

The Guild of Freemen of the City of London

Patron
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD MAYOR

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NEWSLETTER January / February 2025

Last week saw the Installation of the Guild's new Master Adrian Waddingham and his Wardens. Many of the Master's events are now bookable on the website – see later in this bulletin.



Senior Warden Stephen Osborne, Master Adrian Waddingham CBE, Renter Warden Alistair Mitchelhill and Junior Warden, Lady Lauriston

The Installation ceremony was preceded by the admission of 9 new members to the Guild – we welcome them. Our new Beadle, Alan O'Connor coped admirably on this his first set of Guild events, an evening with many moving parts.



Joining members processing in to Court for their admission ceremony.



Angela Kelly-Burns receiving her warrant of membership from outgoing Master, Lisa Rutter.

During the Installation it is customary to thank the outgoing Master and their consort for their year and to present the now Immediate Past Master with their Past Master's Badge as well as an illuminated manuscript recording the Guild's thanks for their service and recording their year. Mark Rutter was

given a bottle of whiskey (his favourite tipple) for his sterling support of Lisa and presented our incoming Master's consort, Angela Waddingham with a bouquet of flowers. Angela will be leading some guided walks in London during Adrian's year. She is a member of the Educators' Livery and an excellent cook.







Angela and Adrian

The Installation ceremony was followed by a dinner attended by some 90+ members, and as part of our new Master's campaign to raise the Guild's profile within the Livery we welcomed the Masters of the Actuaries' (Adrian's mother company), Educators', Needlemakers', and Chartered Surveyors' companies, as well as the Master Constructor who had become a member of the Guild earlier that evening. We were privileged to have our Honorary Chaplain the Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett, Dean of St Paul's bless the Installation and to give Grace at the dinner.

The Master's speaker for the evening was Murray Craig, former Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court, from whom many members will have received their Freedom of the City – and he kept us entertained with his legendary wit.





Frances Golland and Azad Ayub



The Revd. Professor Maggi Dawn, our Honorary Chaplain The Very Revd. Andrew Tremlett, Master Chartered Surveyor, David Reynolds and Alderman Alison Gowman



Master Constructor, Master Educator, Junior Warden Lady Lauriston, and Master Actuary



Richard Adkinson and Leo Wardle study the menu



Murray and the Master deep in conversation







Table conversations

Events 2025....

We are still finalising details of some of the remainder of this year's programme, however the dates below are fixed. Those in blue are bookable on the website – please apply now if interested in attending the Opera evening at Holland Park.

We need members assistance, and the Master asks:

The dinner at Haberdashers' Hall on 30th June will be special. Not only will we see this stunning Hall, designed by Michael Hopkins, the Master will also be holding an auction during the Dinner to raise funds for the Guild's Charity.

We are looking for gifts of suitable auction prizes and we hope members can help. These could be such things as tickets for sporting events, dinners at special places such as London Clubs or other interesting places, behind the scenes visits to interesting haunts, and perhaps the odd case of wine - indeed anything that catches your imagination and which will raise a useful contribution towards the Charity's good works.

If you are able to offer anything please let the Clerk know. Your gift will be much appreciated.

Tuesday 25th February Tour of a private Jade collection followed by lunch in Chelsea – this is a

"money can't buy" opportunity (though of course you do pay) and spaces

are still available.

Wednesday 26th March Black tie dinner at Barber Surgeons' Hall

Friday 28th March United Guilds' Service

Friday 28th March Lunch at Pewterers' Hall

Thursday 10th April The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch at Guildhall

Monday 28th April Informal tour of Battersea Power Station and walk nearby, led by the

Master's wife, Angela Waddingham, with tea and cake to conclude the

afternoon.

Wednesday 7th May Guided visit of the Crick Museum and lunch

Thursday 22nd May Visit to the Clock Museum and lunch

Wednesday 18th June Guided tour of Forman and Son Smokehouse and lunch

Monday 30th June Black tie dinner at Haberdashers' Hall

Saturday 19th July Cart Marking

Wednesday 23rd July Guided City walk by Peter Tomkins followed by a pub supper

Tuesday 29th July Opera Holland Park – La Traviata

Opera Holland Park are holding a block of tickets for this one off event so if you are interested, please book by 11th February.

Wednesday 10th September Royal Holloway visit

Tuesday 2nd September Visit to the Royal Society of Antiquaries followed by dinner.

Thursday 18th September Visit to the Clock Museum and lunch

Sunday 28th September Sheep Drive

Sunday 28th September Lunch following the Sheep Drive

Sunday 28th September – Master's trip to the Southern Lakes

Thursday 2nd October We will be emailing those who have already expressed an interest in

this trip, next month.

Tuesday 14th October Guided walk of Westminster

Tuesday 14th October Lunch at Westminster catering College

Monday 27th October Black tie dinner at Trinity House

Monday 3rd November Tour of and Lunch at Mercers' Hall

Saturday 8th November Lord Mayor's Show and lunch at the Guildhall

Tuesday 11th or Thursday Visit to the College of Arms and buffet supper at the College

13th November

Tuesday 25th November A celebration of Lancashire Day with a quiz and supper at Guildhall

Friday 5th December The Annual Banquet at Guildhall

Wednesday 10th December Carol Service at St Martin within Ludgate followed by a traditional

Christmas lunch at Stationers' Hall

Please note the expressions of interest in the Master's trip to Norfolk in April far exceeded the Number of places available, if there is sufficient interest we may arrange another Norfolk visit in the autumn.

Please email Abbie <u>admin@guild-freemen-london.co.uk</u> if you have not already expressed an interest in this possibility.

Other Guild News

FACEBOOK - Following the announcement that we are back on Facebook, I'm aware that some have struggled to fine the page. You must use **The** Guild of Freemen of the City of London and not Guild of etc.

Currently there are a few posts etc..... covering the recent Guild Banquet. The *new* page will we updated regularly and would be very pleased if you would unlike the previous page and "Like" the new page.

When posting photographs on Facebook of Guild events that you attend it will help the popularity of the new page if you could tag the Guild by using "@The Guild Of Freemen of The City Of London" please.

Guild Court Assistant and current Master Patternmaker, **Deputy Keith Bottomley** is standing for election as non-Aldermanic Sheriff. Keith would welcome support from any Guild member who is also a Liveryman, to sign up as a supporter use this <u>link</u>: To find out more about what Keith hopes to achieve if elected as Sheriff, use this <u>link</u>:

Central to Keith's campaign are opportunity for young people, alongside the 'value of the rule of law' and 'diversity'.

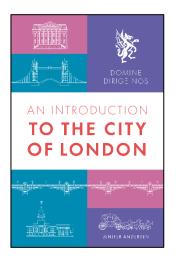
Banquet Photos - Banquet photos, and all other photos of the Guild Year, can be viewed on the website <u>gallery</u>. If you wish to purchase any of the photos from Peter Holland please use the contact him as per the details on the website. If you wish to download any of the hi-res photos of Warren Page you can view them <u>here</u>:

Gallery link: https://pagepixltd.shootproof.com/gallery/26313960

Password: GuildhallEvent24

Blue Silk Ties - We are pleased to say that the blue silk ties with the Guild crest on them are back in stock. If you would like to order a tie, or any other merchandise, you can do so through the website, or contact Abbie on admin@guild-freemen-london.co.uk if you want any more information.

Jennifer Andersen, wife of Guild Court Assistant and current Master World Trader, Lars Andersen has written a very interesting and useful Guide to the City and its traditions – it is well worth a read and it's the sort of book you can dip in and out of and refer back to when you need a reminder.



Domine Dirige Nos An Introduction to the City of London by Jenifer Andersen

with foreword by Sir William Russell, Lord Mayor 2019-2021

£15 + £3 P&P (£5 will be donated to the Lord Mayor's Appeal)
To order in bulk contact the author: CityOfLondonBook@gmail.com

A unique introductory visual guide and essential reading for anyone with an interest in the City of London and its traditions. Learn at-a-glance about the history of the Square Mile, geography, wards, people, livery companies and a year in the life of civic London.

HISTORY - from Roman Londinium to the modern-day city

GEOGRAPHY - buildings, livery halls, churches, rivers and bridges that make up the Square Mile

WARDS - the subdivisions of the City and their unique system of voting

PEOPLE – who does what in the City, the colourful civic processions and how to spot the personalities

LIVERY COMPANIES - the history, Order of Precedence, groupings, Common Hall, fashion and traditions

CITY DIARIES - a year in the life of the civic city

Available at: Daunts Books, 61 Cheapside, EC2V 6AX

OR Email the author at CityOfLondonBook@gmail.com with your name, delivery address and number of copies required. A payment link will be emailed

OR On Etsy https://www.etsy.com/uk/listing/973414582/an-introduction-to-the-city-of-london

CITY NEWS and other EVENTS

The Master and Angela will be attending the below, however any Guild member is welcome to attend. Andrew Kenny is a Guild member.

THE GILD OF FREEMEN OF THE CITY OF YORK



68th ANNUAL BANQUET

The Master of the Gild of Freemen of the City of York, Mr Andrew Kenny, and the Court invite you to their Annual Banquet in the company of distinguished guests

To be held on **Saturday 1st March 2025** in The Oak Room, The Principal York Hotel, Station Road, York 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm

Dress - Black Tie

Tickets £57.00 per person

Please forward metickets at £57.00 per person.

Name 1......

Name 2......

Name 3......

Home Address

Telephone Number.... Email.....

Please indicate any dietary requirements when making the booking.

 Payment via BACS – HSBC Bank, Sort Code 40-20-02, Account No 31 03 13 76, reference "your surname"-Banquet

Please advise me by returning this form either by email or post to the address shown at the foot of this form.

Please confirm when payment has been made.

Please note that places for our Banquet are limited and tickets will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Closing date for any cancellations will be Friday 7th February 2025.

Steve Hornby, 12 Marlborough Close, York, YO30 5WA

Email: hornby.steven@yahoo.co.uk

City Caterers' Life's Kitchen have launched **Bistro 1365** which offers great value, relaxed bistro service, and a full bar in the scenic <u>Founders' Hall</u> located in Farringdon—perfect for lunch with colleagues, friends, or family in a unique City setting.

Bistro 1365 is open to all on selected dates throughout the year, with a different menu for every service and a bar open from 12 noon.

Dates for 2025 are as follows:

April - 9th (LIMITED AVAILABILITY) & 30th May - 14th

June - 4th & 11th

July - 2nd & 9th

August - N/A

September - 3rd & 10th

October - 8th & 15th

November - 5th & 12th

December Christmas Special - 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 17th, 18th & 19th

Advance reservation ONLY - Table reservations can be made for up to eight guests and a deposit of £10.00 per person is required at the time of booking to confirm the reservation.

For more information, contact 0207 248 1163 or visit the website

Finally, the full programme of events will be circulated by email next month and the Freeman Journal (with a printed copy of the programme) will be dropping on your doorsteps towards the end of February as well.

Abbie joins me in wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year,

Kate

Clerk to the Guild.