



Jacques de Molay Commandery 1314

European Knights Visit Temple (Balantrodach)

On Sunday the 23rd September 2007 a group of International Knights Templar from eight Countries visited the old ruined church at Temple (Balantrodach), the one time headquarters of the Knights Templar in Scotland, the group met up with Chev. Archie Young KCTpl. FSA Scot, who is a Knight of the Jacques de Molay 1314 Commandery.

The enthusiastic group were all willing to learn about the history of the area and the little church, many questions were asked and the group felt satisfied with what they were told, they were amazed that this was the only known Scottish Templar structure still standing from the 1100's.

Afterwards all the Knights gathered outside the grounds discussing what they had learned and seen, soon after it was time to go, some were travelling to visit Melrose Abbey that was once Cistercian and others decided to visit Edinburgh, a photo shoot was called for and taken, all the Knights in the group thanked Chev. Young for showing them around, and hugs and kisses were given in the good old European way.

Once again the of Jacques de Molay Commandery 1314 has kept its promise to help and assist Templars from all over the world, we are all brothers and sisters under one umbrella, no matter what Order of Knights Templar we belong to we are all the same. When it comes to Templarism there is no class system to separate us, we are all the poor Knights of Christ.

Point of note

On the last visit to Temple prior to this one, it was noted that a tree was growing out of the base of the church at the East end, and some shrubbery and weeds growing out of the walls as well. Chev Archie Young promised his Commander SE. Chev. George Stewart. KGCTpl. FSA. Scot that he would contact the authorities that deal with the church and have the matter dealt with. After contacting various people and explaining his fears for the property, the matter seems to be in hand, the tree has been cut down but the shrub is still growing out of the wall on the South side, we await to see if this is dealt with.

Another fear of his is the boundary wall between the old ruin and the one time manse, the wall is now lying at an angle and could fall over at any time and could knock over some of the head stones, there are also some head stones within the grounds that have fallen over. The authorities have indicated that the next of kin will be hard to find and have them reset the stones. On contacting Historic Scotland, Chev. Archie Young was amazed to find out that the ruined church at Temple is only a grade "B" listed building, he believes that it should be listed as grade "A" due to its historical background, he urges all Knights Templar worldwide to please do as much as possible in their power to help protect this little ruined church and its grounds.

Jacques de Molay Commandery 1314 reporter.