
THE MOST DISTINGUISHED ORDER OF SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT GEORGE

Annual Report

August 2025 – August 2026



THE OFFICERS OF THE ORDER

The Sovereign

HIS MAJESTY THE KING

The Grand Master and First or Principal Knight Grand Cross

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF KENT KG, GCMG, GCVO, ADC

The Chancellor

The Right Honourable Baroness Ashton of Upholland LG, GCMG

The Prelate

The Right Reverend David Urquhart KCMG

The King of Arms

Sir Mark Lyall Grant GCMG

The Registrar

Dame Karen Pierce DCMG

The Secretary

Sir Oliver Robbins KCMG, CB (*January 2025 to April 2026*)

Currently vacant

The Gentleman Usher of the Blue Rod

Sir Jonathan Taylor KCMG

The Deputy Secretary

Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Segrave

The Dean

The Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett

The Honorary Genealogist

Mr Peter O'Donoghue, York Herald

The Chancery of the Order

Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood

St James's Palace, London, SW1A 1BH

Telephone: 020 7024 5762 Email: info@ccok.org.uk

www.centralchancery.org.uk

Investment Managers: CCLA Investments

Bankers: Coutts & Co.

Independent Examiners: G. J. Lowe Ltd., Pennyweights, 163 Welcomes Road, Kenley, CR8 5HB

WELCOME FROM THE REGISTRAR:

DAME KAREN PIERCE DCMG

As we enter the second quarter of this century, I wonder if even the Chinese with their salutation “May you live in interesting times” contemplated quite how “interesting” international affairs would become. Sometimes it seems like Everything Everywhere All At Once, and that was before the recent conflict over the Straits of Hormuz.

There are some periods of world history where the current of events flows in a relatively predictable groove.

And there are others where we find ourselves struggling to keep up with dramatic and revolutionary change and a suddenly very unpredictable universe.

I recall that the late Sir Alex Younger KCMG used to say that it was not current times that were the anomaly; rather it was the post-World War II order with its unprecedented overlapping lattice of rules, systems, frameworks and agreements. For a speech I gave recently – dedicated to my late Ambassador in Washington, Robin Renwick - I looked back at some of Robin’s old speeches in the early 1990s.

Although we had good reason to be optimistic that the fall of the Berlin Wall would indeed result in a Europe “whole and free”, I was struck by the same note of uncertainty that characterised US and UK and European deliberations even at that time. We thought that having won the Cold War we would win the peace, but the Russian invasion of Ukraine – preceded by those of Georgia in 2008 and Crimea in 2014 – put paid to that.

21st century uncertainty is multiplied many times by the ramifications, opportunities and risks, of the rise of China. AI, I believe, will be even more consequential to our affairs than nuclear power was in the 1950s and, as with the nuclear treaties, we will need many iterations of international deliberations



to achieve a sound balance between innovation and safety. In business, geo-politics is now central to strategy not peripheral as in the past. That is good news for diplomats as we have always believed that anyway! Adapting to and mitigating these risks rather than being overwhelmed by them is a core challenge for the public and private sectors and civil society alike.

I recall that the most compelling definition of risk that I ever heard was “when bad things happen, we take bad decisions”. For me this points up the necessity of training all our people to have the right skills to be agile and flexible and imaginative in the face of uncertainty.

The privilege of public service and the debt we owe people like Alex were brought home to me recently through the 7 May Service of the Order in St Paul’s Cathedral in the presence of HM The King, the Sovereign of the Order, HRH the Duke of Kent, the Grand Master, and Baroness (Cathy) Ashton, the Chancellor - the first such Service in over 8 years. I was deeply honoured to join the Procession for the first time, as Registrar, if suitably overawed by the prospect of a speaking role, albeit very small. The splendour and the dignity of the Service was, for me, an embodiment of what duty and public service mean. I do not know if Alex will be proved right in seeing the second half of the 20th century as an anomaly, but I do know that successfully navigating the challenges ahead means that we will continue to rely on diplomats and public servants of his outstanding calibre.

Let me close by giving a huge welcome to all the new Members to the Order and to say how much we are looking forward to seeing as many of you as can make it to the next Evensong and Reception and the Lecture and Reception which will restart in 2027. These are wonderful opportunities to renew friendships forged often round the globe and to come together to celebrate duty and public service.

RECENT EVENTS FOR THE ORDER

2025

Evensong and Reception – Wednesday 24th September 2025

The annual Evensong and Reception took place at St Paul's Cathedral on 24th September. His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent attended along with 230 Members of the Order and their guests.

2026

Reception at Lancaster House – Wednesday 6th May 2026



Reception in the Long Gallery, Lancaster House

Members of the Order were treated to a rare opportunity to enjoy an evening in Lancaster House. By permission of the Permanent Under-Secretary and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, the Order hosted a reception for 500 Members and their guests. This was the first time the Order has hosted an event in Lancaster House and the Officers would like to express their gratitude to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office for supporting such a splendid evening.

Service of Commemoration and Dedication – Thursday 7th May 2026

Members of the Order were joined by family and friends in St Paul's Cathedral on Thursday 7th May for the Order's quadrennial Service of Commemoration and Dedication. It was the first service with His Majesty The King as Sovereign of the Order and a very special occasion to have both His Majesty and His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent, as Grand Master, in attendance.

The service is a poignant moment, celebrating the living Members of the Order and reflecting on those recently departed.

The banners of the Right Honourable Baroness Ashton of Upholland LG, GCMG and the Lord McDonald of Salford GCMG, KCVO were affixed in the Chapel of the Order. Newly appointed Officers, Sir Mark Lyall Grant GCMG (King of Arms), Dame Karen Pierce DCMG (Registrar), and Sir Jonathan Taylor KCMG (Gentleman Usher of the Blue Rod), took their oaths and were placed in their Stalls within the Chapel, in an act of installation. The banner of the late Sir Crispin Tickell GCMG, GCVO was laid on the High Altar during the Act of Remembrance.



Banner of the late Sir Crispin Tickell GCMG, GCVO ©Graham Lacado

Over 800 Members and their guests attended the service. It had been due to take place in 2025 but was postponed until 2026. The next Service of Commemoration and Dedication is expected to be in 2029 and Members will be notified of the date once it is confirmed. *

**The Central Chancery endeavours to contact all Members of the Order but is limited to the contact details provided by Members. Please update your contact details via the Central Chancery's website or by writing to events@centralchancery.gov.uk to ensure you receive event notices and updates.*

The following photographs were taken by St Paul's Cathedral photographer, Graham Lacado.









UPCOMING EVENTS

Lecture and Reception 2027

The Officers of the Order look forward to resuming the Lecture and Reception event, fondly known as 'Tea and Lecture' amongst Members. The next event will take place in 2027 and the date will be announced on the Central Chancery's website once confirmed. Members will also receive an event notice by email, if you have shared your email address with the Chancery.

Evensong and Reception 2027

An Evensong and Reception will be held for the Order on **Thursday 30th September 2027** at St Paul's Cathedral. Evensong will begin at 5.00pm and followed by a drinks reception in the Crypt. Members are permitted to bring as many guests as they wish but tickets must be requested in advance. Further details on the event and how to book tickets will be on the Central Chancery's website in spring/summer 2027.

NEW APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS WITHIN THE ORDER

October 2025

His Eminence Cardinal Michael Czerny CMG

His Excellency Archbishop Paul Gallagher KCMG

January 2026

Mrs Sarah Cliffe CMG

Professor Nicholas Day CMG

Sir Tim Eicke KCMG KC

Dr Comfort Ero CMG

Benjamin Fender Esq. CMG OBE

Colonel Maxwell Gandell CMG OBE

Stephen Hickey Esq. CMG

Ms Bethan Hopkins CMG

His Excellency Sir Stanley John GCMG KC

Chief Yaungtine Koromba CMG MBE

Michael Lin Esq. CMG

Professor Sir David Mabey KCMG CBE

Sir Simon Manley KCMG

Mrs Deborah Moffat CMG

Professor Sir Anthony Redmond KCMG OBE

Pastor Lawrence Tanabose CMG

Sir Christian Turner KCMG CVO

George Williamson Esq. CMG

June 2026

Paul Berman Esq. CMG

The Reverend Father Eustan Commissiong-Jones CMG

Sir Neil Crompton KCMG CBE

Felix Finisterre Esq. CMG

Dame Susan English DCMG

Martin Kent Esq. CMG

Nicholas Pickard Esq. CMG CVO

Sir Jeremiah Scott KCMG

Sarbjit Uppal Esq. CMG

THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DEPARTED

The Central Chancery has been made aware of the death of the following Members of the Order:

(August 2025 – August 2026)

Knights and Dames Grand Cross

Sir Sailas Atopare GCL GCMG

His Excellency Sir Emmanuel Cenac GCMG

The Rt Hon Sir Julius Chan GCL GCMG KBE

His Excellency Sir Carlyle Glean GCMG

The Rt Hon Sir Michael Hardie Boys GNZM GCMG QSO

The Reverend Father John Lapli GCMG

Sir Edmund Lawrence GCMG OBE

His Excellency Sir Paulias Matane GCL GCMG OBE

His Excellency Sir Tapley Seaton GCMG CVO KC JP

The Right Reverend David Vunagi GCMG

Sir Daniel Williams GCMG KC

Knights and Dames Commander

Sir Charles Carter KCMG

The Rt Hon Sir Jeremy Hanley KCMG

Sir Francis Hilly KCMG

Sir Jeremy Lever KCMG KC

The Rt Hon Sir Mekere Morauta KCMG

Baron Renwick of Clifton KCMG

Sir Jeremy Thomas KCMG

Sir Leton Thomas KCMG CBE

Sir Paul Tovua KCMG

Professor Sir Nicholas White KCMG OBE

Sir Alexander Younger KCMG

Companions

Graham Archer Esq. CMG
Michael Atkinson Esq. CMG MBE
Alistair Boyd Esq. CMG
David Brighty Esq. CMG CVO
Colonel Paul Cautley CMG OBE DL
Sir David Dain KCVO CMG
John Edwards Esq. CMG
Patrick Evers Esq. CMG LVO
Lady Fox CMG QC(Hon)
The Reverend Richard Hay CMG
John MacRae Esq. CMG
Anthony Morgan Esq. CMG
Michael Oatley Esq. CMG OBE
Paul Ritchie Esq. CMG OBE
Justin Staples Esq. CMG
Duncan Stuart Esq. CMG
Peter William Unwin Esq. CMG

THE CHAPEL OF THE ORDER OF ST MICHAEL AND ST GEORGE IN ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL



Interior of the Chapel of St Michael and St George - St Paul's Cathedral

The Chapel of the Order of St Michael and St George in St Paul's Cathedral was formally dedicated in 1906. Members, including honorary, may hold the following Services in the Chapel of the Order of St Michael and St George, or St Faith's Chapel located in the Crypt, in St Paul's Cathedral:

- Marriage of a Member or the child of a Member
- Baptism of a child or grandchild of a Member
- Memorial Service for a Member

A Member wishing to make use of the Order's Chapel should apply to the Deputy Secretary of the Order, Lt Col Stephen Segrave, who will confirm the applicant's eligibility with St Paul's Cathedral. The service may take place only after approval from the Deputy Secretary, who will advise on the applicant's next steps and provide the necessary contact information for the Weddings and Baptisms Coordinator at St Paul's Cathedral.

The Order's Chapel will accommodate a congregation of approximately eighty. It should be noted that the Chapel of the Order is not ideal for weddings as it is often noisy due to its location in the main body of the Cathedral, which is open to visitors. The Chapel has limited seating and musical facilities.

The Cathedral authorities will advise the applicant whether the Chapel of St Michael and St George or St Faith's Chapel will be better suited for the service. St Faith's Chapel is more conducive to larger ceremonies, particularly weddings, as it is situated away from the general public and offers a larger seating capacity of approximately 350 people. The final decision on which Chapel may be used rests with the Dean. There are fees involved with the use of the Chapels and the Weddings and Baptisms Coordinator will be able to advise on current costs. Applications should be made to the Deputy Secretary via email or post in the first instance.

CHAPEL STALLS

Following the Chapel's dedication in 1906, it was furnished with Stalls allocated to Members of the Order.

Any Member can hold a Stall in the Chapel, with specific Stalls dedicated for GCMGs, DCMGs, KCMGs, and CMGs. The offer and acceptance of a Stall grants the Member the opportunity to affix a Stall Plate which will remain in place as a permanent historical record of the Stall's tenure by the Member of the Order. Knights and Dames Grand Cross also display an Armorial Banner bearing a representation of their Coat of Arms which remains above their Stall for their lifetime, after which it is removed and given to their family.

Stalls become vacant upon the death of a Stall Holder and the Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood oversees the process of offering vacant Stalls. If you would like to register interest in being offered a Stall when eligible, please write to the Central Chancery.

If you are interested in petitioning for a grant of Arms, please contact the Order's Honorary Genealogist Peter O'Donoghue, York Herald, at the College of Arms.



Pictured Above: On Thursday 13th August, Sir Richard (Dicky) Evans KCMG was presented with his grant of Arms in the Order's Chapel by Dr Dominic Ingram, Chester Herald of Arms, and Mark Scott, Somerset Herald of Arms.

GUEST REPORT

THE REGALIA OF THE ORDER: RECENT FINDINGS

Christopher Grech

Of the entire suite of regalia of the Order of St Michael and St George it is without doubt the glittering badges and breast stars that shine brightest when worn on formal occasions. There are two other items of the regalia which see less frequent service. The mantles worn by the Knights and Dames Grand Cross and the Officers of the Order are generally only worn at the annual Evensong Service or the quadrennial Service of Dedication and Commemoration held at St Paul's Cathedral. The chapeau which was originally designed to be worn with the mantle suffered a troubled introduction and appears to have been retired from service entirely. The following essay taken from the author's recent publication, *Investitures of the Order of St Michael and St George in Malta*, describes their origins.

Mantle

The mantle or ceremonial cloak of the Order is similar in design to that of the senior Order of the Garter. However, whereas the mantle of the Garter is of dark blue velvet lined with white taffeta that of the Order of St Michael and St George is fashioned of Saxon blue satin with a crimson silk lining making it a much lighter, almost flimsy, garment. The Order's mantle is tied at the neck by two cordons of blue and crimson silk and gold. A large embroidered representation of the star of a Knight/Dame Grand Cross is placed on the left breast of the mantle. What must be one of the earliest illustrations of the mantle is to be found at the College of Arms. [Fig. 1] This spectral watercolour sketch depicts the salient details of the mantle. An annotation on the right side of this illustration reading 'Length eleven feet' must refer to the length of the train of the Sovereign's or Grand Master's mantle.¹

This illustration shows a white bow on the right shoulder and what appears to be an aiguillette on the left shoulder. Although both the bow and the aiguillette are shown consistently in the colour plates of the illustrated Statutes of 1832 and 1859 [Fig. 2 and Fig. 3] they are not



Fig. 1

¹ *Order of St Michael and St George Misc Papers*, RRG60/D. f.34a.



Fig. 2

The Prelate and Chancellor of the Order wore a mantle similar to that of a Knight/Dame Grand Cross however the officers, namely the Registrar, King of Arms and Secretary wore mantles whose colours were reversed i.e. crimson satin exterior lined with blue silk, their badge of office suspended from the neck by a ribbon of the Order. Officers' mantles did not include the embroidered representation of the star of a Knight/Dame Grand Cross.

One of Sir Thomas Maitland's³ (Fig. 4) primary aims in devising an order for the Mediterranean was to replace some of the pomp and ceremony previously provided by the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, commonly known as the Knights of Malta; however the intention of supplying the required sparkle was thwarted by two significant factors which shared a common origin in the chaos and disruption caused by the Napoleonic Wars.

described in any editions of the statutes. This shoulder ornament, although it resembles an aiguillette in that it is formed of knotted cords, however, lacks the pointed metal tips of the current style of aiguillette. These cords are still in current usage.

James Risk, in his history of the Order of the Bath suggests a possible origin for this shoulder ornament which may have transferred to other orders. A chivalric tradition existed for new knights to wear two strands of silk lace from the shoulder until they had performed a gallant act after which a lady of the knight's choice or a prince could remove them. With time the practice evolved whereby the lace cords were woven together once the knight had earned his spurs rather than being removed. The more detailed illustration in the 1859 statutes would indicate a more elaborate arrangement of cords when compared to the earlier sketch.²



Fig. 3

² Risk, J. C. (1972). *The History of the Order of the Bath and its insignia*. London: Spink & Son. p. 110.

³ Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Maitland (1760-1824), Governor of Malta from 1813 and Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands from 1815 was the first Grand Master of the Order.



Fig. 4

The first was the obvious lack of finances; the second factor was the result of the Prince Regent's own predilection for sartorial splendour.

The first statutes specified that Knights Grand Cross should wear the mantle and chapeau therein described however only the Grand Master's mantle was delivered to Corfù in time for the founding Chapter of the Order in November 1818. Furthermore the holding of a second Chapter in Corfù the following year was not held primarily because Maitland was unwell but also because the mantles had still not materialised.⁴

Parallel research into the origins of the civil uniform devised by the Prince Regent in 1817 indicates that even these new civil uniforms suffered from delays in manufacture and delivery. Intended for members of the royal household and cabinet ministers these new uniforms were due to be worn for the first time at the celebrations of Queen Charlotte's birthday in February 1817; however, while the

uniforms of the senior members of the royal household had been completed those of the cabinet ministers were not ready by the required date.⁵ In the lead-up to these celebrations the Prince Regent stipulated that outfits to be worn at court should, as a means of supporting the local garment trade, be of British materials and manufacture thus it is more than likely that after the years of war-time deprivation the required resources were now in short supply. Furthermore, given George III's precarious state of health the Prince Regent's attention must surely have been directed at his imminent coronation leading to a further strain on manpower and resources. A salient indication of this is the fact that the tailor tasked with fabricating George IV's spectacular coronation surcoat was Jonathan Meyer of Conduit Street the very same tailor who was responsible for the cabinet minister's uniforms which, as outlined above, were conspicuous by their absence in 1817.⁶

Thus it is no surprise to find out that when Maitland received two boxes of regalia in October 1818 they contained only one mantle, that of the Grand Master, and no chapeaux.⁷ This meant that Maitland had to dispense formally with the clauses in the statutes which referred to both mantles and chapeaux for the newly created Knights Grand Cross. In fact the Order's historian Sir Nicholas Harris Nicolas informs us that warrants

⁴ Peter Galloway, *The Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George*, (London, Spink, 2018) p.27.

⁵ *Saint James's Chronicle*, 22 February 1817, p.1; *Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser*, 22 February 1817, p.3.

⁶ The modern company of Meyer and Mortimer traces its heritage back to the 1790s when Jonathan Meyer, a tailor from Austria, established a tailoring and military outfitting business at 36 Conduit Street, at the north end of Savile Row. <https://www.meyerandmortimer.com/history>. Accessed 25 January 2026.

⁷ Galloway, P. (2018) p.19.

dispensing with the use of mantles and chapeaux were issued on several occasions a considerable number of years after the foundation of the Order.⁸

Maitland wore the Grand Master's mantle at the first Chapter held in Malta in December 1818; this is described as having a train borne by two equerries which suggests that this mantle conformed to annotation on the College of Arms sketch stipulating an eleven foot train.⁹

The Rev. Peter Galloway in his definitive history of the Order informs us that in a letter from Sir Nicholas Harris Nicolas to Sir Frederick Hankey dated November 1832 the former writes that "mantles, chapeaux and collars of the Grand Crosses never have been furnished to them. It had not been deemed expedient to deviate from the former practice on account of expense."¹⁰ The omission of the mantle and chapeau was put right a few years later in Malta as confirmed by Canon Wenceslaus Debono in his eye-witness account of the July 1836 investiture. On this occasion Wenceslaus' father, Sir Giuseppe Calcedonio Debono, (Fig. 5) acting as the Sovereign's Representative, invested candidate Count Paolo Parisio with a mantle, chapeau and collar; an act which Wenceslaus stressed was a first for Malta.

Wenceslaus Debono was well placed to note this development since he had experience of at least one other investiture of the Order presided over by his father. Also of great relevance is the fact that Wenceslaus was the Principal Master of Ceremonies for the Metropolitan Cathedral in Mdina as well as for the whole diocese of Malta, which ensured that he had an eye for protocol and detail.



Fig. 5

⁸ Nicholas H Nicolas, *History of the Orders of Knighthood of the Order of the Guelphs of Hanover, and of the Medals, Clasps and Crosses conferred for Naval Service*, vol. IV. (London: John Hunter, 1842) 28 and 75.

⁹ *Programme of the Ceremonial*, this programme was bound into the volume of documents compiled by Canon Wenceslaus Debono, MCM ACM 399, pp. 147Ar, 147v, 148r; also included in *Malta Government Gazette Extraordinary*, 19 December 1818, pp. 2-3.

¹⁰ Galloway, (2018) 465.

Chapeau

The chapeau or hat of the Order is without doubt the most elusive item of regalia. It is described in detail in the very first statutes and it appears in paintings and photographs; dubious versions have been known to appear at auction periodically however this author is not familiar with any authentic extant examples.

The chapeau was a round hat with a broad brim turned up at the front. The crown took the form of a truncated cone. The exterior was of blue satin lined with crimson. An embroidered representation of the Star of a Knight/Dame Grand Cross was affixed to the upturned brim. The hat was adorned with four upright ostrich feathers; three white and one black one in the centre. Although described in the text of the 1818 Statutes the first illustration did not appear until the 1832 Statutes were issued. [Fig. 2]

The conical shape follows the fashion in beaver felt hats popular in the seventeenth-century and was evidently used in later days as an item of headwear for some of the more elevated offices in civil institutions. A satirical cartoon by James Gillray gives us some context for this. [Fig. 6] The subject is drawn wearing a blue cape resembling the Order's Mantle and wears a broad brimmed hat with an upturned brim which sports three white ostrich feathers. This cartoon, entitled *Juge du Tribunal Correctionnel* is one of a series of twelve which go by the title of *Habits of New French Legislators and other Public Functionaries*¹¹ in which the artist satirises members of the Whig opposition by depicting them wearing the new ceremonial robes designed by Jacques-Louis David for the prominent public officials of the French Directorate.¹² Both the originals by David and Gillray's derivatives show officials wearing hats similar to the Chapeau of the Order.

The image selected shows the former soldier and well-known wit, John Courtenay, dressed as a *Juge du Tribunal Correctionnel*, Gillray's choice may have been influenced by Courtenay's criticisms of the conditions at the Middlesex House of Corrections.

The introduction of the chapeau in Malta went hand in hand with that of the mantle as discussed above.

An intriguing late nineteenth-century photograph of John Campbell Hamilton-Gordon, 1st Marquess of Aberdeen, Governor General of Canada (1893-98) shows him with his chapeau. [Fig. 7] This presentation



Fig. 6

¹¹ Published by Hannah Humphrey in 1798.

¹² <https://www.james-gillray.org/pop/habits8.html>, accessed 10 October 2025.



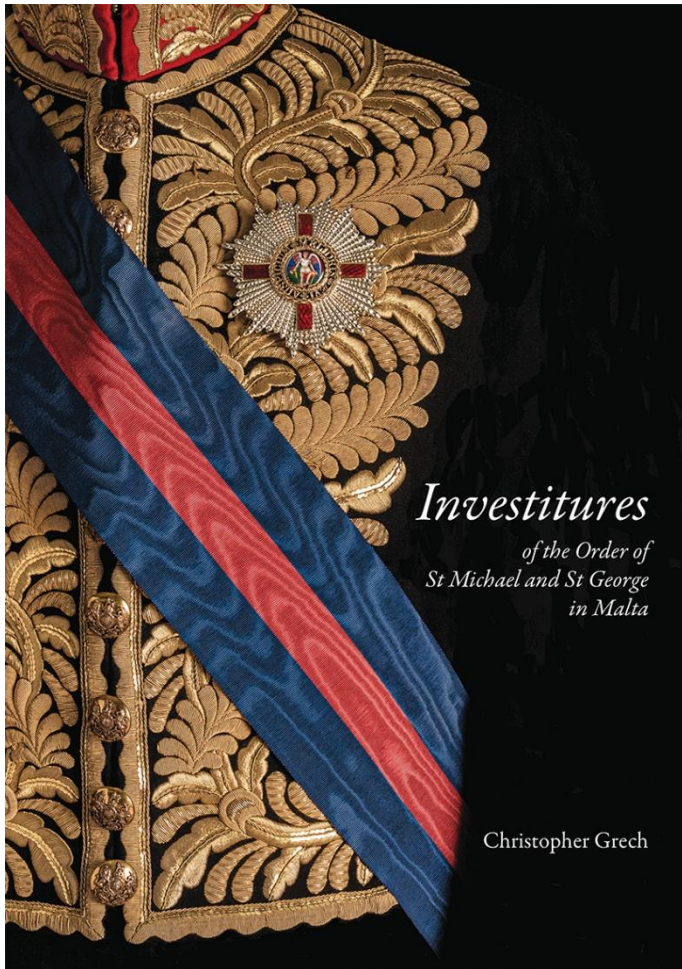
Fig. 7

portrait, taken in 1897, shows Aberdeen wearing the mantle and collar of the Order over his full dress first class court uniform. The mantle's embroidered star appears larger than was usual; it also includes the white ribbon and cords on the left shoulder described earlier. Rather bizarrely his chapeau is placed on the floor by the sitter's right foot however despite this awkward positioning the photograph gives us a good idea of the shape of the chapeau and the imposing effect of the whole ensemble.

While the splendid black velvet Tudor bonnet of the Order of the Garter is still worn annually on Garter Day and is considered to be an intrinsic component of that Order's regalia, it would seem appropriate for the Order of St Michael and St George to revive the usage of their chapeau at annual services in St Paul's Cathedral.

IMAGES AND CAPTIONS

- Fig. 1 Grand Master's Mantle. *College of Arms MS Order of Saint Michael and Saint George – Miscellaneous Papers, fol. 34a. Reproduced by permission of the Kings, Heralds and Pursuivants of Arms.*
- Fig. 2 Mantle and Chapeau of Knight Grand Cross, Plate V., G. E. Madeley, 1832 Statutes. Author's collection.
- Fig. 3 Mantle and Chapeau of Knight Grand Cross, Plate V., Brocktorff & Sons, Malta. 1859 Statutes. Author's collection.
- Fig. 4 Lieutenant General Sir Thomas Maitland GCMG, Thomas Lupton after John Hoppner. Author's collection. Photo: Peter Bartolo Parnis.
- Fig. 5 Sir Giuseppe Calcedonio Debono GCMG, artist unknown. Private Collection, Malta. Photo: Peter Bartolo Parnis.
- Fig. 6 *Juge du Tribunal Correctionnel*, James Gillray, 198. Author's collection.
- Fig. 7 John Campbell Hamilton-Gordon, Governor General of Canada, 1897, Topley of Ottaway. Author's collection.



Christopher Grech's latest publication, *Investitures of the Order of St Michael and St George in Malta* was published in 2026 and can be ordered direct from the author by contacting him.

Email: xrisgrech@gmail.com

Mobile: +356 99722158

Address: Christopher Grech,
220 Main Street,
Mosta,
Malta,
MST 1015

ACCOUNTS

The accounts for the 2025-2026 financial year are presented below. Previous accounts can be found on the Charity Commission's website.

THE MOST DISTINGUISHED ORDER OF SAINT MICHAEL AND SAINT GEORGE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OF THE CHAPEL MAINTENANCE FUND FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2026

2026	RECEIPTS	2025	PAYMENTS	2025	2026
	INCOME		CEREMONIAL SERVICE FEES	£0.00	£0.00
£8,994.61	Subscriptions	£8,885.96			
£17.95	Donations	£5,025.00	TEA AND LECTURE	£0.00	£6,336.30
	DIVIDENDS & INTEREST		EVENSONG - St Pauls	£8,316.34	£8,243.83
£3,678.13	Killick & Co LLP Income	£3,986.54			
£97.25	Coutts Money Market A/C	£65.59	LITERATURE AND BROCHURES	£0.00	£0.00
£6.63	Coutts 90 Day Notice A/C	£4.94			
	INCOME TAX REBATE		INSURANCE		
£1,333.00	2024-2025 Subs & Donations	£1,300.50	Chapel and Mantle Insurance	£2,604.09	£2,419.35
	2025-2026 Subs & Donations		PLATES & BANNERS		
			Name Plates	£258.78	£0.00
			Banners	£0.00	£0.00
			POSTAGE	£267.87	£266.05
			INDEPENDENT REVIEW	£474.00	£462.00
<u>£14,127.57</u>		<u>£19,268.53</u>	TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u>£11,921.08</u>	<u>£17,727.53</u>
			EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	£7,347.45	
			EXCESS OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS		(3,599.96)
<u>£14,127.57</u>		<u>£19,268.53</u>		<u>£19,268.53</u>	<u>£14,127.57</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31st MARCH 2026

2026	LIABILITIES	2025	ASSETS	2025	2026
			SHARES - MARKET VALUE AT 31.03.2026		
			CCLA funds	£77,662.00	
			Killick & Co	102,429.00	£680,091.00
			ASSETS RETAINED FOR THE CHARITY'S OWN USE		
			Mantles	10.00	
			Property at St. Paul's	804,761.00	£804,771.00
			FUNDS AT BANK		
			Coutts Money Market	98,022.21	
			Coutts 90 Day Notice	194.20	
				£98,216.41	£10,253.04
				<u>1,583,078.41</u>	<u>£1,602,652.04</u>
£1,616,925.40	Fund at 31st March 2025	£1,603,583.04			
(9,742.40)	Change in Value of Shares & Property	(111,523.54)			
	Funds Withdrawn	80,000.00	Prepayments	£3,755.54	£1,333.00
£0.00	Excess of receipts 2026	7,347.45			
(3,599.96)	Excess of payments 2025	£0.00	Accruals	(7,427.00)	(402.00)
<u>£1,603,583.04</u>		<u>£1,579,406.95</u>		<u>1,579,406.95</u>	<u>£1,603,583.04</u>

The Assets Retained for the Charity's own use is shown above at the valuation made for insurance purposes. The Property at St Paul's was last valued in December 2009 and the Mantles were last valued in November 2009.

----- Secretary of the Order

----- Prelate and
Honorary Treasurer

INSIGNIA VALUATION

For insurance purposes, Members might be interested to know that the current replacement value of insignia is as follows:

GCMG (Knight Grand Cross)	£3,034
GCMG (Dame Grand Cross)	£2,828
KCMG	£3,420
DCMG	£2,805
CMG Gentleman	£713
CMG Lady	£749

Please note that insignia can only be replaced following loss by theft or fire and in the case where a Crime Reference Number, Fire Reference Number, or insurance claim reference can be provided. All replacements are at the discretion of the Central Chancery.

REGISTER OF THE ORDER

The Register of the Order, as of 21st August 2026, records the following numbers (including Additional Members but excluding Honorary Members):

Knights and Dames Grand Cross	62
Knights and Dames Commander	213
Companions	927
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,202</i>

SUPPORTING US

The Order of St Michael and St George Chapel Maintenance Fund is charged with looking after the Order's Chapel at St Paul's Cathedral and is a registered charity; Charity Number 208482. Donations to the Order assist with the upkeep of the Chapel and support the services held for the Order at St Paul's Cathedral.

The Officers would like to thank those who continue to make donations and support the Order. Donations can be made annually or as a one off contribution. Should you wish to make a donation, a suggested amount of £25 is encouraged and greatly appreciated. Cheques should be made payable to 'The Order of St Michael and St George Chapel Maintenance Fund' and posted to the Central Chancery at St James's Palace. BACs donations should be made to the following account:

Account Name: The Order of St Michael and St George Chapel Maintenance Fund

Account Number: 06498752

Sort Code: 18-00-02

Bank: Coutts & Co

For International Payments: IBAN: GB64 COUT 1800 0206 4987 52

ANNUAL REPORT FEEDBACK

Suggestions and ideas for content in the next Annual Report are very welcome and appreciated! Please submit any feedback to the Central Chancery.

UPDATING YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

The Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood is also the Chancery of the Order of St Michael and St George, overseeing all records for the Order. It endeavors to keep accurate records and relies on Members informing us of any changes to contact details, including notification in the event of the death of a Member. Up to date records will help the Order to keep Members informed by email and post. If you do not wish to be contacted by the Order, please email info@ccok.org.uk The Order and Central Chancery will only contact Members regarding Order related events or information.

THE CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

The Central Chancery of the Orders of Knighthood can be contacted at the following:

Deputy Secretary of the Order: Lt Col Stephen Segrave

Email: info@ccok.org.uk

Postal Address: St James's Palace, London, SW1A 1BH

Telephone: 020 7024 5762 / 020 7024 5761

Website: www.centralchancery.org.uk