St John
Grand Prior’s Award Scheme

An understanding of the organisation which we belong to is essential in developing an appreciation of St John and our rich heritage. This badge aims to build awareness by focusing on three areas – **past** (the origins of St John); **present** (current services); and **future** (where St John is heading). These are looked at in both New Zealand and worldwide environments. The skills of researching and presenting information are a main component of this badge and will prove very beneficial in a practical-based delivery.

**Specific Skills**
- Researching and interpreting information
- Presenting information (projects, written, audio-visual...)

**Cross Curricular Links**
- Caregivers
- Communication
- Leadership
- Faith
- Drill
- International Understanding

**First Aid Integration**
- Although no specific integration, the concepts of how first aid treatment has changed over time will prove an interesting subject for discussion

**Safety Considerations**
- All St John Child and Youth Protection Policy requirements must be followed at all times, especially in regards to any camps or workshops outside of division
- With such diversity amongst members, leaders must ensure that all material is delivered in an impartial manner - specifically the origins and history. (ie. leaders should refer to various groups with the proper names such as “The Knights Hospitaller”, “Saracens” and “Ottoman Turks” instead of religious groupings or “us” and “them”)

**Gold Level Assessors**
- Members with substantial understanding of the history and structure of St John

Reviewed by: Kelly Heads, Simon Corkindale, Hadassah Topp
# St John Badge Objectives

## Green Level
**The Medieval Lifestyle**  
Experiencing what life was like during the Middle Ages and the relevance of this to the origins of St John  
- Discuss various aspects of how people lived in the Middle Ages (roles, entertainment, housing, tools, transportation...)  
- Take part in a medieval experience that reinforces concepts of a medieval lifestyle through role play (feast, joust, court...)  

**Changing times and Grand Prior**  
Tracking the progress of St John from Colonial NZ to the present day and Looking at the Grand Prior Award  
- Discuss how things have changed over time in New Zealand (treatment, uniform, ambulance, equipment...)  
- Discuss how the Grand Prior’s Award is structured (what you need to achieve, the Award itself, presentation ceremonies...)  

**Promoting St John**  
Learning about the diverse roles in the organisation and promoting this to others in the community  
- Interview two people from within St John with different roles (Clinical, Ambulance, Community Programmes, Area Committees, Chapter…) and discuss their time in St John  
- Promote St John to your local community (mufti day at school, help with a fundraising activity, write an article for your school newsletter or News in Youth...)  

## Blue Level
**St John Youth through the times**  
A look at key events of St John Youth both National and Internationally  
- Create a timeline for the Youth programme that includes international, national and local key dates and events  

**Significant Events in New Zealand**  
Exploring the origins, history and significant events of St John in New Zealand  
- Discuss how St John originated in New Zealand and how it has changed over time (Regions, Nursing Divisions, statistics..)  
- Interview two people from within St John with different roles (Clinical, Ambulance, Community Programmes, Area Committees, Chapter…) and discuss their time in St John  

**St John Today**  
The ways in which St John meets various community needs, the New Zealand structure, and St John in other countries  
- Research and present on the different functions (departments) of St John and how they help in your local community  
- Explain the structure in how St John operates in New Zealand (roles, Regions, functions..) and our presence worldwide  
- Discuss opportunities that are available in the Youth programme (Youth in Events, competitions, District/ Regional/ National Cadet of the Year, Regional Colour Party...)  

## Gold Level
**Order Matters**  
St John has a long and treasured history that needs to be recognised and celebrated  
- Inform a small group on the Order (Honour System, medals, Investiture, honours..) and the origins of titles and parts of uniform (Knight of Grace, gorget patches, mantles..)  
- Discuss the symbolism of the St John cross and what it represents (beatitudes, colour, beasts...)  
- Present a timeline of events from 1080 – today  
- Explain how St John is governed (Chapter, Area Committees)  

**Youth Programme**  
Investigate the finer details of the Youth programme, including divisional history and opportunities available  
- Research and present a detailed history of their Youth Division  
- Discuss how the Grand Prior’s Award is structured (what you need to achieve, the Award itself, presentation ceremonies...)  
- Discuss and present the current structure of Youth from Penguin to National Management  

**Mission and Strategies**  
Looking at how core concepts influence the work of St John today and the future prospects for St John in New Zealand  
- Discuss the work of St John in New Zealand and how this relates to core values  
- Discuss the St John Youth mission statement or the Integrated Business Plan (IBP)  

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Information on the Badge of the Order, Motto, Mission Statements and Youth Promise must be covered at each level.  
Note: Some objectives may be completed collaboratively provided that there is evidence of all participants contributing effectively.
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**Set tasks:**
- Mission Statement
- Illustration and Development
- Setting Goals
- Medieval Feast

**module:**
- Introduction
- Setting Goals
- Mission Statement
- Medieval Feast
Ideas Bank

**Possible Activities**

**Cartoon Capers**
Leaders provide each cadet a period of time which they have to create a comic strip that illustrates the events in that period. Once finished, this can come together as a complete comic book history of the Order.

**Roles in St John**
Task in which cadets are assigned a role in the organisation which they have to research and present a report back to the division. This could include an interview with someone in the role. The report should outline their tasks function, training or qualities required and how they contribute to the work of St John.

**Stained Glass Windows**
An activity where cadets create a stained glass window related to the Order. Leaders could assign cadets a set period of history or a method in which St John cares for New Zealand communities in order to make a series of pictures that tell a story. A quiz using the pictures as cues could follow.

**Re-enacting History**
Role play a part of the history of the Order:
- Medieval-themed dinner with families
- Setting up a hospital similar to hospitals founded by the Order of St John

**Evaluating the Beatitudes**
Task for cadets to understand and choose one of the 8 Beatitudes and state which is no longer relevant/import to St John. Whichever they choose they must replace it with a new one and write a paragraph why they have reached that decision. This is a good tool for cadets to understand and evaluate the true meanings of the Beatitudes.

**St John Resources Available**
- St John Youth Website
- Badge information cards and book inserts
- Resource packs and assessment sheets
- Regional and District Assessors Lists
- St John Order Matters Manual
- St John Yearbooks and local publications

**Outside Sources**

**People / Organisations**
- Members with substantial knowledge of the history of the Order
- Order Matters Functional Co-ordinator
- Local Historical Society and historians
- People of various roles in St John
- St John Hospitallers Club
- St John Archives

**Potential Resources**

**Websites**
- www.sja.org.uk/history
- www.orderofstjohn.org
- www.stjohnyehospital.org
- www.stjohn.org.nz/about/history
- www.wikipedia.org

**Books**

- "A Brief History of The Order of St John" - John P Willis
- "Image of a Knight: Portraits of the Knight of St John"
- "St John in Focus: A History of St John Ambulance in Photographs" - Julia Toffolo
- "St John in New Zealand 1885-1985" - Dr Rex Wright-St Clair
- "The Order of St John, A Short History" - E D Renwick

**Note:** all ‘Idea Banks’ are updated regularly on the St John Youth Website. Please assist other leaders by sharing your great ideas!