

Pro Utilitate

Preserving and promoting the St John heritage.

Newsletter of The St John
Ambulance Historical
Society of Australia
Issue 2024/2

*	From the Editor	1
*	Awards and recognition	1
*	Coming events	4
*	Recent events	4
*	Australian heraldry	5
*	Behind the scenes at the Museum	6
*	Affiliations: The Federation of Australian Historical Societies	ו 7
*	Outreach for History: Ambassadors for the Order	8
*	What is history?	1C
*	Recent publications	11
*	International news	12
*	The Malta Study Centre	12
*	Renewals for 2024	12
*	And finally	12

From the Editor

In many parts of the world, the work of St John is manifest in many ways. t times the work is disrupted by major conflict, sometimes by disasters, and at times financial difficulties. We are so fortunate that not only can the front-line work of St John in Australia continue in so many ways, but that we can continue to develop our strong interest in our history. Please consider papers for the November 26th Seminar. The Call for Papers will be out soon. Please also remember to keep any papers on cadets for the 2025 Seminar which will have cadets as a major theme.

Thank you.

Editor

Awards and recognition

The King's Coronation Medal

Our Lord Prior received the King's Coronation Medal from the Governor at Government House NSW during an Australian Honours investiture. There were numerous St John volunteers there both on duty and in attendance for other awardees.



Kerr Medal for 'Distinction in History

The 'John & Ruth Kerr Medal for Distinction in History' is awarded annually and jointly by the Royal Historical Society of Queensland and the Professional Historians' Association (Queensland). The medal is awarded to professional historians who, in the opinion of the RHSQ and PHA(Q), have significantly advanced the cause of Australian historical studies.

Many distinguished historians have been 'Kerr Medal' recipients, and now our very own Major-General Professor John H Pearn GCStJ has joined their select company because he will be the 2024 'Kerr Medal' awardee.



As Pro Utilitate readers will know, Professor Pearn is an acclaimed member of this Historical Society who has presented many papers to our annual history seminars. A professionally trained historian with a M.Phil. degree in History, John is the author of many books of history and historical articles. His two most recent books have been A Beacon of Hope (2022), the 140th anniversary history of the St John Eye Hospital Group (co-authored with Matthew Glozier and Ian Howie-Willis); and Doctors for the World: A history of the Faculty of Medicine of The University of Queensland (2023). An earlier book was First in First Aid: A History of St John Ambulance in Queensland (1998, co-authored with the late Murdoch Wales). John has published many other historical books in a wide range of topics, including botanical history, military history, medical history, biography, and the history of numismatics and philately. Pro Utilitate readers will recall that John is the immediate past Priory Librarian, and as such, was the Priory's official custodian of its history and heritage. On behalf of this Historical Society's members, Pro Utilitate congratulates John.

Fay Reeve recognised in King's Birthday Honours

Congratulations to Fay Reeve of Wynyard, Tasmania, for her award of Membership in the Order of Australia, 'AM', which was announced in the King's Birthday honours list on 10 June.

Fay's award is 'for significant service to the community in a range of roles and organisations'. Very prominent among these have been Fay's distinguished contributions to St John Ambulance Australia. Fay Joined St John 61 years ago. She has held many positions in the organisation since then and was promoted to Dame of Grace in 1999. Those who are familiar with Fay's St John work will agree that she has earnt her 'AM' many times over. If you'd like to know more about Fay, you'll find her profiled in the 2012 'Women's History'



(Celebrating Women in St John Ambulance Australia), p. 115. Ian Howie-Willis

SJAA Bronze Commendation and COVID-19 Pin

Paul Copeland, our treasurer, has advised that, whilst dated 27 August 2022, he recently received the St John Ambulance Australia Bronze Commendation and COVID-19 Lapel Pin, for his service during the pandemic in 2020 with SJAA Victoria in a range of roles

Awards and Honours continued

including transporting positive patients and collecting test samples within the suburbs of Melbourne. Congratulations Paul.

Paul had prepared a statement describing his involvement in this period of 'History in the Making' which members might be interested in reading:

In the early stages of the Pandemic (May 2020), I was a volunteer and answered the calls for such volunteers in collecting bio samples as part of the Victorian Government's attempt to test the Northern Suburbs of Melbourne, along with other known infectious areas. The business of sample collection normally involved 2

St John Volunteers in an Ambulance vehicle, wearing Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and provided a list of addresses of targeted suburbs by the Department of Health. Previously the Department of Health had organised individuals to deliver the test kits to households with enclosed forms in the package to collect personal data, including on the sample tubes.

I was also involved in a couple of jobs transporting positive patients, mainly those arriving from overseas; and taking them from one locked-down hotel to the infectious-holding hotels in Melbourne. The PPE in these duties also included protective gowns. After the transportation of the patient, the inside of the vehicle had to be cleaned with alcohol swabs.

The change to the organisation, like many businesses, enabled many individuals to work remotely. Volunteers, normally delivering all levels of First Aid during events, weren't deployed because of the severity of the lockdowns in Melbourne between 2020–2022.

First Aid courses were developed for online delivery via Zoom, which enabled volunteers and members of the general public to maintain their First Aid/First Responder accreditation, including CPR updates. This was a unique approach by St John Ambulance and demonstrated that even remotely located individuals are able to attend the training or course sessions.

Perhaps of greater controversy, was the mandatory requirement by the majority of Australian emergency services and their



members, to document and hold in-evidence their COVID-19 vaccinations. This required individual members to be vaccinated with 2–3 doses before December 2022. I know that in the NSW SES organisation many members left that organisation, because they had personal reasons for not being vaccinated. This was also mandated for air travel into and departing Australia. I am not sure of the effect to SJAA, of this particular requirement.

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly affected Australia along with the rest of the world. We had not seen this level of disease since the 'Spanish' Flu pandemic of 1918–1920. In that pandemic, it is estimated, through a revised paper written in 1991, that between 24.7 to 39.3 million people worldwide died from the flu. (https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/11875246/)

Whilst still active, as is the flu, 775,552,205 (cumulative total) cases have been reported to the World Health Organisation (WHO) as of 10 June 2024, with +27,721 increase on the previous 7 days. Reported COVID-19 deaths (28 days to 26 May 2024) is 1,792. (https://data.who.int/dashboards/covid19/).

Economically, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), reported that Australia suffered a \$158 billion deficit during the COVID-19 period of 2020–2022 (https://www.abs.gov.au/articles/economic-gains-and-losses-over-covid-19-pandemic).

The effect on a multitude of organisations within Australia, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic was significant and saw many businesses close.

Coming events

Our AGM

The Historical Society AGM was held on-line on Monday 24 June 2024, and a separate notice will be sent about the meeting.

The new St John Museum in Tasmania

Friday 11 October, 5.00 pm

The new St John Museum in Tasmania will be opened at 5.00 pm on Friday 11 October 2024 at 177 Main Road, Moonah. Her Excellency, Professor the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, the Governor of Tasmania and our Deputy Prior, has graciously accepted their invitation to officially open the new museum. She will be accompanied by Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers on this occasion. The Governor and Professor Chalmers will be accompanied by Her Excellency's Aide-de-Camp, Captain Tom Calderwood. It is expected that Her Excellency will give an address and unveil a plaque.

This is great news and the Historical Society are working behind the scenes to ensure this will be a well- attended and publicised event. They are always on the lookout for donations of items that help to record the very rich history of St John in Tasmania.

2024 SJHS Seminar

Saturday 23 November

Our 2024 Seminar will be held in Canberra on November 23 so please get your pencils sharpened for papers. More details to follow however, it will be the same weekend as the Priory Chapter Meeting and Church Service as usual. If you do happen to have a paper ready to go, send it to history.secretary@stjohn.org.au.

Recent events

Wreath laying

While visiting the Priory of Hong Kong for their 140th Anniversary in April, our Lord Prior, Mark Compton, laid a wreath at the memorial for 56 members of St John who lost their lives during the Japanese invasion and occupation of Hong Kong.

Link to May webinar

The Historical Society hosted the second of our online webinars on 'How to get the Best from On-line Search Engines' in early May. The discussion which featured a panel of presenters including Dr Matthew Glozier, Dr David Fahey, and Philip Blackwell. May Seminar Link







Australian heraldry

Matthew Glozier

Librarian of the Priory in Australia Deputy Librarian of the Order of St John Official Historian of the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group

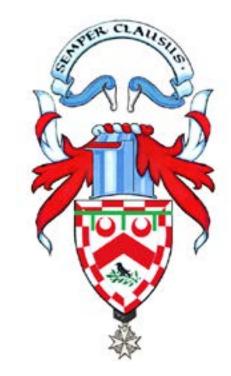
Hon. Archivist, St John N.S.W.

Matriculation of Arms (Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland, Vol. 76, fol. 86), 15 September 1997.

Arms Argent a chevron Gules between two crescents of the Last in chief and a martlet Sable perching upon a sprig of olive Vert in base within a bordure counter-compony of the First and Second.

Motto Semper Clausus (Latin: Always Closed / Fortified).

Matthew's great-grandfather used the armorial bearings of the old French family Clozier de Juvigny and these arms were formally recorded in Scotland in name of his great-



grandfather. Matthew's differenced version of the arms were recorded in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland in 1997. 'Matriculation' is a process unique to Scottish heraldry. No two people are allowed to use the exact same coat-of-arms in Scotland, so it is necessary for each person who has a right to bear arms to record and use a version that contains some mark of difference. In Matthew's case, this takes the form of a bordure around the edge of the shield, which indicates that his grandfather was a third son (according to the so-called Nesbit system of differencing, the second cadet branch of a family would have a silver bordure which in this case would be lost on the silver shield necessitating the checkered bordure you see here). In addition to the bordure, Matthew bears the temporary difference of a green 'label' of three points currently while his father lives.

Eye Hospital heraldry

Dear friends and those interested in Eye Hospital heraldry,

A brief online article highlights some interest from the Israeli Antiquities
Authority in the carvings at the old Eye
Hospital in Jerusalem — the emblem of King
George V was discovered on the walls of
the site that served as an English hospital
for eye diseases more than 100 years ago,
along with 23 symbols belonging to key
figures in British history (www.ynet.co.il).

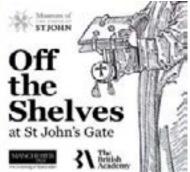
This bodes well for the reach of my book which we are about to launch on 8 July in Cardiff. Symbols of Hope indeed!



Behind the scenes at the Museum

Off the Shelves at St John's Gate





https://museumstjohn.org.uk/off-the-shelves-at-st-johns-gate-a-podcast-series/

In mid-May 2024 we launched a new podcast series featuring new research into the history of the Order of St John in the later medieval and early modern periods—when the Order was headquartered on Rhodes and Malta, and our Priory here in London was built. Each episode begins as we take an item off the shelves from our historic library collection in the West Tower of St John's Gate, and explore different aspects of our history that it leads us to investigate.

Over the course of the six episodes, we'll be taking a closer look at subjects ranging from indulgences, to pilgrimage, charitable donation and care for the sick—the hospitals for which the Order has been rightly famed from its inception to the present day. If you are now wondering what an indulgence actually is, what the real purpose of pilgrimage was, or even what the medieval equivalent of a food bank looked like, we'll be answering these questions and more besides.

Our host is <u>Dr Stephen Mossman</u> of the University of Manchester, whose ongoing research into the history of the Order has drawn on the manuscripts and early printed books in our library. We'll travel across Europe, from London to the Holy Land

by way of Rhodes and even Strasbourg, meeting the literary witnesses to the lives of the men and women who joined, supported, or were helped by the Order in past times. There will also be shorter instalments online to introduce some of the other great treasures on our library shelves.

This project builds upon the <u>cataloguing of</u> the historic library that a generous donation to the Museum recently made possible, as we look to unlock the stories that our library contains and make them accessible in new ways. The podcast series has been funded by the British Academy as part of Stephen's research into the history of our Order in the German-speaking lands, a subject on which his own book should be published and join the shelves of our library in not too many years.

We would love to hear from you, our listeners! We will be recording a special podcast at the end of the series to answer your questions. So, if there is anything that comes to your mind to ask, whether about the history, the books themselves, the Museum or anything else, or any other feedback or commentary you would like to give, do please write to us at museum@sja. org.uk and we'll do our best to answer!

Affiliations: The Federation of Australian Historical Societies

For the past five years, since April 2019, this Historical Society has been an associate member of the Federation of Australian Historical Societies (FAHS). An 'associate member'? Why not full membership? The answer lies in the nature of the FAHS, which is a peak body for about 1000 historical societies of various kinds across Australia, with a total membership of about 100,000 people.

Only eight historical societies enjoy full membership, one for each state and territory; and they are those regarded as the key historical societies in their respective jurisdictions. The eight are: the Canberra and District Historical Society (Australian Capital Territory), the Historical Society of the Northern Territory, the History Trust of South Australia, the Royal Australian Historical Society (New South Wales), the Royal Historical Society of Queensland, the Royal Historical Society of Victoria, the Royal Western Australian Historical Society, and the Tasmanian Historical Research Association. The other 992 (more or less) have joined the FAHS as associate members. Our Historical Society, and also the St John Museum at Williamstown in Melbourne, are among this group.

The FAHS formed in 1977 as a lobby group. Its motto, 'Because history matters', summarises its outlook, general aims and purposes. The FAHS constitution describes its functions in more detail: 'the Federation communicates with government and public officials to inform them about issues affecting historical societies and museums, and to advocate [their] interests'.

What is surprising about the SAHS membership is the sheer number and diversity of the members. The majority are best described as 'town, suburb and district' historical societies. These include, for instance, the Coonabarabran History Group Inc. (NSW), the King Island

Historical Society (Tas), the Mundaring & Hills Historical Society (WA), the Waverley Historical Society (Vic), and the Yankalilla & District Historical Society Inc (SA).

Many of the associate members are 'special interest' societies. These include various groups for particular 'ethnic' communities, including Aboriginal, Chinese, Cornish, Greek, Italian, Jewish, Maltese and Polish. Some are for churches and religious groups. Others are for occupational groups and industries, for example the police, fire brigades, railways, the armed services, postal and telecommunications, mining, aviation, shipping, and the theatre. Others again are for artistic, scientific and cultural endeavours, including the cinema, dance, music, poetry, astronomy, archaeology, gardens, and genealogy. Still others are for particular historic houses, cemeteries, hospitals and museums.

To help its member bodies, the FAHS publishes or provides access to various guides and training manuals. These include: Small Museums Cataloguing Manual; Running a Society; and Writing and Publishing Local History: A Guide for Firsttime Authors and Historical Societies.

But what benefits has this Historical Society gained from its FAHSA membership? Perhaps the greatest is knowing that we are not alone. We feel re-energised and re-committed to our task as a historical society as we become aware that we have many like-minded organisations parallel to our own which share our belief that 'history matters'.

Together we play a critical role in helping Australian society cohere. We are a kind of 'social cement'. The individual members of FAHS-affiliated groups, many tens of thousands of them, annually contribute countless hundreds of thousands of hours of voluntary effort in researching, writing and publishing history, in collecting documents, books, pictures and artefacts,

Affiliations continued

in preserving these in special 'keeping places', libraries and museums, in running public lectures, seminars and exhibitions, and all the while helping local and regional economies through advancing 'heritage tourism'.

Does any of that sound familiar to us St Johnnies, proud members as we are of this particular Historical Society? In our own parent organisation, St John Ambulance Australia, we can also say that we play an important part in promoting a sense of collective pride in St John's corporate identity. "Look at our history!" we proclaim; "Let us be proud of who we are and may that inspire us redouble our efforts *pro fide* and *pro utilitate hominum*!"

A final point, about why we affiliated with the FAHS. We initially did so at the suggestion of our second President, Dr Harry Oxer AM, ASM, KStJ. Thank you, Harry, for pointing us in the right direction!

Readers wishing to know more about the FAHS should visit its website at <u>www.</u> history.org.au.

This contribution from Dr Ian Howie-Willis

Outreach for History: Ambassadors for the Order

Bruce Caslake has recently provided information on their active program in bringing the Order of St John to St John divisions. He writes:

Dear fellow St John Family, the Ambassadors are a group of Order of St John Members who are dedicated to explain how we all fit into the Order of St John and the origins of our organisation. We have been very busy last year with visits to divisions right throughout the State, from Mildura and Portland in the west to Sale and beyond in the East. In

Melbourne and metropolitan areas visits are also occurring from west to east and north to south. Our presentation also covers Order awards, Service and Commendations awards and how that applies to all members. Hopefully this will give all members something to aspire to.

The Order organisation is also covered, from the Grand Council internationally and the Priory in Australia; who is involved, how they can be recognised and what their jobs entail. The various ceremonies are all so covered, from Church Parade to the Investiture at Government House.

With statistics from Headquarters in Victoria of what St John is doing to help











L-R: Bruce Caslake OStJ (Team Leader), Elisa Lay MStJ, Christine Morrison MStJ, Dr lain Nicolson KStJ and Tony Oxford CStJ

Outreach for history continued

in the community, we hope that this will help instill pride in our members. Armed with this information our members can go about their duties knowing that St John is not about making money for someone, but is here to serve our communities.

Last year with the help of all of our Ambassadors: Christine Morrison, Elisa Lay, Dr Iain Nicolson, Tony Oxford CStJ, and myself with Robert Wilson KStJ our Order Registrar, we have visited 34 Divisions, 3 Probus clubs, 1 U3A club and a local Masonic Lodge.

This year the next 30 divisions are on the agenda to finish off the divisional visitation. We are also out in the community spreading the information about St John, with visits planed for local U3A groups, Church groups and the Parkinson's Support Group in Werribee in November. Dr lain Nicolson KStJ has been spreading our presentation overseas in Singapore and St John's Gate, wow we are certainly getting out there, thanks Doctor Nick. I would also like to present our program to all paid staff in St John.

In the future I hope that our program will expand to the rest of Australia. I have had a lot of interest from all over Australia about the lack of this type of information; it seems to be a common concern.

Bruce Caslake OStJ, Team Leader, Ambassador of The Order of St John, Victoria.

The Challenge





An edition of 101 Great Recipes issued by the NSW Nursing and Nursing Cadet personnel ... which may have been scribbled on by the current Lord Prior in younger years!

Would anyone know the date of publication or who was behind this? As a clue, the Headquarters was at 21 Macquarie Place, Sydney at the time and there were only 6 numbers in the telephone numbers at that time.

The previous challenge

Phillip Blackwell offered the Bronze Service Medal awarded by St John Ambulance Brigade of India.



And Ian Howie-Willis offered his thoughts: 'that it's an Indian version of the St John Service Medal. The fuzzy inscription round the rim seems to say, "Awarded by the St John Ambulance Brigade, India"; and the bust is clearly

that of Mahatma Ghandi. It'll probably be post-Independence, i.e. after 1947. My supposition is that in a fit nationalist pride and anti-imperialist sentiment, St John India, or at least the Brigade in India, began issuing their own Service Medals with Ghandi substituted for Queen Victoria. One of QV's titles was "Indiae Imperatrix" — "Empress of India", a title the Indians never gave her.'



25th instalment from Dr Ian Howie-Willis KStJ

Note from the Editor

Please write a letter to the Editor if you would like to contribute to this or any other discussion.

What is history?

Future history

Chronologically speaking, history is always one of three kinds—past, present or future. Past history is what historians write about, i.e. the events that have happened and are now in the past. Present history is usually called 'current events'. It comprises what's happening right now; and that's what you see, hear and read about in the news media.

Future history hasn't happened yet; and so no one can really say what its events will be. Short of being able to climb into Dr Who's time-machine, the 'Tardis', and zoom off into future millennia, we cannot predict with 100% accuracy what the future holds.

That, however, doesn't prevent people from trying to predict what will happen. In Biblical times such people were called prophets, especially when they warned their fellow citizens that the wrath of God would befall those who lived wicked lives and failed to repent of their sins. In later ages they were known as sooth–sayers. Depending on the culture they belonged to, they might gaze into a crystal ball to discern the course of future events; or they might try to find meaning in the pattern of tea leaves left behind in a cup. In ancient Rome a specialist called a 'haruspex' practised a gruesome form of divination to predict the future. This involved examining the entrails of a dead chicken or other sacrificial animal to seek clues about coming events.

In the present era, those who try to foretell what will happen are called 'futurologists'. Their specialty, variously called 'futurology', 'futuristics' or 'futuring', is an interdisciplinary study that claims to be rigorous in its approach to events that haven't yet happened. They emphasise the point that what they are engaged in is best described as 'strategic foresight' because it helps people plan realistically.

Futurologists believe that governments, organisations and institutions can influence future events to their own advantage. Government instrumentalities habitually try to do that in their planning processes. They try to place new transport infrastructure, schools, hospitals, commercial outlets and social amenities where they will be most needed. Indeed the governments that fail to indulge in such futurology are unlikely to survive because by not planning adequately they create chaos and accordingly will inevitably lose popularity.

Amazingly, there are now commercial futurology firms which offer consultancy services, advising organisations on planning strategies. One such Australian firm is McCrindle Research, whose website argues that: 'Better decisions today make a better tomorrow. We want to partner with you to help you turn insights into action that help you do what you do better.'

The principal of the firm is a young chap called Mark McCrindle who advertises himself as 'a leader in tracking emerging issues

What is history? continued

and researching social trends'. He doesn't call himself a futurologist but that's plainly what he does because he peppers his speeches and articles with gems of 'futuristics' such as these: 'The future is no longer a destination to which we are travelling but rather something that is coming at us from various directions at an incredible velocity. A future that represents many new opportunities.'

Those of us who've spent our lives thinking about history can't be quite so enthusiastically optimistic. We recall certain predictions by so-called experts that soon turned out to be very wrong. They included these: (1) 'Advances in modern medicine will soon ensure that humans will live to 150'; (2) 'Viewers will soon tire of TV because no one wants to sit staring at a screen for hours on end'; (3) 'Robots performing human tasks might happen in science fiction but will never ever do that in real life'; (4) 'The Internet is just a fad that will soon be forgotten'; and (5) 'Online shopping will flop because it doesn't include human interaction'.

On the other hand, in the decades before they were invented, few people—not even futurologists—could have foretold what far-ranging changes would be wrought by innovations such as the mobile phone (which doubles as a pocket-sized camera and personal computer), social media (a

personal means for communicating with the rest of humanity) and unmanned aerial vehicles (a.k.a. drones).

But is any of this relevant to St John Ambulance Australia (SJAA)? In this author's opinion yes, it is. Here I remind readers that back in those balmy pre-Covid years when we held annual Members' Conventions that rotated from one capital city to another, the grand seminars we held were essentially exercises in futurology. They variously canvassed topics like 'The Future of First Aid', 'Future Training for First Aid Volunteers', 'How to Attract and Retain Volunteers', 'Future First Aid Skills' and 'The First Aid Kit of the Future'.

As a modern national organisation, SJAA is obliged to keep a weather eye on the future. SJAA's planning processes at all levels, local, state/territory and national, are obligatory futuristics. Unless we fore-arm ourselves, how can we meet the challenge of our commercial competitors? How do we guarantee our future financial integrity? How do we retain our voluntaristic and charitable ethos in an increasingly materialistic society? How do we attract and retain the right staff and volunteers to perpetuate ourselves institutionally? Unless our planning processes come up with answers that can be implemented, we will drift directionlessly. And so, I pray, may futurology flourish in SJAA!

Recent publications

It is now possible to watch the inaugural lecture of Professor William Purkis, Librarian of the Priory of England and the Islands: <u>Should we stop talking about The Crusades?</u>

In his lecture at the University of Birmingham on 1 May, William argues that some of the most familiar aspects of the narrative and conceptual scaffolding for histories of The Crusades—including the idea of "The Crusades" itself—might fruitfully be dismantled and set aside to clear the ground for a fresh and more holistic understanding

aside, to clear the ground for a fresh and more holistic understanding of an innovative medieval devotional practice that might simply be called "crossing".

William's lecture became available to view online last week, so this is hot off the press! Huge congratulations again to William on his appointment as Professor of Medieval History, and a fascinating and thought-provoking lecture.

International news

Grand Council

The Grand Council Meetings will be held in Cardiff, Wales, 7–12 July with strong representations from the International St John Community. These annual meetings resolve many issues and continue to promote a global One St John.

SJEHG news

For those interested in following the progress of the St John Eye Hospital Group in the Middle East, the CEO, puts out a public weekly bulletin, St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group CEO Weekly (https://www.stjohneyehospital.org/israel-gaza-hostilities-weekly-bulletin/).



The Malta Study Centre

Our Librarian colleague at the Priory in Scotland, Duncan McAra CStJ, has brought to our attention a fascinating presentation on Early Modern Hospitallers.

Dr Daniel Gullo, Director of the Malta Study Center at the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library (HMML) in the USA delivered an online seminar followed by a discussion with Dr. Valeria Vanesio, who was invited to share how the work of the Malta Study Center extends to international seminars, teaching



workshops, and exhibitions. (Dr Valeria Vanesio and Dr Emanuel Buttigieg, visited the Library of the Priory of Scotland in July 2019.)

To learning more about the cultural heritage preservation work of HMML's Malta Study Center, click here to watch the seminar: https://youtu.be/DKAeBCI6OE8?feature=shared

Renewals for 2024

We remind you to renew your Historical Society subscription for 2024 if you would like to continue your membership. As a paid-up member, you receive 3 issues of *Pro Utilitate*, a copy of *St John History* and access to a wealth of information on the ancient and modern history of our international organisation. You will find the generic membership application/renewal form on the national website: stjohn.org.au/about

And finally ...

The third issue (No 2024–3) will be out in December 2024 with a deadline for contributions by mid–November. We encourage letters, articles, or ideas for the forthcoming publication.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Editor, *Pro Utilitate*Dr Elizabeth Ellis OStJ
M: 0411 032 712

E: history.secretary@stjohn.org.au