



Sovereign Order Of **ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM** Knights Hospitaller c.1048

Pro Fide, Pro Utilitate Hominum
For Faith, For Service to Humanity

BRISBANE BECKONS 2024

Bulletin No. 2 September 2023

The following is a brief update relating to the planning for the 2024 Sovereign Council meeting in Brisbane next September 1st - 6th



The big news is that the Stamford Hotel, Edward Street, Brisbane, has been acquired for the SCM24. This means that many functions that are consequent to the selection of the venue can now be put in place.

THE STAMFORD HOTEL

It is one of the oldest five-star hotels in the Brisbane market, in one of Brisbane's most iconic heritage precincts, and is recognised for being a top luxury city destination hotel. The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh, and former USA President Obama, have stayed at the hotel, as have many from the sports, arts, and political arenas, among them Roger Federer and his family, Nigel Kennedy, Lady Gaga and the Dalai Lama.

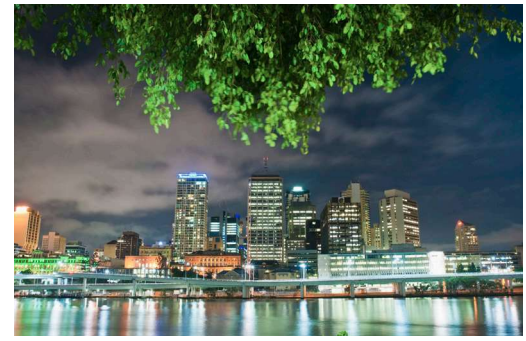
The Stamford Hotel is situated right by the Brisbane River. It is close to shops and city entertainment. On the river bank is the embarking pier for the City Cat up-river ferry and the cross-river ferry which go to many of Brisbane's feature places, a short ride to South Bank, a large leisure area with nearby the Cultural Centre, Museum, Art Gallery, State Library, and Convention Centre. Across the road from the hotel are the original Brisbane Botanical Gardens, beautifully

maintained with quiet walks through trees, gardens and along the river bank. A walk up the road brings one to the Queensland State Parliament buildings, some of heritage value. A regular, free, hop-on-hop-off bus take one further around the city.

There will be a lot more detail about these and other features of Brisbane in future issues of Brisbane Beckons and the Australian newsletter of SCM24 "Down Under" and other literature, as well as information on pre- and post- meeting tours to other places in Queensland and Australia. Your Australian Committee is working hard to bring these to you as soon as possible.



The Stamford will give the SCM24 all it needs for accommodation and meeting facilities. Very soon costs and booking information will be available.



SCM24 DRAFT DAILY PROGRAM

Preliminary planning for the week is well underway. A brief draft outline of the activities is as follows:

Sunday, September 1

- Arrivals, Registration
- Local sightseeing
- Casual Dinner (Ice breaker function)

Monday, September 2

- Registration etc.
- Morning. Members' Forum Part 1.
This is a new feature open to all members.
- Local sightseeing
- Cocktails

Tuesday, September 3

- Morning. Members Forum. Part 2
- Small meetings
- Local sightseeing
- Optional social function or free evening (TBA)

Wednesday, September 4

- Sovereign Council Meeting
- Small meetings
- Local sightseeing
- Reception

Thursday, September 5

- Sovereign Council Meeting. Half day
- Members' Forum Part 3. If required
- Small meetings
- Sightseeing
- Buffet Dinner

Friday, September 6

- Aspirant Breakfast and Investiture Service rehearsal
- Investiture Service in Brisbane's St. John the Evangelist Cathedral
- Gala Dinner

Saturday, September 7

- Brisbane River Cruise and local sightseeing
- Possible optional social event linked to the anticipated annual Brisbane "Riverfire"
- **Possibly the Brisbane annual "Riverfire," a week-long festival of arts and culture culminating on the Saturday with flypasts by the Royal Australian Air Force and a spectacular fireworks display.**

The 2024 dates are to be confirmed in January 2024.

Sunday, September 8

- Departures and post-meeting tours

With contributions from the Australian SCM24 Planning Team



Editor: Bailiff Emeritus David Petitpierre, GCSJ, CMSJ, MMSJ,
Layout: Alexandria Gordon-Collins

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

6389 Stadium Road, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4
Tel: 604-685-2141 Fax: 604-685-2142
Email: registrar@sosjinternational.org
www.sosjinternational.org

