



NEWSLETTER

April 2026

Dear Guild Members

I begin this newsletter to offer Members the opportunity to bid on a brooch which the Guild sold some years ago, and which is to be auctioned on Wednesday, 8th and Thursday, 9th April.



Lot 490 - a fine quality 18ct gold diamond and ruby Guild of Freeman of The City of London brooch with pavé-set brilliant cut diamonds and calibre cut rubies in 18ct white and yellow gold setting, engraved motto 'Londinii Defende Tuos Deus Optimi Cives', sponsor's mark A&W, hallmarked Birmingham 2003, approximately 34mm, estimate £800-1200.

Reedman Dansie are the auctioneers, see their website: www.reemandansie.com

We've had a number of successful events since I last wrote, and the new Master Stephen Osborne has been busy on the City circuit representing the Guild. He also attended the Gild of Freeman of the City of York's Annual Dinner and Parade.



Masters Stephen Osborne and Bruce Harrison



At the end of February, we returned to the fascinating Clockmakers' Collection at the Science Museum before another wonderful Polish lunch at Ognisko. I find the intricacy of the miniature fob watches extraordinary: note the top left watch that was donated to the Collection by Queen Mary.



In March we saw the return of team Waddingham, as our Immediate Past Master Adrian gave members an introduction to his latest book: *First Kings – Forged by Vikings in England and Norway* and Angela gave two groups of members a guided tour of Bermondsey.

The book is a tour de force through both countries' early history and formation, a sort of real-life Game of Thrones where the protagonists have descriptive names, Haakon the Good, Eric Bloodaxe, and Ivan the Boneless. If you missed the event but would like to purchase a copy of the book, it is available at many outlets, including Amazon. After learning about our country's first unification, the group had a simple but delicious buffet in the Members' Private Dining Room at the Guildhall.



Later in March, when we were blessed with dry weather, Angela led us around Bermondsey where we saw the iconic Shard and learned about many other hidden corners of this area.



The Shared, a community Art work versus The Shard (opp) by Renzo Piano



A yet to be refurbished warehouse



An example of modern conversion of warehouses



FUTURE EVENTS

with a focus on those coming up shortly, where a few places remain available

There are still a few places available for the visit to **Arundel** during the Tulip Festival on **Tuesday, 21st April** and for the visit to **Brick Lane Music Hall on Wednesday, 13th May**. For details see the Guild website and if interested, please book as soon as possible.

Sadly, places for the visits to Neasden Temple, Loughborough Bell Foundry and the Old Bailey are sold out with wait-lists only, as is the Dinner at Tallow Chandlers' and the Lady Mayor's Big Curry Lunch.

However, it is not too late to book for the Master's holiday in **Slovenia** – Monday, 14th to Friday, 18th September or for **Cart Marking** on Saturday, 18th July.

CITY NEWS - and other Events

The Chartered Accountants' Company – City Prostate Charity Website

The Chartered Accountants' Company has created a website to draw attention to a disease which they support and which affects many. Please do take a look at their new website.

<https://www.cityprostatecancerities.com/>

Bistro 365 at Founders' Hall

To book for 2026, please click on the link below:

[Bistro 1365 - 2025 SOLD OUT! 2026 Dates Announced!](#)

Don't forget about the **Justice for All** series of events organised by Sheriff Robert Hughes Penney – visit <https://justiceseries.org> for more information and the dates for all the series.

Thursday, 21st May 7.30-9pm sees the inaugural concert by the Livery Choir singing Fauré Requiem and Vivaldi Gloria. Use this [link](#) to book your ticket(s):

Save the Date: Sheriffs' Brazilian Beach Ball – Friday 18th September 2026

Finally, below is a message from our Lady Mayor on some of her forthcoming events, and I will you all an enjoyable and restful and peaceful Easter.

Kate Pink

Clerk to the Guild of Freemen of the City of London

Please see below for an Easter Message from:

**The Rt Hon The Lady Mayor
Alderswoman Dame Susan Langley DBE**



Dear Friend

I hope this message finds you well and enjoying the longer, brighter days as we settle into Spring. Over the past months, the Mayoral Consort and I have been busy laying the foundations for our Mayoralty, and we're excited to give you a glimpse of the exciting events we have planned in the coming months in support of The Lord Mayor's Appeal.

On Thursday 14th May, I will be hosting a once-in-a-lifetime private train journey aboard the iconic British Pullman. This truly unique day includes a pre-reception at Mansion House, ceremonial escort, scenic travel, entertainment and a five-course lunch with paired wines. In an historic first, the train will depart from London's Cannon Street station. Whilst we are almost sold out, individual seats and corporate options are available.

Then on Thursday 11th June, I will make my debut pillion adventure at The Lady Mayor's Ride Out, sponsored by Triumph Motorcycles. Starting at St Paul's Cathedral, bikers from all over London will ride through the City of London before heading out to Orsett, Essex for food and refreshments. Riders can then choose to ride home or back to the City, ending at the Bike Shed Moto Co.

Football fever arrives in June, not just with the World Cup, but with the Lady Mayor's Cup Charity Football Tournament, following its successful debut last year. Rally your colleagues and clients to join us on Friday 26th June for a thrilling Five-a-Side showdown at Powerleague Shoreditch. Up to 40 teams can enter, squads of 7 players, and mixed teams are warmly encouraged.

The Lord Mayor's Appeal, led by new Chief Executive David Johnston OBE, continues to galvanise City leaders, and work with liveries, charities and schools to break down barriers, unlock potential and create career opportunities for Londoners who need it most.

Details of all the events can be found [here](#). Thank you for your continued support. Gary and I hope to see you at our upcoming events throughout the year.

With my very best wishes,

**The Rt Hon The Lady Mayor
Alderwoman Dame Susan Langley DBE**