been of enormous help with our ambulance maintenance. He has ensured that sufficient medical staff are on duty at public functions. Recently the Johannesburg Theatre put their first aid requirements out to tender and Vaughan successfully negotiated on

behalf of St John and the South African First Aid League to retain the duties of St John and derive funding from our involvement. Vaughan is currently acting as Member in Charge of the Vereeniging Division where he also runs first aid courses for the Brigade.

ROLAND WILLIAMS joined the Order as a medical doctor and was appointed Brigade's Chief Surgeon in 2002. Dr Williams assists with setting up scenarios for local and national competitions many of which he has judged. He has assisted divisions in establishing their needs in first aid training and has lectured on many medical topics at divisional meetings and national forums.



Roland Williams



Hennie Grobler

MAJOR GENERAL HENNIE GROBLER recently retired as Surgeon General of the South African Military Health Service where he has been of great value to the Order over a number of years. He has been responsible for the formation of strong ties with SAMHS and the Order and under his leadership a number of significant interactions have taken place. St John members may now

attend their courses and SAMHS members participate in our competitions.

THREE POSTULANTS WERE ADMITTED TO THE ORDER:

MARGARET ELISE REDMAN who has been associated with the work of St John for the past ten years has distinguished herself in her creative work in making, in accordance to the highest standards and regulations of the Order, things necessary for official functions whether it be new mantles or beautifully inscribed accessories for investitures. Margaret meticulously organised many ancillary events leading up to the smooth running of the 2014 investiture in the Bedfordview Methodist Church. Margaret is a full time remedial teacher and is actively involved on her local committee of the Royal School of Church Music.



Margaret Redman

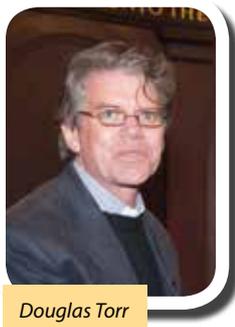


Dianne Silva

DIANNE SILVA joined the Brigade as a cadet in 2001. She has won many competitions both locally and nationally and more recently has successfully trained both cadets and adults for competitions at every level. In 2016 she accompanied her winning team of cadets to the International Cadet Competition in Japan. Dianne has put in many thousands of hours of public duty, successfully

resuscitated casualties and organised cadet camps and was appointed District Cadet Officer for Gauteng and in June this year, the Assistant Chief Cadet Officer.

DOUGLAS TORR as an Anglican priest has made a commitment to assist St John spiritually wherever and however required. Due to his diocesan work with the coalition of Anglican Children's Homes (COACH) he is well equipped to advise on social matters. His pastoral interest in St John is exemplary.



Douglas Torr

An inspirational sermon was preached by the Sub-Prelate, The Rt Revd David Bannerman, in which he challenged us all to adhere to the attitudes in our living as outlined in the Beatitudes from Christ's Sermon on the Mount. Without these correct attitudes to the vicissitudes with which life might confront us we are ill equipped to serve Him well.

Our Chancellor, The Revd Canon Gerard Sharp led the congregation in a warming Act of Rededication to the service of Christ.

After the return of the Symbols, it was to the rousing singing of William Williams majestic hymn *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* to the Welsh tune Cwm Rhondda and accompanied by Fr Owen Franklin at St George's splendid pipe organ with members of the Bedfordview Methodist Church Choir, that the Recession made their dignified exeunt from the Church.

And so ended another memorable Investiture.

Sadly we bid farewell

Since the March 2017 edition of *The Call*, Priory has been advised that the following members of the St John Family have passed away:

Sean A Brayley Reynolds
Shirley Charlton
Ronald Conyngham
Maureen Crowther
Patricia Deken
Beryl Drysdale (New Zealand)
Ebrahiema Lovell
Robert Mickel
Craig R Troeberg

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

Apology

In the previous edition of *The Call* we accidentally omitted to include Jocelyn Banbury from the list of Admissions and Promotions. Jocelyn was admitted as a Member (Grade V) to the Order of St John.



St John – Fish Hoek Receives Bumper Donations

The Rotary Club of Newlands, the Cape of Good Hope Rotary Club and the Ralph-Stephan Nussbaum Foundations all donated monies to train students in Advanced Home Care and First Aid Level 3. Those trained are now empowered and many have been fortunate to secure local employment.

An exciting grant, to the value of R198 000 was received from the Department of Social Welfare to train 30 students of their choosing from different wards in the greater Cape Town Metropole. This particular training took place in four groups over a period of 28 days per group and covered Basic and Advanced Home Care as well as First Aid Levels 1 and 3.

St John Community Health Students Join in 'Silent Protest'



In a show of solidarity for survivors of gender-based violence, Durban based St John Community Health Work students donned their 'Break the Silence' T-shirts and joined the 'Silent Protest' march hosted by the Durban University of Technology's HIV / AIDS Centre. 'Silent Protesters' marched in a

bid to create greater awareness around the stigma and silence of gender violence, inspiring communities to take an active stance against it.

From one of our Roving Reporters

Grand Council – Cape Town 2017 / 21-25 May

Each year, the Grand Council of St John is hosted by one of the 10 St John Priors around the world. This year, it was the turn of the South African Priory. Under the masterful management of the late Craig Troeberg, carefully assembled teams from both Priory and St John – Cape Town set about making sure that the visit to our beautiful and diverse country was memorable in every way.

With the majority of delegates having arrived over the course of the weekend, delegates and their partners were invited to the boardroom for welcome drinks and a short briefing by Craig Troeberg (CEO – St John SA).

The sun was not yet up when warmly dressed delegates made an early start and boarded the coach headed for Table Mountain. The Mountain and CBD was covered in a thick blanket of mist as they made their way there. Good planning was on their side as the St John group were first in the queue to catch the cable car up the mountain. The morning sun soon came out and the mist disappeared over the ocean. Once they reached the top of the mountain, delegates were free to walk along the varied paths enjoying spectacular views over the Cape, the indigenous Cape flora and the Dassies (Cape Hyrax) sunning themselves on the rocks just out of reach!

Shortly after the start of Grand Council meeting, Prior Elect of St John SA, Archbishop of Cape Town, Thabo Makgoba, made a brief visit to welcome delegates to South Africa. Sadly, he was off to Berlin later that day so was unable to participate in any of the meetings or activities.

Late that afternoon, delegates boarded the coach and headed off to St George's Cathedral in Cape Town city centre for the Office of Evening Prayer. We were very grateful that both Father, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and his wife Leah, were able to join us for the service. A small contingent of members of the Cape Town Volunteer Brigade formed a guard of honour for the delegates and guests.

It was a lovely service with both the Cathedral Choir and the Kensington Chorale Girls Choir taking it in turns to lead the singing. The Girls Choir had the congregation enraptured with the singing of the isiXhosa hymn 'Indodana'. I think had it been appropriate, the congregation would have exploded into thunderous applause!

The first Scripture reading was delivered by Chancellor of the Order in England, Patrick Burgess. The second



Scripture reading was read by the Lord Prior, Sir Malcolm Ross. The Rt Rev Tim Stevens delivered the Sermon. Gladys Mahamba and Wayne Johnson, both volunteer Brigade members of Cape Town, read the 'Prayers for Peace of the World' in Xhosa and Afrikaans. The English version of the prayer was read by staff member of the Cape Town Centre of St John, Natalie Seldon.

After a full day of meetings and presentations on the Wednesday, a dinner, hosted by the Lord Prior, took place for all delegates. Guests were welcomed and entertained at pre-dinner drinks by the Cape Town Male Voice Choir.

The next morning dawned yet again bright and early and delegates boarded the coach to Nyanga, an impoverished township, to learn first-hand about the work of St John in the community there. Various Community Health Workers and their clients met with delegates to talk about the impact that the CIMCI (Community Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses) and community health care project had had, and was currently having, on their day-to-day lives.

Delegates returned to the hotel for what was for many, the highlight of their South African tour - a formal lunch, hosted by the Priory for South Africa, in the presence of outgoing Prior, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu. Members of the Wynberg Girls Junior School choir welcomed delegates who delighted everyone with their singing and musical abilities. Needless to say, everyone wanted a photo of themselves with the Arch and he was more than happy to oblige. Sadly his wife, Leah was unwell and unable to attend the lunch.

From the letters of thanks and congratulations received, a happy time was had by all who attended – even the Grand Council delegates who had to work whilst their spouses were treated to tours of the breath-taking Cape Peninsula (including Cape Point) and some of South Africa's top wine estates.



Blanket collection for those affected by the Knysna fires

The Residents and Staff of Stella Londt Keep on Giving...

In response to the needs of locals affected by the devastating Knysna Fires, residents and staff of the St John - Stella Londt Retirement Centre got together and collected an assortment of desperately needed clothing and blankets for those who had lost everything. Pictured loading the transporter are cottage resident Joy Williams and staff members Marlene Reid, Roger Trollip and Cynthia Bakubaku.

The management of the Retirement Centre recently became aware of the plight of one of the team's family members and set about remedying the situation. Maintenance Handyman, Welcome Jim's aunt, Nomathemba Pani, recently underwent a leg amputation. After a successful operation and some rehabilitation, it was time for Nomathemba to leave Livingstone Hospital but she needed one vital piece of equipment... a mode of transport. With management's blessing, Welcome set about refurbishing a disused wheelchair for his aunt. On hand to present the lovingly restored wheelchair were



Nomathemba receives her refurbished wheelchair

Retirement Centre Manager Tom Horne, Welcome and his aunt Nomathemba, her son Vuyane, daughter Vuyelwa and husband Thobile.

This is not the first time that the Retirement Centre have 'paid it forward'. Not so long ago, the Stella Londt maintenance crew refurbished an assortment of disused medical equipment which was then donated to the Gelvan Park Frail Aged Home that cares for 98 frail and elderly members of the local disadvantaged community.



St John – Cape Town Partners with Halli Trust



St John – Cape Town recently partnered with the Halli Trust and sponsored Basic Home-based Care and First Aid training for seven members of their

Community Involvement Team who spend their days caring for local children and families in need of care and assistance.

St John – Johannesburg Volunteers Join Forces for Health & Wellness

Last month, volunteer members of the Johannesburg Brigade participated in a wellness day run by the Salvation Army. More than 500 women, children and babies attended and received vital health related information and services. Most of the attendees came from the Johannesburg inner city and were either homeless or pensioners or from places of safety. The day began bright and early with song and prayer and ended with delicious bites to eat. By all accounts, our volunteers were run off their feet, running two stations; one conducting vision screening and the other, medical standby for the day.



Appointment of Joint CEOs for The Order of St John South Africa



It is with great pleasure that we announce the appointment, with effect from 1 November 2017, of two candidates to fulfil the mandate of the work of CEO for St John. The Priory Executive Committee have, for some time, been deliberating on the re-energising of the work of St John in South Africa and being conscious of the changing dynamics of running a business in South Africa and at the same time maintaining good international and domestic relations. To this end, they have appointed a strong, diverse team to head up the work of St John, namely Messrs Hope Chidawanyika and George Woods to exercise their joint mandate of CEOs for St John.



Joint CEO Hope Chidawanyika



Joint CEO George Woods

Hope Chidawanyika will fulfil Operations Management and Training in conjunction with the existing team. He will also manage SAMHS, Brigade, and Government relations, so vital to a progressive future. Together with George Woods they will both be accountable for the strategy, governance and risk management of St John. Hope brings the added experience of the Lotto relationship and a great wealth of experience in the NGO sector. His exceptional leadership skills will be of immense benefit to the life of the St John Centres around South Africa.

George Woods will not only ensure the growth of our presence internationally, but will also fulfil the finance, strategy, human resource management, information technology and brand renewal portfolios. George has a deep love for the work St John does in caring for the individual and will focus his attention on this ever-expanding area of service. He has a solid background in executive management of banks and consulting houses. He is a Senior Lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand Business School and of the Master's

Commerce Degree at the University of Johannesburg. He is well networked in the international community. George brings a wealth of leadership and management experience and will manage the internal relations of St John.

Hope and George have already met to begin reviewing the proposed business plans and future strategic direction of St John and the work of the Priory itself. There is agreement between them that they will rotate responsibilities from time to time to ensure continuity and shared learning.

Together with our readers and the wider community of St John, we congratulate these committed and talented young gentlemen in their new appointments. In working together with them we fully intend to create the right opportunities for succession planning and growing the leadership pipeline potential.



Caption Competition

When clearing out one of the old photograph files in the Priory Library, the Editors came across the image reproduced here. We invite our readers to submit a suitable caption for it! We don't require identification for those captured in the image, but rather something amusingly appropriate!

The winner of the best entry submitted can choose between a gift voucher or airtime valued at R250.00. Submit your entry to sarah.heep@stjohn.org.za using 'Call Competition' in the subject line and remember to include your name and contact details. Competition closes on 1 December 2017.