The St. John Directory

Commandery of Ards
Northern Ireland
2008-2009

young heads,
old shoulders.
Cunningham Coates Stockbrokers
Established 1965

Solid foundations, first laid down in the mid-19th Century, have been steadily built upon over the years with wise heads providing successful investment advice for all our clients.

Now, with 21st Century thinking and technology, Cunningham Coates can offer a fully comprehensive range of advice and services to help you build your investments more successfully than ever.

Cunningham Coates. Advice for life.

Discretionary Fund Management
Advisory Portfolio Management
ISAS & SIPS
Execution Only Dealing
Inheritance & Capital Gains Tax Planning

www.ccstockbrokers.com

Cunningham Coates Stockbrokers
19 Donegal Street, Belfast BT1 2HA
Telephone 028 9032 3456 Fax 028 9023 1479
Email rthels@sacquest.co.uk

Member of the London Stock Exchange. Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Services Authority.
Cunningham Coates Stockbrokers is the trading name of Cunningham Coates Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Smiths & Williamson Holdings Limited.

Commandery of Ards
Northern Ireland
2008-2009

BLAMPHIN
+ ASSOCIATES

ARCHITECTS

are pleased to be providing
St. John Ambulance with
Architectural and Building
Surveying Services

www.blamphin.com
80 Malone Avenue, Belfast
Telephone 9066 7918
Fax 9068 2016
Email: blamphin+assoc@blamphin.com

FEEDWELL
DOG FOOD

are happy to support
St. John Ambulance

Manufacturers of
Extruded Dog Food
for 30 years

THE OLD MILL
ANNSBOROUGH PARK
CASTLEWELLAN
TEL (028) 4377 8765
FAX (028) 4377 1420
The Commandery of Ards

A charitable company limited by guarantee

Erne, 35 Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8RA
Telephone: 028 9079 9393
Fax: 028 9079 3303
E-mail: districthq@ni.sja.org.uk
Website: www.ni.sja.org.uk

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8.30 am to 4.30 pm.
At other times, an answering machine is in operation.
Since its inception in 1847, Belfast Harbour Commissioners, as custodian of the Port of Belfast, has been an integral part of our progressive and dynamic economy. The 21st century Commissioners have unveiled a $1.3billion investment programme to further facilitate the development of the city and regional economies.

As a key provider of port and property solutions, we’re driven by a service ethos, environmental commitment and desire to be a leading corporate citizen.

Serving the economy, serving You.
As Knight Commander of the Commandery of Ards I am delighted to have the privilege, once again, to welcome you to the St. John Directory.

2008 saw the commencement of a new St. John Triennium. So at Hillsborough, in October 2008, Commandery Chapter welcomed Mr Len Murray to the role of District Commissioner and Mr John Hughes to that of Librarian. The acting Hospitaller, Mr Robin Eyre-Maunsell, was officially installed and Mrs Maureen Scott inherited the mantle of Northern Ireland Representative to the UK Central Committee of the Fellowship. It was fitting that the Chief Commander attended at Hillsborough for the occasion.

The Commandery owes much gratitude to all of the retiring officers and especially to Miss Kathleen Gill who, throughout her term, carried out her duties for the Fellowship with dedication. In June 2009 Dr Gordon Gray completed his term of office as a Trustee and deserves our thanks for his long period of service both within the Commandery and within the Priory.

You will have an opportunity, elsewhere in the Directory, to read the Report of the Commissioner where he relates the tremendous contribution to our charitable activities by our St John Ambulance volunteers in their familiar black and white uniforms. It is appropriate at this time to pay a tribute to all the volunteers and their officers for the work they undertake giving many hours of their free time voluntarily to relieve suffering and to ensure the safe transport of patients as directed or required. The enthusiasm which marks the completion of this work and all the training that is required to qualify volunteers to undertake this work is infectious and imposes on the rest of us obligations which we would not wish to shirk.

It gives me great pleasure to pay my tribute to all involved in both the work and the training thus upholding in practical terms the motto of the Order of which we are justifiably proud namely: ‘For the Faith and in the Service of Humanity’

Reflecting on the activities of the Commandery since the date of the last Directory, the Annual Service of Commemoration and Re-Dedication, held in St. Anne’s Cathedral in June 2009, was especially memorable The Commandery presented a stained glass window to the Cathedral to mark many years of first aid service and charitable work delivered by our St. John volunteers in Northern Ireland.

The occasion was celebrated by hundreds of volunteers and friends of the Commandery and we were joined by the Prior Sir Brian Jenkins, and Lady Jenkins. Those participating in the service included the Revd Dr Gordon Gray, the Revd Wilfred Orr, the Very Revd Houston McKelvey, the Very Revd Hugh Kennedy, the Bishop of Connor and the Rt Revd Gordon McMullan who delivered a thoughtful and uplifting sermon.

A former chaplain, the Rev Canon Gordon Anderson and Mr Patrick Corkey, a former Commandery Secretary, were among those whose lives of service were celebrated by the congregation.

Fundraising events were particularly well supported recently. The Chairmanship of the Ladies Committee is in the capable hands of Mrs Liz Shanks. The support from the Ladies Committee is very much appreciated and all the ladies deserve our thanks in achieving a successful Bridge Evening, followed in due course, by a Coffee Morning and Fashion Event.

The Hospitaller too turned his hand to event organisation and under his guidance we jointly hosted a musical evening at Hillsborough Castle with the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. Mrs Eyre Maunsell supported Robin magnificently in the organizational arrangements and participated as an accomplished musician during the performance.

In the Autumn of 2008, together with a number of Commandery Officers, I was privileged to attend the ceremony of the installation of the Lord Prior, Professor Anthony Mellows, held in London in the presence of HRH The Duke of Gloucester.

In the Spring of 2009, along with the Lieutenant, Dr Wilson Clarke, I had the further pleasure to attend the meeting of the Mediterranean Group of St. John Associations held in Dublin. We both enjoyed the occasion as it provided an opportunity to learn more of the activities of the St. John Associations whilst showing our own achievements in the Commandery of Ards.

The Sub Prior of the Order, Professor Villers Marshall and his wife, both keen to learn more about the Commandery, travelled north with Annette and myself, and spent a few days immersing themselves in our St. John history and activities before heading home to Australia.

And that brings my tale to a conclusion! Except that I cannot close without paying tribute to all the Commandery Officers who support the organisation so ably. My personal thanks goes to the Lieutenant Dr Wilson Clarke who continues to discharge the duties of Commander in addition to those he undertakes as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. Together with my dedicated St. John team, I look forward to the challenges of 2010 and beyond, with renewed confidence and enthusiasm.

His Honour John McKee RD QC
Knight Commander
The foundation year of the Order of St. John was 1099 when, as a result of the First Crusade, Jerusalem was captured from the Muslims. The Crusaders found a hospice for Christian pilgrims, to which rich gifts were sent on their return home to enable it to be enlarged. In 1113 Pope Paschal II issued a bull which created the Order of Hospitalers. The Order was later based at Acre, Cyprus, Rhodes, Malta and Rome.

In 1540 Parliament passed an Act dissolving the Order. In England the Order’s properties were confiscated finally by Elizabeth I in 1559.

The Order was revived in England in 1831 with the appointment of a Prior. The St. John Ambulance Association was formed in 1877 and the St. John Ambulance Brigade in 1887, each a separate Foundation of the Order. In 1882, in recognition of its origins, the Order opened the St. John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem.

In 1888, Queen Victoria made the Order a Royal order of chivalry with the Monarch as its Sovereign Head. Since then the Grand Prior has always been a member of the Royal Family.

In 1968 the separate Foundations of the St. John Ambulance Association and the St. John Ambulance Brigade were amalgamated to form St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade, with the short title of St. John Ambulance.

Organisation

There was a restructuring of the Order in 1999. The Grand Council became the governing body for the eight Priories, two Commanderies and a number of overseas St. John Councils. The Priories are of England and the Islands, Scotland, Wales, South Africa, New Zealand, Canada, Australia and the United States of America. The two Commanderies are of Western Australia and Ards in Northern Ireland.

The Order of St. John is a working Order of charitably-minded men and women whose charity is principally, but not exclusively, expressed through its two Foundations, the St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital and the St. John Ambulance.

The Order is unique in British life, being a Christian order of chivalry under the Crown, with its own corporate existence and an active job of work - the service of those in need, for which the original Order was founded in the twelfth century.

Membership of the Order, which is an honour conferred with the sanction of The Queen, is limited to those who profess the Christian faith or who endeavour to uphold the aims of this Christian Order.

The Royal Charter which incorporates “The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem”, designated for brevity as “The Order of St. John”, and the Statutes...
Grand Council of the Order

The Sovereign Head of the Order is HM The Queen. The Grand Council of the Order comprises the five Great Officers and the eight Priors (or their representatives).

Great Officers

- **Grand Prior**
  HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG GCVO
- **Lord Prior**
  Professor Anthony R Mellows OBE TD
- **Prelate**
  The Rt Rev Jack Nicholls
- **Deputy Lord Prior**
  Captain Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards KCVO RD JP RNR
- **Sub Prior**
  Professor Villis Marshall AC

Priors

- **Prior of England and the Islands**
  Sir Brian Jenkins GBE
- **Prior of Scotland**
  Colonel Sir James Stirling of Garden KCVO CBE TD
- **Prior of Wales**
  D Hugh Thomas Esq CBE DL
- **Prior of South Africa**
  Major Ian Crowther JCD MBE
- **Prior of New Zealand**
  HE Anand Satyanand PCNZM
- **Prior of Canada**
  HE The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean CC CMM COM
- **Prior of Australia**
  HE Major General Michael Jeffrey AC CVO MC
- **Prior of the United States of America**
  Marshall Acuff Jr

Secretary

- **General**
  Rear Admiral Andrew Gough CB

---

Priory of England and the Islands

- **Prior**
  Sir Brian Jenkins GBE
- **Chief Medical Officer**
  Maj Gen A Hawley OBE QHP
- **Dean**
  The Very Rev. A Knight OBE
- **Chief Nursing Officer**
  Dr Alison Leary
- **Chancellor**
  Mr Robin Oake Esq QPM
- **Chief President**
  The Hon Virginia Lovell JP DL
- **Chief Commander**
  Roger Chatterton Esq
- **Chief Treasurer**
  Paul S Bussy Esq
- **Almoner**
  Vacant
- **Chief Officer, Volunteering**
  Ian McKenzie
- **Chief Officer, Youth**
  Mrs Daryl Perkins
- **Chief Executive**
  Ms S A Killen

---

Chief Medical Officer
Maj Gen A Hawley OBE QHP

Chief Nursing Officer
Dr Alison Leary

Chief President
The Hon Virginia Lovell JP DL

Chief Commander
Roger Chatterton Esq

Chief Treasurer
Paul S Bussy Esq

Almoner
Vacant

Chief Officer, Volunteering
Ian McKenzie

Chief Officer, Youth
Mrs Daryl Perkins

Chief Executive
Ms S A Killen

Chairman, St. John Fellowship
Brigadier John Hemsley

---

Secretary

- **General**
  Rear Admiral Andrew Gough CB

Priory Secretary/Company Secretary
Gary Maydon Esq