

The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John

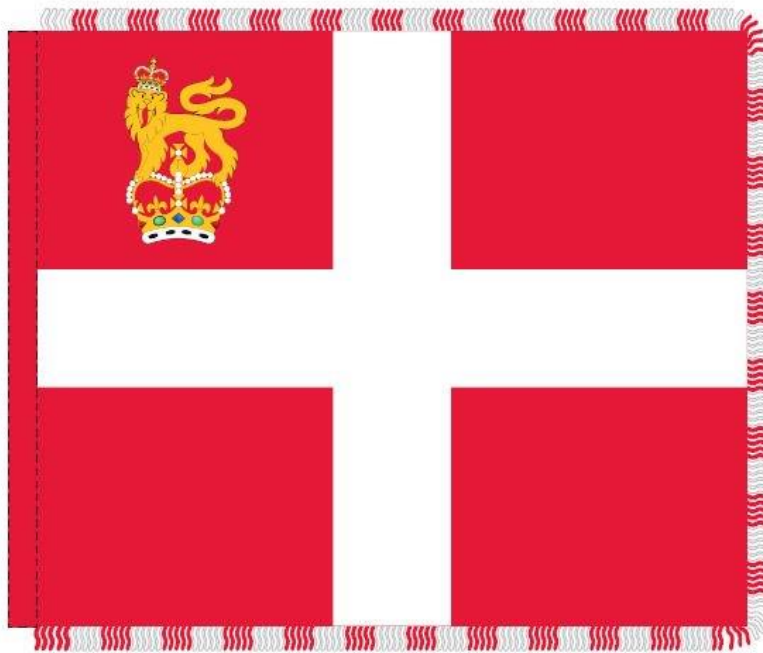
Banner and Flag Handbook

Issue 2 dated 13 April 2022

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The Great Banner of the Order



The Great Banner of the Order displays the ancient arms of the Order and bears an augmentation of honour, being embellished with a representation of the Sovereign's Crest in the first quarter, an especial mark of Royal favour granted by His Majesty King George V.

The Great Banner of the Order shall be 89.5cm in height, 111cm in width with a 5cm fringe of alternate white and red sections 5cm wide bordering the Banner on three sides. The limbs of the cross thereon shall be 23.5cm wide and the representation of the Sovereign's Crest in the first quarter shall be depicted as large as may conveniently be placed in that quarter. The Great Banner of the Order shall be flown from a staff on the top of which shall be a representation of the Sovereign's Crest



The Great Banner Finial

The Great Banner of the Order shall be flown:

- at all times at the headquarters of the Order (being as at the Commencement Date at St John House, Charterhouse Mews, Clerkenwell, London, EC1M 6BB, United Kingdom);

- at all times, where practicable, over the headquarters of each Priory and Commandery and at the Eye Hospital;²
- when practicable, over the headquarters of each St John Association;
- on other places on St John's Day and on 8 September each year (being the anniversary of the relief of Malta in 1565);
- by the Sovereign Head, Grand Prior and the Lord Prior whenever and wherever they think fit, but by no other Member of the Order.

A flag similar to the Great Banner but without the fringe, or a flag bearing the Priory Arms, may be flown in place of the Great Banner, in which case the staff need not carry the finial representation of the Sovereign's Crest. The dimensions of the flag will vary and it is to be at a 3:2 ratio in regard to width/height.

The Great Banner of the Order may be carried or flown when in procession or in session by:

- the Grand Council;
- the Executive Committee; and
- Priory and Commandery Chapters.

The Great Banner of the Order may be carried in procession in public.

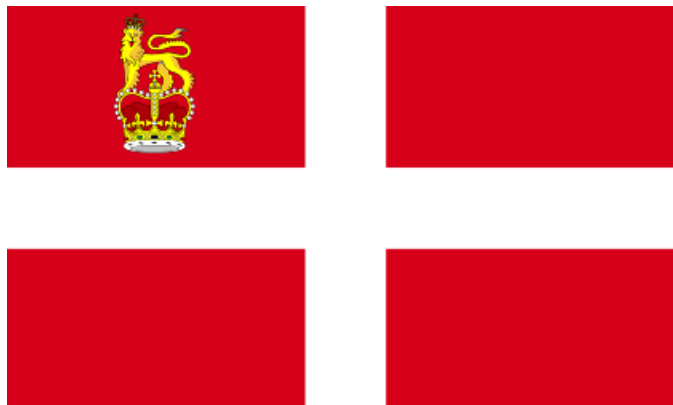


Illustration x The Flag of the Order

Great Banner and other flags at half-mast

For the purposes of this Regulation, a reference to the Great Banner of the Order or other flag being flown at half-mast is a reference to the Great Banner of the Order or other flag being flown two-thirds of the way up a flagpole (half-way in the territory of the Priory in United States of America or in other territories in accordance with local custom), with at least the height of the flag between the top of the flag and the top of the flagpole.

The Great Banner of the Order and other flags may not be flown at half-mast on flagpoles which are more than 45 degrees from the vertical. In such cases a black mourning cravat may be used.

When the Great Banner of the Order or another flag is to be flown at half-mast, it should first be raised all the way to the top of the flagpole, allowed to remain there for a second and then

lowered to the half-mast position. When it is being lowered from half-mast, it should again be raised to the top of the flagpole for a second before being fully lowered.

Subject to any special rules which may apply in any territory as to flag etiquette on the day of the proclamation of a new Sovereign's accession ("Proclamation Day"), flags should be flown at half-mast on the announcement of the death and until the funeral of:

- the Sovereign Head (except on Proclamation Day), following instructions from the Royal Household;
- the announcement of the death and until the funeral of a member of the Royal Family styled 'Royal Highness', subject to special commands from the Sovereign Head in each case;
- on the announcement of the death and until the funeral of other members of the Royal Family, subject to special commands from the Sovereign Head in each case;
- the Grand Prior;
- Bailiffs and Dames Grand Cross; and
- on such other occasions as the Grand Prior or the Lord Prior may direct.
- At the discretion of the Prior of a Priory (or, in a Vice Regal Priory, the person as delegated by the Prior to make such decisions on their behalf), Priory flags may be lowered for national mourning and for the death of very senior officials.
- At the discretion of a Commander of a Commandery, Commandery flags may be lowered for national mourning and for the death of very senior officials.
- At the discretion of the chairman of a St John Association, the relevant flag may be lowered for national mourning and for the death of very senior officials.
- When The Great Banner of the Order is at half-mast, other flags on the same stand of flagpoles should also be at half-mast or not flown at all.
- When other flags of the Order are at half mast, the Great Banner of the Order should be flown at half-mast.

Other procedures relating to flags:

When the Great Banner of the Order is being flown with other flags of the Order or an Establishment, each flag should be the same size (or have the same width – the measurement from top to bottom) and should fly from a separate flagpole. The Great Banner of the Order and those banners listed in Regulation 26(a) should be raised first and lowered last unless all the flags can be raised and lowered simultaneously. Flags must be raised and lowered in a dignified manner.

The Senior Flag should always fly from the senior flagpole, which is either the tallest or the furthest to the right (from the point of view) of the flagpole.

At the discretion of the Grand Prior or Lord Prior, the Great Banner of the Order can be used as a pall for a coffin. It should be placed so that the top left corner of the flag is over the deceased's left shoulder. The Great Banner of the Order should be removed before interment or cremation, and folded. At the discretion of a Prior of a Priory (or, in a Vice Regal Priory, the person as delegated by the Prior to make such decisions on their behalf), or the commander of a

Commandery the Priory or Commandery flag may be used as a pall on a coffin in the same manner.

Banners of the Sovereign Head, Grand Prior and of the Lord Prior:

The banners of the Sovereign Head, Grand Prior and of the Lord Prior display their Arms with the Arms of the Order in chief. The banner of the Sovereign Head, the Grand Prior or the Lord Prior, in addition to the Great Banner of the Order, may be flown at any St John premises on those days on which it is the intention of the Sovereign Head, the Grand Prior or the Lord Prior to visit those premises. The banner of the Grand Prior or the Lord Prior shall be flown at half-mast on days of national mourning and on other occasions as directed. The banner of the Sovereign Head is never flown at half-mast.

Precedence of flags within the Order is as follows:

The personal banners of:

- the Sovereign Head;
- the Grand Prior
- any other member of the Royal Family who is also a Grade I member of the Order;
- the Lord Prior;
- Great Banner of the Order;
- Priory flag;
- flag of St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital;
- Commandery flag;
- flag of St John Association;
- flag of St John Ambulance.



The Banner of the Sovereign Head



The Banner of the Grand Prior



The Banner of HRH The Princess Royal LG LT GCVO



The Banner of the Lord Prior Professor Mark Compton AM

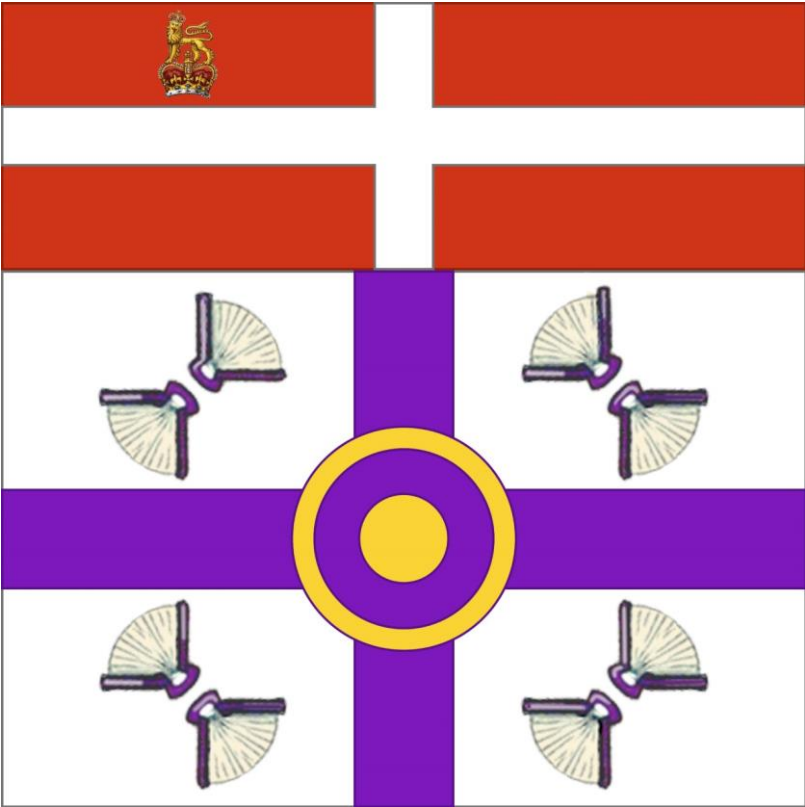
Personal Banners

Bailiffs and Dames Grand Cross being armigerous or are entitled to a personal banner depicting his or her Arms with the Arms of the Order in chief. The banner is carried immediately after him or her at an Order or Priory ceremony at which robes are worn. Personal banners may not be displayed, and should not be processed, until they have been presented to HRH The Grand Prior. Banners are not carried when Robes are not worn.

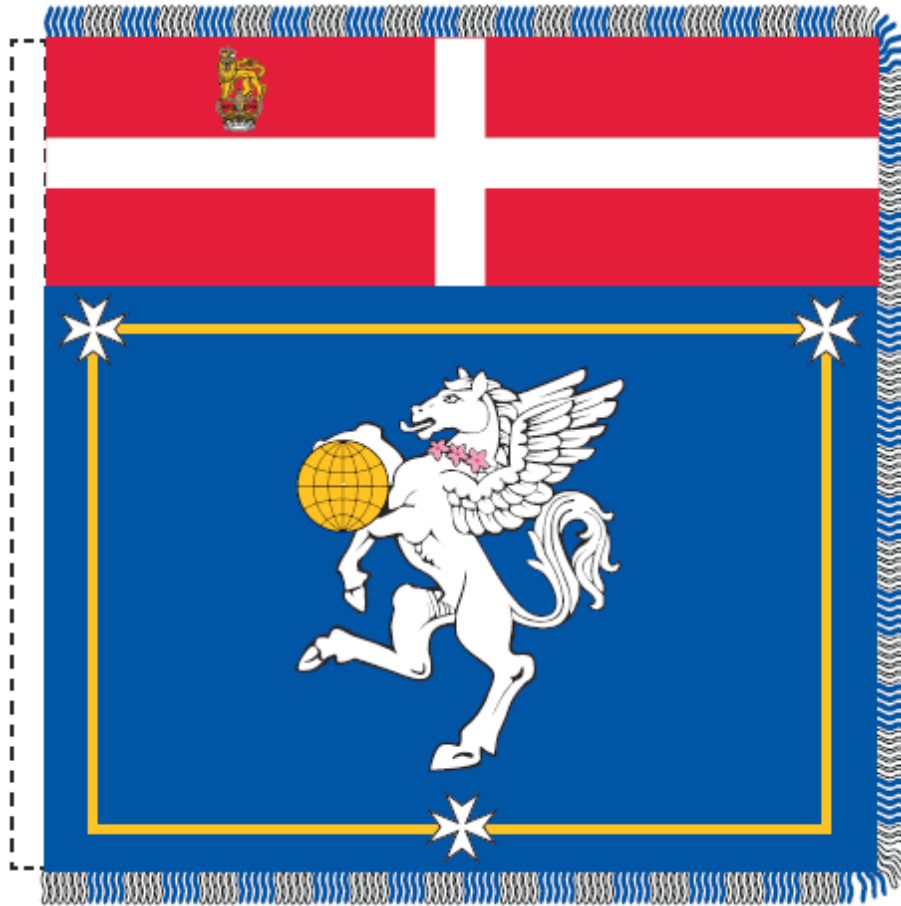
A Prior of a Priory and the Chair of the Eye Hospital who is not a Bailiff or Dame Grand Cross, but who is armigerous, shall be entitled to have carried immediately after him or her a personal banner depicting his or her arms simpliciter. This provision may also apply to the Chancellor of a Vice-Regal Priory or, with the agreement of the Lord Prior, any other Priory where the relevant Prior is not actively involved in the day-to-day management and governance of the Priory

Personal banners shall be 91.5cm square with the Arms of the Order in chief 28cm in height and 91.5cm in width, the dimension of the white cross shall be 5cm. The 2 alternate colour fringe can be 4cm deep.

Banners of other Great Officers



Banner of the Chancellor Dr Gillian Willmore



The Banner of The Sub-Prior John Mah CD QC

Banners of The Former Great Officers



The Banner of Captain Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards KCVO RD



The Banner of the Right Reverend John Nicholls



The Banner of The Hon Dr Neil Conn AO



The Banner of Stuart Shilson LVO



The Banner of Patrick Burgess OBE DL

Banners of The Other Bailiffs and Dames Grand Cross



The Banner of the Dowager Lady Westbury CBE JP



The Banner of Lady Elizabeth Godsall MBE DL



The Banner of Colonel Sir James Stirling of Garden KCVO CBE TD



The Banner of Audrey Caroline The Rt Hon the Baroness Emerton DBE DL



The Banner of Brigadier John Hemsley OBE



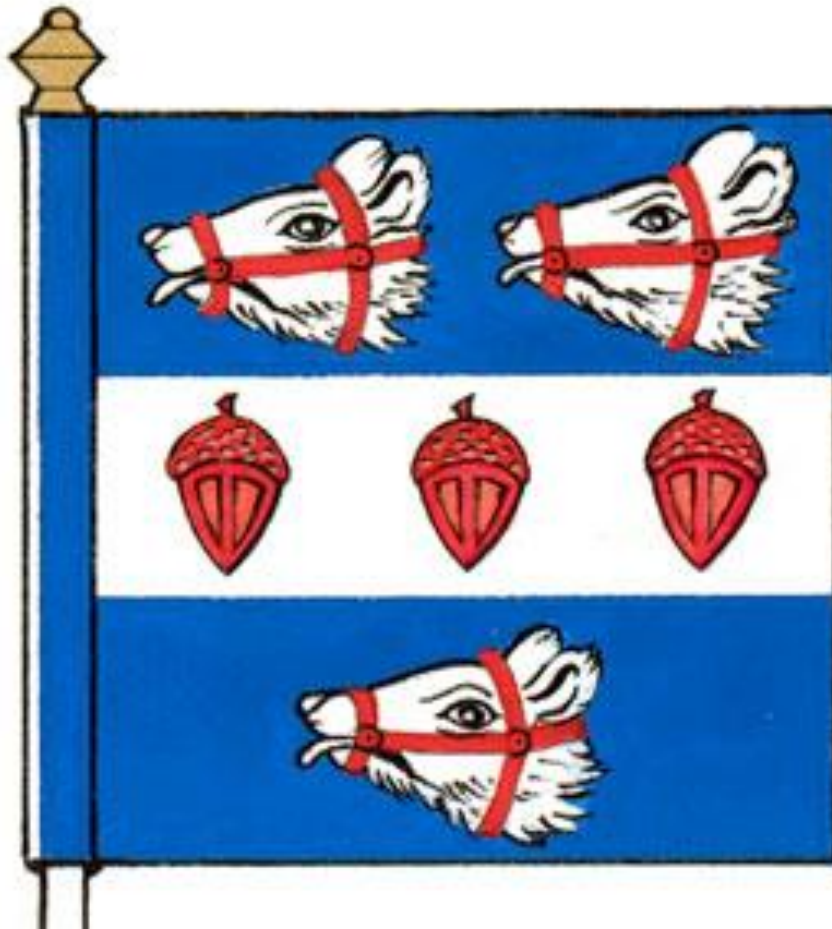
The Banner of Mr D Hugh Thomas CBE DL



The Banner of Mr F Richard Bruce MOM



The Banner of Mr A Marshall Acuff Jr



The Banner of Mairi Christina Arthur

Priories, Commanderies and Establishments

The Great Banner of the Order may be used by any of the Establishments or Foundations, with the express consent of the Grand Prior on the recommendation of the Grand Council. The dimensions are the same as for the Great Banner, with a differentiating device at the centre of the cross:



Banner Finial



The Banner of the Priory of England and the Islands



The Banner of the Priory of Scotland



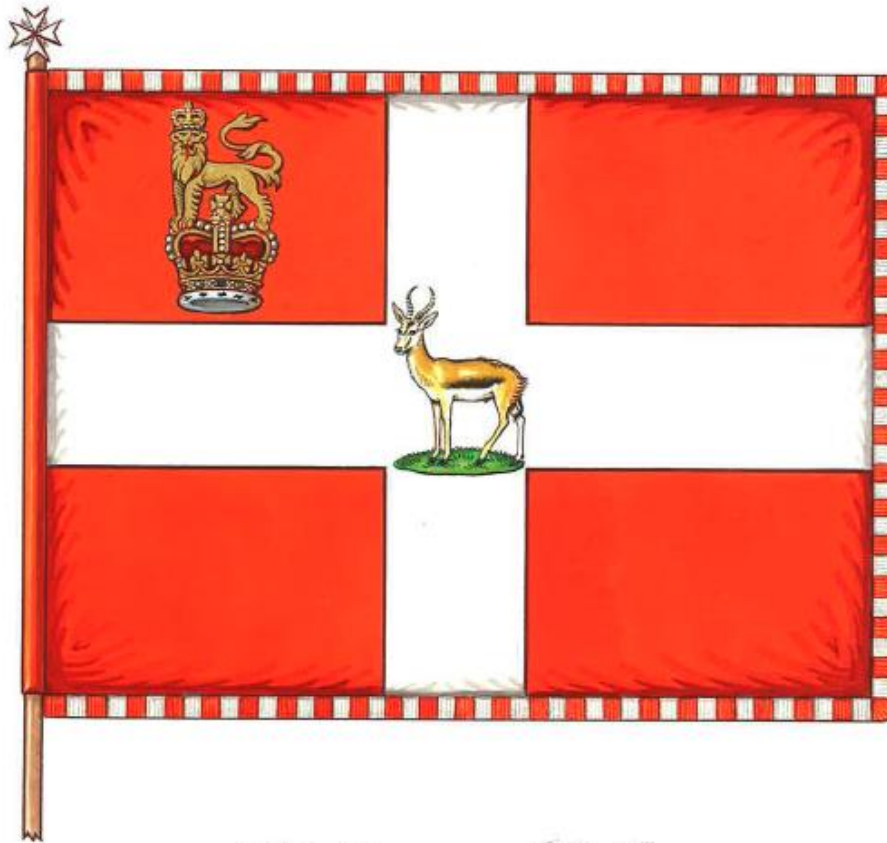
*The Order of St. John
Standard of the
Priory for Wales*

Approved

Henry.

Grand Prior.

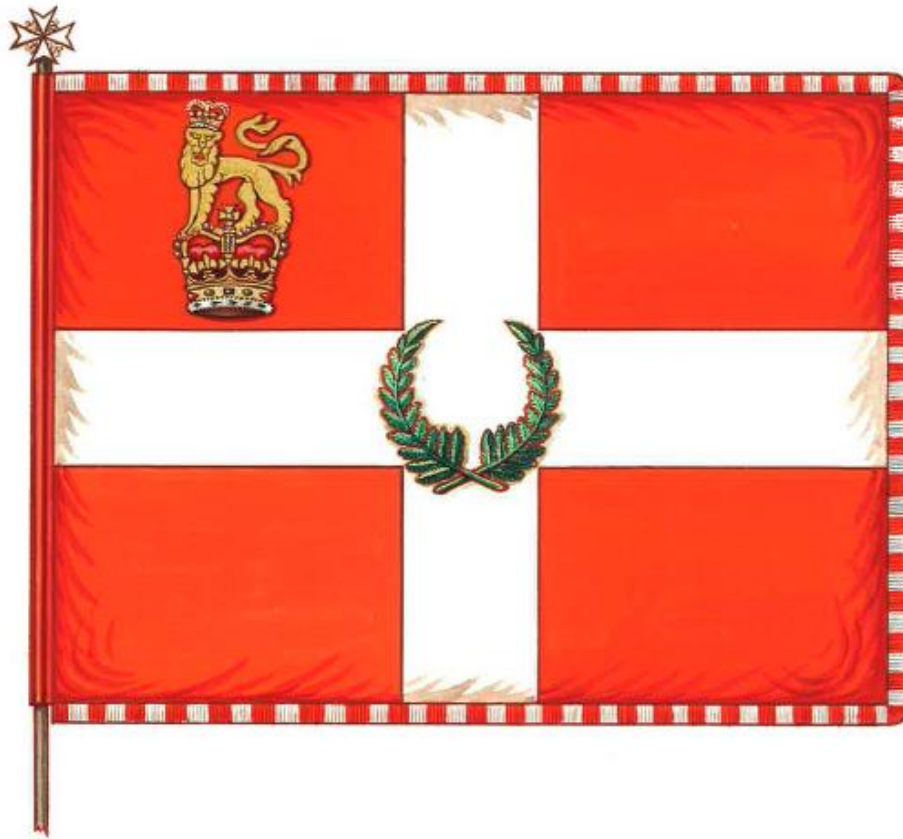
The Banner of the Priory for Wales
(Grand Prior's Certificate)



The Order of St. John
Standard of the Priory in Southern Africa

Approved
Henry
Grand Prior

The Banner of the Priory for South Africa
(Grand Prior's Certificate)

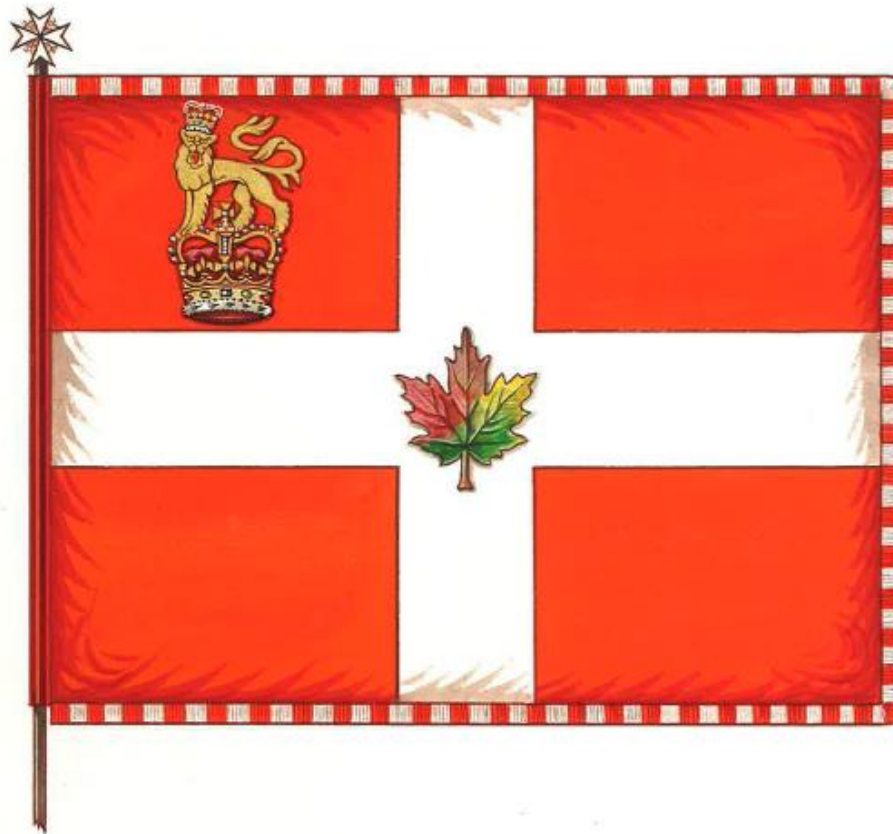


The Order of St. John
Standard of the Priory in New Zealand

Approved

Henry.
Grand Prior.

The Banner of the Priory in New Zealand
(Grand Prior's Certificate)



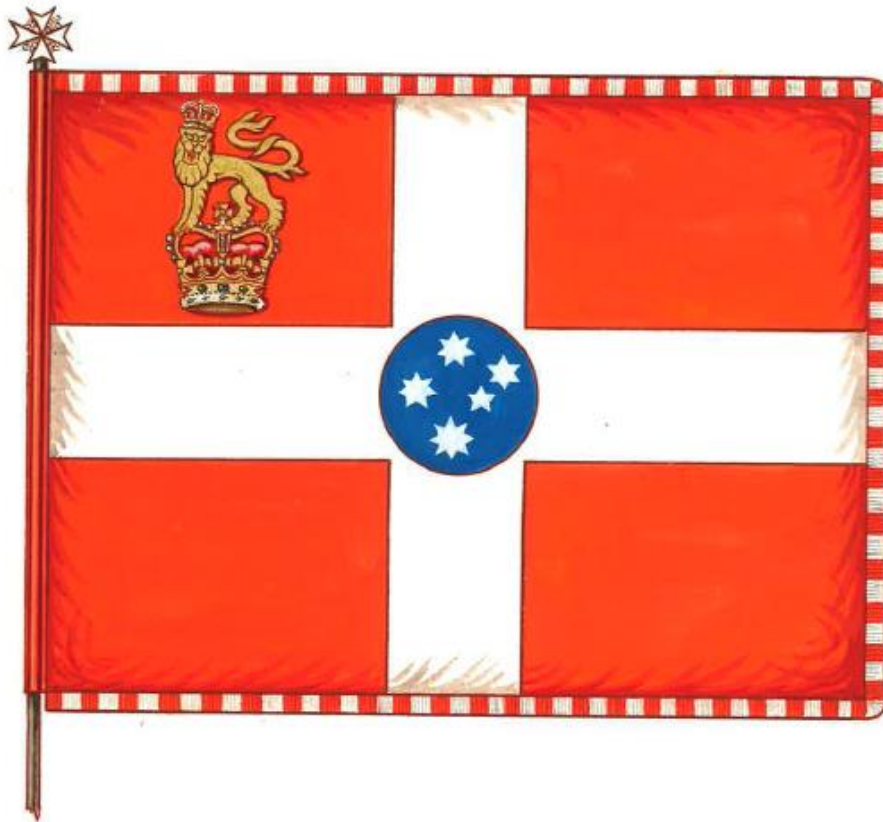
*The Order of St. John
Standard of the Priory of Canada*

Approved

Henry.

Grand Prior

The Banner of the Priory of Canada
(Grand Prior's Certificate)



*The Order of St. John
Standard of the Priory in Australia*

Approved

Henry.
Grand Prior.

The Banner of the Priory in Australia
(Grand Prior's Certificate)



The Banner of the Priory in the United States of America



The Banner of the Priory of Kenya



The Banner of the Priory of Singapore



The Banner of the Priory of Hong Kong



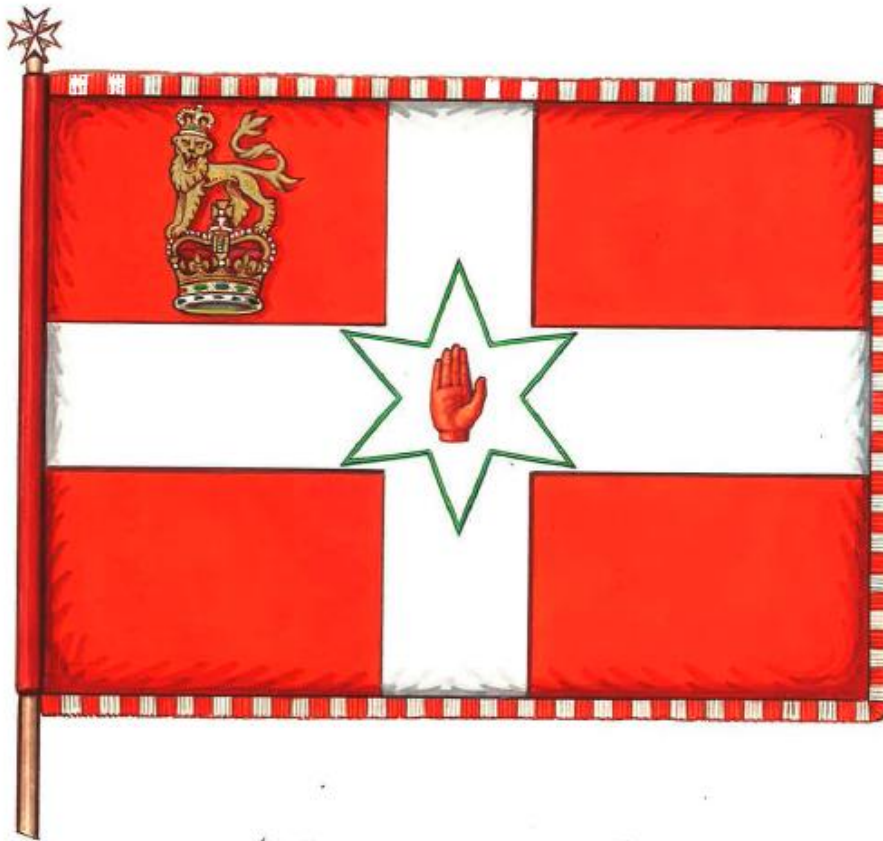
The Banner of the Eye Hospital Group



*The Order of St. John
Standard of the Commandery of Western Australia*

*Approved
Henry.
Grand Prior*

The Banner of the Commandery of/in Western Australia
(Grand Prior's Certificate)



The Order of St. John

Standard of the Commandery of Ards in Northern Ireland

Approved

Henry
Grand Prior

The Banner of the Commandery of Ards in Northern Ireland
(Grand Prior's Certificate)



The Banner of the Commandery of Jersey



The Banner of the Commandery of Guernsey



The Banner of the Commandery of the Isle of Man