

Royal Charter, 1955

Elizabeth the Second by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith. To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting!

Whereas by a Royal Charter under the Great Seal, bearing date at Westminster the fourteenth day of May in the fifty-first year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria and in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight (hereinafter referred to as the Original Charter) "The Grand Priory of the Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem in England", was incorporated for the objects and purposes declared in the original Charter and in the Statutes set forth in the Schedule thereto:

AND WHEREAS by a Supplemental Charter bearing date at Westminster the twenty-second day of May in the seventh year of the Reign of His Majesty King Edward the Seventh and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seven certain alterations were made in the provisions of the original Charter:

AND WHEREAS by a further Royal Charter under the Great Seal bearing date at Westminster the twelfth day of June in the seventeenth year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Fifth and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six (hereinafter referred to as "the Charter of 1926") the provisions of the Original Charter and the said Supplemental Charter were amended, consolidated and superseded and in particular it was declared and ordained that the name, designation and title of the said Order should from the date of issue of the Charter of 1926 be "the Grand Priory in the British Realm of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem":

AND WHEREAS by a further Royal Charter under the Great Seal bearing date at Westminster the first day of August in the first year of the reign of His Majesty King Edward the Eighth and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and

thirty-six (hereinafter referred to as "the Charter of 1936") the Charter of 1926 was amended and superseded and it was ordained that the Charter of 1936 was and should be the sole Charter of the Grand Priory aforesaid:

AND WHEREAS it has been represented to Us by Our most dear and entirely beloved Uncle and most faithful Counsellor Henry, Duke of Gloucester, Knight of Our Most Noble Order of the Garter, who is now the Grand Prior of the Grand Priory aforesaid, that the Charter of 1936 should be amended and superseded by a further Charter granted by Us AND WHEREAS it is considered expedient to amend and supersede the Charter of 1936 by the grant of a further Charter being these Presents:

Now know ye that We, having taken the premises into Our consideration, by Our especial Grace Certain Knowledge and Mere Motion for Us Our Heirs and Successors, by this further Charter, under the power by the Charter of 1936 reserved to Us Our Heirs and Successors and every other power Us hereunto enabling, do DECLARE AND ORDAIN as follows:

Clause 1.—Amendment and Supersession of the Charter of 1936—

We do hereby amend and supersede the Charter of 1936 and grant to the Grand Priory aforesaid this further Royal Charter superseding the Charter of 1936 and We Ordain that this Our Royal Charter is and shall be the sole Charter of the Grand Priory aforesaid.

Clause 2.—Title—

We do hereby further ordain that the name, designation and title of the Grand Priory aforesaid is and shall continue to be "the Grand Priory in the British Realm of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem", and we further Declare that the same usually shall be styled and designated for brevity "The Order of St. John" and shall in this Charter be referred to as "the Order".

Clause 3.—Rights and Privileges—

We do hereby further ordain that the Order shall have a Common Seal and have perpetual succession, and that it may by and in the said name and style, sue, implead and answer,

and be sued, impleaded and answered in all Courts whatsoever, whether of Law or Equity, and be competent to do all other acts, matters and things incidental or appertaining to a body politic and corporate, and to enjoy all rights and privileges lawfully appertaining to bodies politic and corporate.

(Clauses 4, 5 and 6 were revoked by the provisions of the Supplemental Royal Charter of 1974.)

In Witness whereof We have caused these Our letters to be made Patent.

Witness Ourself at Westminster the fifteenth day of March in the fourth year of Our Reign.

By Warrant under the Queen's Sign Manual.

COLDSTREAM.



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Supplemental Royal Charter, 1974

Elizabeth the Second by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith. To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting!

Whereas by a Royal Charter dated the fourteenth day of May in the fifty-first year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria and in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight (hereinafter referred to as "the Original Charter") all the Members (excluding Associates) for the time being of the Order created by the Original Charter were incorporated under the name and style of "The Grand Priory of the Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem in England" for the objects and purposes declared in the Original Charter and in the Statutes set forth in the Schedule thereto:

AND WHEREAS by a Supplemental Charter dated the twenty-second day of May in the seventh year of the Reign of His Majesty King Edward the Seventh and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seven certain alterations were made in the provisions of the Original Charter:

AND WHEREAS by a further Royal Charter dated the twelfth day of June in the seventeenth year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Fifth and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six (hereinafter referred to as "the Charter of 1926") the provisions of the Original Charter and the said Supplemental Charter were amended, consolidated and superseded and in particular it was declared and ordained that the name, designation and the title of the said Order should from the date of issue of the Charter of 1926 be "the Grand Priory in the British Realm of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem":

AND WHEREAS by a further Royal Charter dated the first day of August in the first year of the Reign of His Majesty King Edward the Eighth and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and thirty-six (hereinafter referred to as "the Charter of 1936") the Charter of 1926 was amended and superseded and it was ordained that the Charter of 1936 was and should be the sole Charter of the Grand Priory aforesaid:

AND WHEREAS by a further Royal Charter dated the fifteenth day of March in the fourth year of Our Reign and in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and fifty-five (hereinafter referred to as "the Charter of 1955") the Charter of 1936 was amended and superseded and it was ordained that the Charter of 1955 was and should be the sole Charter of the Grand Priory aforesaid:

AND WHEREAS the Charter of 1955 was subsequently amended by two Supplemental Charters dated respectively the fourteenth day of November in the seventh year of Our Reign and the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight and the twenty-eighth day of February in the nineteenth year of Our Reign and the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seventy (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Supplemental Charters of 1958 and 1970"):

AND WHEREAS it has been represented unto US by Our most dear and entirely beloved Uncle and most faithful Counsellor Henry, Duke of Gloucester, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, who is now the Grand Prior of the Grand Priory aforesaid, that the Supplemental Charters of 1958 and 1970 should be revoked and that the Charter of 1955 should be amended by a further Supplemental Charter granted by US providing among other things that the name, designation and title of the Order should again be amended and that the Statutes set forth in the Schedule to the Charter of 1955 which regulate the internal administration and organisation of the Order should be replaced in revised form so that the objects and purposes of the Order may be better attained:

Now know ye that We, having taken the premises into Our Royal Consideration, of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have declared and ordained and by these Presents do for Us, Our Heirs and Successors DECLARE AND ORDAIN as follows:

Clause 1.—Interpretation—

This Our Royal Charter shall supersede the Charter of 1955 except in so far as any provisions of the said Charter are not hereby revoked.

Clause 2.—Amendment of Charter of 1955—

The provisions of the Charter of 1955, except so far as they incorporate the said Grand Priory and confer on it perpetual

succession and authorise it to have a Common Seal, to sue and be sued and to enjoy all the rights and privileges lawfully appertaining to bodies politic and corporate, are hereby revoked.

Clause 3.—Revocation of Supplemental Charters—

The Supplemental Charters of 1958 and 1970 are also revoked.

Clause 4.—Saving—

The revocation in part of the Charter of 1955 and the revocation of the aforesaid Supplemental Charters shall not affect the validity or legality of any thing done or executed or of any dealing with property or of any investment made under any of the revoked provisions of the said Charters or of any of the Statutes of the Order annexed thereto.

Clause 5.—Change of Name of the Corporate Body—

All persons who are at the date of this Our Supplemental Charter enrolled as Members of the Order in the roll of members thereof in the custody of the Secretary-General of the Order and are of any of the grades of Members hereinafter specified and all persons who shall for the time being in pursuance of and in accordance with these Presents be Members of the Order shall continue to be one body politic and corporate by the name and style of "The Grand Priory of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem" which as heretofore may be styled and designated for brevity "The Order of St. John" and shall herein and in the Statutes be referred to as "the Order".

Clause 6.—Property—

The Order shall have power to purchase, acquire, take and hold in perpetuity or otherwise any property, lands, tenements and hereditaments.

Clause 7.—Powers of Investment—

The powers of the Order to invest moneys and funds of the Order not immediately required to be expended shall be such as shall be specified in the Statutes of the Order.

Clause 8.—Statutes of the Order—

The Statutes contained in the Schedule to this Our Supplemental Charter are hereby declared to be the sole Statutes of the Order until they shall be altered in the manner hereinafter appearing.

Clause 9.—Saving for Establishments, etc., Overseas—

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Charter of 1955 and of this Our Supplemental Charter, it is hereby declared that any Establishment or other subordinate body of the Order in a country overseas shall have and shall be deemed always to have had power to incorporate or register itself for the purpose of complying with the requirements of any local law.

Clause 10.—Amendment of Charter and Statutes—

The Order may revoke, amend or add to any of the provisions of the Charter of 1955 or this Our Supplemental Charter or the Statutes of the Order by a Resolution passed by not less than three-quarters of the members present and entitled to vote at a meeting of the Chapter-General of the Order specially summoned for the purpose, and of which at least three months' notice has been given, and any such revocation, amendment or addition shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council become effective so that the Charter of 1955 or this Our Supplemental Charter or the Statutes of the Order shall thenceforth continue and operate as though they had been originally granted and made accordingly. This provision shall apply to the Charter of 1955 or to this Our Supplemental Charter or the Statutes of the Order as revoked, amended or added to in the manner aforesaid.

In Witness whereof We have caused these Our letters to be made Patent.

Witness Ourself at Westminster the twenty-ninth day of April in the twenty-third year of Our Reign.

By Warrant under the Queen's Sign Manual.

DOBSON.



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