

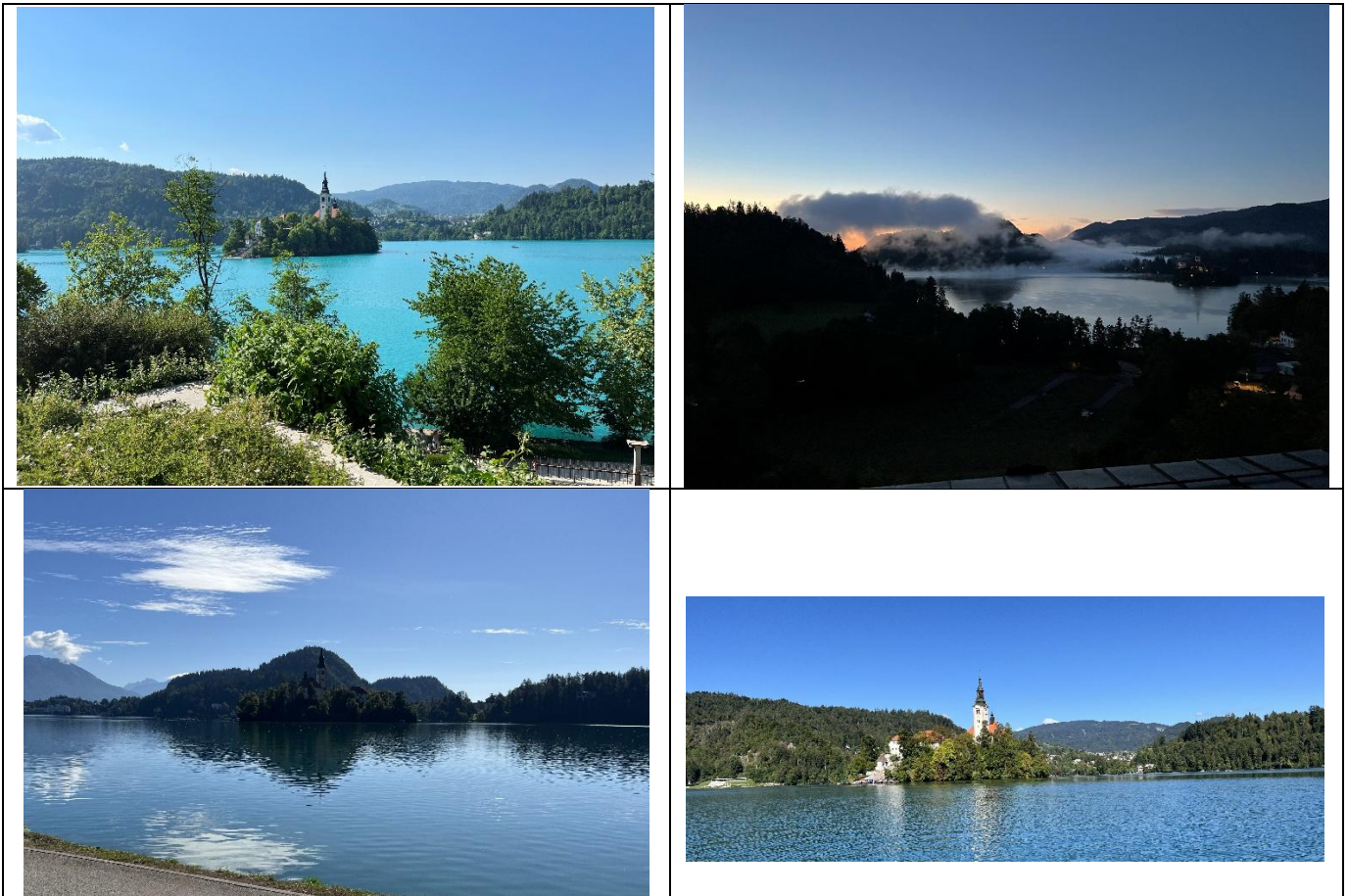


NEWSLETTER

September-October 2026

Dear Guild Members – [please scroll down for some 2027 dates](#)

‘Didn’t we have a lovely time the days we went to Slovenia’: on almost any and every tourist brochure you see on Slovenia, Lake Bled will feature, and we know why, it is one of the most beguiling views, changing throughout the day and each season.



Our trip began with a whistlestop tour of Ljubljana before visiting the medieval towns of Skofja Loka and Radovlica before a wine tasting at our Hotel. On Tuesday, we explored Bled and its surrounds, lunching at Tito’s former Summer Palace, now an upmarket Hotel with fabulous views of the lake, its island and serving superb cuisine.

The exploration included visiting a Print House where we learned the origin of ‘minding our p’s and q’s’ (easy to muddle when printing as they are mirror images of each other in lower case), and sampled some home-made-on-the-farm Schnapps before dinner beside Lake Bled.

And Past Master Firefighter even managed a visit to the local fire station!



The last two days included a train journey to the Slovenian/Italian border, where smuggling once thrived; a drive through one of Slovenia's wine regions and across the mountains, broken by a very leisurely and delicious lunch; dinner on a railway platform; a tour of Postojna cave complex, and the final feast at our Hotel with presentations.





SAVE THE DATES 2027

**First: next year's Master's Holiday will take place in
Vienna**

from Monday 13th-Friday 17th September.

Thursday 21st January – Installation followed by a Black Tie Dinner at Tallow Chandlers' Hall

Tuesday 2nd February – Performance at the Magic Circle

Thursday 25th February – Tour of the Foundling Museum followed by lunch

Wednesday 10th March – Visit to the War Rooms and Churchill Museum followed by a pub supper

Friday 12th March – United Guilds Service with lunch at Farmers' & Fletchers'

Wednesday 17th March – Visit to the Operating Theatre Bermondsey

Tuesday 27th April – Black Tie Dinner at Plaisterers' Hall

Thursday 10th June – Mudlarking and cream tea

Tuesday 6th July – Black Tie Dinner at Apothecaries' Hall

Tuesday 26th October – AGM and Black Tie Dinner at Vintners' Hall

Friday 3rd December – Guild Annual Banquet

More dates will be published in due course.

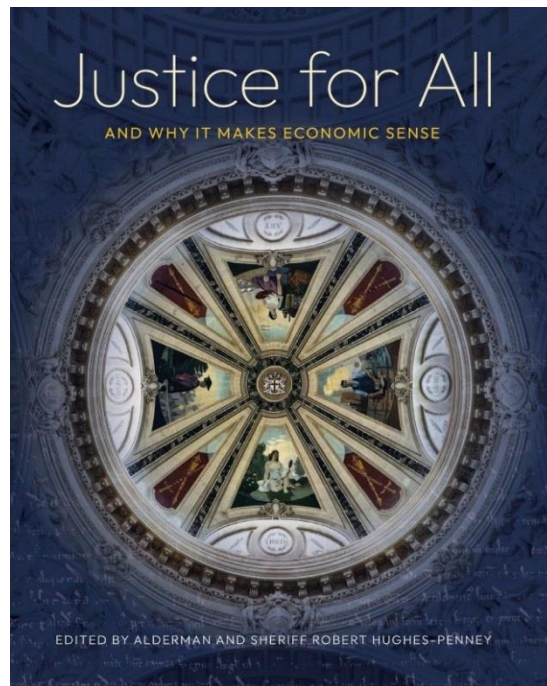
**However - before next year we still have the highlight of the Guild's calendar –
the Annual Banquet on Friday 4th December at Mansion House**



**Places are still available, so please visit the Guild's website
to book your places**

Former Sheriff and Guild Member Robert Hughes-Penney is publishing a book on his Justice for All campaign.

Copies may be ordered here [Justice for All Series Book](#)



By way of background this book brings together the key speeches, debates and research from the Justice for All Series that I hosted at the Old Bailey during my Shrieval year. The series formed part of the joint civic plan developed with the Lady Mayor, Alderwoman Dame Susan Langley DBE, and my fellow Sheriff, Deputy Keith Bottomley, that supports our shared commitment to promoting the rule of law as one of the foundations of a successful society and economy.

Over the course of five events, I brought together judges, policymakers, academics, business leaders, charities, and individuals with lived experience of the justice system to explore a simple but important question: why does justice for all make economic sense?

The discussions were designed to be at the nexus of the law, economy, and society to demonstrate that justice is not merely a matter of principle, important though that is. Fair, accessible and effective justice systems underpin public confidence, support thriving markets, strengthen communities and contribute to sustainable economic growth. When justice works well, everyone benefits.

This book captures the insights and expertise of many distinguished contributors and reflects the support it has received from leading figures across law, business, and public life. More importantly, it seeks to continue an essential conversation about the role that justice plays in creating prosperity, cohesion, and opportunity.

One of the most encouraging outcomes of the series has been the growing recognition that improving justice outcomes requires collaboration across sectors. I am particularly pleased that the Ministry of Justice, the Impact Economy Collective and the Office for the Impact Economy have agreed to work together through a policy lab to explore how philanthropy, impact investment and business can play a greater role in reducing reoffending and supporting earlier interventions. This is precisely the kind of practical partnership that can help turn ideas into action.

I hope the Guild of Freemen community will enjoy reading the book and find its arguments as thought-provoking as I have. Above all, I hope it encourages further discussion about how we can build a justice system that works effectively for all, and why doing so matters not only for individuals, but for our institutions, our communities and our economy.

Thank you for your friendship, support and continued engagement.

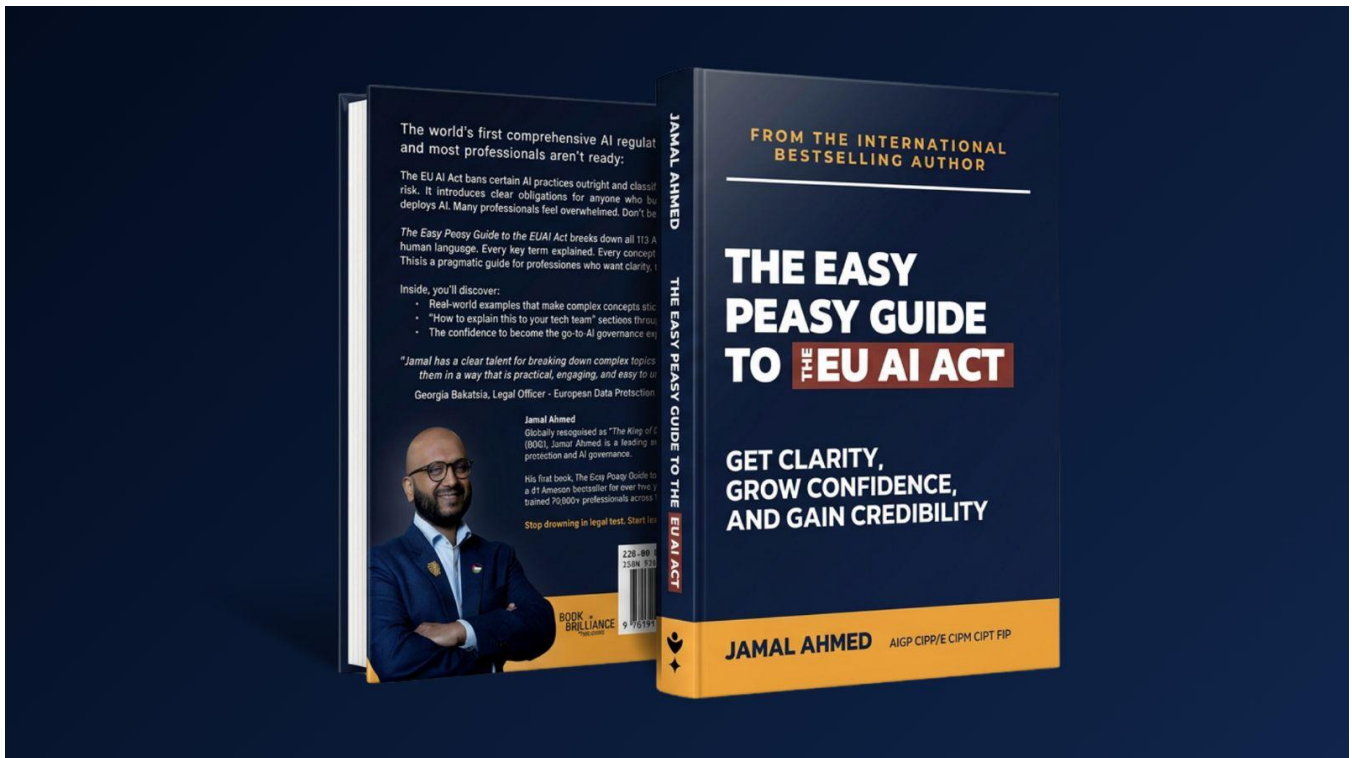


Another book by another Guild member and a 'must' for those who want to keep up with and on top tech: **The Easy Peasy Guide to the EU AI Act by Jamal Ahmed.**

Jamal's first book *The Easy Peasy Guide to GDPR* became an international bestseller and led to his being dubbed "King of Data Protection" by the BBC. Jamal is now publishing his second book, *The Easy Peasy Guide to the EU AI Act*, on 3 August. It turns the world's first comprehensive AI law into clear, practical guidance for anyone whose work touches AI.

This time Jamal is aiming for the Sunday Times bestseller list, something no privacy professional has achieved before. Look closely at the back cover and you will spot Jamal wearing his Guild of Freeman brooch, a proud nod to the Freedom of the City.

To order a copy use this link and help a fellow Freeman <https://amzn.eu/d/08IU08Yt>



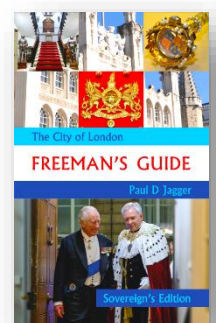
Another book which may be of interest to all Guild Members and especially, new members:

The City of London Freeman's Guide 6th or Sovereign's Edition (updated 2025)

The City of London Freeman's Guide is the definitive concise guide to the Freedom of the City of London as it now is. Each year circa 1,900 people are admitted into the Freedom of the City of London, with more than half being presented by one of the City's Livery Companies. Contrary to widely held belief, the Freedom of the City of London and the Livery Companies remain vital, relevant and active aspects of the City, upholding its traditions and reputation as a global centre of excellence and innovation for so many aspects of commercial and civic life.

Pricing and availability: RRP £22 in 5" x 8" hardback (from Etsy), £9.99 eBook (from Amazon and Apple)

The hardback is available direct from the author at cityandlivery.etsy.com (signed or sealed if you prefer), or from the Guildhall Art Gallery.



Whether you are a prospective Freeman, a long-standing member of a Livery Company or simply interested in the living history of the City, this guide will be your constant companion in a life-long journey of exploration and discovery in the great and famous City of London.

Kate Pink

Clerk to the Guild of Freeman of the City of London