

THE FREEMAN



OFFICIAL JOURNAL AND PROGRAMME

of the
GUILD OF FREEMEN OF THE CITY OF LONDON

The Master 2019-2020

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The Master 2020-2021

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THE GUILD OF FREEMEN OF THE CITY OF LONDON



"O, Most Gracious Lord, defend Thy Citizens of London"

Centenary Master Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal
Patron The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell



The Court of Assistants 2019-2020

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Renter Warden High Sheriff and Alderman John Garbutt, JP

Junior Warden Christopher Walton, Esq., **Under Warden** Councillor Lisa Rutter

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The Guild of Freeman of the City of London

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Company No. 00109150

THE ORIGINS OF THE GUILD

The historic right of Londoners to claim the Freedom of their City was restricted to members of Livery Companies by a Charter of Edward II in 1311. In the 19th Century the Corporation of London decided that the Freedom should no longer be restricted in this way.

It was against this background that in 1908 the Guild of Freeman came to be formed. It became a focal point where the influx of new Freeman joined with the Freeman of the Livery Companies to develop and uphold the City's historic traditions and maintain its good works.

Today the Guild of Freeman of the City of London is an association of about 2,000 men and women who take pride in their City and who participate actively in the Guild's extensive and varied programme of educational, charitable, benevolent, and social activities.

All who hold the Freedom of the City of London are eligible to join the Guild and enjoy the benefits of belonging to the largest organisation of its type in the City of London.

'The Freeman' is usually published in the spring of each year. It includes a record of the many activities and events held by the Guild during the previous year and the programme for the forthcoming year. It is distributed to all members, to many organisations throughout the City, including Livery Companies, Guilds, Libraries, and other interested parties.

'The Freeman'

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of the City of London

Registered at Stationers' Hall

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Court	02
The Guild of Freeman and Table of Contents	03
The Patron and The Lords Mayor's Appeal	04
The Master's Address	05
From the Guild's Archive	06
Annual General Meeting	07
Events of 2019-20	
<i>Tour of Drapers' Hall</i>	08
<i>The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch (City Event)</i>	08
<i>Reception and Dinner at Barber Surgeons' Hall</i>	09
<i>Treasures Tour of the British Library</i>	09
<i>Annual Service at St Lawrence Jewry</i>	10
<i>Reception and Supper at Wax Chandlers' Hall</i>	10
<i>Windsor Castle and Evensong at St George's Chapel</i>	11
<i>Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London</i>	11
<i>Master's Lunch and Tour of Guildhall</i>	12
<i>Beating Retreat, Horse Guards Parade</i>	12
<i>Master's Hog Roast and Concert at Saffron Hall</i>	13
<i>Reception and Dinner at Saddlers' Hall</i>	14
<i>Holiday in North Yorkshire</i>	14
<i>Gala Evening Guildhall School of Music and Drama</i>	15
<i>City Walk and Supper</i>	16
<i>Holiday in Marrakech</i>	16
<i>Sheep Drive Across London Bridge (City Event)</i>	18
<i>Reception and Tour of 'Old Bailey'</i>	18
<i>Tour of Charterhouse</i>	19
<i>Lord Mayor's Show</i>	19
<i>Tour of the British Museum</i>	20
<i>Annual Banquet in Guildhall</i>	20
<i>Carol Service at St Stephen, Walbrook</i>	22
<i>Tour and Art Collection of Mansion House</i>	23
<i>Burns Night Supper at Leathersellers' Hall</i>	23
<i>Tour of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office</i>	24
<i>Dinner at Haberdashers' Hall</i>	25
<i>Visit to the College of Arms</i>	26
Master's Cycle Ride Waterloo to Waterloo	26
Red Cross Christmas Market	27
The Abseiling Lord Mayor and Master	28
Garden of Remembrance St Paul's Cathedral	28
Presentation of Addresses	28
Presentation of a Shepherd's Crook	29
253 (London) Provost Company	30
Golfing Society	32
Benevolent & Charitable Activities	33
The Guild of Freeman Travel Awards	34
The Lord Mayor's 800th Anniversary Awards	36
City Giving Day Launch	36
Guild Members' News	
<i>Honorary Member Captain Sir Thomas 'Tom' Moore</i>	37
<i>Joining and Welcoming Ceremony</i>	37
<i>The Guild Welcomes New Members</i>	38
<i>Congratulations</i>	39
<i>The Beadles Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela</i>	39
<i>In Memoriam</i>	41
<i>Obituaries</i>	41
The New Master's Message 2019-20	43
The Master and Wardens 2019-20	44
Events Programme for 2019-20	46
Guild Notices	50
Acknowledgements and	50
From the Honorary Editor	50

The Patron

The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell

Alderman William Russell is the 692nd Lord Mayor and has over 30 years' experience in the financial and business City including holding senior positions in the national and international banking sector. In 1987 he went to work for First Boston Corporation before joining Merrill Lynch in 1992 as an Investment Banker in Institutional Equity Sales, working in Asia, New York, and London. William is currently Chair of CDAM, a London based Asset Management business, and Senior Advisor to STJ Advisors. He was also on the Board of Innovate Finance, the industry body for the UK based FinTech community.



During his tenure as Lord Mayor, Alderman Russell will act as a spokesman for the City, leading overseas business delegations to key international markets on behalf of the UK financial and professional services industry. In the role he will meet government representatives, alongside business leaders and policy makers both at home and abroad. He will look to strengthen economic ties with the UK, identify new business opportunities and promote the UK as a top global destination for foreign investment. Alderman Russell will be reinforcing the message that the City of London is a national asset for the UK, accounting for billions of pounds in revenue and taxes and creating millions

William was elected as Alderman for the Ward of Bread Street in 2013 and served as Sheriff of the City of London in 2016-17. He has a number of charitable interests; he has served as Chair of the Development Board of the Royal Court Theatre, he is a Board Member of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, the Barbican Centre and is on the Council of the Royal Theatrical Support Trust. He is immediate past Chair of Prostate Cancer UK and is currently Deputy Chair of Place2Be, a children's mental health charity.

He is a Trustee of Morden College and a past member of the Development Board of the Charterhouse. He is a Court Assistant to both the Haberdashers' and the Feltmakers' livery companies, as well as an Honorary Liveryman of the Paviers'.

of jobs across the country – as well as being a unique, cultural, and diverse institution. The Lord Mayor will promote his theme of Global UK: Trade, Innovation & Culture with the ethos of connecting communities through these three elements.

Alderman Russell will use his mayoralty to grow global trade and investment opportunities for the City, London and the UK; strengthen our strategic city partnerships globally; champion innovation to scale up our offer in FinTech and Green Finance within a secure, sustainable, and green City; Promote a rich and vibrant cultural and creative economy, showcasing the City, London, and the UK as a great place to live, learn, work and visit.

The Lord Mayor's Appeal

A Better City for All

The work of the year's Lord Mayor's Appeal will benefit two communities, City employees, residents and their family and friends, as well as those who live and work in neighbouring communities with the one aim to create: **A Better City for All** – **helping one million people thrive**. The Appeal continues the work begun two years ago around four key pillars to build a City that is **Inclusive, Healthy, Skilled and Fair**.

The three charity partners, Place2Be, OnSide Youth Zones and Samaritans will deliver their ground-breaking programmes and the Appeal will continue to develop their four existing initiatives – 'Power of Inclusion', 'This is Me', 'She Can Be' and 'City Giving Day' as well as expanding their corporate relationships.



Full details of the appeal and the supported charities can be found on The Lord Mayor's Appeal website.

For further information: www.thelordmayorsappeal.org - email: info@thelordmayorsappeal.org - call: 020 7332 1582

Neil Redcliffe, Esq., JP BSc (Econ) MBA FCA

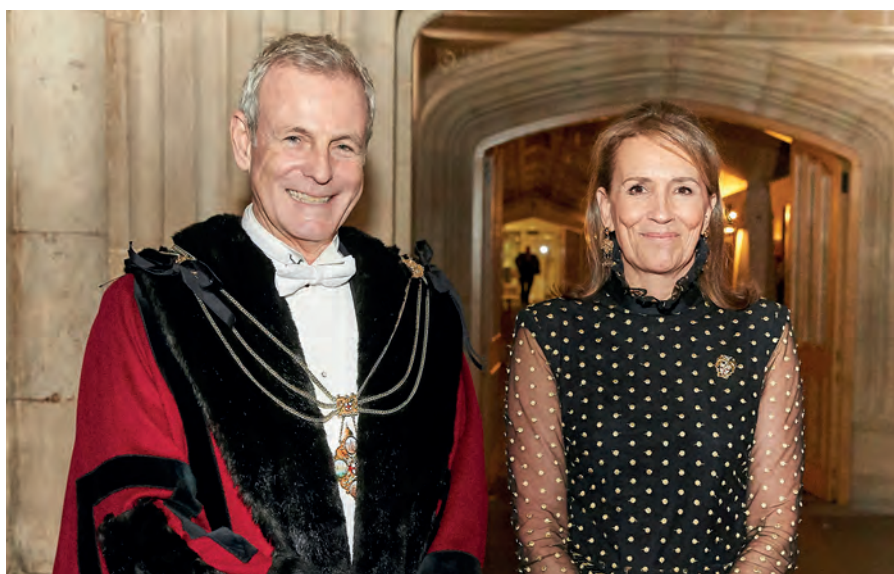
The Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London 2019-20

It was a huge honour and privilege to be installed as Master of the Guild of Freemen and Emma and I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of the year. The opportunity to meet so many members and make so many new friends has been a delight. I thank Emma for her graceful and unstinting support throughout all my City activities and for joining me as Mistress of the Guild so soon after our Shrieval year at the 'Old Bailey'.

It was a treat to indulge my passion for the history and heritage of our great City and Country with many events. Our first was a tour of the outstanding Drapers' Hall where we learnt of its intriguing story as Thomas Cromwell's home before it was purchased by the Drapers Company. The tour was followed by lunch with the Master, Professor Philip Ogden. Further visits were made to the British Library (guided by Kevin Mehmet) where we saw Magna Carta; a tour of the British Museum with Blue Badge Guide extraordinaire - Sue King, plus two visits to Windsor Castle and St George's Chapel where we were superbly guided by Guild Member, Art Ramirez. We finished our days at Windsor with a beautiful Evensong in St George's Chapel. Our first dinner was held at Barber-Surgeons' Hall where we welcomed former 'Old Bailey' Judge, His Honour Nicholas Cooke QC, as our guest speaker, who gave an excellent thought-provoking speech on the City.

Music was also a theme throughout the year. Our Annual Guild Service, at St Lawrence Jewry, was directed by Canon David Parrott and our Guild Chaplain, the Very Reverend Dr David Ison, Dean of St Paul's. Very much a family double act as we welcomed the Reverend Hilary Ison to conduct our Christmas Service at St Stephen Walbrook - a Wren masterpiece. The London Nordic Choir performed the transcendent Santa Lucia with Bo Ekstrand risking life and limb with a candle lit crown as Santa Lucia.

We welcomed many Guild Members to our home near Saffron Walden for hog



roast lunches in June and September and were blessed with sunny warm weather on both days. Lunch was followed by a visit to the outstanding Saffron Hall to hear Harry Christopher's glorious Sixteen perform Monteverdi's Vespers in June and the Saffron Opera Company conducted by Professor Mike Thorne, CBE, perform Wagner's 'Tristan and Isolde'. We also enjoyed a concert by the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and were honoured to have the Principal, Lynne Williams, AM, as our guest speaker at our Saddlers' Hall Dinner in June.

Emma and I were honoured to represent the City of London at fellow Guilds' Banquets in York, Coventry, Chester and at Trades House Glasgow. A very Scottish evening was had at our Burns Night Dinner at Leathersellers' Hall. In Highland Dress, I was thrilled to perform the "Address to the Haggis". My thanks to John Smail for his coaching, loan of the impressively scary dirk and "Toast to the Lassies"; Don Lunn who gave the "Immortal Memory" speech and Lady Lauriston who replied on behalf of the Lassies. Bo and Celia from the London Nordic Choir led us singing "A man's a man for a' that" and others - a fun filled evening for all.

Many Guild Members supported our two Guild Holidays. Our trip to Yorkshire in

July included visits to Fountains Abbey, Ripon Workhouse and Ripon Cathedral, where we took part in Evensong and had dinner with the Dean. We also enjoyed dinner with the Lord Mayor of York in Mansion House York, and a steam engine ride on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway to Whitby. Our overseas visit to Marrakech, included staying in my brother Stuart's (fellow Guild Member) luxurious and beautiful Riads in the Medina with visits to the Souk, Yves St Laurent's Museum and Le Jardin Secret. We travelled to the Atlas Mountains which involved some members partaking in a donkey ride up the foothills. We also visited Essaouira on the coast and many enjoyed a swim in the Atlantic after a 'Tagine' lunch.

I was honoured to guide Guild Members around Guildhall followed by lunch in the Aldermen's Dining Room, and a tour around my favourite 'Old Bailey'. Further guided tours included The Charterhouse, Mansion House, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the College of Arms and City Walks to see Wren's Churches in the Square Mile.

Emma and I were incredibly grateful for Guild Members' sponsorship of our Waterloo to Waterloo cycle ride raising funds for the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund. We learnt much about where the money goes when the Governor of Her

The Master's Address

Majesty's Prison Isis, Emily Thomas was our speaker at Wax Chandlers' Hall. We presented Emily with a cheque for £35,000 at our Banquet. The Guild's Annual Banquet was a great success and very well attended by Guild Members and their guests. We welcomed our Patron, The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Sheriffs and fellow Guild Members, Chris Hayward CC and Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli with Consorts Alex and Elisabeth. Our excellent guest speaker was The Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Haddon-Cave, with

speeches by the Lord Mayor, Senior Warden, and me. The centre piece of the Guild's Programme was a truly splendid occasion.

We were blessed to be able to complete our year with a splendid dinner at Haberdashers' Hall where former High Commissioner for Australia to the UK, Alexander Downer, AC, gave us a rousing speech about our great nation. Our hearts go out to my successor Ann-Marie, and husband David, whose year will be so disrupted by COVID-19.

Finally, we could not have had such a marvellous time without the support of the Wardens and Court Assistants and the extraordinarily hard working and effective Clerk and Assistant Clerk, Christine, and Judith. We thank them all and of course our members whose enthusiastic participation made our year such a success. Thank you all.

Neil Redcliffe JP

From the Guild's Archive -The First Master of the Guild

Cuthbert Wilkinson, Esq., CC

A Master is Found

If, as it appears, there was a withdrawal of at least a major part of the establishment from taking an active part in the new Guild. Harry Brodie Self and his fellow members of the Warden's Court had a difficult task in finding someone of appropriate status to be the first Master.

It seems to have taken two months to settle but finally Cuthbert Wilkinson, agreed to fill the office. He must have been aware of the situation and the task he might face in seeking to lead the new Guild to a position of honour and acceptance. That he did so in the space of hardly more than a year emphasises both the wisdom of those who approached him to undertake the task and the very considerable debt of gratitude which the Guild will always owe to its first Master.

Around this time Cuthbert Wilkinson was the proprietor of a printing and publishing business in East Harding Street at the west end of the City in the Ward of Farringdon Without. He was on the Parliamentary voters register and took his Freedom in February 1902 through that qualification. He was elected a Common Councilman for his Ward in 1907 and about the same time

had joined a livery company, the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers, to which he was admitted in January 1908 and of which he became Master in 1913. He had taken public office in his ward, having been Overseer of the church of St Bride's, Fleet Street and at this time was Overseer of St Dunstan-in-the-West and he was a member of the City Board of Guardians.

He was born in Nottingham in 1854 but moved to Sydenham in south London early in life (and was fifty-four when he became the first Master of the Guild).

His interest in public affairs started in Sydenham where he became a manager of Penge and Anerley schools. He served on the Vestry, the Board of Works, the Lewisham Board of Guardians and when the Metropolitan Borough of Lewisham was formed in 1900 he was a Councillor on that new authority. He then moved to Kensington, to 66 Holland Park, and he was at the time of the formation of the Guild also a prominent member of the Council of the Royal Borough of Kensington.

He established himself as a printer and publisher, Wilkinson & Co. in the Fleet Street area. As is apparent from his connection with the City institutions and parishes in his part of the City,



he took part in the life of the City of London while continuing similar work in the locality in which he resided.

He later became a member of the London County Council and of the Metropolitan Asylums Board and it was said of him that whatever organisation claimed his interest he was involved with great thoroughness and quickly became a power and personality. He was also highly active politically, an Imperialist, and a champion of London, which he always considered received scant consideration from succeeding governments. He died in 1918.

109th Annual General Meeting

Tallow Chandlers' Hall

Wednesday 13th March 2019

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held in mid-March every year to discharge the Company's statutory obligations and to install the new Master and Wardens.

Opening Ceremony - After processing into the Hall in company with the Honorary Chaplain and the Wardens, the Master, John Barber DL, opened the Guild's 109th AGM.

The Clerk read out the names of those who had sent messages of apology and goodwill. Then everyone stood in silence in memory of the Guild Members whose deaths had been reported since the publication of the last Annual Review.

Guild Business - The Minutes of the 108th AGM were read out, approved unanimously, and signed by the Master. The Master drew attention to the Directors' Report that had been published in the Annual Review.

The Master then reflected on his year as Master and felt that, with the support of Guild Members, the programme had lived up to the Guild's highest standards.

The high point of the year had been the Annual Banquet, at Guildhall, at which he warmly welcomed The Lord Mayor Locum Tenens, Alderman Ian Luder, CBE, JP. Alderman and Sheriff Vincent Keaveny and Sheriff The Hon. Elizabeth Green were also present.

He also had special memories of the Guild Holiday in Dublin and Wexford, Southern Ireland, where we all received a warm welcome and generous Irish hospitality. His love of the arts and antiques was evident in the World of Fabergé evening at Armourers' Hall. His long-time friend, Sarah Fabergé, gave an enthusiastic and enthralling talk on the House of Fabergé and the world famous Fabergé eggs.

Next, the Honorary Treasurer reported that the Guild's accounts for the year to 31st July 2018 had been examined by Kreston Reeves LLP and the financial statements had been published in the Annual Review. After outlining the income and expenditure over the year he reported that the Company's funds had decreased by £20,000 – in round figures from £545,000 to £525,000. He then cautioned that the accounts showed the actual value of the investments at the closing date of the accounting period rather than the purchase price.

The Honorary Treasurer then reported on behalf of the Trustees of the



Guild's Charity. Throughout the year the Trustees supported a range of charitable social welfare and educational organisations, including continued support for two presentees at Christ's Hospital. In addition, 31 grants and awards (£40,825) had been made during the year.

The Charity received income of £81,573 through the generosity of members and the income generated by our investments. This included a generous bequest from a former Guild Member. The value of the Charity's Invested Funds on 31 July 2018, was £971,764, compared with £903,196 in the previous year.

The Honorary Treasurer concluded by reporting that the state of the Guild's accounts was healthy and recommended their adoption. The accounts were approved unanimously.

Appointment as the Guild's Accountants - The Master reported that the Board had been pleased with the work carried out by Kreston Reeves LLP as the Guild's accountants and recommended their reappointment for the year to 31st July 2019. The recommendation was approved unanimously.

Installation Ceremony - The Master then opened the Installation Ceremony by presenting Neil Redcliffe, JP, as his successor. After a brief introduction, he handed over the Guild's Inventory Book and the Key to the Company Seal as symbols of the high office of Master. Neil Redcliffe, JP, then thanked John Barber, DL, for his kind words and acknowledged the great honour that had been bestowed upon him. He then installed his Wardens, namely Ann-Marie Jefferys as Senior Warden, Alderman John Garbutt, JP, as Renter Warden, Christopher Walton as Junior Warden and Councillor Lisa Rutter as Under Warden.

Presentations - The Master then presented an Illuminated Address to the Immediate Past Master, John Barber, DL, congratulated him on a successful year, invested him with the Immediate Past Master's badge and presented him with his own Past Master's badge. John Barber thanked the Master for his kind words and the presentations.

The Immediate Past Master's Consort, John Nolan, passed on the Master's Lady's brooch to Emma Redcliffe, together with his best wishes for the year ahead.

Closing Ceremony - Finally, the Master closed the AGM. After the Master and Wardens had processed from the Hall everyone gathered in the Parlour for refreshments.



Events of 2019-20

Tour of Drapers' Hall

Tuesday 26th March

The Master hosted 37 Members of the Guild of Freemen and the Master of The Worshipful Company of Drapers, Professor Philip Ogden, at a lunch in the elegant Court Dining Room at Drapers' Hall. Members enjoyed a superb tour of the Hall given by the Company's archivist, Penny Fussell.

We visited the magnificent Livery Hall and the Drawing Room, as well as the silver vaults. We were shown many treasures including exceptional tapestries, paintings, sculptures and silver, and our enjoyment was enhanced by some less obvious, quirky facts about the Hall. For example, in an early Company Royal Charter the scribe had left large spaces in the initial capital letters so they could be illuminated in due course, but in this case, for some unknown reason, his empty spaces had been left blank.

Penny pointed out a portrait of John Dixon, who in the 1600s left a legacy to the Company, specifically for the education of boys in Enfield, but stipulated that they had to share his surname. Needless to say, this bequest was not carried out to the letter. Another fascinating fact Penny told



us was that, whereas the impressive full-length portrait of Her Majesty the Queen by Sergei Pavlenko was painted at Buckingham Palace, the Drapers requested that Pavlenko include something from the Hall. As he insisted that he would never paint what he could not see, the Company had to transport the chandelier and candelabra to Buckingham Palace, with some difficulty, to comply with his request. The Master and his wife Emma are Freemen of the Drapers' Company and this, the first event of their year, was indeed a tour not to be missed.

The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch (City Event)

Tuesday 4th April

The Master was keen to support the 12th annual Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch which was held at Guildhall. The Master was accompanied by 18 Guild Members who enjoyed a glass of champagne at the Guild's table in the East Crypt followed by a delicious curry with wine and beer.

The Big Curry Lunch unites the City of London to show their support for members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces and veterans through the three National Service Charities: ABF The Soldiers' Charity, the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity and the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund.

The Lunch was hosted by The Lord Mayor, Alderman Peter Estlin, the Lady Mayoress, Lindy Estlin, the Sheriffs, Alderman Vincent Keaveny and the Hon. Elizabeth Green, and their consorts. The royal guest of honour was HRH The Duke of Sussex.

Other guests included senior leaders from the City's business and professional communities, members of Livery Companies and Ward Clubs, senior officers of the British



Army and the other services and members of both Houses of Parliament, together with serving officers, soldiers, veterans, and beneficiaries of the charity.

There was the opportunity to bid on money-can't-buy prizes in the silent auction and many of us tried our luck with the prize draw. In 'Authors' Corner' several renowned authors were selling and autographing their books.

Reception and Dinner at Barber Surgeons' Hall

Wednesday 10th April

The Master's first black-tie event of his year was a reception and dinner held in the Great Hall at Barber Surgeons' Hall. This Hall was not known to many of us who enjoyed the walk through the quiet streets and lanes to reach it, almost hidden in a very pretty tree-lined garden square.

The evening began with the usual sparkling wine reception, but this was rather special in that Nutbourne Sussex Reserve 2017 was served, perfect for an early English Spring night. The party then moved to the Great Hall to dine. The Hall is particularly notable as it is where rests Holbein's 1541/2 depiction of 'King Henry VIII and The Barber-Surgeons'. One of the largest oil portraits of King Henry VIII still remaining is a painting of national importance, offering a wonderful backdrop to celebrations in the Great Hall.

Keith Bottomley, CC, said the Grace and in keeping with the spring feel, a delicious salmon, watercress, and prawn cocktail with mango chilli salsa started the dinner. Chicken breasts with mushroom and fennel stuffing and pinot noir roasted aubergines followed, rounded off with praline chocolate pancakes and an especially tasty rhubarb and cinnamon ice-cream. By then the conversation around the tables was flowing genially, ably supported by a very pleasant Western Cape Pinot Noir. The dinner was then completed with coffee, a Graham's LBV port served with quite delicious handmade chocolates and sweetmeats.



The passing of the Loving Cup evoked the ceremonial aspect of the dinner and the Master introduced his guest speaker, His Honour Nicholas Cooke, QC, a former 'Old Bailey' Judge. Judge Cooke spoke of 'Influence in the Future'. He warned of the importance of the issues of corruption and bribery in the City and the critical spectre of a 'loss of moral compass'. He prescribed 'no relaxation of efforts' in the face of a decline in 'common ethical code' and the need for City influence to halt this.

Guests lingered in the Great Hall after formalities, taking the time to view the most impressive art collection. Along with the renowned and precious Holbein, other notable works were a delightful portrait of Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, from 1994 and an impressive collection of early ceramic bowls.

This phenomenally successful evening gave a taste of the excellent social programme the Master had arranged for his year.

Treasures Tour of the British Library

Tuesday 16th April

As Freemen we all appreciate the wealth of heritage we enjoy in the City of London and throughout the country, but we were blown away by the history and artefacts to be found at the British Library which some 45 members visited with the Master.

There was something which resonated with each of us. A lady member who had been a geographer travelled from Cardiff to join the tour to see the Klencke Atlas. Another was taken with the display relating to the work of early women scientists, and Ada Lovelace in particular. For me perhaps the King's Library was a high point.

The British Library is a reference only library with 170 million items, much of which are stored in the four basement levels on site in St Pancras. The library has over 1,200 reading desks in eleven reading rooms where you can access anything from the collections. In a purpose built complex constructed 21 years ago and already Grade I listed, it was the largest UK public building built in the twentieth century.



It also contains some wonderful treasures including the beautifully illuminated Lindisfarne Gospels, the Diamond Sutra (the world's earliest dated printed book), Gutenberg's Bible, Shakespeare's First Folio and so much more. King George III accumulated a large library over his lifetime with many books on vellum and bound beautifully in leather. On his death in 1820, his son, George IV donated the 60,000 plus books to the British Museum and the King's Library now forms a centrepiece at the British Library. This is a glass walled climate controlled tower in the centre of the library, in which all the books are housed but you may study them in a reading room. With subdued lighting for the protection of

Events of 2019-20

Treasures Tour of the British Library continued...

the books it is a dramatic and fitting signature piece for the library.

The Klencke Atlas was also part of George III's library but is separately displayed. Nearly six feet high, it includes wall maps prepared during the golden age of Dutch map making. It was presented to Charles II on his restoration by Johannes Klencke who hoped to secure trading privileges from the King. In a separate room is displayed the Magna Carta with

King John's seal, drawn up following his negotiation with his Barons in 1215. The full text is shown on the wall and our Clerk happily drew our attention to the clause that "*the City of London should have all its ancient liberties, and its free customs, as well by land as by water*". It was a fascinating and very enjoyable visit concluding with supper in nearby St Pancras Station – another grade one listed building in a quite different style. Thank you Master for arranging such a lovely evening.

Annual Service at St Lawrence Jewry

Thursday 2nd May

On a blustery, showery day we were welcomed by the light, bright and lofty interior of St Lawrence Jewry. There has been a church on this site since 1136. It is the official church of the Lord Mayor and the City of London Corporation. We were welcomed by Canon David Parrott. The service was taken by the Guild's Honorary Chaplain the Very Revd. Dr David Ison, Dean of St Paul's. The church's organist Catherine Ennis was joined by Jozef Gaszka, Senior Organ Scholar at King Edward's School Witley. The Choir from the school was conducted by Stasio Sliwka, Director of Music at the school. It was great to see them in the choir stalls, rather than in the organ loft.

The Chaplain led us in prayer thanking God for the life of the City and those who work in it. The choir sang the Anthem "I was glad" by Hubert Parry, which really lifted our spirits. The first lesson 2 Kings 4: 38- 44 was read by the Renter Warden, Alderman John Garbutt, JP. The passage describes food-based miracles performed by Elisha. This was followed by the choir singing the Magnificat. The second reading



was John 21: 1-14 read by the Master, Neil Redcliffe, this describes the miracle performed by Jesus when he appeared before disciples who had caught nothing. He suggested they try again, and they caught a lot of fish, which they cooked and ate on the beach.

The Very Revd. Dr David Ison preached the sermon. He said he had chosen the readings to emphasise how important food is to all of us especially when we come together to enjoy both the food and fellowship in each other's company, pointing out that we would be doing just that after the service.

Reception and Supper at Wax Chandlers' Hall

Thursday 2nd May

After the Annual Service we walked the short distance to Wax Chandlers' Hall. The Wax Chandlers' are one of the oldest livery companies and have the smallest membership! The Company was founded in 1330 and gained its Royal Charter in 1462. The Wax Chandlers' have had a hall on this site since 1501. The present hall is the 6th and was opened in 1954.

We were greeted by the new Master and his wife Emma for a sparkling reception. The choir from King Edward's School Witley joined us and were congratulated on their marvellous singing. The Master presented a cheque which was accepted by the Director of Music, Stasio Sliwka, on behalf of the school. The Master spoke about The Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund.

The fund aims to stop re offending by giving small grants to help ex-prisoners and their families. On release they are given £46 and the clothes they wore when they were sentenced. The Master, his wife Emma and friends raised over £63,000 last summer cycling to Paris.



The Master then introduced his guest speaker, Emily Thomas, who is governor of HM Prison Isis. Emily gave us an insight into the work she and her team do to prevent re-offending. The programme ensures each prisoner has a skill that equips them for future employment. These include practical as well as more academic occupations. The Master thanked Emily for her talk and then the evening drew to a close.

Windsor Castle and Evensong at St George's Chapel

Monday 13th May and Tuesday 14th May

After the recent inclement weather, the sun shone on us from above allowing the 35 members and guests to meet outside the gates of Windsor Castle before proceeding through the airport style security. We then collected our headphones and gathered around the Master who gave us an interesting and factual talk on the history of the Castle. We then moved to the State Apartments where we had an independent but leisurely tour through the superb rooms, with many interesting portraits and artefacts, e.g. the bullet that killed Nelson at Trafalgar. Then into the recently rebuilt Great Hall, which has been superbly reconstructed and is a credit to all the modern builders and craftsmen.

After our tour we walked down to the parade ground where most of us were in time to see the Changing of the Guard. The Gurkha Rifles were on parade; very impressive and definitely not to be argued with.

It was then time for lunch! We walked to Côte Brasserie on a bank of the River Thames. Our dining room overlooked the river, where we enjoyed an excellent lunch with wine in view of the passing boats, swans, and ducks.



Returning to the Castle after lunch we were met by the Chapel Steward who with the help of three guides split us into groups for a guided tour of St George's Chapel, a highly informative and inspiring tour. After which we all went our separate ways for tea and coffee before re-joining as one group for the 'crème de la crème' of the day, we were escorted again by the Chapel Steward into the Choir Stalls of St George's Chapel for sung Evensong, a very beautiful and moving service.

The day was thoroughly enjoyed by us all and many thanks must go to the Master, Neil Redcliffe, his wife Emma and of course our ever patient Clerk, Christine. We did our best to test her forbearance! Christine won!

Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London

Wednesday 22nd May

I have been asked many times why I joined the Guild of Freeman – and what I get out of it – and my response generally surprises people.

I have always been interested in history and how institutions work, so when the opportunity presented itself to become a Freeman and join the Guild, I jumped at it. That is really what I get out of it: learning about the City's history and traditions in splendid settings – minus the crowds!



Now here comes the why part: the annual programme is full of history in places where the average mortal does not often end up visiting. Take our event: the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower

of London. As we were touring the grounds well past closing time, the 'Beefeater' told us that there is usually a two year waiting list for what we were about to see!

I have lived in London for eight years, walking past the Tower maybe a couple of dozen times without ever entering, so I thought this would be the perfect opportunity to find out what it is all about.

The Ceremony of the Keys is a 700-year old tradition in which a number of armed guards march down the cobble stoned lanes to "lock up the gates" in order to protect Her Majesty's treasures. There is also something much less noble about the locking of the gates: at one time there was a strict curfew at 10pm by which time all residents of the tower had to return from their rowdy nights out!

Before the Ceremony of the Keys, the Yeoman Warder (aka 'the Beefeater') gave us a tour of the grounds, explaining the bloody history of the structure and the brutal executions of two of Henry VIII's many wives. This was a real eye-opener for me: I knew about the King's six wives but listening to the 'Beefeater' made me realise Henry was actually quite a cruel man!

At one point inside the historic chapel, whilst our guide, the 409th Yeoman Warder went into the small, sordid details of the execution of Henry's fifth wife - I even felt a shiver go down my spine!

Unfortunately, photography of the Ceremony of the Keys is not permitted but there is a saying: "if you really want to remember a moment, try not to take a photo!" Well, I am sure the events of this evening will stay with me forever anyway!

Events of 2019-20

Master's Lunch and Tour of Guildhall

Tuesday 28th May

A group of 35 members and guests gathered at Guildhall entrance and walked to the corridor outside the Great Hall where the Master began his stint as our tour guide with an explanation of the exterior of the building and the surrounding area. The Guildhall is one of the hidden gems of the City, with its yard proving a lovely sun trap amongst the crowd of surrounding buildings.

We then entered the majestic Great Hall and the Master proceeded to explain the fascinating history of the building with the awful damage it sustained in the Great Fire and The Blitz. He also told us about the statues around the hall, mainly of national heroes. These included a figure of Britannia whose demeanour represented the prevailing conditions in the country at the time. Perhaps we are fortunate that we do not wish to immortalise a hero at the moment. Who can guess how Britannia would appear in the Brexit era; perhaps as a harassed mother with her unruly children clambering over her? There was also an explanation of the shields around the eaves and upper windows representing the Livery Companies which have been such an important part of City life for so many years.

From the Great Hall we made our way to the Art Gallery. The City owns an extensive and varied collection of art spread across many years and disciplines but with a strong Victorian representation. We paused to admire an enormous canvas covering a full wall of the gallery. Painted by John Singleton Copley in 1791, it depicts one of the most heroic actions in British Military history when, in 1782 the greatly outnumbered Brits were besieged at Gibraltar by a very much stronger Franco/Spanish fleet. The defenders prevailed by using heated shot to set the blockading ships alight and rout their enemy. A favourite of the Master, *La Ghirlandata* by the pre-Raphaelite Dante Gabriel Rossetti, was away for renovation, which was a shame, but hopefully, when it returns to the gallery, everyone will be able to admire it from the receiving line at the Guild's Banquet.

Our final stop was underneath the gallery where the remains of the Roman amphitheatre, which originally occupied the site of the Guildhall Yard, were discovered in 1988 when preparations



began to build the Art Gallery. The discovery caused considerable delay to the building but allowed the Corporation to take the decision to open the remains to the public, some 20 feet below modern street level.

It was then off to the West Wing to the Aldermen's Dining Room for a splendid lunch with a generous flow of wine and plenty of interesting conversation. I have been to Guildhall a few times, but this more in-depth look was most enlightening, and I would recommend anyone who has not done the tour to do so if a chance becomes available.

Finally, I must thank Neil, the Master, for hosting this event and particularly for acting as our tour guide. He obviously had to do a considerable amount of preparation for the tour though I do suspect that Guildhall and its history are subjects close to his heart. Thanks also to Christine our Clerk for her tireless efforts in making the arrangements and acting as assistant tour guide and shepherdess on the day.

Beating Retreat, Horse Guards Parade

Thursday 6th June

What a privilege to be present. The entire evening was a triumph. We met at the Red Lion pub, where we enjoyed a delicious supper prior to a gentle stroll to Horse Guards Parade.

As we arrived there was a video playing of the Royal Artillery Band's Contemporary Brass Ensemble – wow what a great pre-warm up band. More traditional warm up music followed, played by the Royal British Legion Band and Corps of Drums Romford,

including a medley of First and Second World War music giving an opportunity for 'community singing'. As that finished a skirl of pipes announced the National Cadet Force Pipes and Drums.

Excitement rippled through the crowd; two black cars drove onto the Parade ground – who was taking the salute? The Duchess of Cambridge had arrived. Drums could be heard; the main attraction - 'Soldiers of the Queen' - in the shape of the Massed Bands of the Foot Guards marched onto the parade ground playing 'The King's Guard'. There was a Fanfare, 'Icons of a Nation' – a new piece by Captain Ben Mason. One word - stunning.

Beating Retreat, Horse Guards Parade continued...

The theme of Beating Retreat this year was not only 'D Day' but also a demonstration of how our soldiers serve the nation at home, around the world and as icons of the nation. In turn each of the bands (Footguards, Royal Regiment of Scotland, London Scottish Regiment, and the Household Cavalry) produced for us wave upon wave of glorious music, piping, and drumming with marching of the very highest standard.

Our armed forces work closely with the armed forces of Oman and provide training for them. The excellence of that training was reflected by the playing and marching of the Band Pipes and Drums of the Royal Guard of Oman.

And then the highest of an evening of highpoints; the Household Cavalry gave us a stirring rendering of the Allegro from 'William Tell'; the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery complete with horses and gun carriages divided into two and galloped in opposite directions around the parade ground joining together in front of the Guards Memorial where they set up their guns. Fireworks a-plenty and a brilliant performance of the theme music from Branagh's film 'Henry V' and finally the King's Troop fired their guns!

After so much excitement the evening ended with 'The Lord is my Shepherd' and 'Amazing Grace' intertwined with the



'Last Post'. The National Anthem followed, the Duchess of Cambridge withdrew, and one by one the bands fell out until the parade ground was empty and silent. 'Soldiers of the Queen', for all you do to keep us safe, thank you!

Master's Hog Roast and Concert at Saffron Hall

Sunday 9th June and Sunday 15th September

A truly splendid day started with a very warm welcome from the Master and his wife Emma who greeted the seventy Guild members and guests arriving at their lovely home in Radwinter. The sun shone, both literally and metaphorically, so guests were able to eat outside and enjoy the lovely rural scene.

This was an informal lunch, so the buffet was served in the garden whilst an energetic team made sure glasses were attended to. It was an ideal time to catch up with old friends with the informal arrangement of tables making it a very relaxed occasion. After this two-hour leisurely lunch there was a short coach ride to Saffron Hall to attend the concert.

Saffron Hall is unique being a 740-seat top rated state-of-the-art facility built in the grounds of Saffron Walden County High School. Opening in 2013 it has been widely acclaimed for its acoustic excellence and facilities and has hosted world class performers. The Master had chosen the day when The Sixteen choir and orchestra, conducted by Harry Christophers, would be performing Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610 which is one of the most significant pieces in the choral canon.

It was a full house and the singers and musicians amply demonstrated the excellence of the venue with their beautiful

performance. An extra treat was arranged by the Master when Harry Christophers joined the Guild party in the interval to meet us all.

This unique event in the Guild's calendar year was understandably well over-subscribed so a second visit on Sunday 15th September was added to the events programme. The combination of an informal visit to the Master's home for first class hospitality from the Master and Emma combined with cultural excellence made it a day to remember.



Events of 2019-20

Reception and Dinner at Saddlers' Hall

Wednesday 26th June

On June 26th 120 people gathered at Saddlers' Hall in Gutter Lane. This is the fourth incarnation of the Hall; the first was destroyed by the Great Fire of London. The second was burnt down in 1821, and the third was destroyed in The Blitz. The Saddlers' Company is number 25 in the order of Companies by Precedence, with the first reference to them in 1160.

We commenced the evening with a Champagne reception; having first been greeted by the Master, Neil Redcliffe, JP, Emma Redcliffe and Lynne Williams, AM (Member of the Order of Australia). After the reception we had a fine meal of Thai fish cakes, served with a lovely English white wine, followed by Tournedos of Beef, with Australian wine. We finished the meal with Kentish Strawberries with Pimms Ice cream. Then we had the ceremony of the Loving Cup followed by the Loyal and Civic Toasts.

The Master then gave his speech. He introduced many of the 28 new members who were given their Warrants earlier at Tallow Chandlers' Hall and who had continued their celebrations at Saddlers' Hall. These included members of his own family. He reminded us that the Guild is always looking for new members and introductions from members were welcome. He mentioned the Guild's Charity, thanking Past Master Anne Holden for all her hard work as Chairman of the Trustees, as she was now standing down after nine years' service. He reminded us that regular donations could be made by standing order.



He then introduced us to the guest speaker, Lynne Williams, AM, Principal of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She spoke about the principles and ambitions of the school, making it the top Conservatoire for the 21st Century, rivalling that of the Julliard School in New York. She then did a quick quiz. The results were (1) There are more than 70 different countries represented at the school; (2) On Saturdays they have 2500 under 18s attending; (3) You could now take a degree in Acting Studies in China. After she had finished her speech which was well received, the Master presented her with a Halcyon Days Box as a memento of the evening. The Master and his guests then processed out of the dining room, and the evening drew to a close.

Holiday in North Yorkshire

Monday 1st July to Friday 5th July

The Guild holiday to York was to be an extremely exciting and interesting visit to a large part of Yorkshire and its heritage. We assembled on the first evening for our first initiative test - to find the restaurant where we celebrated Audrey Tibbles' 93rd birthday. Audrey was to become an inspiration to all of us in the way she undertook the remainder of the survival course.

The following day after an early breakfast we set off for Ripon and a tour of Fountains Abbey, founded in 1132. Here we learnt that there were two types of monks, those who spent their time in prayer and meditation and the lay brothers who did the work, hence possibly where the name labourer was derived. We continued on a visit to Studley Royal where the water gardens are considered to be one of the best surviving Georgian gardens in England.

After lunch we set off to visit the Ripon Workhouse, which has been carefully maintained to give visitors a sense of what life was really like in Victorian times. After this we went into Ripon Cathedral for an interesting guided tour

and to see the wonderful medieval 'geometric' east window, almost the length of a tennis court. For those who do not play tennis that is a 'chain', which nowadays converts into '22 yards'. We then had the privilege of attending evensong in the cathedral and listening to the magnificent choir which was quite splendid. The group were now allowed to retire for pre-dinner drinks, namely English champagne which by now we richly deserved and kindly provided by Guild Member, Judith Donovan, CBE.



Holiday in North Yorkshire continued...



We then went to the market place for the ceremony to be performed by the Ripon Hornblower at precisely 9.00p.m. Known as setting the watch this has been performed every night since AD886 - over one thousand years of continuous tradition.

On Wednesday morning we arrived at Pickering station like a bunch of kids on their first school outing, to board the steam train to Whitby on the

North Yorkshire Moors Railway and learnt about the region's economic heritage and the people of Whitby's desire in 1830 to move goods countrywide from their port. It was fascinating to find that wagons were initially pulled by horses on this new line that required much ingenuity when it came to steep gradients which eventually gave way to steam engines. After our lunch of fish and chips (you cannot visit Whitby without having fish and chips) we ventured over to the Captain Cook Museum where we learnt about his apprenticeship with Captain Walker's Quaker family and relived his three voyages in the Endeavour to the Pacific, discovering Australia and New Zealand and opening up a whole new world for British and European settlers.

We travelled on to Castle Howard, a stately home which stands resplendent in its own grounds as a symbol of opulence and splendour and exudes the wealth that has been accumulated over a period of three hundred years. Interestingly, when you first arrive you feel as if you have been there before, so if you

have been to Blenheim Palace that is why - both were designed by the architect Sir John Vanbrugh.

Thursday eventually arrived for the train enthusiasts and we were off to the National Railway Museum where we were given a conducted tour showing how trains were first used to transfer goods, some of which had to be specially made, such as the glass-lined milk tanker. Then and only then, were we permitted to see the Royal carriages that have been used over the years.

We then hopped onto the land train to visit York Minster, full of history and a truly excellent tour giving a detailed explanation of the bishops who are buried there and seeing one in particular, who had two holes in one nostril. York Minster was built in the 7th century, featuring exquisite handcrafted stone and an unrivalled collection of medieval stained glass. After lunch in Guy Fawkes' birthplace we were given a tour of the Merchant Adventurers' Hall.

The trip concluded with a reception and black tie dinner in the Mansion House in the presence of the Lord Mayor of the City of York. This was a fitting end to a wonderful adventure in York and the surrounding area, beautifully summed up by the Master in his excellent speech.



Gala Evening Guildhall School of Music and Drama

Monday 8th July

We gathered on a warm summer's evening at the Barbican Centre for what has become a traditional event in a Master's Programme, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama's Gala Evening.

After checking in, we made our way to the Conservatory for a pre-supper sparkling reception where we were well-entertained by music from three talented GSMD students. We then proceeded for a two course dinner with wine in the Garden Room where we were welcomed by the Vice Principal, Jonathan Vaughan.

After our very pleasant meal with ample liquid refreshment we then made our way to the GSMD Silk Street Theatre for the Gala evening production of Stephen Sondheim's 'Merrily We Roll Along'. This is a musical about a wealthy composer who became estranged over a twenty year period from his two best friends. The show begins in the present (1976) and then journeys back in time to when they first started out ready to take on the world (1957).

The students performed their singing, dancing, and acting with great enthusiasm and true professionalism throughout and were given a well-deserved rapturous applause at the conclusion.



Events of 2019-20

City Walk and Supper

Tuesday 23rd July and Wednesday 24th July

We joined the second of two City walks, led, as usual by Peter Tompkins, Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers. We all enjoyed Peter's well informed commentary as we walked with purpose in the warm and humid streets of the City.

We met at Temple Bar, where St Paul's Cathedral Yard leads into Paternoster Square. From here we had a perfect view of the north side of this great cathedral. Most of us were surprised to hear that the building which it replaced, following the Great Fire of London, was both taller and larger than the wonderful structure designed by Christopher Wren.

Peter told us that Wren was involved in designing and rebuilding fifty one churches, destroyed by the fire. Twenty six of those remain. Fifteen are parish churches with regular Sunday worship. The others are 'guild' churches, like St Lawrence Jewry, which is the civic church, alongside Guildhall. The Jews, whose quarter gives this church its secondary title, were expelled in the reign of Edward I. Ironically it was the puritan government of Cromwell that welcomed them back.

We saw a total of eight churches. Each had its own story, which Peter shared. No two churches share the same design concept. Each church has a unique architectural feature, for example the onion dome of St Augustine with St Faith, which provides an interesting perspective with St Paul's behind (like St Martin within Ludgate). St Augustine's now incorporates the St Paul's Cathedral Choir School. The designs had a theme of simple grandeur. St Vedast alias Foster, like so many is now surrounded by the modern style of new city buildings. This



church is unique among the Wren designs in having a collegiate interior, where the pews face each other across the aisle, rather than the altar.

St Mary-le-Bow is known for its bells, in the sound of which you must be born to call yourself a cockney. St Stephen Walbrook, hidden behind the Mansion House, is a delightful mish-mash of styles with a magnificent Henry Moore altar and is known as the little dome church.

We saw at St Michael Paternoster Royal the memorial window to Dick Whittington, Lord Mayor of London. This church was rebuilt in 1690 following the Great Fire and was further damaged in The Blitz. It now serves as the Headquarters for the Mission to Seafarers. Our final stop was at St Mary Aldermanbury. A different style, more gothic with fan vaulting, and is similar to King's College Cambridge.

Having nourished our understanding, we retreated to Williamson's Tavern, behind St Mary-le-Bow, for good traditional fayre. The Master presented Peter Tompkins with a cheque, in aid of the Lord Mayor's Appeal.

Holiday in Marrakech

Wednesday 18th September to Sunday 22nd September

On arrival at Marrakech airport, our group gathered in the entrance hall to discuss what next? Suddenly, staff from our hotel surrounded us, took our luggage, and led us outside into the heat and the minibuses. We were then off into the heart of Marrakech.

We soon joined a large number of cars, lorries, donkey drawn carts, bicycles, and trams. Just as crowded as London but with a different smell wafting through the air conditioning.

We passed some extremely high walls with pinkish coloured rendering. Apparently, hidden behind was the King's Palace. The minibuses finally drew up in front of a pair of tall iron doors. Firmly shut and covered in a thick layer of brown rust. I thought surely this could not be the hotel entrance. No, it was not, the hotel staff had picked up the luggage and were proceeding down a narrow street calling "please follow us". At last we stopped before a large single black door with a polished brass knocker. A porter rang the bell, there was a click and we entered the hotel entrance hall. This was the 'Riad Adore'.



Neil and Emma Redcliffe enjoying a joke

What is a Riad you ask? It is a house, usually three storeys high but it can vary. They are sometimes unoccupied and fallen into a ruinous state, so cheap to buy and convert into a small hotel or a luxurious home. The Master's brother, Stuart, being something of an entrepreneur, had done just that and now had three in this crowded and intensely packed old residential area of the city, accessible only by this maze of passageways.

Holiday in Marrakech continued...



The Master's father, Graham Redcliffe, setting off for lunch in the Atlas Mountains

Our first adventure was a journey to the Atlas Mountains, so an early breakfast was required. As we left the city, we passed through the Moroccan countryside. Flat and dry brown grass with tufts of the same plus the occasional tree or bush. As we neared the foothills of the Atlas mountains, the road became a single track as we started to climb. The track went down to almost river level then rising up again leaving the river far below. We were following a valley with a small glittering clear stream all the way, sometimes close, sometimes far, but always reflecting the hot sun shining from the bluest of blue skies.

The climb continued and eventually arrived in Imlil, a small and rather typical village. We were now confronted by a steep slope of rough boulder-strewn earth with a forest of trees.

Apparently, our lunch stop was somewhere beyond it and to reach it meant a climb of unknown length. I looked at Graham Redcliffe (the Master's Dad) and he looked at me - "Not bloody likely" we said! At the same time the Master's brother, Stuart, announced that for the less agile amongst us, donkeys had been arranged to take us to the restaurant. The climb began. "Ah Yes!" I can hear you say, "Must have been lovely, just like when you were a kid at the seaside!" No, it damn well was not!

The donkey lurched from side to side, and forwards and backwards, as it deftly climbed up between the boulders until we reached yet another set of large and firmly shut black doors, where we were lifted off to wait for the rest of the group, who eventually arrived looking, shall we say, rather weary.

There was a click and the black doors opened to reveal a long upward sloping path. We had reached our lunch at Kasbah du Toubkal. It had once been the French Ambassador's home until the French left back in the 1950s. A magnificent terrace with even more magnificent views greeted us.

Lunch over, it was time to return to the buses waiting below and riding our donkeys again. No more donkey rides for me! The coach ride home was as hot as the ride to the mountain had been, so a brief rest was needed before dinner at the Café Arabe, hidden away in the maze of passageways. An excellent dinner. The following morning was a visit to the Majorelle Gardens. Purchased in 1923, when it was a palm grove, by Jacques Majorelle, who changed it into a garden and filled it with plants he had collected from his travels around the world.

The gardens opened to the public in 1947, but then fell into ruin when he died in 1962.

In 1980 Yves St Laurent purchased the property saving it from real estate developers. It was restored and many new plants added. Yves St Laurent died in 2008 and located in the gardens is a memorial to him. The Foundation Jardin Majorelle now runs the garden.

Later that morning we visited the ultra-modern Yves St Laurent Museum. Clearly, Marrakech had a strong appeal to this famous French fashion designer. A series of halls with subdued lighting stunningly displayed his art and ladies' fashion, and his remarkable talents. That evening the group once more entered the outside passageway maze to visit the Terrasse des Epices for dinner. A good quality roof-top restaurant under the stars and a romantic ambience. Tomorrow, our fourth day, was to be a long day as we were going to the seaside. In this case to a port I had never heard of, Essaouira.

The group gathered promptly in the courtyard for our walk to the coaches to take us on the long journey to the Atlantic seaboard. We set off through the suburbs of Marrakech, following the city's tram routes. They reminded me of my schooldays living in Edinburgh. Soon we were in the countryside, leaving behind the city. Some two plus hours later the pace slowed, as we swung into a large petrol station and modern shop, café and toilets situated at the roadside in the middle of nowhere. Most headed for the latter where a young girl stood behind a small table with carefully placed and folded sheets of toilet paper. A few coins were necessary before picking up the paper and entering a colossal area of toilet cubicles. It was still a long way to reach the sea. The heat of the desert made sure we took advantage of the available cold drinks and ice cream.



Lunch at Kasbah du Toubkal, in the Atlas mountains.

It was another two hours before reaching the outskirts of Essaouira. A few seaside hotels and residences came into view as we drove into this small fishing port, stopping in a large open area with a few stalls and cafes on the edges. a narrow, almost hidden, entrance led into the port.

We stopped to sit down in the front of a café with much needed sun brollies. We ordered coffees and spent the time people watching. Neil and Emma stopped by. "Pick you up on the way back, we're going swimming" he said, as they wandered on up the Main Street. The port was smallish with a number of blue

Events of 2019-20

Holiday in Marrakech continued...

painted fishing boats and many fish stalls, with a plethora of different species.

Neil collected us as promised, and it was time for a dip in the ocean. "Are you swimming?" Febronia asked. "No not this time." I love to swim but this holiday was a trifle demanding for my old body. A number of us stood on the sands to watch the hardier members of the group venture into the water. They did not stay in it for long as the sea was surprisingly cold.

It was then time for our final dinner at which the Master gave a résumé of our adventures. On behalf of the adventurers, I, as the Guild's Senior Past Master present, said a few closing words of thanks for a successful and imaginative holiday.

The late Past Master Rex Johnson reported with enthusiasm on the Guild Holiday to Marrakech. For those Guild adventurers who would like to see the full version of Rex's review, please contact the Clerk, Christine Cook.

Sheep Drive Across London Bridge (City Event)

Sunday 29th September

The day of the Sheep Drive dawned. We faced the day with some trepidation as it was raining and windy, but we needn't have worried as the day brightened just in time for the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs (Guild Members Alderman Peter Estlin, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli and Chris Hayward CC) to arrive with the Rt. Hon. Michael Portillo to open the Sheep Drive 2019.

We all gathered at London Bridge, costumed with Bo-Peep outfits, shepherds' smocks, country garb and shepherds' crooks, ready to be taken to our sheep. Top marks to Sue Miller who was resplendent as Bo-Peep, complete with a 'sheep on a stick'! We started to 'drive' our sheep, along with a few shepherds in front of the sheep encouraging them to walk forward. At the



end of our section we were each presented with a certificate, signed by the Lord Mayor. We then went to the 'Barrow Boy and Banker' for a hearty two-course lunch with drinks. There was much merriment as people enjoyed the company as well as the food. A great day out, which attracted members old and new – let us do it again next year!

Reception and Tour of 'Old Bailey'

Wednesday 16th October

The Central Criminal Court (also known as 'Old Bailey') is an iconic building. Its dignified façade with its 12ft tall, 22 ton bronze statue of Lady Justice holding a sword and scales, epitomises British justice. Daily, it is a hive of intense activity as judges, counsel, jurors, witnesses, and defendants come through its doors. 120 Guild Members and guests were privileged to have a tour conducted by the Master, Neil Redcliffe, a former Sheriff of the City of London. After the usual security checks, we were ushered into Court No. 1, which has witnessed some of the most memorable trials in British criminal history. We learnt how the current building, which dates from 1907, was constructed on the site of Newgate Prison built originally in the late 12th century, which itself had replaced the original Roman west gate to the City, hence the name of 'Old Bailey'.

We were able to admire the Grade I listed courtroom and ponder that as we sat in the dock so too had some of Britain's most notorious criminals such as Dr Crippen, John Christie, and George 'Brides in the Bath' Smith. Here we were given a talk by His Honour Judge Nicholas Hilliard QC, The Recorder of London, a position which dates back to the 13th century. He pointed out that on the Judges bench, the presiding Judge



sits slightly off centre as the central chair is for when the Lord Mayor of London visits in his role as Chief Justice of the City of London.

We were then taken to view a modern court room, more suited to current needs of security and technology with high clear screens behind which defendants can sit. A visit down to the cells completed our tour. Basic, utilitarian, and sparse they function as holding cells as no prisoners stay overnight at 'Old Bailey'. Returning to the Great Hall and under the central dome, we rounded off our evening with wine and bowl food beside the watchful gaze of the statue of Elizabeth Fry, the great Victorian female prisoner reformer.

Tour of Charterhouse

Tuesday 29th October

On a cold autumn evening, Guild Members and our guests were warmly welcomed into the Charterhouse, with its buildings dating from the 14th century. An almshouse since 1611, previous incarnations include a Black Death burial pit, a Carthusian monastery, a nobleman's house, a boy's school, and the place where both Queen Elizabeth I and King James I held court on accession to the throne.

We had the opportunity to attend Evening Prayers in the Chapel, which were led by the Preacher, Robin Isherwood. It was a joy to read the service from a version of the prayer book dating from 1662 and the service in the beautiful chapel was both moving and uplifting.

We were then welcomed by Dominic Tickell, the Development Director, who gave us a brief overview of the activities of the organisation and its current role in the modern world, working with other community organisations for elderly and young people. He showed us a beautiful tapestry that had

been designed with elements drawn by local primary school children, before being professionally woven. This project had been specifically sponsored by our Master, Neil Redcliffe and his wife, Emma.

Tours of the Charterhouse and courtyards then followed, each taken by a resident 'Brother'. The tours revealed layer upon layer of history in the wonderful rooms. We viewed Tudor ceilings, 17th century fireplaces, Flemish Tapestries and some rather kitsch 1950s candelabra and all these items graced just one room, 'The Great Chamber'. Other highlights included, the cloisters and also the Great Hall, where the Brothers (of both sexes!) dine.

The Charterhouse Master and Chief Executive Officer, Ann Kenrick, OBE, greeted the Guild after the tour and shared her vision for the continuing development of the Charterhouse. After a vote of thanks and presentation to Ann by our Master, we savoured excellent canapés and bowl food. The quality of the food enhanced our understanding of the quality of care and support offered to the resident Brothers. In all, a fascinating and really enjoyable visit.

Lord Mayor's Show

Saturday 9th November

Gog and Magog, our ancient guardians, worked their magic to ensure that the pomp, pageantry, and a panoply of people provided us with a perfect parade. Top billing should go to the weather (dry), the Lord Mayor and the horses. Sixty-six members and guests had an exceptionally good view, especially when The Lord Mayor was blessed by the Dean of St Paul's. Flags were handed out ready to wave at the 253 Provost Company Royal Military Police (Reserves) and the Master.

A new RAF transport plane flew overhead, with precision timing, indicating to us that it was the start of the Show. Military marching detachments and bands kept the feet tapping and there were quite a few 'oohs' when the huge Chinese dragon and real dragon boat went by and 'aahs' when the Metro Bank's fluffy Yorkshire Terrier and The Dog's Trust large yellow dog appeared. The St Paul's Cathedral choir, standing at the South Transept, were in excellent voice cheering on the floats as well as singing when the Lord Mayor arrived to receive the blessing. There were familiar floats like the Automobile Association with their rescue vehicles throughout the decades. The Fortnum and Mason float was elegant, the Fenwick float was chock-a-block with colourful toys and the City Bridge Trust had a spectacular Tower Bridge.

International floats included the St Sebastianus Guild Bank from The Netherlands, the Rwanda High Commission, the Embassy of Kazakhstan in the UK, Zunft zur Waag and Band from Zurich and the State Bank of India with their energetic

dancers. The fan dancers from China would have scored ten points on Strictly Come Dancing.

The Corporation of London's float reminded us about recycling, plastic and littering and no sooner had the Show finished, their water tankers and street cleaning machines started cleaning the streets.

Mark Grove walked behind The Cook and The Butler float and he and his team still had the energy to spoil us with a delicious menu of salmon mousse, venison, and apple tart. Thank you, Christine, and Judith, for all your hard work. It was a memorable day.



Events of 2019-20

Tour of The British Museum

Tuesday 19th November

We were met in The Great Court of The British Museum by The Master and our guide for the tour, Sue King, Chairman of City of London Guides and of British (Blue Badge) Tour Guides, who was extremely knowledgeable and enthusiastic about all we were to see.

Our Guide started with an introduction to the Museum, explaining it was the first institution of its kind in the world, founded in 1753 to show the collection donated to the country by Sir Hans Sloane. Some of the original exhibits have since been moved to The Natural History Museum and The British Library.

The tour focussed on a few of the larger and most famous items due to the limited time available. We moved into The Enlightenment Gallery which originally held The King's Library. As we were viewing some of the exhibits we were informed of the work of Mary Anning and the colourful history of Sir William Hamilton and told of how he met his wife Lady Emma Hamilton. We also learnt it was Sir Hans Sloane who brought milk chocolate to England.

Next we moved on to view a replica of the Rosetta Stone; here our guide explained how they were able to use the stone to decipher hieroglyphs for the first time due to it being inscribed in three scripts (Ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs, Demotic and Ancient Greek Script) of a decree issued at Memphis, Egypt on behalf of King Ptolemy. We then moved on to see the actual stone itself.

Our next destination was the Assyrian galleries (modern day Iraq) where we were greeted by two colossal winged human-



headed lions that flanked an entrance to the royal palace of King Ashurnasirpal II at Nimrud. Our guide explained how they had been found buried under the sand and then recovered. Sue then showed us the magnificent Lion Hunt reliefs that had adorned the walls of the hallways of the palace and explained how the King himself would hunt the Lions.

Our tour finished at the Parthenon Galleries where our guide firstly explained the design of The Parthenon, dedicated to the goddess Athena and told us the history of the Parthenon and the 'Parthenon Marbles' (also known as the 'Elgin Marbles') before we then went to view them. Sue provided a great insight into the makeup of sculptures.

As we were saying our thank yous before moving up to the restaurant for lunch, we had a little extra excitement due to the fire alarm going off and having to evacuate the Museum. Luckily, it was a false alarm and the Master managed to get us back into the building very quickly so we could make our way to the Great Court Restaurant where we enjoyed a lovely two course lunch. It was a lovely taster of what the museum has to offer and left us wanting to return to see more of its many antiquities.

Annual Banquet in Guildhall

Friday 6th December

On a mild December evening, women in beautiful ball gowns and men in uniforms and tailcoats were seen hurrying over the courtyard to reach the entrance of Guildhall. It was the night of the Annual Banquet. The highlight of the year for the Guild of Freemen.



Upon entering the building, we were greeted and helped to find our way by the very friendly members of the 253 (London) Provost Company Royal Military Police. Then we proceeded up the stairs to the beautiful Art Gallery, where we were introduced to and welcomed by the Master, Neil Redcliffe and Mistress,



Emma. Standing guard were the Pikemen and Musketeers of the Honourable Artillery Company dressed in their colourful, historical uniforms.

The Reception took place in the Old Library. Plied with endless glasses of champagne and entertained by the London Banqueting Ensemble, this was the place to mingle and to greet old friends and to make new ones before we entered the

Annual Banquet in Guildhall continued...



magnificent Great Hall for dinner. This looked breath-taking, decorated with flowers, and lit candles. Can there be a better place to begin the festive season?

To the 'March from Scipio' by Handel the Master and Wardens, together with The Lord Mayor, The Lord Mayor of York, the Sheriffs, other principal guests, and consorts entered to be greeted in the traditional manner as they processed to the top table.

The Honorary Chaplain, The Very Revd. Dean of St Paul's, said Grace. He then proposed a minute of silence in remembrance of the two young people who had died in the attack at Fishmongers' Hall, while trying to create a more tolerant society. We sat down to dinner and enjoyed a delicious four-course meal accompanied by excellent wine; during which the London Banqueting Ensemble played Christmas Music, including traditional tunes like 'Fantasia on British Sea Songs', 'Jerusalem' and 'Land of Hope and Glory'. The virtuoso performance of 'The Post Horn Galop' ended the musical entertainment.

Then the Loving Cup Ceremony, where the beautiful cup is majestically circulated around the Hall as a sign of friendship and benevolence. This wonderful tradition that goes back to medieval times is always fun!

Now the Toasts, first to The Queen and then the Royal Family. A welcome address followed given by the Senior Warden, Ann-Marie Jefferys, who told us about the events and achievements of the past year. She proposed a toast to The Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell. The Lord Mayor spoke about his visions and hopes for the UK and London and what he hopes to achieve during his year as Lord Mayor of the

City of London. He spoke of trade, spirit, innovation, world class culture, of charity, good will, and generosity.

The Master, Neil Redcliffe, then gave a very warm welcome to all the guests. He also presented a cheque for £35,000 for the Rehabilitation of prisoners to Emily Thomas, Governor of HMP Isis; this money was raised by the Master and his friends on a "Waterloo to Waterloo" cycle ride which many Guild Members supported.

The Rt. Hon Lord Justice Haddon-Cave paid tribute to the justice system of Britain. He praised 'Old Bailey' as the embodiment of Law in Action. He thanked the City of London Corporation for its support. He also mentioned the new court at Fleet Street, whose task it is to tackle cybercrime.

The Master wished us a Happy Christmas, a healthy 2020, and a safe journey home. I am not British. I am a foreigner. I do not even live in the UK, but I have been accepted, welcomed, and embraced by the Guild and its members in a way that is extraordinary. When I mentioned this to the Clerk, Christine Cook, she said "but that's what it is all about - fellowship and friendship". And Guildhall? Guildhall is magical.



Events of 2019-20

Carol Service and the London Nordic Choir at St Stephen, Walbrook

Tuesday 17th December

The Guild's Annual Carol Service was held at St Stephen Walbrook Church, next door to Mansion House. It was well attended by 110 Guild Members and their guests.

The church was founded on a bank of the Walbrook stream over a thousand years ago. It has occupied its present site since 1428. The current building was designed by Sir Christopher Wren following the Great Fire of London in 1666 and is generally considered to be one of his finest church interiors. The dome is based on Wren's original design for St Paul's Cathedral. It now contains a central altar by Henry Moore, installed in 1987.



In 1953 the Samaritans charity was founded by a previous rector, Dr Chad Varah. It operated from a crypt beneath the church before moving to Soho. There is a telephone in the church which was the original one used by the Samaritans.

The Revd. Stephen Baxter, the Priest-in-Charge, led the procession with the Master and the Revd. Hilary Ison.

This year the Master arranged for the London Nordic Choir to lead the singing and enact the renowned tradition of Santa Lucia, the celebration of bringing light into the darkness. The choir was directed by Carina Einarson and the organist was Fredrik Karlsson.



The service commenced with 'Once in Royal David's City' with a solo and choir verses before the Guild Members joined in. There was a selection of uplifting carols and various bible readings from Guild Members. The readers were Adrian Waddingham, CBE, Ann-Marie Jefferys, Anne Holden, Don Lunn and The Master, Neil Redcliffe.

The Christmas message by the Revd. Hilary Ison was based on the Santa Lucia celebration of bringing light to the world. Before the end of the service the choir left to prepare for their traditional Santa Lucia performance, while we finished with an Act of Dedication.

We then remained seated to watch a wonderful sight of the choir dressed in white robes holding candles with the lead singer wearing a crown with lit candles on her head. The familiar Italian tune of 'Santa Lucia' began the celebration. It was a delightful experience and the choir's rendering of the music amazing with not a piece of music in sight. Certainly, a Carol Service with a difference.

Afterwards we enjoyed welcome refreshments in the Church and were able to catch up with members and meet the choir. A wonderful start to the Christmas Season.



Tour and Art Collection of Mansion House

Monday 13th January

*“Thy famous Maire, by pryncely governaunce,
With sword of justice thee ruleth prudently.
No Lord of Parys, Venyce, or Floraunce
In dignitie or honour goeth to hym nigh.
He is exemplar, loode-ster, and guye;
Principall patrone and rose orygnalle,
Above all Maires as maister most worthy:
London, thou art the flour of Cities all”.*

*Excerpt from “In honour of the City of London”
William Dunbar 1460-1530*

If anything was needed to light up a drab January day in the City of London, the Guild visit to the home of the Lord Mayor certainly did the trick. Some thirty members of the Guild and their guests enjoyed a tour of Mansion House in the morning and the majority stayed on for an afternoon viewing of the fabulous Harold, Baron Samuel of Wych Cross, collection of seventeenth century Dutch and Flemish paintings.



The morning tour of the Mansion House was conducted by John Davies, the Lord Mayor's Hall Keeper, who demonstrated an encyclopedic knowledge, of the Mansion House and its contents, from its first occupation in 1752 to the present day. One could not fail to be impressed by the sumptuous Egyptian Hall designed by George Dance the Elder, the largest and most important room

in the Mansion House with its magnificent glass chandeliers and stained-glass windows. More surprising, however, was the



intimacy of the smaller rooms such as the Long Parlour and State Drawing Room used for dining and receiving guests of the Lord Mayor, and it was not hard to imagine that this was designed as a home and not just a grand house to impress. The icing on the cake was provided by the visit to the Gold and Silver Vaults where we were dazzled by the Lord Mayor's gold 'Collar of Esses', c1520 and marvelled at the Fire Cup of 1662, which escaped the Great Fire of 1666, as well as the impressive Mace and the Ceremonial Swords.

After a convivial lunch at 'Browns' just around the corner from the Mansion House, we returned for a guided tour of the Harold Samuel collection of 84 seventeenth century Dutch and Flemish paintings donated to the City of London in 1987. Guided by Rosaleen Garvey and Karen Chester we learnt how the paintings reflect everyday life in the seventeenth century, including execution by hanging, and activities traditionally associated with domestic virtue such as 'A Young Woman Sewing' by Nicolaes Maes (1655) who had trained with Rembrandt.

The inclusion of metaphor in many of the paintings illustrated the refinement in art of this period in Europe. The highlight was, of course, the best-known picture in the collection, The Merry Lute Player, painted between 1624-8 by Frans Hals. Bought by Baron Samuel of Wych Cross at auction in New York in 1963 it was the first occasion on which the bidding was conducted by telephone from London.

Burns' Night Supper at Leathersellers' Hall

Wednesday 22nd January

“Fair fa' yer honest sonsie face” was not the Master's greeting to the first guest in the receiving line but the start of his enthusiastic delivery of the 'Address to the Haggis'.

The Leathersellers' Company, founded in 1444, originally controlled the sale of leather within the city, a role it has long since relinquished to focus on supporting charity and education in the British leather trade. Their hall is the seventh hall on St Helen's Place having moved, over the years to various locations on the site. The current hall stands exactly where the second Hall, the former Benedictine Priory



Events of 2019-20

Burns Night Supper at Leathersellers' Hall continued...

of St. Helen's was located till 1799. The current Hall rebuilt in 2015/2016 retaining only the earlier 1910 façade has a truly magnificent interior showcasing beautiful leatherwork on many walls, staircases and even in the lifts. Pre-dinner drinks with the Master in the bright and airy reception room, allowed everyone views of a colourful stained glass window, depicting William Shakespeare – a one-time local resident – and the medieval church of St. Helen's, while listening to two contrasting Burns songs, "What can a young lassie dae wi' an auld man?" and the better known "My love is like a Red Red Rose" beautifully sung by Cecilia and Bo (Scandinavians claiming Scottish heritage), members of the London Nordic Choir.

Some 120 Guild Members and guests entered the Dining Hall, where the main feature is a striking tapestry along the upper part of three walls. Woven in Edinburgh it depicts interesting images and allusions relevant to the Leathersellers. After the traditional Selkirk Grace, given by Guild Member, Colvin Rae, the piper led in the Master and Chef, with a Haggis, a magnificent not so "wee beastie", whereupon the Master gave a rendition of the "Address to the Haggis" ending by the traditional sharing a Quaich, filled with a "wee dram", with the piper and the chef and a request to the entire company to join him in a toast to the Haggis.

The Pipe Major entertained us during the meal of 'haggis, bashed neeps and champit tatties'; followed by beef striploin from a Highland 'stirk' washed down with an excellent wine selection. After dessert and toasts Past Master, Don Lunn, gave an interesting 'Immortal Memory' referencing Burns' early years through to his death at far too young an age; describing, with many quotations from his works, Burns' character, personality and his prolific interest in the fairer sex.



Dr John Smail, JP, Past Master, proposed with his customary humorous and professional research, an entertaining 'Toast to the Lassies'. Not to be outdone, Lady Lauriston responded in an equally humorous and interesting manner on behalf of the Lassies. She then presented the Guild with her own shepherd's crook which the Master graciously accepted on behalf of the Guild.

Our two Scandinavian/Scottish singers then led the entire company in three rousing Burns songs followed by all five verses of 'Auld Lang Syne' before everyone proceeded out into an overcast cold evening having yet again experienced the hospitality, companionship and fun of another Guild event.



Tour of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

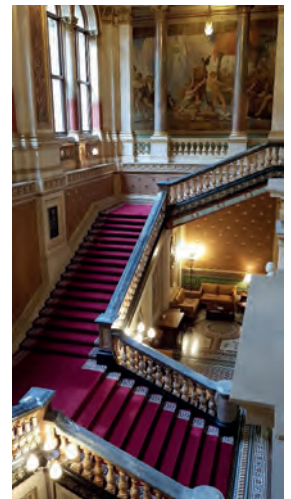
Friday 21st February

Our tour began with a history of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and its buildings by our excellent guide Graham Holland. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office has responsibility for promoting British interests world-wide and supports our citizens, and businesses around the globe. It employs 14,000 people in 270 diplomatic offices. It is built round a quadrangle once housing four separate departments – Foreign Office, Colonial Office, Home Office, and India Office. The head of the Foreign Office is the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth affairs - at present Dominic Raab.

The building, designed by George Gilbert Scott, took seven years to build from 1861 to 1868. A competition was commissioned for its design and there were 280 entries. Although Scott was the third prize winner, it was his design that Lord Palmerston approved. This was Scott's second

attempt; his first attempt became the St Pancras Hotel. The Foreign Office was refurbished in 1983 with £100m from the Thatcher Government.

Mathew Digby Wyatt designed the interior of the Foreign Office. The central Durbar Court is used for functions and is atrium in style with several quirky features. Wyatt was a railway buff, so to enter the atrium you step over a single railway track and train wheels are used as decoration. My favourite feature is around the top of the atrium; where he has carved individual letters which when put together, they read "Mathew Digby Wyatt Architect". Passing along the corridors, on a staircase, there are two portraits which at first glance appear to be Victoria & Albert but in fact are Napoleon the Third and Eugenie - loved them!



Tour of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office continued...



The most impressive feature inside the building is the Grand Staircase with a huge painted glass dome. The murals were painted on cloth and then stuck onto the walls. The most significant mural is Sigismund Goetze's 'Britannia Pacificatrix' - showing Britannia victorious after The Great War. At the top of the staircase is the Ambassador's Waiting Room, a rather dull room with magnificent views. One

window overlooks Horse Guards Parade and another the Downing Street gardens. A further window in the building

overlooks Downing Street where you can see the front doors of numbers 10 and 11 Downing Street.

We concluded our tour in the Locarno grand reception suite, consisting of three rooms. We only visited the grand reception room (the afternoon group were fortunate to see the whole suite and the Foreign Secretary's office!). Named after the 1925 treaty, it is the largest room in the Foreign Office and is sumptuously decorated.

We then departed for a short walk to the Red Lion pub for a delicious lunch in the upstairs dining room, where we were joined by the Guild Members who were joining the afternoon tour. There were many stories and interesting facts – just too many to report here. It was a lovely day out.

Dinner at Haberdashers' Hall

Thursday 5th March

One of the great joys of being a member of the Guild of Freemen is the ability to visit the various Livery Halls around the City and to have the privilege of dining in these wonderful establishments.

The Worshipful Company of Haberdashers is one of the 'Great Twelve', of the most senior and longest established of livery companies, yet it resides in a breathtakingly attractive and modern hall, tucked away behind a bustling city street close to St Bart's Hospital and the old Smithfield Market.

History shows us that there have been three previous halls, the first, built in the 1450s, was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666; the second, rebuilt almost immediately, survived until The Blitz in 1940, when it also burnt down following an air raid. The third hall was not opened until 1956, but being part of an office complex, fell to redevelopers in the 1990s and the present modern edifice was opened in 2002.

Despite its modern aspect, the fourth Haberdashers' Hall has managed to retain a sense of history, longevity, and tradition through strategic placing of ancient artefacts and artwork. The wonderful lightness achieved through use of glass and modern-day illumination combined with high ceilings and carefully selected paler coloured woods for the panelling provide a sense of space and grace. The ambience is welcoming and filled with warmth, delightful characteristics in which to meet with one's fellows.

Although there was a sense of concern generated because of the coronavirus outbreak which had led to precautions such as placing of hand sanitiser bottles around the reception room coupled with the decree that no handshaking, kissing or Loving Cup would take place, the general atmosphere amongst the assembled guests was the usual excited, anticipatory chattering preceding an event. Our welcome by Master, Neil Redcliffe and his lovely wife, Emma, was

lively, fun, and happy. The fact that this was their last dinner in the role of Master and Consort was not in any way spoiled by the necessary health precautions adopted.

After suitable pre-prandial refreshment in the form of sparkling wine served in elegant flutes, the dinner guests proceeded into the beautifully arranged Livery Hall, an impressive room with oak cladding and a steel vaulted ceiling.

The Master and his guest, The Hon Alexander Downer, AC, former High Commissioner of Australia to the UK, entertained us brilliantly with witty and amusing speeches filled with topical references and appropriate anecdotes. The end of a wonderful evening came too soon, and we all crowded out into the hallway to collect our hats, coats, umbrellas, to brave the chill of a winter's

night. During the evening The Master presented to Peter Holland a certificate and a pair of the Guild's cufflinks in grateful appreciation of his 20 years of loyal and dedicated service as Photographer to the Guild. A very moving and memorable evening for Peter.



Events of 2019-20

Visit to the College of Arms

Monday 9th March and Tuesday 10th March

The visits to the College of Arms by Guild Members and their guests, were a resounding success. This indeed should come as no surprise given the fantastic building and wonderful heraldic records.

We were met by William Hunt, the retired Windsor Herald, and joined by his successor John Petrie. They led us through the College pointing out the main features of their historic building. The College has been on the same site since 1555 and the present buildings date from post the Great Fire, although it has been affected by modifications in the intervening centuries down to the present. In addition to describing the site, William Hunt provided us with a fascinating overview of the history of the College and the operation of the Court of Chivalry as we walked around.

Moving into the Record Room, John Petrie explained how one can apply for arms today. We were shown a selection of heraldic work from across the centuries. Several questions



were asked, and we were shown the Master, Neil Redcliffe's own arms in a volume. We also saw arms of the Great Twelve Livery Companies, Royal grants of arms and amazing examples of funeral procession documents with orders of precedence as well as unusual designs. It was a

revelation to learn so much about the intricacies of heraldic design, and to admire the beautiful illustrations of the past arms, many of which are still to be seen in such vibrant colour.

So, all in all it was a memorable visit to be followed by an enjoyable buffet supper. We went away happy and, in some cases, at least, planning to commission our very own grant of arms!

The Master and friends Cycle Ride from Waterloo to Waterloo!

After the spectacular support, the Master and his wife, Emma, were given last year for their sponsored cycle ride from London to Paris, they again put on their Lycra and were back in the saddle over a long weekend from the 5th - 8th September! They cycled even further this year, from Waterloo to Waterloo, 222 miles, three countries in three days!



Along with their fellow Guild and Livery cyclists and friends, they raised much needed funds for the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund.

This wonderful charity was created over 200 years ago and helps ex-prisoners get a new start in life and to reduce re-offending. It gives large grants to prison-based charity schemes to help train ex-offenders so they can find paid and purposeful employment on release. It also provides

small grants to prisoners' children and partners who suffer great hardship. Last year they raised the magnificent sum of £63,000 and the Master and Emma thank all of you who helped them reach this total. £50,000 of the money raised was used on the 'Out for Good Programme' at Her Majesty's Prison ISIS and this year some of the inmates at HMP ISIS joined them in spirit and cycled the 220 miles over the same weekend also raising funds through family and friends.

Last year they visited HMP ISIS at Greenwich to see how the funds were being put to work in supporting young prisoners as they trained for a range of skills to enable them to be offered employment by participating employers on release. Seeing the positive impact of this programme and its ability to change lives for the better they decided to take up the challenge again and trained for several months to get them from Waterloo to Waterloo. Many Guild Members heard the dynamic and progressive Governor of the prison, Emily Thomas, speak at the Guild Dinner in Wax Chandlers' Hall on 2nd May, giving valuable insights into what is being done with our contributions to reduce re-offending.

All the funds raised go to the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund Charity, team cyclists pay all their own costs which include equipment, meals, accommodation, transport, and the support team.

If you feel you are able to donate to support the aims of the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund, the Charity would really appreciate any contribution you feel able to make by visiting the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund website at srfund.org.uk. The Master and Emma warmly thank all those who gave so generously to the cause and for their enthusiastic support.

The Red Cross Christmas Market

Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th November

It was hard to believe that two years had gone by since the last Market in Guildhall, yet here we were again. This event is supported by the City of London Corporation, Livery Companies and Guilds in aid of the British Red Cross. All set up and ready to go we waited with this year's Chairman, Alderman Alistair King and Co-chair Corinne Lee, for the VIP guests to arrive for the grand opening. 5.30 p.m. signalled the arrival of Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, The Honourable Lady Ogilvy, Vice President of the British Red Cross, together with the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell, the Sheriffs and Consorts. After short speeches, Her Royal Highness cut the ribbon and, to loud cheering, declared the Market open. As is customary, she then toured the Market along with the Civic Party before departing, having purchased a number of Christmas gifts.

For many years the Guild has organised and run the Book Stall in the Old Library, where the Livery and Guilds sell their wares, with some stalls in the Art Gallery, Print Room and the Ambulatory; all proceeds go to the British Red Cross. The Commercial Stall holders fill the Great Hall and also give a percentage of their takings as a thanks for allowing them to take part.



Having collected the second-hand books from the Guild Office the Book Stall had been set up on the Sunday afternoon by Guild Member Elizabeth Thornborough, kindly assisted by her daughter, so everything was ready for the opening on the Monday. The evening always has a party atmosphere with canapés and bubbles to encourage people to make purchases from the various stalls and bid for some of the fantastic lots on offer in the Live and Silent Auctions. Liz is an old hand at running the stall and is ably assisted by Assistant Clerk, Judith Westall, together with Guild volunteers who join



them for stand duties at various times throughout the Market. Liz thanks the following for pitching in: Guild Members Caroline Barnett, Denise Speight and Paul Woodcock, Francis Golland, Court Assistant Adrian Waddingham, CBE, and his wife Angela, together with Senior Warden Ann-Marie Jefferys.

The Master traditionally takes a turn on the stand on the Monday evening and Neil Redcliffe and his wife Emma duly joined the team persuading browsers to buy books, whether it be second-hand or ones that could be signed by the authors in attendance. Business was very brisk.

A good and jolly open evening was had by all and there was a quick tidy up before returning on the Tuesday morning for the public day, which opened at 10.30 a.m. and closed at 8.00 p.m. Visitors come from all over and spend time browsing and buying from both the Livery and Commercial stalls, attending the Fashion Show, and enjoying a Festive Lunch in the Guildhall Crypt or, if arriving later, Afternoon Tea - something to please everyone. Catering for this year's market was supplied by the Clink Restaurant.

At the end all the stallholders and helpers could congratulate themselves on a job well done and the Guild stall had receipts of £3,749 in an evening and a day, for the British Red Cross. Special thanks should go to the following authors for agreeing to come and sign, sell and donate.

Alderman Alison Gowman – *“The City of London – Who, What, Why”*

Jerome Farrell – *“This Ghastly Affair”*

Philip Grant – *“A Peer Among Princes”*

Penrose Halson – *“Marriages are made in Bond Street”*

Lynne Russell – *“Stinky Dog – Where are you?”*

Pauline Chakmakjian – *“The Sphinxing Rabbit: Her Sovereign Majesty”*

William Sitwell – *“Eggs or Anarchy”*

Monica Galetti – *“The Skills – how to become an expert chef”*

The next Guildhall Red Cross Christmas Market will be at the end of November 2021.

The Master's Events

The Abseiling Lord Mayor and Master

Friday 5th July, saw the Master make haste from his Guild holiday in North Yorkshire to support the Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor, Guild Member Alderman Peter Estlin, on his charity abseil down the Barclay's Headquarters building, one of the tallest buildings in Canary Wharf. This was the first time that The Lord Mayor's Appeal Abseil Challenge had taken place in Canary Wharf.

The Master completed the 150 metre abseil with no ill effect and helped the Lord Mayor to raise £100,000 in total in aid of three great charities - Place2be, OnSide Youth Zones and the Samaritans.

Also participating were Alderman and Sheriff Vincent Keaveny, Sheriff The Hon. Liz Green, Lawson Muncaster

(Co-Founder and Owner of City A.M.) and Christian May (Editor of City A.M.) along with many staff members from Barclays and other businesses and livery companies. It was a glorious summer's day giving the participants a stunning view of London's skyline as they descended from level 33 to the ground.

Congratulations to all those who completed the challenge - what a fantastic effort!



Garden of Remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral

Monday 4th November, saw the Master attend the opening of the Garden of Remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral where he planted a cross of remembrance on behalf of the Guild and its members. It was a moving ceremony attended by approximately 150 guests including the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Sheriffs and Masters of the Livery Companies, Armed Forces, and other key City Organisations. The service led by the Dean of St Paul's Cathedral was preceded and followed by a parade of British Legion Standards accompanied by the Band of the Welsh Guards.



Presentation of Addresses

Immediately after the Silent Ceremony at Guildhall, where the new Lord Mayor officially takes up the role, there is a ceremony called The Presentation of Addresses, where the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs are presented with gifts and messages of goodwill from friends and colleagues in the Livery, Ward Clubs and associated organisations.

The ceremony took place on Friday 8th November, where the Master, Neil Redcliffe, JP, a former Sheriff, led the Guild's deputation to present gifts to the new Sheriffs, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli and Christopher Hayward, CC, at the Presentation of Addresses ceremony.

Also, in attendance were Immediate Past Master John Barber, DL, Senior Warden Ann-Marie Jefferys, the Clerk, Christine Cook and the Beadle John Hollingsworth.



The photograph shows everyone appreciating the Master's joke

Presentation of a Shepherd's Crook to the Chamberlain's Court



The Master, Laura Miller, Lady Lauriston, and Christine Cook



Lady Lauriston with the Master



Lady Lauriston with Badger one of her Castlemilk Moorit rams

Earlier this year the Guild presented a shepherd's crook to the Chamberlain's Court, celebrating the best-known tradition of becoming a Freeman of the City of London – driving sheep across London Bridge.

The shepherd's crook is on view at Guildhall in the Chamberlain's Court Room, where Freedom ceremonies take place. New Freemen are enjoying having their photographs taken with it to mark their special day.

The silver-collared shepherd's crook was gifted by Court Assistant Lady Lauriston. On 27th February she joined the Master and Clerk to present it to Laura Miller, Deputy Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court.

Lady Lauriston has helped to conserve rare-breed sheep in Scotland. She says:

"I have bred Castlemilk Moorits. They are one of our most delightful native breeds – and they are rarer than the Giant Panda."

Join our Guild party at the Woolmen's Sheep Drive on September 27th. This is a unique year: we will be driving sheep across Southwark Bridge, as London Bridge will be undergoing maintenance. Afterwards we will gather for an informal lunch. Book now at <https://www.guild-freemen-london.co.uk/events>

"Sheep driving is a tradition rooted in more than 800 years of history. London Bridge was, in medieval times, the only crossing of the Thames and the sole route into the City for trading. As a Freeman of the City of London, you were not allowed to trade without paying taxes but also granted the right to bring the tools of your trade into the City itself."

"These days, the City trades more in stocks and shares than lamb and wool, but the annual event enables us to re-connect with the past, and underlines London's historic and continuing pre-eminence in world trade."

Bill Clark, Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Woolmen.



The Shepherd's Crook in The Chamberlain's Court Room at Guildhall

253 (London) Provost Company

Annual Report

This reporting period has seen a great deal of change within 253 (London) Provost Company, the first of which has been our name! Previously known simply as '253 Provost Company', we have now been honoured with the geographical prefix 'London' to represent the Company's location (as the only Royal Military Police unit within London) and our commitment to London, the City of London and the local communities. The 're-designation' took place on Friday 1st November 2019 on the same day that the Company re-subordinated to 3 Regiment Royal Military as our previous Regiment (4 Regiment) has been disbanded under the British Army restructuring.

The Company was pleased to receive Guild Members on visits to two of our training weekends providing an opportunity to demonstrate our capabilities and responsibilities as Military Police. Exercise REDCAP ERIN was held at the Defence School of Policing and Guarding near Fareham and was a police skills training weekend. The training weekend was designed to deliver police training in preparation for our annual support of the Army vs Navy Rugby match at Twickenham. The visit also introduced Guild Members to our Personal Safety Training and arrest and restraint procedures. Exercise REDCAP GRIPP was a military skills training weekend delivered from the Barossa Training Area - part of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst estate. The training weekend provided an excellent opportunity to demonstrate the 'soldier first' field skills that the Company personnel need to have to allow them to operate alongside our Field Army colleagues on operations.



We were honoured once again to welcome the Master of the Guild for the annual inspection and presentation of the Guild's Soldier of The Year award. The Master congratulated Lance Corporal Leo Hidalgo, who was voted as the top soldier for the year by the soldiers of the Company. The annual visit also provides an opportunity for us to explain what we do and gives the Master the opportunity to get hands on experience of some of our kit and equipment. The Master was particularly taken by the General Purpose Machine Gun (GPMG) known as 'The General' for short!

As part of the Company's Military Police education, we visited the Royal Military Police Close Protection Unit to receive a brief on the Unit's capabilities and operational role.



Provost Marshal (Army) and OC 253 (London) Pro Coy with honoured guests at the re-designation event



Members of 253 (London) Pro Coy enjoying Adventure Training in Cyprus

The Close Protection Unit trains and deploys bodyguards and close protection teams to protect senior military officers and members of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office working in high threat environments and requiring protection to carry out their tasks. One of the key requirements to deploy in the close protection role is a high level of fitness and the Company 'enjoyed' the attentions of not one but two of the Close Protection Unit's Physical Training Instructors who put us through our paces during a physical training session! It is not all hard work however and the Company enjoyed some Adventurous Training (mountain biking, climbing and hill walking) whilst deployed to Cyprus on our annual training exercise.

After two and a half years in Command, Major Dan Staples has now moved on from the Company and handed over the role of Officer Commanding to Major Jamie Gordon. Major Staples would like to thank the Master and all Guild Members for their continued support to 253 (London) Provost Company. Major Gordon looks forward to meeting Guild Members during one of the training exercises visits throughout the year.

253 (London) Provost Company

Visit to 253 (London) Provost Company (Soldier of the Year)

The Master visited the London 253 (London) Provost Company at their Tulse Hill Barracks. During the visit he, and his wife Emma, were given a presentation about the Company and a demonstration of the equipment that the soldiers have to carry. The Master and Emma tried out various pieces of kit, including gas masks and the extremely heavy packs that hold everything the soldier needs when deployed.

The Master was delighted to present the Guild's Soldier of the Year award. We had the pleasure of seeing him escort the Master's carriage at the Lord

Mayor's show and bearing the Guild's banner again at the Annual Banquet at Guildhall.

Congratulations

Photo: The Master presents the Soldier of The Year award



Visit to 253 (London) Provost Company Training Day

On Saturday 13th April, Guild Members, Ruth, and Les Deadman were delighted to spend a day with the men and women of 253 (London) Provost Company during their training day at the Defence School of Policing and Guarding (DSPG), Southwick Park, Fareham. This was a refresher course in preparation for helping to police the Army v Navy Rugby Match at Twickenham on 19th May.

On arrival, they were greeted by LCpl Ashley Edwards who introduced them to the 'stop and search' techniques which emphasised the safety of staff and officers by using the 'Go Wise' approach. The Military Police Officers with their support officer then broke into groups and created a role play scenario for suspected drug offences.



They then moved into the gym where Captain Tavakoli demonstrated restraint techniques which the men and women later practised.

Brunch was much appreciated in the dining hall which also gave Ruth and Les an opportunity to speak with the troop individually.

After lunch, Lt Molloy kindly arranged for them to see the Map room. A unique experience where they admired the actual map used on D-Day 6th June 1944. An excellent audio described events as they unfolded, and they were also able to examine charts from minesweepers on that day. A memorable and moving experience.

On leaving the Map room, LCpl Edwards took them to see the beautiful Chapel with memorials to the RMP soldiers who had died in conflicts including Iraq and Afghanistan. The stained glass windows were beautiful, and the chapel was a quiet, serene place of worship.

Back to the gym and handcuffs restraining training, including how to put them on safely, possibly manoeuvring the person to the ground with the priority being the safety of both the aggrieved and the officers involved.

Finally, Les and Ruth observed four role play scenarios (in one Les took a key role as a possible assault victim!) - domestic violence, a possible fight, assault and lastly one which left Ruth with quite a surreal moment; there they were on a lovely Saturday afternoon in a Gentlemen's Toilet with an alleged drug taker (an RMP officer) watching two RMPs barge in and make an arrest with a body search.

Before taking their leave, they thanked the magnificent team who support the Guild at The Lord Mayor's Show and the Guild Banquet at Guildhall.

The Guild encourages Guild Members to support these days as they are quite a unique experience and our presence is much appreciated by 253 (London) Provost Company RMP.

Golfing Society

Only two meetings were held this year. The meeting at High Elms Golf Club, Bromley, had to be cancelled due to lack of support. However, the members and guests enjoyed the other two meetings at Gerrards Cross Golf Club in April and West Byfleet Golf Club in June.



We would welcome many more new members to keep the golf society viable. To all the golfers in the Guild please support the Golfing Society and come and enjoy the courses we play, and to the non-golfers please come and join us for dinner. In October, the match at the North Hants Golf Club against the City Livery Golf Society was halved but the Guild team retained the Square Mile Golfing Goblet as they were the holders.

Guild trophies:

As there were only two meetings none of the trophies were awarded this year.

Tony Latham Honorary Secretary

abmlatham@aol.com; 01708 454463 or 07940 913463

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Results 2019:

Gerrards Cross	1st Michael Torre (guest)	2nd Richard Hawtin (guest)	3rd Jack Bunyer (guest)
	Ladies prize Jane Burrage (guest)		
West Byfleet	1st Tony Latham	2nd Barry Shepherd (guest)	3rd Terry Ryan
	4th John Edmeyer (guest)		

Fixtures 2020:

Thursday	16th April	Gerrards Cross Golf Club	Tee off times are 13.30, followed by a two course dinner except, the City Livery match which tees off at 10.30, followed by lunch.
Thursday	25th June	West Byfleet Golf Club	
Thursday	20th August	High Elms Golf Club	
Wednesday	21st October	City Livery Golf Society at North Hants Golf Club	

The Guild of Freeman's Charity

Review from Chairman of the Trustees Ann-Marie Jefferys

Once again, the Guild's Charity has made a real difference to the lives of the many applicants, even in these difficult and uncertain economic times.



Your Trustees are pleased that charitable giving remains at the heart of the Guild's activities, with the Trustees continuing to support a range of charitable organisations within, or associated with, Greater London and a number of schools linked to the City of London.

The Trustees receive many applications for support which are carefully examined and discussed before decisions are made. Visits are made by the Trustees where possible

to give further insight into where our money would be most impactful. We aim to gain the most advantage from our limited resources.

The Trustees maintained the Charity's educational support of two presentees at Christ's Hospital, and they also awarded bursaries to students at the City of London Freeman's School, the City of London School, The City of London School for Girls, King Edward's School Witley and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

In the year to 31 December 2019 the Charity awarded 35 grants totalling £57,841 to give educational, welfare and social support to the needy. We try to keep our management fees to a minimum to maximise our giving, and our gratitude must go to the Guild's office for their support with all the paperwork associated with the Charity. Our Clerk, Christine Cook and Assistant Clerk, Judith Westall, ensure that all financial giving is correctly administered, as well as their ongoing commitments to the Guild.

During the year to 31 December 2019 the Charity raised £18,428 through the generosity of Guild Members and legacies valuing £2,375. The income generated by the Charity's investment portfolio meant that the overall value of the Charity increased and reached the magic £1 million this year. The Charity's Trustees' Annual Report to 31 December 2019 is available to Guild Members in a separate document from the Guild's Office.

This year we saw the Chair of the Trustees, Past Master Anne Holden, retire from the post and as a Trustee. Anne has made a huge impact on the Guild Charity during her time of service and we thank her on behalf of every member. Senior Warden, Ann-Marie Jefferys, has taken over the responsibility of Chair, and we welcomed Court Assistant, Dorothy Saul-Pooley as a Trustee.

None of the work done by the Charity would be possible without the generous support of the members of the Guild, who continue to give. A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed this year.

This Charity was started just before The Great War (1914-18) and the income was used to assist current and former Guild Members and their families. Numerous grants and awards are now also made to individuals, schools, hospitals and other Trusts and Charities. [Charity Registration No. 227063]. A copy of the Charity constitution is available from the Clerk.

If you wish to support the Guild's charity there are several ways to donate. We are happy to receive single or regular donations to the Guild's Charity which qualify for Gift Aid (currently an addition of 25% tax relief). Gift Aid can be claimed on your donations simply by completing and returning a Gift Aid Declaration (available from the Clerk).

Ways to Donate

- **Debit or Credit Card** - You can make one off or regular donations online on the Guild's website: www.guild-freemen-london.co.uk/charity
- **Bank Transfer** - Regular Donations can be paid directly from your bank account by Standing Order.
- **Cheque or CAF Voucher** - A cheque or voucher should be sent to the Guild office.
- **Legacy Giving** - Please consider leaving a legacy in your will to the Guild of Freeman's Charity.

Benevolent & Charitable Activities

Guild of Freeman Travel Award to Schools

Irene Marin-Borquez reports on the Chinese University of Hong Kong Summer Institute

I first heard about the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) Summer Institute at a talk held at school and I intuitively knew I wanted to attend. The days passed, and I could not stop thinking about how I was going to fund the trip or if I would be selected for the programme. Everything was very 'blurry', like all dreams are when you try to remember them the following morning.

I applied for a merit-based award at the Summer institute and was luckily awarded it and given a place to attend. Nothing felt better than knowing I was going to be able to attend thanks to The Guild of Freeman.

The first two days I attended a Hello Hong Kong camp (for international students only), followed by a three-day orientation camp where all students (local and non-locals) participated. The days were full of group activities but having fun during the day was not enough for us, so we were also staying up until early morning. After dinner and until around 5 a.m. we would go to our councillors' room and play games in Cantonese, which would get translated into English to my friend from Russia and me. At around 2 a.m. my friend and I were convinced we could understand Cantonese and that we did not need any translation at all.

I attended an accounting course and robotics course during the two weeks and at the end we had a test on everything we had learnt. During my accounting course I learnt how maths is used in business, such as in balance sheets and income statements, something that will help me at a personal and professional level in the future. Meanwhile as I was making a robot arm draw a smiley face during my robotic class, I realised it was also drawing a big smile on my face. I learnt so much about robotics! It was actually my favourite subject. In my robotics class I also learnt about how to use matrices which is something that was awaiting me in my AS further maths



class when I returned from summer, therefore I was already prepared for everything that was coming my way.

I made many lifelong friends. We instantly bonded and we used to do things together every day after lessons. It felt like I had known them for years. I made two close friends: Jackie from the USA and Yeseul from Korea. We were like the three musketeers.

Living in Hong Kong made me realise how lucky I was to be able to experience first-hand a culture so different to mine. I learnt a lot and fell in love with the city, the people, and their food. I knew that everything I learnt would help me on return to my duties as Head Girl at our boarding house.



It has honestly been the best summer of my life. This trip has taught me how to be more independent and more

adaptable. This 'adventure' has forced me to break out of my comfort zone. A place I hardly want to leave. Things that may have initially appeared a bit scary, such as not being able to understand the language, trying different cuisine and meeting new people, these things do not seem so terrifying any more. On the contrary, I am ready for the sequel. This time without the initial fear and a bag full of excitement. I learnt to value experiences more than things now.

I brought back an overloaded suitcase, full of many memories, unforgettable experiences, and learnings.

Like John F Kennedy said, "we must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives". This opportunity has made a huge difference in my life. A difference that will grow with me because I know in the years to come when I look back, I will appreciate it even more. It will help me when applying to university, to succeed at job interviews, to accept placements abroad, to travel alone, to explore new cultures, to not be afraid of trying new things.

Thank you so much to the Guild of Freeman for helping my dream become a reality and being a part of my personal and academic growth.

Guild of Freeman Travel Award to Schools

Eve Flynn reports on her visit to Germany

Thanks to the grant I received from the Guild of Freeman, last summer I participated in the German Pupil Course organised by the UK-German Connection. As part of this course I spent two weeks living with a German family with the aim of improving my German but also of increasing cultural awareness and to promote international co-operation at school level.

My favourite memory is not one single moment but instead all of the new people I met on the course. I am the only student in my German lessons so meeting and talking with other 17-year olds who also loved German felt like a novelty to me, but one that I enjoyed immensely. The German students were also extremely welcoming, and I am thrilled to now have people I can send a message to when in dire need of assistance with a particularly hard piece of German homework.

My host family made me feel at ease straightaway even if it took me a couple of days to fully understand the Berliner German flying around me. Although there are a couple of contenders for my favourite memory with them, watching the musical 'Cabaret' in German on the second night has to be it. Every aspect of the performance was in German, including the songs, which were in places difficult to understand but nonetheless I enjoyed the show hugely. The stage took place in a large tipi in the middle of the Tiergarten and up on the balconies you could see the Spree and the German Treasury.

My favourite food of the trip is Döner. The Döner served in the UK are a sad replica of those served in Berlin. Fresh and filled with flavour I am certain that the next time I go to Germany I will definitely fit another one (or maybe more) in my trip. However, I must also mention the KaDeWe Torte I ate in the magical food hall on the 7th floor of KaDeWe. I do not think I have ever



eaten a piece of cake that compared to that slice of heaven.

My favourite excursion was to Potsdam and Sanssouci because of their incredible beauty. Although I must admit that Sanssouci was smaller than I expected, the interior of the palace soon removed any disappointment I felt about the size. Every aspect of the rooms had been decorated lavishly with no thought given to the expense. My favourite room in the palace was one of the bedrooms nick-named the Italian Room because of the number of beautiful landscapes of Italy hanging on the walls. The colours in each of the paintings were so vivid that they could almost be photographs. Potsdam matched the beauty of Sanssouci, and I was incredibly happy to find buildings that had not been damaged during the

Second World War, which is almost impossible in Berlin.

My favourite museum in Berlin is Topography of Terror which was the most thought-provoking out of the ones I visited. I believe everyone should go there if they are in Berlin. The museum informs visitors about the terror created by the Nazi security services. What I think this museum does very well is that through the numerous uses of photographs it gives a face to these unimaginable acts, reminding the visitor that these men were not as different as we would like to believe.

I am extremely thankful that I had these two weeks in Germany, and I would highly recommend the trip to any German student.

Benevolent & Charitable Activities

The Lord Mayor's 800th Anniversary Awards Trust

The Lord Mayor's 800th Anniversary Awards Trust was founded in 1989 with the object of helping young people to undertake projects designed to broaden their experience, develop their self-confidence, and improve their career chances.



An additional aim is to give beneficiaries an insight and interest in the work of The Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City of London. Grants are made twice a year to young people aged between 17 and 24. Priority for granting awards is given to those applicants with a close connection to the City of London. Projects should include challenge, initiative and creativity, and benefit to others. They may incorporate arts and music as well as physical challenge.

Enterprises which have qualified for Awards include: Teaching and community work in many different countries; Conservation and wild life work abroad; Attendance at summer schools and work experience abroad.

Participation in: Scout and Guide expeditions and Jamborees; Raleigh International expeditions; International Citizen; Service overseas placements; British Exploring Society expeditions; Tall Ships voyages and sail training; Youth Choir tours abroad; Kayaking and diving expeditions; Teaching programmes such as those organized through Project Trust; Building and developing schools in third world countries; Expeditions organized by schools which include an element of community work; Mountaineering/trekking at home or abroad; Making TV documentaries overseas; Adventurous travel; Support for special courses run for disadvantaged youth; Medical, dental and nursing electives; Work in orphanages and children's homes and with the destitute abroad.

Further information and Application forms may be obtained from the Adviser at the following address: The Lord Mayor's 800th Anniversary Awards Trust, St Margaret's Church, Lothbury, London EC2R 7HH web: <http://lm800aat.org> - email: lm800aat@hotmail.com

The Chairman of the Guild's Charity, Senior Warden Ann-Marie Jefferys, presented the Guild's annual prize at the Lord Mayor's 800th Anniversary Awards at Mansion House. The winner this year was Tara Geohagen. After her trip to the Amazon she continued her gap year living in Bangladesh, working on child

marriage and human rights, teaching in a refugee camp in Greece, making a film for a human trafficking charity in Cambodia, working with ethical clothing companies in Australia and finally doing some work with a UK mental health charity. Ann-Marie was delighted to present a cheque to Tara for £125.



City Giving Day Launch 2020

The Master-elect, Ann-Marie Jefferys (who is Chairman of the Guild of Freeman's Charity Trustees) attended the launch of the Lord Mayor's City Giving Day 2020.



The Lord Mayor's appeal and City Giving Day is a celebration of the remarkable efforts of City organisations in charitable giving and benevolence. The Guild's Charity supports the appeal through the generosity of our members, through regular donations or attending events with a donation such as the City Walks and the Big Curry Lunch.

True to our founding objectives, the Guild has provided charitable assistance for more than a century. Today, through our Guild of Freeman Charity (Reg. No. 227063), we provide grants, mentoring and other help to those with links to the City and neighbouring communities, including schools and fellow charities.



Court Assistant Sheriff Christopher Hayward, CC, Mei Sim Lai, and Ann-Marie Jefferys (Master Elect)

Over 200 representatives from organisations across the City and Canary Wharf joined The Lord Mayor, Lady Mayoress, Sheriffs, Alderman, and others from the City of London Corporation, to find out more about this annual philanthropic celebratory event.

Welcoming our new Honorary Member: Captain Sir Thomas 'Tom' Moore



Captain Sir Tom Moore Photo: Emma Sohl Capture the Light Photography

"Absolutely thrilled" was the reaction of a smiling Captain Sir Tom Moore on being welcomed as an Honorary Member of the Guild on 3rd June 2020.

The fundraising hero was admitted in a ceremony conducted on screen via Zoom and shown live on YouTube. Many members tuned in to share the happiness of the occasion.

A message from HRH The Princess Royal was read to the centenarian, who raised more than £32 million for NHS Charities. It said:

"As Centenary Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London, may I offer my congratulations to you on your appointment as an Honorary Member of the Guild."

Your extraordinary fundraising achievements embody the Guild's aims of fellowship and benevolence. At this time of adversity, you have proved an inspiration and a symbol of hope for the future, reflected in your own words: tomorrow will be a good day.

I send my warmest wishes to you and to all members of the Guild of Freemen."

Captain Sir Tom's daughter, Hannah Ingram-Moore, accompanied him at the ceremony, which was conducted by the Master, with Past Master Alderman Sir David Wootton and the Clerk.

Honorary Membership is the highest distinction the Guild can bestow, awarded to exceptional people for outstanding

achievements, and Captain Sir Tom is only the third Honorary Member in our history. His citation described how his remarkable 100th Birthday Walk touched the hearts of the nation and drew worldwide recognition. It said: "You symbolise the motto of our times - be kind. You set out with the aim of helping people and showed just how much we can achieve when we work together. That is the spirit in which the Guild was founded and in which we continue to work today."

Alderman Sir David Wootton remarked that at the age of 112, the Guild was slightly older than our new Honorary Member. He said: "The Guild is a great institution ... and we are delighted, Sir Tom, that you are now part of it too and one of us."

Captain Sir Tom said: *"I am extremely honoured to be admitted as an Honorary Member of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London. I remain humbled by the love and gratitude that I have received from the British public and am delighted to accept this award from the Guild of Freemen."*

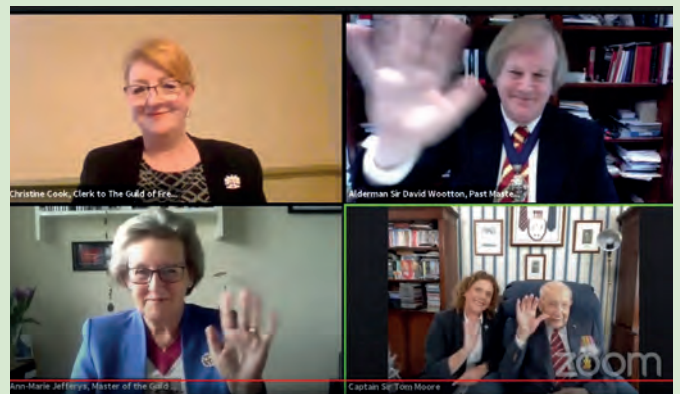


Photo: YouTube

The ceremony can be viewed on the Guild's YouTube channel at https://youtu.be/BwJOMxYza_E

Joining and Welcoming Ceremony

The Master welcomes new members to the Guild at their Joining and Welcoming Ceremony at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. During the ceremony, each new member is personally welcomed by the Master and presented with their warrant of Guild membership. All new members present take part in the Loving Cup ceremony and at the conclusion of the ceremony everyone present adjourns to the Parlour at Tallow Chandlers' Hall, where new members and their guests can meet the Court and enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles.



Guild Members' News

Joining and welcoming Ceremony continued...



The Guild Welcomes New Members 2019

January

Mark Clive Barter
Sally Bishop
Clifford Bowen
Matthew Christensen, MA MBA
Beverley Collins, CertEd
Kevin Coyne, BA MA FCMI FRAS
Sheila Dixon
Paul Excell
Robert Eyres
John Paul Heatherington, BA FCCA
Mark Irving
John McFarlane, OBE
Martin Overman, BEd FAIM MAICD
Alessandro Pompili
Ken Ryan
Jonathan Sayers, JP BA PGCE
Claire Scott
Richard Wrenn

February

Peter Benson, AM
Agar Burton
Stephen Cannon, MA MCh(Orth) FRCS
FRCS(Ed) MBWE
Mark Clitherow
Susan Jillian Cook, MSc ACT ACMA
Larry Davis
Dale Eaton
Abigail Farr, MA(Oxon) PGCE
Sanita Kissore
Kenneth Ludlam, FCA FCMA FCT
Debra Parker
Walter Pasifull
Nicholas Purkis, LLB(Hons) FRSA
Zoe Scott
Tim Solway
Sir Robert Andrew Wales, BSc

March

Dominic Christian, CC
Krystal Miller
Dorothy Purdew, OBE
Rodney Strong, BA MA MMedSci

April

Randall Anderson, CC
Marti Balam Balamir, BSc
Steve Bell, CBE
Yusuf Dourmouh

Alderman Alison Gowman
Barbara Graham Miller
Richard Harbord
Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney
Karen Jones
Jolanta Krecichwost-Kudzio
Alderman Nicholas Lyons, MA(Cantab)
Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli, BA
FCCA FCSI(Hon) FBCS FIC MCMEI
Arturo Ramirez
Matthew Simon, MBA
James Quinn
Andrew Trapnell, APMI

May

Mikis Almanov
Stefan Breu
Karen Holden, BA(Hons) MPhil LPC
Malcolm Hoskins
John Kiernan
Joyce Lambert
Patrick Marsland-Roberts
Thomas Meade, BA(Hons)
John Norris
Edward Power, GCSJ MMSJ
Ruby Sayed, LLB(Hons) CC
Lynda Schama
Brian Stratton
Desmond Philip Yorke, FRSH SRR

June

Kathleen Agatiello
Robert Bell
Count Andrea Boezio Bertinotti
Kevin Hydes, BSc CEng FCIBSE
Thomas Firth Jackson, BEd CertEd
Andrien Meyers, CC
Graham Redcliffe
Christopher Joseph Simmins, BA(Hons)
David Turner
Linda-May Vexo
Lillian R Whitley

August

Francesca Albini
Sergey Budnikov
Paul Darling-Wills
Andrew Dicker, BA(Hons)
Richard Ellis
Martin Gibbons

Tracey Graham, CC
Richard Jarvis, ACIB
Gillian King, FCIPD FIC CMC FloD
Nicola Oliver, BA(Hons) ACII
Robert Smyth
John Thalgott

September

Graham Embers
Robin B Keegan
Munsur Ali, CC
Harold Scott
Deputy John Tomlinson

October

John Bailye
Erikson Davis
Chikezie Ekeanyanwu, MSc MBCS FRSA
Stephen Hodgson, BEng(Hons) ACA CTA
Beverley Hurley, CBE FIED FCIH
David Jeffery
John Alfred Lawrence
Alan Rea
Derek Taylor
Dmytro Tupchiienko, FRSA MBCS MIET
Michael Waller
Philip White
Jade Williams-Adadeji, LLB
Claes Zangenberg, LLM

November

Alan John Brockwell, BSc
Iain Clack, LLB CGMA
Sylvia Hyett
Cosette Reczek
Daniel Staples
Ian Liddell Stevenson, MA MBA

December

Lars Andersen
Hugh Beattie, BA(Hons) GSM
Adrian Timothy Card
Sonia Copland
Shobha Earl, QVRM VR
Margaret Mayston, AM
Peter McCormack
Charles McGregor
Steve Pater
Philippe Rogueda, MSc PhD DipEng
Ruth Shane

Congratulations

The Master, Wardens, Court of Assistants, and Members of the Guild congratulate the following Guild Members.

Guild Member Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney on his installation

as Master of the Guild of Investment Managers in July 2019.

Past Master Anne Holden on her installation as Prime Warden of the Basketmakers in October 2019.

Guild Member Andrew Whitton on his installation as Master Needlemaker in October 2019.

Captain Sir Thomas 'Tom' Moore on becoming an Honorary Member of the Guild.



Bob and Anne Holden

Senior Warden Alderman John Garbutt, JP on his appointment as High Sheriff of Greater London. The photograph shows John, at home after the ceremony, newly wearing his High Sheriff badge.

"Alderman John Garbutt, JP, Senior Warden of the Guild of Freeman, was appointed by the Queen's Royal Warrant to be High Sheriff of Greater London with effect from his Swearing-in on 2nd April 2020. Because of the pandemic restrictions, instead of occurring at the Royal Courts of Justice as would normally be the case, John declared his Oath by video conference (the first time ever) from home, in front of the Lord Chief Justice, the Queen's Remembrancer and other senior High Court Judges from the Royal Courts who were also at their homes. In this role, his remit will cover the Royal Courts of Justice itself, all other Crown Courts around London, (with the exception of the 'Old Bailey'), plus the prisons, Metropolitan Police, and most other aspects of the Judicial system across Greater London."



High Sheriff of Greater London Alderman John Garbutt, Senior Warden

Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela by the Beadle

Beadle John Hollingsworth shares with us his pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in north-west Spain

John Hollingsworth the Beadle and Toastmaster to the Guild is well known to members of the Guild, especially whilst officiating at Guild Dinners and the Annual Banquet in Guildhall. John, who brings a touch of class and dignity to our events, became Beadle to the Guild in 1988 and has now held that position for over thirty years.

John has been a President of the Society of London Toastmasters on two occasions, a rare occurrence. For ten years John also served as the Honorary Secretary to the Society, the first organisation for Toastmasters formed in the United Kingdom.

For some time, I had been thinking of making the Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, not for any strong religious or spiritual reason, just to see if, at the age of 81 years, I could actually 'go the distance'. My younger daughter, Sarah, decided to accompany me and sought sponsorship for a cancer charity. Not to be outdone, I joined in for the benefit of Prostate Cancer UK. So far, I have received just short of £3,000! (There's still time if you wish to donate!).

There are dozens of long, ancient pilgrimage routes varying in length between 600 and 800kms. The most popular, the Camino Frances, starting in the foothills of the Pyrenees on the French side. By the 12th century a significant number of pilgrims were undertaking the trek, and this continued until political unrest and plague caused a big drop in numbers.

The revival started in the 1980s due to Franco encouraging pilgrimages and in 2018 over 320,000 pilgrims made

it to the Pilgrims Office to claim their certificates.

Most pilgrims now just walk from Sarria to Santiago de Compostela, in order to cover the distance of 100kms laid down by the Bishop of Santiago de Compostela to qualify for the certificates. Horse and bike riders need to cover 200kms! In order to qualify you need to get a 'pilgrims' passport stamped at least twice every day. Stamps are available at churches, cafes, and shops along the way. Only one stamp a day is required if you are walking the whole way from France.

Along the route, the true pilgrim, carrying his own pack, stays at one of the several albergues on the route. The albergues provide dormitory accommodation for 10/15 euros a night, in some instances completely free or for an optional donation. Kitchens are provided so you can cook your own food and washing machines are available for laundry.

Guild Members' News

Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela continued...

Alternatively, the way I chose was to use one of the many firms that book your accommodation at every stop together with dinner and breakfast as well as the transport of your main luggage, between stops, just leaving you to carry water and other essentials in a light back pack. This method is used by the vast majority of the 'pilgrims' on the shorter route, especially the Spanish schoolchildren in highly organised parties. All the accommodation was spotless and the 'pilgrims' menu food was of an extremely high standard. Three courses for 10 euros, on a couple of occasions including half a bottle of wine! The crusty bread, in particular, was consistently good.

We set off from Sarria on Sunday to walk the first of five legs varying in length between 18 and 29 kilometres over clearly marked routes. Some of the time the route took us through pleasant woodland with smooth surfaces underfoot at other times the surface was uneven and coated with large gravel, which caused some travellers twisted ankles. The whole route was fairly hilly, 'up and down' and it caused me some annoyance as I trudged along on my 81 year old legs to be overtaken by a gaggle of 16 year olds and watch them disappear into the distance! On the way, every day, there were plenty of rest stops, some even offering refreshments for a voluntary donation.

On the last day of the walk, we arrived at the Monte de Gozo where an ugly monument commemorates the visit of John Paul the Second. From here, the last hill before the city, one is supposed to be able to see the magnificent Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, but it is hidden by trees and commercial buildings. For those in the know, even though tired, it is worth turning left and walking about half a kilometre to another hill where there is an inspiring statue of two pilgrims catching their first view of the cathedral in the distance. The only drawback is that you have to return to the marked route to find your way in to the city!



The pilgrim's statue with the Cathedral in the distance accurately conveys how pilgrims walking the whole way must be thinking!

There is a great sense of achievement on reaching the square in front of the Cathedral where some of the pilgrims are flat on their backs on the ground, others on their knees praying and still others hugging each other for having completed the journey! The renovated front of the Cathedral looks magnificent and they are now renovating the interior

which means that the midday 'Pilgrims Service' is at an adjacent church at present. The renovation should be finished by the end of the year. We intend to return in May 2021 to attend The Pilgrim Mass and see the famous Botofumeiro (thurible) swung!

The one remaining problem was to collect the two certificates, one for the distance covered and one showing that you say you have completed the Camino for religious or spiritual reasons. There is always a long wait at the Pilgrim's Office, but this is where modern day technology kicks in! You collect a numbered ticket from the machine and, providing you have a mobile 'phone, you download the app which keeps you up to date with where you are in the queue so that you can leave for some well-earned, non-religious, refreshment!

The reasons for making the pilgrimage are many and various. Whatever the reason, I am sure everyone making the trip derives something from it. Whilst walking, you have plenty of time for contemplation. Many pilgrims carry a small stone with them, which they leave along the way, which is supposed to represent their worries.



John outside the cathedral, carrying a stone as 'proxy' for a friend who could not make the pilgrimage because of serious heart problems

In Memoriam

We were saddened to hear of the following deaths amongst Guild Members and our deepest sympathies are extended to their families and friends.

Cllr Mrs J T Ansell
Mrs M H Bell
Mr F Brake
Mr K M Brown
Mr R W Brunnen
Mrs E E Christian
Miss J E Coleman
Mr T H Collison
Mr E Deacon
Wing Cdr D H T Dimock
Mr J O Elster
Mr E A Flower
Mr G M Gentry
Mr R G Glazebrook
Mr A B Goedhals

Mr A Howath, JP
Mr R J Jessop
Mr R S Johnson
Mr O Kebbell
Miss H A Kinghorn
Mr G Lawson
Mr E G Lawrence
Mrs M A Lyndon-Skeggs, MBE JP
Mr D Morgan
Mr E C Newman
Mr M J K Nodes
Mr R A Pargeter
Lt Col R A Payne, OBE KStJ JP
Mr D G Raby
Mr P Reeve

Mr P Roberts
Mr H Scott
Mr J E Sheppard
Mrs M Singer
Mr D A Smith
Mr R E Starns
Mr A Summers
Mr A Torkington
Mr C P Vaughan-Johnson
Mr R W Waggett
Sir Christopher Walford
Mr M J Watson
Mrs H N Withers
Mr P T Yeandle
Sqn Ldr P J Young

Obituaries

Gordon Mark Gentry

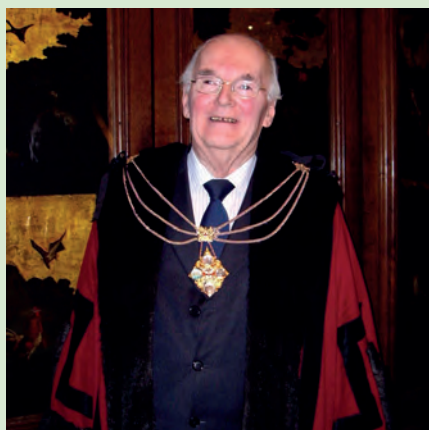
BSc. FRSA FSAScot

1933-2019

Master 2007-2008

Gordon was born in Fulham in 1933. In 1939 he was evacuated to Northamptonshire with his mother, brothers, and sisters. His parents liked the new environment and decided to settle there after the war. Gordon won a County Scholarship to Magdalen School, Brackley, and later opted for University College, London rather than going to Magdalen College, Oxford.

After serving in the Royal Artillery he commenced his career in education, in public schools. He moved to work for the Home Office in the former Approved Schools Service. Eventually he became the first ever male Head of a Girl's Approved School in England and subsequently Head of a pioneering Approved School for boys and girls, Principal Health Education Officer for his Local Health Authority, County Organiser for Hertfordshire Association for the Disabled and an Ofsted Inspector of Special Schools.



He joined the Guild in 1980, became a Court Member in 1994 and was a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Bakers. He had a keen interest in music and was an active member of many Chivalric Orders, which undertake charitable work in Europe and further afield.

He was also a Freeman and Burgess of Glasgow, a member of the Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow and of the Govan Weavers' Society. He was a member of the Royal Scots Club in Edinburgh and the Casino Maltese in Valletta. Gordon was also an active Freemason for over 50

years and held high office in a number of units. He became a life member of the Iona Community following a visit there over fifty years ago.

Gordon's year as Master, as a precursor to the Centenary Year, was well received. It was interesting, educational, and fun. Amongst the highlights was a weekend trip to Malta and, for Gordon, his invitations to visit schools supported by the Guild's Charity. To quote from The Illuminated Address presented to Gordon at the end of his year as Master:

"Successive masters bring qualities of their own to bear on our affairs, among these are the exemplary leadership you have shown in conducting the meetings of the court through a difficult year and your quiet sense of humour, sincerity and understanding. They provide an example worthy of emulation."

He was a man of principle and integrity who inspired so many with his sense of humour, friendship, and conversation.

At the end of his year he took part in the Installation of HRH The Princess Royal as

Guild Members' News

Gordon Gentry's Obituary continued...

Centenary Master of the Guild at Merchant Taylors' Hall. This was a truly memorable occasion, which was enjoyed by all.

Following his year as Master, Gordon served as a Trustee for the Guild's Charity and also on the Francon Trust. This enabled him to have contact with young people, which he enjoyed, while

mentoring students that received grants from the Trust.

Family was especially important to Gordon, he was married to Anne, who supported him in all his endeavours for over 60 years; they have three daughters, a son and five grandchildren.

As a result of his busy personal and professional life Gordon had friends across the UK and the world. Just how much he has touched others' lives has become evident since his death with the comforting messages sent to Anne and the family.

Anne Gentry

Rex Sutherland Johnson

FRIBA, DiplArch, FCI Arb

1928-2020

Master 1991-1992

Rex was born in Laindon, Essex and educated at George Heriot's, Edinburgh. He always retained a special feeling for that City and for Scotland. At that time National Service was compulsory and he served in the Navy for two years as a radio operator. Returning to civilian life, a chance encounter with a neighbour led to an introduction to an architectural firm called T P Bennett and for seven years he worked in the office during the day and studied for four evenings a week to become qualified as an architect. During these years he met Betty and they married when he acquired his professional qualifications.

They set up home in Harrow and had two sons, Mark, and Michael. Later they moved to Kent where Rex designed and built a house for them which won many plaudits. Rex became a partner in the firm of Ronald Ward and Partners based in Belgravia where he worked on many prestigious developments including the Poultry Market in Smithfield in the City of London.

He joined many clubs and institutions including the Masonic Royal Athelstan Lodge No. 19, one of the oldest Masonic Lodges in the country, and the Rotary. Last year he produced a beautifully illustrated book commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Lodge. He became a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Woolmen and rose to become Master, and he gained high office in all the organisations he joined.



His business partner Ronald Ward introduced him to the Guild of Freemen of the City of London where he progressed to become a member of the Court and was Master in 1991. As a Past Master he remained a Court member until the end.

The centenary of the Guild in 2008 was preceded by more than a year of preparation and Rex proposed that we should attempt to persuade HRH The Princess Royal to become our Centenary Master. Having served as Master of several of the City's Livery Companies she is well versed in what is needed to fulfil such a role. Sometime earlier Rex had been seated next to her at a Woolmen's event and had clearly been impressed. Approaches were made to the Palace and we were delighted when word came through that our invitation had been accepted by Her Royal Highness. Having the Princess Royal as our Centenary Master was a great honour and she carried out her duties immaculately, adding greatly to the success of the many events at which she was present.

Rex loved to travel and on behalf of Ronald Ward and Partners he travelled the world and at one time attempted to

open an office in Ghana. On many of these trips he was accompanied by Betty and they also did a lot of non-business travel. In 2001 while on holiday in Spain Betty died suddenly which was a great blow to Rex.

He decided to move to a more manageable home, still in Kent and eventually began travelling again, alone or with friends. On one of his solo trips to the Philippines he met Febronia who was travelling from her home in England to visit her parents in the Philippines and in 2016 they were married aboard the MV Queen Victoria by the Captain.

Febronia soon became well known to Guild Members, accompanying Rex to many social events. He often remarked on how well she took care of him. In the autumn of 2019 they joined the Guild holiday to Marrakech and Rex later wrote what he called 'an essay' about the trip which many of us who knew him will want to keep; it is so typical of him and of his style. For many years he designed and drew his own Christmas cards and had them printed. Then came a note to say there would be no more, the task had become too time consuming.

In March, Rex fell victim to the Coronavirus pandemic and died in Tunbridge Wells Hospital. In the many and varied circles in which he moved throughout his life, he will be long remembered.

He is survived by his wife Febronia, sister Helen, sons Mark and Michael and grandchildren Gemma, Ross, Holly, Greg and Isobelle.

Past Master Barbara Newman CBE CC

The Master

Ann-Marie Jefferys, BA(Hons), MEd, PGCE, NPQH

I felt very humbled and greatly privileged to be installed as Master of the Guild of Freeman, following in the footsteps of so many distinguished Masters, and to be the seventh woman to hold the post. When I was asked to extend my year to the end of December 2021, I was delighted to accept.

I would like to thank my fellow Wardens and Court of Assistants for the honour they have bestowed upon me and for the trust they have placed in me to lead such a prestigious and well-respected City organisation. I promise to do my best to honour that trust, so that the Guild continues to flourish. I would also like to warmly thank my predecessor, Neil Redcliffe, JP, for his successful and enjoyable year and for his generous support as I moved towards Installation. My husband, David and I have greatly enjoyed Emma and Neil's company over the last year and hope to continue to do so over the coming years.

You will be aware that events have had to be cancelled or postponed due to the Coronavirus crisis which is affecting all of us. This has meant that my year has not got off to the start we had anticipated. It is a great pity but there is nothing any of us can do about it. The Court and its Committees have been working hard and I thank them. We have successfully held meetings via Zoom and Skype, a first for the Guild. I will be known as the first Master in our history to hold a Court Meeting via Zoom!

Another 'first' was to confer Honorary Membership on Captain Sir Thomas 'Tom' Moore, in recognition of his outstanding fundraising efforts, which have been truly inspirational during these difficult times. It is an absolute pleasure to welcome him to the Guild.

One of my roles as Master is to remind you, fellow members, of the Guild's objectives and to encourage your engagement and participation in achieving them, so that the Guild continues to thrive and strengthen, not just in my time as Master, but for the years to come. The Guild's purpose is:

'To offer all Freeman of the City of London a welcoming association where they can support the City by contributing to its welfare, celebrating its heritage and helping to shape its future, while enjoying an active social programme'.



I had arranged a wide-ranging social programme on the theme of 'Remember Good Times', reflecting not only my interests, but hopefully the varied and wide interests of all our members. I will be running these events again during next year as they were extremely popular and well subscribed. There will also be some new events which I hope you will support and enjoy. Working with the Membership Committee, we want to broaden our membership, embracing people from diverse backgrounds, especially the young, which will enrich our friendships. We are an integral part of City life, and we aim to engage with as many City activities as we can, as well as informing members of the work of the City of London Corporation.

As Chair of the Guild's Charity, I want to showcase the charities we support and remind members of the importance of charitable giving, one of our founding principles. Supporting many charities within the City and our neighbouring communities, where small donations have a huge impact, and having the privilege of seeing some of their work, highlights the generosity of our members towards those less fortunate than ourselves, particularly in these difficult times. I look forward to working with my fellow trustees of the Guild's Charity to achieve this.

I am looking forward to representing the Guild within the City of London and further afield in York, Chester, Coventry, and Glasgow. It is important that we ensure the Guild is fit for purpose in the 21st century and beyond. This may mean change and innovation, which we should investigate and embrace, whilst ensuring

that we are true to our heritage. This has already happened through necessity during these difficult and uncertain times. Like many institutions, we have shot from the 20th century to the 21st in a matter of weeks by working virtually to ensure all of our obligations are met. I look forward to working with the Finance and General Purposes Committee and the Past Masters and Nominations Committee to ensure that the Guild's finances are in good order and that we have a succession of individuals who will lead the Guild to continued success in the future.

To turn our visions and aspirations into reality, we are extremely fortunate to have Clerk, Christine Cook and Assistant Clerk, Judith Westall. I have seen their hard work and dedication to the Guild, and we all owe them a huge debt. It has been a pleasure working with them on my programme and I look forward to working with them to make this year, and next, a success and fun for everyone. Finally, my thanks to our Chaplain, the Very Reverend Dr David Ison, Dean of St Paul's Cathedral for his spiritual guidance.

David and I look forward to seeing as many Guild members and their guests as we can in my extended term, which we hope will be exciting, successful, and fun.

We send you every good wish, and hope that you keep well and safe.

The Master and Wardens 2020-21

The Master Ann-Marie Jefferys, BA(Hons), MEd, PGCE, NPQH



Ann-Marie Jefferys grew up in Buckinghamshire attending local schools, and currently lives in Kent. She began working in the travel business in the West End of London before retiring to become a full-time mother. Whilst at home, she studied History through the Open University and went into teaching working in some difficult state inner-city London schools before becoming a Headteacher in the independent sector.

She currently has a portfolio of work, teaching part-time in a local Prep School, running a small Holiday Let and Property Development business. Ann-Marie has always been interested

in the City and has links through family and friends. She became a Freeman and Guild member in 2002 and was invited to join the Court in 2012. She is a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Glovers and a member of the Aldgate Ward Club. She has many charity interests and is a highly active church member serving as a Licensed Lay Minister, and as member of her local Deanery Synod and Rochester Diocesan Synod.

Ann-Marie is married to David, a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Apothecaries, and the Worshipful Company of Glovers. They have two children, Sophie who is a doctor, and Peter who works in the City. Her interests include travel, history, especially the First World War, museum and art gallery visits, the theatre, walking and music.

The Senior Warden High Sheriff and Alderman John Garbutt, JP BSc(Econ) (Hons) FRSA FRGS FCSI



John Garbutt obtained a BSc Econ Honours degree from the LSE and entered the City to work for Rowe & Pitman and subsequently at ICI, Touche Remnant, Schrodgers and became Director, Head of Institutional Client Management, and Marketing at Kleinwort Benson. He then worked at HSBC as Head of various departments including Property and E-commerce and retired as Director, Global Head of Corporate Governance.

He was then a Non-Executive Director of Stobart Group and Chairman of their Remuneration Committee. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment and a member of the CFA Institute.

Outside work, John is the Alderman for Walbrook Ward, a Justice of the Peace, Past President of the City Livery Club, President of Walbrook Ward Club; Lay Chairman, Parish Clerk and a Churchwarden of St Stephen Walbrook and Chairman of the Royal Society of St George (City of London Branch). He was Upper Bailiff (Master) of the Weavers Livery Company (the City's oldest) and is an Honorary Court Member of the Joiners and Ceilers Livery and a Liveryman of the International Bankers company. He is Chairman of the International Students' Trust, an Honorary Visiting Professor at two Universities and a Fellow of both the Royal Society of Arts and the Royal Geographical Society as well as being a Life Vice President of the British Red Cross. He is also currently the High Sheriff of Greater London, a Royal Appointment. John's other interests include travel, collecting ethnic art and champagne.

The Renter Warden Christopher Walton, BA MBA FIoD FRAeS



Chris Walton is an experienced company Chairman, Audit Chair, and independent non-executive director. He is the Chairman of NC KazMunayGas, a large vertically integrated oil and gas company. He has also chaired the Strategy and Innovation Committee, the Audit Committee, and the Finance Committee. In the defence sector, he is the Audit Chair of the Submarine

Delivery Agency and is a Non-Executive Member of the Royal Navy's National Shipbuilding Strategy Client Board.

In past roles, he has been Chairman of Goldenport Holdings, a UK listed shipping company, Chairman of Lothian Buses Plc, the operator of Edinburgh's bus network, Senior Independent Director and Audit Chair of Rockhopper Exploration Plc, a listed oil exploration company, Chairman of Asia Resource Minerals Plc, a UK listed coal miner, and Audit Chair of the

Kazakhstan State Railways, the world's 19th largest railway system. Pro-bono, Chris has recently stepped down as the Interim Chairman of the Institute of Directors. He is a former non-executive member of the Audit & Risk Committee of the UK Department for Culture, Media, and Sport, which was responsible for the 2012 London Olympic Games. Chris was a member of the Bank of England's Regional Economic Advisory Panel (SE England & Anglia) from 2002 to 2005.

As Finance Director of EasyJet Plc, Chris successfully directed its IPO. Chris has held senior finance and commercial posts at Qantas, Air New Zealand, Australia Post and Australian Airlines. Chris has also worked as a corporate planner for BP Australia, as a staffer in the Australian Senate and in open-cut iron ore mines for Hamersley Iron. Chris is a Fellow of the UK Institute of Directors, a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society. He served for almost a decade in the Australian Army Reserve, principally in the 1st Commando Regiment.

The Junior Warden Councillor Lisa Rutter



Lisa Rutter is a London Borough of Barnet Councillor for Brunswick Park Ward. She has been a Councillor since 2006 and was Mayor of the Borough in 2011-12. Lisa raised funds for three charities - The Alzheimer's Society, Barnet Young Carers & Siblings and The Outward-Bound Trust. With the funds she raised for the Alzheimer's Society she opened the first Dementia café in Barnet in August 2013, at the Finchley Memorial Hospital which was running once a month. However, as the demand for more sessions grew, she set up her own registered charity after a year. Lisa is the founder and chairman of Dementia Club UK which is sponsored by Saracens Foundation. She now runs twelve dementia clubs at various locations in London and the sessions are run daily.

Lisa has volunteers helping at the dementia clubs from four different Rotary clubs who have joined in association with Dementia Club UK. Lisa has been awarded the 'The Paul Harris Award' which is the highest Rotary award.

The charity also has volunteers from two Leisure centres in London - Greenwich Leisure Limited operating under the brand "Better" who have also joined in association with Dementia Club UK.

Lisa received the National Councillor Achievement Award in 2016 for her work in the community – helping people with dementia and their families.

She is the Ageing Well and Mental Health Champion of the London Borough of Barnet and is also a Liveryman of The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers.

Lisa worked in banking for many years and then trained as a litigation officer. She worked for the Insurance Ombudsman Bureau dealing with pension and general cases as arbitrator and finally worked at Coutts Bank as Special Matters and Fraud Manager.

The Under Warden Adrian Waddingham, CBE FIA



Adrian Waddingham retired in 2018 after a 47-year career as a consulting actuary. Brought up in Preston, Lancashire Adrian was schooled by the Jesuits in Yorkshire. He started his actuarial training in Liverpool after graduating from Royal Holloway College in 1971, qualifying as a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries in 1975. He became a partner in the Liverpool firm Duncan C

Fraser in 1977 advising many large and small pension schemes. Adrian worked as a consulting actuary in Malaysia for the same firm from 1981 to 1985, during which time he served as the President of the Actuarial Society of Malaysia.

He returned to London in 1985 and in 1989 was a founding partner of Barnett Waddingham LLP which has now become the largest firm of independent consulting actuaries in the UK with over 1,300 employees. During this period, he served as Chairman of the Association of Consulting Actuaries, and Chairman of the International Association of Consulting Actuaries.

Adrian was Master of the Worshipful Company of Actuaries in 2013/2014 and elected as a Sheriff in the City of London in

2013. Adrian and his wife Angela lived in 'Old Bailey' for a year and worked closely with the Lord Mayor promoting the City of London. Adrian is also a Liveryman Haberdasher. In 2014 Adrian was one of four Livery Masters who founded the Brigantes Association, bringing together Liverymen of London with northern connections.

Adrian has stepped down as Vice-Chairman of the Epilepsy Society and is a trustee of the Skeletal Cancer Trust and a director of the City Music Foundation. Adrian is a trustee of two UK pension funds and an Honorary Fellow of his alma mater Royal Holloway College, University of London.

Adrian was awarded a CBE in the Birthday Honours of 2012 for services to pensions. He was also awarded the prestigious Finlaison Medal of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries in 2016 for services to the actuarial profession.

In 2018/2019 Adrian studied history at Birkbeck College and is currently researching the life of Nicholas Breakspear, the first and only English Pope.

Adrian's main home is in Vauxhall. He also has a home in his native north Lancashire. His other interests include woodwork and ever-slower skiing.

Events Programme for 2020-21

Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Programme of Events

It is a great pity that the events for the first part of Ann-Marie Jefferys' year as Master have had to be cancelled or postponed. Christine Cook, the Clerk, and Judith Westall, the Assistant Clerk, have been working tirelessly to try and move events and keep participating members up to date with information and refunds where applicable. Please bear with us while we continue to update the programme of events, which you can find on the Guild website.

Once we are able, the Guild will be holding events as usual and we will try to include postponed events where we can so that you have a range of events to attend, to meet new friends, renew old acquaintances and enjoy the fun and fellowship for which the Guild is renowned.

As the Master's year has been extended to December 2021, many current events will be rescheduled to allow them to take place then.

The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch (City Event)

Thursday 2 April 12.00–15.00
Dress: Blazer/Jacket & Tie

The Master will be supporting the 13th Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch which will be held at Guildhall. The Lunch supports members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces and Veterans through the three national Service Charities: ABF The Soldiers' Charity which the Guild's Charity has supported in the past, the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity, and the Royal Airforce Benevolent Fund. The Lunch is hosted by the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs and their consorts. Our Master is an ardent supporter of ABF through the long distance walks that she undertakes and hopes that you will support this fantastic event which will be attended by a Royal Guest of Honour, serving officers, soldiers, veterans and beneficiaries of the charity.

Tickets include unlimited curry, beer, and wine in the Great Hall. The Guild has a limited number of tickets which gives us access to the reception area of the Livery Hall and Crypts with a complimentary glass of champagne. If you are not successful in securing one of the champagne tickets you will be offered standard tickets (if still available), which does not include champagne or access to the reception area.

Tour of Spencer House and Lunch at Mark Mason's Hall

Monday 20 April 11.00–15.00
Dress: Blazer/Jacket & Tie

The Master is pleased to invite you to Spencer House, the only great 18th century town house to survive intact. Built between 1756 and 1766 by John Vardy and James 'Athenian' Stuart for the first Earl Spencer, an ancestor of Diana, Princess of Wales, Spencer House boasts the first neo-classical interiors in Europe. The house has undergone a 10-year restoration programme to return it to its former glory with its 18th century furniture, paintings, and splendid rooms. We will enjoy a private guided tour. Following the tour, we will enjoy a carvery lunch at the Mark Masons' Hall in St. James's.

Reception and Supper Salters' Hall

Wednesday 22 April 19.30–22.30
Dress: Black Tie

As Chairman of the Guild's Charity, the Master's first black tie dinner will showcase the Guild's Charity. We will hear about the Guild's Charity, its purpose and work, and find out how your generosity supports those in need within Greater London. Our speakers - Guild member, Tony Miller, MBE, (Director of Whitechapel Mission), Brigadier Robin Bacon (Chief of Staff, ABF The Soldiers' Charity) and Roland Martin (Headmaster of the City of London Freeman's School) - represent some of the Charity's beneficiaries including the homeless, our schools and the armed forces.

Salters Hall, home to the ninth of the Great Twelve Livery Companies, was designed by Sir Basil Spence and built in 1976

with its magnificent ash panelled Banqueting Hall where we will enjoy a sparkling reception followed by a splendid three-course dinner with wine. The evening will conclude with the Loving Cup Ceremony, port, and the Master bidding you goodnight. This event follows our welcoming ceremony for new members, who may wish to continue their celebrations by attending this lovely dinner.

Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London

May: Date to be confirmed 19.30–22.05
Dress: Suit/Jacket & Tie

The Master has asked the Chairman of the Tower of London Club if we may attend the Ceremony of the Keys in 2020. This is a placeholder and the website will be updated with details when known. If you are interested in attending, please let the Guild office know and we will keep you informed.

Biggin Hill Airport and Lunch

Tuesday 5 May and Tuesday 19 May 10.30–15.30
Dress: Blazer/Jacket & Tie

To commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Britain and to showcase her adopted home county, the Master invites you to join her at Biggin Hill, the centre of the 'battle for the air' of World War II. We will have a private guided tour of the newly opened Biggin Hill Memorial Museum and Chapel to discover some of the stories of those who fought and the history of the event. After a light lunch we will have a talk by Cllr. Colin Hitchins about the future of the airport, as well as having the opportunity to go airside to visit the modern International Airport and its Heritage Hangar with its range of vintage aircraft. The Mayor of Bromley will welcome members and their guests (5th May) to the Master's home Borough.

We will look at the possibility of transport from Bromley South station and between the venues.

Annual Service St Lawrence Jewry

Tuesday 2 June 18.00–19.00
Dress: Suit/Jacket & Tie

Once again, our Annual Service will be held in the Church of St. Lawrence Jewry. It will be taken by the Guild's Honorary Chaplain, The Very Reverend Dr David Ison, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral. The Choir from King Edward's School, Witley will be supporting us as usual, which is apt as the Master is Chairman of the Guild's Charity which supports the school. There is no charge for admission but please do apply if you would like to come so we can gauge the numbers. There will be a collection during the service and an optional wine tasting at Tallow Chandlers' Hall afterwards.

Wine Tasting Tallow Chandlers' Hall

Tuesday 2 June 19.30–21.45
Dress: Suit/Jacket & Tie

Following our Annual Service, the Master invites you to get the summer off to a sparkling start with a wine tasting to include her

favourite drink, champagne, and white wines. We are pleased to welcome Mr Harry Vernau of the Red Bottle Company who will talk us through his wine selection. After the tasting a glass of wine and light snacks will be served to round off what is sure to be a memorable and most enjoyable evening. The tasting will be held at Tallow Chandler's Hall which was built in 1672 and is one of the few surviving original Halls of the City. This event follows the Annual Service at St Lawrence Jewry.

Reception and Supper at Apothecaries' Hall

Wednesday 17 June 19.30–22.30
Dress: Black Tie

To commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale we will be enjoying a summer Reception and Dinner at this wonderful hidden City treasure. The Hall, formerly the guest house of the Dominican Priory of the Black Friars, was acquired in 1632. Destroyed in the Great Fire, it was rebuilt by 1672 on the same site. We will hear all about the life and career of Florence from an actor, by kind permission of The Florence Nightingale Museum, St. Thomas' Hospital, London, and we will gain an insight into Florence Nightingale's legacy from our speaker, Col. Jane Davis, OBE QVRM TD DL. We are looking forward to an informative and fun evening!

We will enjoy a sparkling reception followed by a splendid three-course dinner with wine. The evening will conclude with the Loving Cup Ceremony, port, and speeches. This event follows our welcoming ceremony for new members, who may wish to continue their celebrations by attending this lovely dinner.

Dulwich Picture Gallery and Lunch

Tuesday 23 June 10.20–15.00
Dress: Blazer/Jacket & Tie

Dulwich Picture Gallery, designed by Sir John Soane in the early 1800s, was England's first purpose-built public art gallery. The Gallery houses a permanent collection of over 600 works of art by the likes of Gainsborough, Rubens, Rembrandt, and Canaletto, begun in 1626 and developed over the years and includes the Royal Collection of the King of Poland from 1795. Our guided tour of the Collection will conclude with an introduction to the temporary exhibition 'Unearthed: Photography's Roots', tracing the history of photography from the 1840s to the present day, as seen through depictions of nature, which we will have the opportunity to view. This Exhibition is a first for the Gallery in this medium and brings together over 100 works by 25 leading international photographers.

Following our visit, we will enjoy a sparkling reception followed by a two-course lunch with wine at the Dulwich and Sydenham Hill Golf Club. We are grateful to Guild Member Katharine Ray, who will be Lady Captain, for inviting us to the club which has spectacular views of the whole of London. We will welcome the High Sheriff of Greater London, Alderman John Garbutt, JP, our Senior Warden, who will tell us something about his role (subject to Shrieval and Aldermanic duties).

Supper and Show – GSMD Gala Evening

Tuesday 30 June 17.30–22.00
Dress: Suit

The Guild has secured tickets to enable members and guests to enjoy the gala evening at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. A wonderful evening is assured as usual - the show will be announced in the new year. The evening will commence with drinks at 17.30, in the Barbican's Conservatory followed by a two-course supper with wine in the Garden Room before the start of the show. A copy of the Programme for the show and drinks in the interval are included in the price of the tickets, which the Guild is offering at the same price that individuals would pay at the Box Office. The price is to be confirmed and it includes a donation to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

Holiday to Ypres

Thursday 9 July – Monday 13 July
Dress: As shown in the event instructions

Military history, especially the First World War, is one of the Master's passions. From our base at the 4* Hotel Ariane, we will have the opportunity to visit a number of cemeteries, museums and other places associated with the War, including the moving Menin Gate ceremony. We will also be visiting Bruges with its churches, Guildhall, and canals. We are fortunate to be accompanied on this tour by Steve Roberts, an independent military researcher and well-respected battlefield guide.

If you are thinking of joining this holiday and have a relative that fought and/or died in the First World War, please contact the Guild Office with their details (name, rank, regiment if you have them) as Steve will research their military service records so that we can follow their stories during our visit. This is a unique opportunity!

The price will include coach travel from London, accommodation, all excursions, meals and drinks with meals, gratuities, and taxes. Please apply early so we can gauge the number of rooms required.

Swan Upping – Henley on Thames

Wednesday 15 July 11.30–15.30
(Rescheduled to 14 July 2021)
Dress: Blazer/Jacket & Tie

The River Thames played a significant part in the Master's childhood, whether walking alongside it, feeding the varied birdlife or enjoying sailing, canoeing, and rowing. What better way to enjoy the Thames than to attend the annual Swan Upping event from the decks of 'The New Orleans', based in Henley-on-Thames, the largest and most luxurious passenger vessel on the Upper Thames.

The 'New Orleans' revives the stylish tradition of a Mississippi sternwheeler with tall twin smokestacks and paddle wheel. The mute swan appears to have been given Royal status in the 12th century and by 1378 there was a 'Keeper of the King's Swans'.

The swans in the River Thames all belong either to the Sovereign or to the Worshipful Companies of Vintners or Dyers, who were granted the privilege of ownership by the Crown in the 15th Century. Every year the beaks of cygnets used to be marked to show who they belonged to – if a bird had two nicks it belonged to the Vintners, if one to the Dyers and if none at all to the Queen. We will enjoy a buffet lunch with wine while we follow the flotilla of rowing skiffs as they mark the new cygnets.

City Walk and Light Supper

Tuesday 21 July and 18.00–21.30
Wednesday 22 July
(Rescheduled to 20 July and 21 July 2021)
Dress: Casual

Once again, our City Walks will be led by Peter Tompkins, who is a Past Master of the Wax Chandlers Company. His theme for this year will be the gardens of the City. This fascinating insight into hidden parts of the City will be followed by a simple supper at Williamson's Tavern, said to hold the oldest excise licence in the City, and originally a residence for the Lord Mayors of London. As before, Peter will be hosting the event at no charge, but has asked for a donation towards the Lord Mayor's Charity Appeal.

Reception, Dinner and Cruise on Regent's Canal

Wednesday 9 September and 19.00–21.30
Friday 11 September
Dress: Suit

The Master celebrates a significant birthday this summer and her Consort would like you to join in the celebrations by cruising the Regent's Canal whilst enjoying a Reception and three-course Dinner. We will have the opportunity to see some of the sights of north London from a unique perspective including London Zoo,

Events Programme for 2020-21

Little Venice, and Camden Lock. There will be live music with "4 Play Sax" (and perhaps birthday cake!) as we make our way through the changing scenery as well as seeing some canal life.

Lunch at 'The Clink' Restaurant, HMP Brixton
Tuesday 15 September 11.00–15.00
Dress: Blazer/Jacket & Tie

The Clink Restaurant is based in the old Governor's House of HMP Brixton (dating back to 1819), where delicious high quality meals are cooked and served by current prisoners in training who are working towards gaining their City & Guilds qualification in Food & Beverage Service, Professional Cookery and Food Hygiene. We will have the opportunity to hear about The Clink Charity from Chief Executive, Mr. Chris March, before enjoying a three-course lunch at the award-winning restaurant.

Sheep Drive, London Bridge 2020 (City Event)
Sunday 27 September 12.00–15.30
Dress: Casual, fancy dress, shepherds' crooks

After a wonderfully successful Sheep Drive in 2019 the Master is hopeful of securing spaces for six teams of ten Guild Members each, to again drive their sheep over London Bridge. It is open to all Freeman of the City of London, or guests accompanied by a Freeman, so offers an opportunity for non-Liverymen to take part in this fun charity event. The donation amount in 2019 was £60 per person and all proceeds go to the Lord Mayor's Appeal and the Woolmen's Charitable Trust. If we can secure spaces, we will add an optional lunch at the 'The Barrow Boy and Banker' afterwards. Please do apply early to express an interest as we will need to book the slots in early May.

Lunch after the Sheep Drive
Sunday 27 September 13.15–15.30
Dress: Casual

The Master invites all sheep drivers to join her for a pub lunch afterwards at the 'The Barrow Boy and Banker' at the southern end of London Bridge. This traditional London pub, in a former bank building, serves hearty lunches, good beer, wine and is the perfect way to continue the fun of the sheep drive. We will enjoy a two-course lunch with a glass of wine, or a well-deserved pint or soft drink, and coffee.

Holiday to Malta
Wednesday 14 October – Sunday 18 October
(Rescheduled to Autumn 2021)
Dress: As shown in the event instructions

Malta was awarded the George Cross after the sacrifice made by the Maltese people during the Second World War. We will have the privilege of visiting this fascinating island, hearing about how the island gave its all during the war by visiting various museums, including seeing the George Cross letter from King George VI. We also visit the Megalithic temples at Hagar Qim, the St John's Co-Cathedral with its Caravaggio paintings, Valletta, and the fortified city of Mdina, the Maltese capital until the end of Medieval times, famed for its glass. As with all Guild holidays there will be ample opportunity to sample the excellent wines and food of the island! Staying in the 5* AX Palace Hotel, Sliema, the tour will be accompanied by Michael Orr, Past Master Glover, and military historian. Michael lectured in War Studies at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, before becoming a Senior Lecturer in the Soviet Studies Research Centre, a Ministry of Defence sponsored academic institution that studied the USSR and Warsaw Pact military systems. He is the author of a number of books, articles, and chapters on the history of the British Army. He has a home in Malta and is a Trustee of Heritage Malta.

The price will include accommodation, all excursions, meals and drinks with meals, gratuities, and taxes. You will book your own flights. Please apply early so we can gauge the number of rooms required.

Reception and Supper at Trinity House
Wednesday 21 October 19.30–22.30
Dress: Black Tie

It is a privilege to hold a Reception and Supper, at the Grade I listed Trinity House on Trafalgar Day itself, to commemorate the 215th anniversary of the victory of Admiral Horatio Lord Nelson in 1805 over the combined French and Spanish fleets. The safety of shipping and the well-being of seafarers have been the prime concerns of Trinity House since being incorporated by Royal Charter in 1514.

Trinity House is a charity whose headquarters has been on this site since 1796 and incorporates the maintenance of lighthouses around our coast. We welcome our speaker Commodore Toby Williamson who has had a glittering career in the Royal Navy including time as Equerry to the Queen and is presently Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers who will, no doubt, have many tales to tell!

We will enjoy a sparkling reception followed by a splendid three-course dinner with wine. The evening will conclude with the Loving Cup Ceremony, port, and speeches. This event follows our welcoming ceremony for new members, who may wish to continue their celebrations by attending this lovely dinner.

Visit to Rochester Cathedral and Gads School with Lunch
Friday 23 October 11.00–16.00
Dress: Blazer/Jacket & Tie

As a Licensed Lay Minister to the Diocese of Rochester, the Master would like to invite you to her home Cathedral in the beautiful Medway town of Rochester. We will enjoy a private guided tour of the Cathedral, which is England's second oldest Cathedral, having been founded in AD604 by Bishop Justus. The present building dates back to the work of the French monk, Gundulf, in 1080. The Cathedral became a major place of pilgrimage in the 13th century, and there has been a community worshipping continually on this site for over 1400 years.

After lunch in Rochester, we are privileged to be invited for a private tour of Gads House where Charles Dickens lived from 1856 until his death in 1870. It is here that he penned his classic novels 'Great Expectations' and 'A Tale of Two Cities'. It now houses a co-educational, high performing independent school. The tour of the house and gardens will be followed by refreshments.

Subject to numbers we may run two groups to alternate between the Cathedral and the school, all meeting up for lunch. We will look into transport between the venues.

Lord Mayor's Show
Saturday 14 November 10.30–12.30
Dress: Jacket & Tie

This is your opportunity to welcome the new Lord Mayor to his City and a chance to watch this historic pageant from the comfort of seats on the stands erected on the south side of St Paul's Cathedral. This lively show is the longest and most historic procession in the world where you will be able to cheer the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and our Master amongst others as the procession passes by. After the Show there will be a luncheon in the Members' Private Dining Room at Guildhall.

Lunch after The Lord Mayor's Show
Saturday 14 November 12.30–14.30
Dress: Jacket & Tie

After the Lord Mayor's Show there will be a great opportunity to catch up with fellow Guild Members whilst enjoying a traditional English four-course lunch with wine in the Members' Private Dining Room at Guildhall.

DM Thomas Foundation Ball

Saturday 14 November

18.30–02.00

Dress: Black Tie

Once again, the Guild is hugely grateful to the DM Thomas Foundation (formerly the Hilton in the Community Foundation) for allowing Guild Members to attend this spectacular evening of champagne, dinner accompanied by fine wines, cabaret, and dancing. The event will take place in the Grand Ballroom of the London Hilton in Park Lane; special arrangements can be made for those wishing to stay overnight in the hotel.

Visit to the Postal Museum

November (to be confirmed)

Dress: Blazer/Jacket & Tie

The Master intends to run a visit to the Postal Museum in London; however, bookings can only be made three months in advance. If you are interested in the visit, please apply in the usual way and we will keep you informed as the plan progresses. Explore various parts of the Postal Museum with its many exhibits, including the opportunity to take a 15 minute train ride under the streets of London on the 100 year-old postal railway. Have a go at the sorting office, understand how engineers kept the system running 22 hours a day at its height, all situated below the Mount Pleasant Sorting Office, the biggest sorting office in the world.

Annual Banquet - Guildhall

Friday 4 December

18.15–22.30

Dress: White Tie/Black Tie

The most glittering event of the Guild's calendar is the Annual Banquet in the magnificent medieval surroundings of Guildhall, watched over by Gog and Magog. This will be very poignant for the Master and her family as a relative was Lord Mayor of London in 1899. Members and their guests will be welcomed by the Master before enjoying a sparkling reception in the Old Library interrupted by the fanfare as our Patron, the Lord Mayor, and the Lady Mayoress accompanied by the Sheriffs and their consorts arrive to join us. The formal announcement will then lead onto a sumptuous four-course dinner accompanied by excellent wines. The whole evening will be one of colour and pageantry provided by the Pikemen and Musketeers from The Honourable Artillery Company, a wonderful selection of music including the rousing 'Post Horn Galop', and finally high-profile guest speakers, all combining to show the City, Guildhall and the Guild at its best!

While we would prefer gentlemen to wear white tie, black tie is acceptable, which we hope will make the banquet accessible to many more members and their guests.

Carol Service at St Margaret Lothbury

Monday 7 December

18.30–20.30

Dress: Suit

Our Carol Service this year takes place in the home church of the Master's mother Livery, The Worshipful Company of Glovers, at St. Margaret Lothbury. The church was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren after the Great Fire, 1686-1690, and contains some fine 17th century woodwork by Grinling Gibbons. The organ was built by George Pike England in 1801. It was restored in 1984, stands in its original case and contains nearly all its original pipework. We hope that the Master's own choir will be able to sing for us and there will be refreshments in the church afterwards.

Reception and Supper at Tallow Chandlers' Hall

Wednesday 27 January

19.30–22.30

Dress: Black Tie

Returning to the Guild's 'home Hall' for supper, after several years dining elsewhere in the City, will give members the opportunity to experience the very warm welcome we always receive at this lovely Hall. Tallow Chandlers' Hall has been the headquarters of the Guild since 1942. In 1968 the Tallow Chandlers' Company

invited all those companies which used its hall as headquarters to co-operate in making up a window in the main hall showing the Arms of all such bodies. The window was completed in 1969 and the Guild's Arms appear in the lower centre. We will enjoy a sparkling reception followed by a splendid three-course dinner with wine. The evening will conclude with the Loving Cup Ceremony, port, and speeches.

Visit to William Morris Gallery and Vestry House with Lunch

Wednesday 10 February

11.00–16.00

Dress: Smart Casual

As part of her degree course, the Master became interested in the Victorian arts and so it seems fitting that she is inviting us to a former home of William Morris, which now houses a Gallery dedicated to his life and work. It is 125 years since William Morris died but his designs are still as popular today as they were in the late 1800s. We will have a private guided tour of the Gallery and time to peruse the many display items. After a pub lunch nearby, we will have the opportunity to visit Vestry House which dates back to 1730 and was the workhouse for Walthamstow originally housing 20 to 30 paupers. In the 1930s the building became a museum with lots of interesting exhibits including childhood toys from the past, and a garden featuring plants known to have been grown by the inmates of the 18th century.

College of Arms Visit and Buffet Supper

Tuesday 23 February

18.30–21.00

Thursday 25 February

Dress: Suit/Jacket and Tie

This ever-popular annual event comprises a fascinating talk and tour of the College of Arms by John Petrie, Windsor Herald, who will give members the opportunity to view some of the spectacular examples of the College's work over the past 800 years.

The College of Arms is the official heraldic authority for England, Wales, Northern Ireland and much of the Commonwealth including Australia and New Zealand. As well as being responsible for the granting of new coats of arms, the College maintains registers of arms, pedigrees, genealogies, Royal Licences, changes of name, and flags. We will hear about the Heralds' ceremonial duties and their unique place in our history. The tour will conclude with a light buffet supper with wine. This event is particularly popular amongst new members.

Master's Final Dinner at Ironmongers' Hall

Wednesday 3 March

19.30–22.30

Dress: Black Tie

Ironmongers' Hall is the setting for the Master's Final Dinner. The present Hall, home to the tenth of the Great Twelve Livery Companies of the City, was opened on 17th June 1925.

The Tudor style of the new Hall was decided upon not only because it seemed appropriate for the housing of an ancient guild, but also because it recalled the Golden Age of Craftsmanship. The Hall had a remarkable escape in December 1940, when a German air raid set fire to all the adjacent buildings, which were destroyed. The heat melted lead pipes and glass in the windows but luckily the rest survived. The evening will start with a sparkling reception after which we will be served a fabulous three-course dinner with wine, followed by port, toasts and the Loving Cup Ceremony.

COURT MEETINGS 2019/20

Tallow Chandlers' Hall

(unless otherwise notified)

4.30pm for 5.00pm for Court Members

5.30pm for 5.45pm (approximately) for joining Members

Ends by 6.30pm

Dress: for Gentlemen – Suit; for Ladies –
Day Dress or Suit

The Meetings of the Court of Assistants for the forthcoming year are to be held on the following dates:

Wednesday 21st October 2020

Friday 22nd January 2021

Wednesday 21st April 2021

Wednesday 23rd June 2021

Applications for Guild Membership are presented for consideration at the first Court meeting after they have been received, and every applicant is advised of the outcome within a week of the meeting at which their application was considered. Thereafter, new members are invited to attend a Joining and Welcoming Ceremony, during which they are presented with their Warrant of Membership and they sign the Register of Members of the Guild. This usually takes place at the next Court Meeting. If, however, this is not convenient, the Clerk will seek to agree a mutually convenient date for the new member to attend.

New members may apply to attend functions from receipt of confirmation of membership and need not wait until after they have attended a Joining and Welcoming Ceremony.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS FOR

2020 and 2021

The Annual General Meetings cannot be planned at the time of publication due to COVID-19. All members will be advised of the dates by email or letter in due course. The dates will be published in the Members' area of the Guild Website



By order of the Court of Assistants
Christine Cook, Clerk to the Guild
The Guild of Freeman

Acknowledgements

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PE Holland Photographic Services

4 School Lane, Hampton Wick, Kingston, Surrey KT1 4DF

☎ 020 8973 0844 or ☎ 07962 4731164

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Disclaimer

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that information appearing in this issue of 'The Freeman' is correct at the time of going to press, the Guild cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. The opinions expressed in reports and articles in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the Guild.

From the Honorary Editor

Stephen Osborne



Welcome to 'The Freeman'! In this edition we have all the news of the Guild's social programme, key City events and the awards sponsored by the Guild and the Charitable Trust. There is news of our affiliations with the Armed Forces. In addition, we acknowledge the time and advice so freely given by Guild Members.

I am grateful to all the Guild Members who provided the written contributions and photographs found throughout the journal. I am sure you will find these interesting, particularly those from young people whom the Guild has been able to assist with travel grants. A sincere thank you to the team of event reporters. This year they were Peter and Jackie Boughton, Janet Bridden, Dudley Cooper, Christine Cook, Christine Coultrup, Ruth Deadman, Ann Fleming, Janos Gal, Joe Herzberg, Anne Holden, Virginia Hopson, Andrew Johnson, Lady Lauriston, Angela Lenman, Pam Lorraine, Don Lunn, Sally Martin, Andrew Matthews, Colvin Rae, Frances Ratcliffe, Ann Rolfe, Dorothy Saul-Pooley, Lynda Schama, Zoe Scott, John Smail, Baroness Ingela Stigemar and Vicky Stone.

Thank you to Elizabeth Thornborough, Christine Cook and Judith Westall for all their guidance and advice in producing this edition of 'The Freeman'. Finally, a special thank you to Elizabeth Thornborough and Dorothy Saul-Pooley for their proof-reading skills.

Masters of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London

Centenary Master 2008-2009

HRH The Princess Royal

Cuthbert Wilkinson, Esq., CC	1909	1966	Roy Stuart, Esq.
Brodie Self, Esq.	1910	1967	Douglas Dunstan, Esq.
Sir Thomas Brooke-Hitchins, CC	1911	1968	Albert Chandler, Esq.
Emile Chatrian, Esq.	1912	1969	C H F Fairweather, Esq., JP CC
Alderman George Briggs	1913	1970	Sir Stanley Morton
Elliot Sparks, Esq., CC	1914	1971	Colin Dyer, Esq., Deputy
H S A Foy, Esq., CC	1915	1972	The Rt. Hon Lord Crook, JP
J R Brough, Esq., Deputy	1916	1973	Stanley Willcox, Esq.
Alfred Lockett, Esq.	1917	1974	Arthur Hodgkinson, Esq., JP
W I Trice, Esq.	1918	1975	Charles Coward, Esq., JP, Deputy
Henry Harrill, Esq.	1919	1976	Douglas Dunstan, Esq.
Sir Edward Wilshaw, KCMG DL JP	1920	1977	Harold Gould, Esq., OBE JP
Francis Sully, Esq.	1921	1978	Kenneth Honey, Esq.
T W Hewitt, Esq., CC	1922	1979	Anthony Grant, Esq., MP
Sir Lulham Pound, Bt JP	1923	1980	Dr P L Hogg
Sir Gervais Rentoul, KC MP	1924	1981	John Harvey, Esq.
Major R Rigg, OBE TD JP	1925	1982	Henry Duckworth, Esq., JP, Deputy
Colonel Vickers Dunfee, CBE JP Deputy	1926	1983	David Eldridge, Esq.
Oscar Berry, Esq., CC	1927	1984	Alderman Sir Peter Gadsden, GBE AC, JP (Lord Mayor 1979-80)
Charles Suffield, Esq.	1928		Bernard Morgan, Esq., CBE JP, Deputy
Sir Richard Sennett, CC	1929	1985	Wimburn Horlock, Esq., Deputy
C G Wittich, Esq.	1930	1986	General Sir Peter Whiteley, GCB OBE DL
The Rt. Hon Sir Herbert Nield, KC JP MP	1931	1987	Donald du Parc Braham, Esq.
Lt Col Sir Hugh Turnbull, KCVO KBE JP	1932	1988	Clifford Newbold, Esq.
Holton Sturges, Esq., CC	1933	1989	Dr John Breen
H I Eldridge, Esq.	1934	1990	Rex Johnson, Esq.
Capt M Campbell-Johnston, MP	1935	1991	Derek Kemp, Esq., CC
Major Francis Millman, OBE	1936	1992	Sir Clifford Chetwood
Ernest Watts, Esq., CC	1937	1993	Sir Colin Cole, KCB KCVO TD CC
John Joy, Esq., JP CC	1938	1994	Alderman Clive Martin, OBE TD DL (Lord Mayor 1999-2000)
Capt Francis Read	1939	1995	Vice Admiral Sir Peter Buchanan, KBE
T I McManis, Esq., JP CC	1940		Sir Anthony Grant
James Gibault, Esq.	1941	1996	Norman Munday, Esq.
Arthur Howard, Esq.	1942	1997	Terry Nemko, Esq., JP
Walter Rose, Esq., MBE CC	1943	1998	Joseph Byllam-Barnes, Esq., CC
Frederick Youldon, Esq., Deputy	1944	1999	David Irving, Esq.
Arthur Harris, Esq.	1945	2000	The Lady Moorea Black, MBE JP
(February to July) George Frizell, Esq.	1946	2001	Raymond Holl, Esq., MBE
(July to end of year) Arthur Harris, Esq.		2002	Alderman Richard Agutter, JP
The Rt. Hon Sir William Jordan, KCMG PC	1947	2003	Leslie Lewis, Esq.
Henry Bound, Esq., CC	1948	2004	Mrs Barbara Newman, CBE CC
Alderman Sir Frank Alexander, Bt	1949	2005	Gordon Gentry, Esq.
(Lord Mayor 1944-45)		2006	Pauline Halliday, OBE, Deputy
John Crichton, Esq.	1950	2007	Sir Gavyn Arthur (Lord Mayor 2002-03)
Alderman Sir Frederick Tidbury-Beer	1951	2008	Anthony Woodhead, Esq., CBE
Major B W Shilson, OBE	1952	2009	Don Lunn, Esq.
Captain Julien Bennett, DL	1953		Mrs Anne Holden
Lt Col C C Surtees-Shill, CC	1954	2010	Anthony B Fleming, Esq.
H J E Stinson, Esq., MC, Deputy	1955	2011	Dr John Smail JP
Major Stanley Wells, MBE	1956	2012	Lady Cooksey, OBE DL
Sir Denis Truscott, GBE TD	1957	2013	Alderman Sir David Wootton (Lord Mayor 2011-12)
(Lord Mayor 1957-58)		2014	Peter Allcard, Esq.
Percy Lovely, Esq., Deputy	1958	2015	John Barber, Esq., DL
Sir David Floyd Ewin, OBE MVO, Deputy	1959	2016	Neil Redcliffe, Esq., JP
Sir Sidney Fox, CC	1960		
Charles De Ryck, Esq.	1961	2017	
Stanley Phillips, Esq.	1962	2018	
Ronald Ward	1963	2019	
Frederick Utting, Esq., CC	1964		
Sir Harold Webbe, CBE DL	1965		
Frederick Utting, Esq., CC (from June)			

Clerks

Bernard Smythe, Esq.	1909-1914	1952-1987	David Reid, Esq.
W N Rodgers, Esq.	1914-1917	1987-2001	Colonel Derek Ivy
J F W Hayns, Esq.	1917-1920	2001-2017	Brigadier Michael Keun
John Baron Oxenham, Esq.	1920-1938	2017-	Mrs Christine Cook
W J Cripps, Esq.	1938-1952		

The Guild of Freemen of The City of London



The Freedom of the City of London was, in earliest times, an essential prerequisite for all who wished to carry on business and prosper in trade within the Square Mile. The privileges attaching to the Freedom were therefore eagerly sought, while the duties and obligations of Freemen were faithfully observed.

Not only did citizens practising specific crafts and trades tend to gather together in their own areas of the City, but they developed their own Guilds and Livery Companies founded on the triple bases of commerce, benevolence, and religion. They provided mutual aid and protection for their members, caring for the old and infirm, burying their dead, helping the widows, bringing up the orphans. Through apprenticeship schemes, product control and in other ways, they ensured qualitative standards that enhanced their own reputations and protected the interests of their customers.

The involvement of Freemen in the development of London's government can be traced back to the Saxon folkmoot and to the 'great concourse' of the early Norman kings. As London grew, its population, trade and craft industries expanded to such an extent that it was no longer possible for all Freemen to be directly involved in determining the evolving structure of local government. The direct involvement of Freemen in the government of London thus gave way to indirect involvement through The Masters and Wardens of their Guilds and Livery Companies.

It remains necessary to this day for Liverymen to be Freemen of the City and it is the Liverymen who annually elect the Sheriffs and who participate in the election of The Lord Mayor. Electoral law has changed considerably over the years and all who reside in the City aged 18 or over can now vote in national and local elections if they are not subject to any legal disability.

The proud history of the City of London is such that large numbers of men and women rightly continue to regard it as a privilege to be admitted to the Freedom; further, the charitable involvements of Freemen have been maintained in many ways by a great variety of City institutions.

Amid all the processes of change, it was decided during the 19th Century to turn back the pages of history so that people could once again seek the Freedom of the City without first having to be Liverymen. This development led in 1908 to the formation of the Guild of Freemen so that Freemen of the City of London could associate together without necessarily having to seek membership of a Livery Company. Over the years, many Liverymen have also chosen to join the Guild, so that it is today uniquely representative of all who enjoy the Freedom of the City.

It has become traditional for each Lord Mayor to honour the Guild by becoming its Patron during his or her year of office, and one of the major events of its social year is the Banquet that the Guild is privileged to hold at Guildhall just before Christmas. The many links between the City and Parliament are marked by dinners held in the Palace of Westminster. An annual service is held in the church of St. Lawrence Jewry next Guildhall, and Guild Members have the opportunity of participating in a variety of social and educational functions, which include events held in the historic halls of City Livery Companies.

True to the earliest traditions associated with the Freedom, the Guild maintains and administers a Charity, which originally was established to assist members in distressed circumstances as well as widows and children of deceased members. In addition, every year, the Trustees of the Guild's Charity consider applications from other charities, individuals and groups which merit the Guild's support.

The Freedom of the City of London is not the prerogative of men alone. A Royal Commission was set up in 1880, known as the City of London Livery Companies Commission. Its Report referred to the fact that nearly all the ancient returns of the Livery Companies bore references to Sisters, from which it inferred that women were equally eligible for membership as were men. Today, irrespective of nationality, all men and women who have received the Freedom of the City of London are eligible to apply for membership of the Guild of Freemen.

Further information concerning membership of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London can be obtained by writing to the Clerk to the Guild at: Guild of Freemen, Rooms 78/79, 65 London Wall, LONDON EC2M 5TU,

☎ 020 7239 9016 or by ✉ clerk@guild-freemen-london.co.uk.