



NEWSLETTER

February 2026

Dear Guild Members

INSTALLATION OF THE NEW MASTER AND WARDENS



Junior Warden Janet Bridden, Senior Warden Alistair Mitchelhill, Master Stephen Osborne and Renter Warden Deputy Chris Hayward

Over 80 members came to watch the Installation of our new Master and Wardens on Monday 26th January in the splendour of Saddlers' Hall. We also welcomed several new members to the Guild. The Installation was followed by a Reception and three-course dinner with entertainment from the Hendo Washboard Kings.





The Master with Peter Holland

The Dinner concluded with a speech from the Master welcoming all to his year and presenting Peter Holland with a certificate and lifetime membership of the Guild to mark his 25 years of service to the Guild as photographer.

The Master's first event on 4th February was a visit to the **Clink Restaurant**, situated inside the walls of Brixton Prison. After passing through security we sat down to an extremely good three course lunch where some enjoyed mocktails with their meal, alcohol not being permitted. The Clink charity trains offenders in catering, be it in service or chef-fing and over many years have rehabilitated thousands of prisoners. There are no images of this event, photography not being allowed.

His next event was a private tour of the Postal Museum where those attending learned much about all things postal and were able to take a jaunt on the *Mail Train* which cut travel times across London to 30minutes.

A convivial lunch followed the visit at Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese.



Who knew there were once dedicated Air Mail boxes?



Branding began in the 1930's



The new Master has already attended various City events representing the Guild, one of which was the opening of the Veterans' Garden in Guildhall Yard. He is pictured below by the Garden with Shirley Creed, Master of the Chartered Secretaries and Administrators', Stephen's own Livery Company - and for once this month it wasn't raining!



FUTURE EVENTS

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

There are still a few places available for the visit to the **Clockmakers' Collection** on **Thursday 26th February**. Don't miss this opportunity to see the oldest world-class collection of clocks, watches and items relating to the art of horology on a private guided tour given by the Curator and Chairman of the Collection. It is truly fascinating. After the visit there is a delicious lunch on offer at the Polish Club, a short walk from the museum.

Immediate Past Master Adrian Waddingham CBE is offering Guild Members an introduction to his latest book *First Kings: Forged by England and Norway* on **Wednesday 4th March** at Guildhall. The presentation will be followed by a two-course buffet supper in the Members' Dining Room. This is a great opportunity to widen your understanding of how the English and Norwegian Kingdoms were formed and of the shifting allegiances and warfare of the 9th and 10th centuries. You will not be disappointed. **Book now.**

It will not surprise members who have previously been on one of **Angela Waddingham's walks** to learn that her guided tour of Bermondsey on 11th March filled up quickly. Angela is kindly offering a second walk around Bermondsey on **Thursday 26th March** and a few places still remain available.

GUILD NEWS

The Freeman Journal 2026: is being despatched this week and should be landing on your doorsteps next week. Our thanks go to the Honorary Editor, Court Assistant Steven Morson, and to all of you who contributed to this edition. We really appreciate those members who write reviews of our events.

Events 2026: Here is a [link](#) to the full programme for the year. NB: there are a small number of events where exact costing has not been possible and indicative costs are shown; however, you can still book these events.

CITY NEWS - and other Events

The Chartered Accountants' Company – City Prostate Charity Website

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

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

Bistro 365 at Founders' Hall

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

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

International Women's Day - Thursday 10th March, 6:00pm – 9:30pm.

Goodenough College

The World Traders' Company is once again hosting an evening celebrating women who are creating meaningful impact through their business and leadership. Tickets are £55 and you can find the invitation here: [International Women's Day Event](#)

Gild of York Annual Banquet – Saturday 21st March

Members are warmly invited to attend the Banquet being held in the Oak Room, The Milner Hotel, York.

Tickets are £60 per person. Please email the attached form to: Hornby.steven@yahoo.co.uk

[Gild of York Booking Form](#)

Don't forget about the **Justice for All** series of events organised by Sheriff Robert Hughes Penney – the next in the Series is on **Monday 23rd March** - use this link to [Book Your Place](#) or visit <https://justiceseries.org> for more information and the dates for all the series.

And sticking with the theme of **Justice - Trial and Error at the Old Bailey is back** – due to overwhelming demand, an additional date has been added:

[Book Your Tickets!](#)

https://www.tickettailor.com/events/trialerrevents/1904104?access_code=COMPS26

Livery Briefing – February

[Click Here to View the Briefing](#)