



The Wyre Drawer

Edition 37 - Spring 2020



A note from the Master

I was born a long time ago in Croydon, Surrey but now live with Judy, my wife, in south Hampshire although I anticipate spending extensive periods in central London whilst fulfilling my role as Master.

Judy and I have two adult and professionally qualified children. Our two grandsons are at university and Tom, the eldest, is my Apprentice in the company.

I am a Chartered Surveyor having worked in both general practice surveying firms as well as large property owning companies. This included some 32 years with The British Land Company PLC. My role there, as a director and chief surveyor, was to ensure, through my team, that the properties were properly cared for and that their rental and capital values were maximised whenever possible. I also spent nine years as a non-executive director of a smaller publicly quoted development and construction company.

Through the properties in my care, my connection and love affair with the City of London commenced over fifty years ago, but it was not until 1997 that I became a Liveryman of The Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers. Little did I think then that I would one day have the honour of serving as Master of our wonderful Company. I follow in the footsteps of a string of excellent Masters and I will do my best to continue the good work they commenced.

My chosen charity is Pancreatic Cancer UK which helps individuals who have been diagnosed with it as well as assisting their families and with research.

My theme for the year is to be a mix of Participation, Fellowship along with a measure of Charitable Giving, all equating to Pleasure. With this theme in mind, Judy and I very much look forward to meeting as many Liverymen and their partners as possible over the next twelve months. To this end a programme of activities has been organised. These will be highlighted in both The Wyre Drawer and on the website which is energetically kept up to date by the Clerk. I urge all Liverymen to continually refer to it – it is a mine of information!

Away from Livery, I enjoy time in the garden although I live in fear of mis-identifying the weeds but Judy says I am very good at directing the mower! Unfortunately the golf clubs and bicycles have gathered dust in favour of watching too much sport on the TV. The walking boots do however still get considerable use!

Many earlier years were connected with the charitable activities of The Round Table and I am a long standing member of The Royal Automobile Club, and no surprise, that I still enjoy travelling and getting behind the wheel.

My very best wishes,

- Mike Gunston

Events Diary

25th February
Jewellery Exhibition
and Supper
Goldsmith's Hall

6th April
Annual Church Service
and Livery Dinner
Vintner's Hall

20th April
Bank of England
Museum Visit

23th April – 18th June
'Drawn and Formed'
GSWD Exhibition
Goldsmith's Centre

8th – 10th May
Master's Weekend
New Forest

13th May
GSMD Gold Medal
Event

6th July
Livery Dinner
Vintner's Hall

25th July
Henley River Trip

Visit to the Mary Rose

In mid June we were very fortunate to have a special Private Tour of the remarkable Mary Rose Exhibition in Portsmouth, with the Head of Research and Curator Alex Hildred, who as a diver had been directly involved in locating and raising the remains of the ship from the seabed in 1982.

Having sunk suddenly in 1545 in a sea battle off Portsmouth a great deal of the contents of the ship was recovered with the remains of the hull, and can now be viewed in this remarkable exhibition which enables the visitor to get up close to the 500 year old relics.



Through Alex's intimate knowledge of the ship and its history, as we walked around the exhibition with her she was able to explain in great detail life on board Henry VIII's flagship and how the many items, including a Long Bowman's Wristguard, stamped with the 16th century crest of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers, fitted into the whole story of this great ship.

We experienced the sites and sounds and smells of life on board as we toured the exhibition and viewed the many artefacts set against the backdrop of the entire starboard side of the ship showing where all of the different seamen carried out their various tasks. Also we learnt that the crew were more cosmopolitan than originally thought, with a number originating from West Africa !

An extraordinary experience, with a link to our own Livery Company, made even more fascinating by Alex Hildred's superb commentary.

Emerging from this other world into 2019, and Portsmouth Dockyard, we then enjoyed a excellent lunch at the nearby Boathouse 4 restaurant reflecting on what we had seen, and heard.

- *Jeremy Ray*

Summer Sailstice 17th June 2019

The weekend had a Solent flavour with a visit to the Mary Rose museum followed by a trip to the Isle of Wight the next day. The Sailing Barge Alice departed Portsmouth in leisurely fashion while John Everitt's group set off from Warsash aboard La Belle Aventure – a Swan 27 sloop - at a brisker pace to meet for lunch in Cowes.

Following an aperitif as we approached the Isle of Wight our combined party of 20 enjoyed an excellent lunch overlooking the Solent on the sun-drenched patio of the Royal Ocean Racing Club.

While Alice had a skipper, a mate and a dog there was plenty to do raising sails, taking turns at the helm and enjoying the usual convivial company for which Livery is so well-known.

The weather was kind to us with plenty of sunshine yet sufficient wind to push us along.



Alice was built in 1954 as a steel, swim headed lighter which operated from the river Lea to the Lower Pool of London. She would originally have been towed or rowed. During the time she operated as a lighter, she was for a short time in the 1970's used to supply the Pirate ship "Radio Caroline". She was taken out of trade in 1994 and four year later was re-commissioned as a classic Thames Sailing Barge.

Many thanks to Mark Dickens for organising a most enjoyable day on the water.

- *Mike West*

Visit to the Royal School of Needlework, Hampton Court Palace

The Royal School of Needlework is based at the magnificent Hampton Court Palace and is renowned as being the International Centre of Excellence for the Art of Hand Embroidery since 1872. Their distinguished Embroidery Studio is famous for expertly restoring and conserving valuable and historical embroidered pieces and also creating stunning bespoke embroidery for fashion, art and royalty.

The Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers supports the wonderful works of the School and in particular provides bursaries and an annual prize to the best student.

Thus it was quite fitting that our Master, Malcolm Craig, arranged for a small deputation (including himself) during his year of office, to experience working in 'gold wire'. This took place on the 12th July 2019 when a privileged group of Liverymen, wives and partners were offered a 3 hour beginners Goldwork embroidery class under the expert guidance of RSN Tutor Helen Stevens, who taught the attendees how to adapt her beautiful 'Goldwork' Bee design (see illustration) using copper, gold and a huge amount of concentration.



It was an exceptionally fascinating, interesting and thoroughly worthwhile educational experience and we were all 'buzzing with excitement' throughout. The 3 hours passed extremely quickly and at the end everyone had enjoyed the challenge and completed some very attractive bee designs, which later can be adapted into a brooch. The standard of everyone's work was remarkably good, although I don't think any of us will be in the running for the annual best student award!

The overall experience was truly amazing, particularly as the event was enhanced by being held in such an impressive world famous historic setting, with magnificent views next to the Thames.

Finally, it would be remiss of me if I didn't thank our Tutor, Helen Stevens and her able assistant, for their patience, teaching ability, and expertise in coaching beginners in such intricate embroidery work. Overall it was a thoroughly enjoyable occasion and should the opportunity ever arise again to attend a similar course, I for one will be at the top of the list.

- *Dorothy Rochester, Liveryman*

July Livery Dinner

On 1 July, over 170 Liverymen and their guests attended Skinners' Hall for the Livery July Dinner.

As the weather was very pleasant, the drinks reception was held on the roof garden, before an excellent dinner was served. There was a very professional musical interlude from Alexandria Wregglesworth (Guildhall School of Music and Drama) accompanied on the piano Jack Wu.



Second Warden, Brian Turner, introduced the guests from other Livery Companies, including Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths, the Masters of the Tin Plate Workers, the Coachmakers and the Makers of Playing Cards. Also from our military affiliations Maj Stacey Fox RLC and Maj Craig Hallatt, Royal Military School of Music, before introducing the principal speaker Mark Smith, a military historian and a regular BBC Antiques' Roadshow expert.

Mark who would later lead our visit to the Somme, regaled us with some fascinating and humorous stories from his career, and the remarkable people he has met, before proposing a toast to the Company. The Master, Malcolm Craig, then responded and also presented cheques to Major Pete Norton (BLESMA), Simon Halliday (CRY), Major Craig Hallatt (SSAFA) and Mark Smith (War Graves Commission) from fund raising events during early 2019. At the earlier Court meeting, Liveryman Nigel Vaughan was installed as an Assistant and Lesley Balding was admitted as a Steward. Bertie Troughton and Bradley Humphreys were clothed in the Livery. Six new Freemen were admitted by Redemption, Sheila Eastman, Phil Egerton, Brendan Minahan, Sanjay Mody, Kritanand Nathoo and Bradley Humphreys. Two new Freemen were also admitted via the Trade Route, Lucie Gledhill and Harriet Stiles.

- *Nick Sillitoe*

Our WW1 War Hero and War Graves Commission Founder

Past Master 1937 - Lt-Col. H P L Cart de Lafontaine O.B.E., T.D., F.R.I.B.A. (1884 - 1963) was born in Switzerland. Henry trained at Ecole des Beaux-Arts and was articled to Guy Dawber in 1911. In 1914 he joined the 4th Royal Fusilier Battalion of the London Regiment which became the City of London Regiment. In August 1914 the 4th Battalion reached Mons, where they were attacked by German Infantry, eventually they retreated to Rouge Maison Salient in September. By November 1914 the 4th Battalion was in Ypres. On 5th September 1916 Henry was promoted to Major and remained with the 4th Battalion throughout the war. Henry was awarded the Victory Medal, The British War Medal and was Mentioned in Despatches and was awarded the Oak Leaf Emblem for gallantry or meritorious action in the face of the enemy. Very few recommendations for Mention in Despatches survived the war.



In memory of Cart de Lafontaine this Rose Bowl was presented to the Company by his relative Henry T Cart de Lafontaine



Lt-Col. Cart De Lafontaine on 27/07/1919 was appointed 'Inspector of Works' for the Commonwealth War Commission Graves and designed the coloured and gilded gesso memorial tablets placed in French and Belgian Cathedrals.

It was in October 1917 that a Royal Charter for the Imperial War Graves Commission was approved by the Imperial War Conference. The War had exacted such a terrible toll that for the first time in history a permanent organisation for the care of their graves was needed. The graves which were to be in its care were those of many nations and religions. The Commission had therefore to be free from both religious and political partiality. The obvious Masonic character

fundamental to the work was recognised by those Brethren who had been appointed to the Commission and led inevitably to the foundation of a Lodge. The Lodge was subsequently consecrated at St Omer on 7th January 1922 in both the French and English Rites, as Lodge No.12 in the constitution of what is now known as La Grande Lodge National Francaise, under the jurisdiction of the Province of Neustrie (the ancient French name of the area lying between Flanders and Normandy). It was in 1929, owing to the formation of a new Commission Head quarters in Arras, that the Lodge moved to its present home in Lille.

Among the founder members of No 12, one of which was Henry Cart de Lafontaine, was Rudyard Kipling. It was he who gave the Lodge its title. As one would expect from a writer of Kipling's stature, it was both inspired and moving, summing up, reverently and with beautiful simplicity the aweinspiring task of the Brethren. 'The Builders of The Silent Cities' Lodge was born. Many of the masons were responsible for the actual making of the headstones in the war cemeteries.

Henry was also a Founding Member of the Franco-British Union of Architects formed in order to give effect to a resolution passed at the Conference on Architectural Education held at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in November 1921, under the presidency of M. Paul Leon, Directeur des Beaux Arts, on behalf of the French Ministry. The objects of the Union were essentially social, a strong opinion had been expressed by delegates at the Conference that closer personal relationship between French and British architects would benefit education and methods of practice in both countries. Its organisation was accordingly directed to that end.

In 1939, at the age of 55 he still belonged to the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers - Infantry Recorded in the London Gazette 26 July 1940 was the following notice: 'Lt-Col. H.P.L. Cart de Lafontaine, O.B.E., T.D. having attained the age limit, retires and retains his rank with permission to wear the prescribed uniform. 30th Mar 1939'.

- Lesley Blundell

Haven Lunch

The annual Haven Charity Lunch took place on Sunday 1 September, when 60 Liverymen and their guests enjoyed a most enjoyable meal at Assistant Julius Oberegger's restaurant in Whetstone. A champagne reception was followed by a four course meal and accompanying wines.

Between courses, guests watched a recording of the musical concert that had taken place earlier in the year, featuring the vocal talents of the Master and the GSWD choir. As the meal drew to a close, the Master and Mistress took to the floor for an impromptu performance of various songs from the Musicals and Irish past. Other Liverymen then joined the Master for a few more songs to ensure we all went home well fed, watered and in good cheer!

As always, our enormous thanks go to Julius and Jill Oberegger for their wonderful hospitality and generosity in the use of the Haven, as all the proceeds of the lunch will go to the GSWD charity fund.

- Nick Sillitoe



The Master with Host Julius Oberegger

2019 Master's Weekend

WW1 Battlefield Tour to Ypres, Belgium and The Somme, France 13th – 15th September 2019

The Master arranged a spectacular, emotional and unforgettable weekend on the Somme Battlefields hosted by military historian and Antiques Roadshow specialist Mark Smith who brought the fields really to life. He was very ably assisted by Peter Whapshott, Barbed Wire Tours.

We all met up for the coach at Ebbsfleet International Station early Friday morning and travelled throughout by luxury coach which was superbly driven by Gary.



On Friday we visited Lijssenthoek British Cemetery, Brandhoek British Cemetery, Yorkshire Trench, Tyne Cot Cemetery Passchendaele and then Ypres. There we attended the Menin Gate Last Post Ceremony where the Master, accompanied by Peter Burke's daughter Thalia, laid a wreath. We stayed in the Ibis hotel which is placed right in the middle of the Somme Battlefields. On Sunday we visited the Windmill at Poizieres, walked in the footsteps of war photographer Geoffrey Malins on the Beaumont Hamel Walk, saw the Hawthorne Ridge Crater and lunched in Ocean Villas and toured their museum. We then went to the Ulster Tower and the Thiépval Memorial to the Missing where our group held a Service of Remembrance with the Master laying another wreath.

After this we went down into the Lochnagar Crater and visited the Devonshire Trench. Finally that day we visited the shrine for Mark Dickens Great Uncle Major Cedric Charles Dickens who was killed on 09/09/1916. In the evening we had supper at the Ocean Villas where the Mayor of Ginchy attended as Mark Dickens' guest. The Master held a raffle and auction. He was delighted to raise almost £1,500 for the CWGC. On Sunday morning we drove to the Artois Battlefields where we visited the French Cemetery of La Targette, the German Cemetery of Neuville St Vast and Notre Dame de Lorette where our unforgettable tour ended. We cannot thank Mark Smith enough for the way he brought alive the battles and the very brave men who fought in them which none of us will forget.

- Ken and Lesley Blundell

October Livery Dinner

It was the Master's great honour to host his esteemed friend and Chair of the NI Tourist Board, Mr Tom McGrath CBE, as our principal guest at the October Livery Dinner. He enlightened us with some old school stories about our Master that had the room in stitches!

Rather unusually, the evening's entertainment took a new turn when we were treated to a concert! Filipe Manu (*Tenor*) & Matthew Gemmill (*Piano*) from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama performed some wonderful pieces – including a few old favourites! Bravo!

As we wearily approached our fourth trip to the polls in four years I would like to highlight some words in the Grace delivered by our very own 3rd Warden, the Rev Gordon Warren, that were so eloquently delivered and particularly resonated with me: *'Pulled this way and that, for political means, anything but satisfy the democracy dreams. It's statesmen we need Lord, both great and good, to restore to our nation the balance that should'*. Let's hope we finally have one deserving of the title! I for one won't be holding my breath...

It was an extremely busy day for the court, with seven new Liverymen being clothed. So, without further ado, we would like to express our pleasure in welcoming Mr Christopher Edgcumbe, Mr Todd Evans, Mr Phil Egerton, Mrs Sheila Eastman, Mr Brendan Minahan, Mr Sanjay Mody and Mr Krit Nathoo into to the Wyre Drawer family; and from our Trade route, Mrs Teri Howes. We look forward to making your acquaintance at the next function.

The Third Warden also mentioned how honoured we were to have guests from other Livery companies; Mr Christopher Davey (*Master Vintner*), Mr Andrew Whitton (*Master Needlemaker*) & Mr Rick Alford (*Master Hackney Carriage Driver*). And of course, from our military affiliations; Sqn Ldr Marcus Hicks RAF & Flt Lt Tim Richards RAF (*Queens Colour Squadron*).

For those familiar with my writings, it won't surprise you to see me waxing lyrical on the delicious food that was and always is on offer. The Seabass tasted like it had been plucked from our newly liberated waters just that day – and there was no drop-off in quality with the truly tender tenderlion! I suspect none of us will forget the 1870 Teno Block so generously selected by our Master in a hurry, either!

I would also like to personally congratulate – as I'm sure you all would – our Master, whose fundraising, including his latest swimming exploits, have raised a record for this Livery of over £70,000 in a year... and counting!

Finally, it's clear that the young GSWD committee is working a treat, as I was lucky enough to be sat next to a rabble of our new Young GSWD Liveryman and Freeman – not to mention a certain new young Steward. I have no doubt that we ended up being the loudest and naughtiest section that evening.

Thank you all for your company and making it a fantastic evening!

- Jay Bhatt

Prize Winners



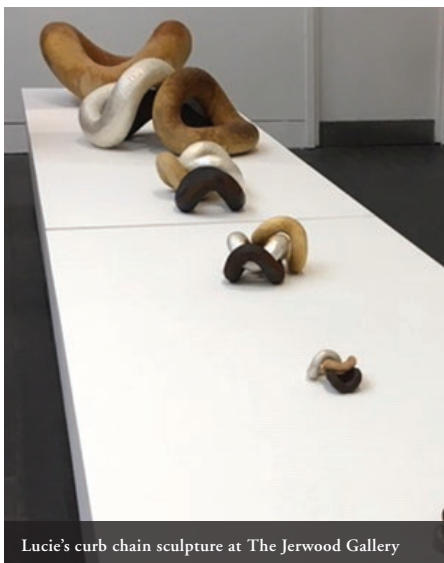
The Master, Malcolm Craig with Sabina Lima

In May, the Master presented our prize to first year student, Sabina Lima, at The Royal School of Needlework at the annual end of term presentations. Sabina and the Principal of the RSN Dr Susan Kay-Williams joined Malcolm at the GSWD's dinner on 1st July.



Felicity Jones in The Aeronauts – embroidery by Laura Baverstock

Freeman Laura Baverstock has been very busy working in films – most recently The Aeronauts starring Felicity Jones and Eddie Redmayne – all the colourful embellishments and embroidery for Felicity's costume were created by Laura. The new adaptation of Jane Austen's Emma is being released in February and Laura has also made pieces for the leading lady's costume.



Lucie's curb chain sculpture at The Jerwood Gallery

Freeman, Lucie Gledhill is one of five artists selected for the Jerwood Makers Open 2019 held at The Jerwood Space, London in June, and then touring the country for a year. Lucie has made a deconstructed curb chain sculpture in fine silver with wood and cast iron.



Patrick Davison in Giovanni Corvaja's workshop

Patrick Davison attended a masterclass with Giovanni Corvaja at his studio in Todi, Italy. Patrick discovered new techniques for drawing down very fine wire and using equipment usually found in a handmade textile environment to create flexible woven chains.

Freeman Patrick Davison attended a masterclass with Giovanni Corvaja at his studio in Todi, Italy. Patrick discovered new techniques for drawing down very fine wire and using equipment



Laura Williams' rings

In the summer of 2019 Freeman Laura Williams showed new work at New Designers - One Year In and also exhibited at Sieraad International Art Fair in Amsterdam in November.



Filigree necklace in 18 carat gold and oxidised silver by Filipa Oliveira

Filipa Oliveira – gave a Masterclass at the Goldsmiths' Centre in September showing students the fine art of filigree work.



Lucie Gledhill wearing her Best New Design Award necklace



Patrick Davison showing his hinged bangle constructed from multi-coloured fine wires



Frances Stone, winner of the GSWD's prize at the Hand & Lock Awards Ceremony at The Bishopsgate Institute in November.

Goldsmiths' Fair 2019 – There were a number of our jewellery and silversmithing Freeman showing their new collections at Goldsmiths' Fair at Goldsmiths' Hall during September and October.

Lucie Gledhill, Teri Howes, Andrew Lamb, Filipa Oliveira, Hazel Thorn, Kyosun Jung, Patrick Davison and Alison Evans (candidate). We are delighted that Lucie and Patrick won the Best New Design Award from The Goldsmiths Fair in their respective weeks.

In early December the Freeman and Young Liverymen met for the inaugural Christmas Party at the George and Vulture – everyone in festive attire – Malcolm welcomed the group and we had a very jolly evening!

Freeman Bella Lane has joined forces with Hand & Lock to teach their first ever Peruvian Embroidery class in Lima in June 2020. Bella was born and raised in the heart of the Amazon rainforest before moving to London where she received a scholarship as an embroidery Apprentice at the Royal School of Needlework.

For more information about this wonderful trip visit www.handembroideryshop.com/products/peru



Nan Nan Liu's silver trophy

Nan Nan Liu's silver trophy embellished with gold and silver wire and a large microchip, presented to the Master during the Banquet at the Mansion House at the end of November.



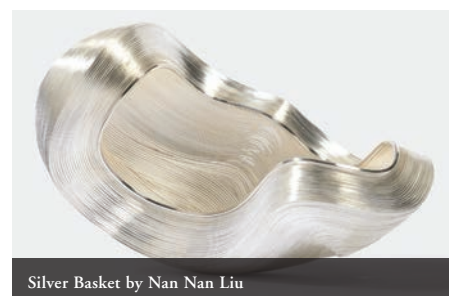
Embroidery by Bella Lane showing the coat of arms of Peru



Matt Powell at the Banquet just before presenting his trophy to the Master

Matt's trophy is entirely constructed from silver and gold wire with a pure gold fine wire 'cloud' between finger and thumb representing the moment of inspiration.

Two of our Freeman, Nan Nan Liu and Patrick Davison, will appear at 'Collect', the International Art Fair for Modern Craft and Design at Somerset House, organised by the Crafts Council from 27th February – 1st March 2020.



Silver Basket by Nan Nan Liu

(Photo by Tina Khoo Siong)

- Jean Scott-Moncrieff

Reflections of my year as Master

With only a little over a week out of the “chair” I look back on my year in office with a deep sense of pride. Pride, in as much as I was able to achieve the goals I had set out for myself some two years earlier, under the theme “sport, music and history”. In achieving these goals I recognise, with grateful thanks, the many friends who helped me in this regard. In particular, I would like to thank my Wardens and our Gallant Clerk Cdr. Mark Dickens and his wife Debbie for their support.

As Master, you recognise that you want those attending formal dinners to enjoy the total experience of the Livery. A big part of this is the Guest Speaker. Mine did not disappoint. I would like to thank, David McElhiney (January Installation), a close friend of 40 years with whom I have enjoyed many sporting moments. This was followed by Simon Halliday, ex England and British Lions, rugby (April), Mark Smith of Antiques Roadshow fame (July), Tom McGrath OBE for his services to charity and tourism in Northern Ireland (October) and, finally, Lord Jeffrey Archer, novelist and peer of the realm, at our Banquet (November). All were very entertaining making each of these functions a success and a delight to attend.

There were many “highlights” of the year. These were those aligned to our military affiliations, including a trip to Faslane and our naval affiliation, HMS Victorious, nuclear submarine; presentation of our annual award to the Royal Logistic Corps “Best Student” at the Army School of Ammunition (Bomb Disposal, ATO) and the Beating Retreat at Brize Norton to our RAF affiliate, 101 Squadron. However, it would be remiss if I did not mention our World War One Battlefield Tour weekend to Ypres and The Somme. Despite its obvious “emotional” connotations, the weekend proved to be a great success. My thanks to Barbed Wire Tours for facilitating this, my Masters’ Weekend. The other major highlight was the formation of “The Choir Drawers” and our performance at the musical fundraiser in May. My thanks go to Major Craig Hallatt, Chief Instructor at the Army School of Music for his professional involvement in this regard.

If there is to be a “legacy” I hope it will be my efforts to forge an interest for the Younger Liverymen with the Company at an earlier stage in their membership. The establishment of the Young GSWD Committee in April with its aims to provide events more attune to the liveryman’s family and business commitments are at its “core”. Additionally, the ability to be more inclusive with our Freeman via our Trade Route (and Non-Freemen) - our young jewellers and embroiderers – has though proved successful. I suspect that more use of social media together with a planned upgrade of our website in bringing all these parties together, will play a greater role in harnessing the inclusivity of these individuals. For my part, I will continue in this role to try and ensure a lasting legacy.

Finally: the “fellowship” of the Livery movement within the City of London. As Master, the ability to be introduced to many new friends at Guildhall including the Lord Mayor, his Sheriffs and Masters of other Livery Companies, is a true honour. I know that for many years to come, my wife Julia and I look forward to remaining in close contact with many of them.

- Malcolm Craig, Master 2019

Installation Luncheon – 13th January

With due ceremony the new Master, Mike Gunston, was installed in Common Hall, as were the Wardens especially the new Fourth Warden, Roger Carter. The Master expressed much appreciation to his predecessor, Malcolm Craig on a highly successful year.

At the Luncheon which followed, at Skinners’ Hall, Past Master Emeritus John Edgcumbe, welcomed all our guests including the Masters of the Bakers, Carmen, Glovers and Spectacle Makers and announced that at the earlier Court meeting Sabina Lima, Alex Standring, Eliot Budd and Frank Spencer were admitted to be Freeman of the Company, and William Colgate and Angharad Sparkes were clothed as Liverymen.

He then introduced Principal Guest, Michael Cassidy CBE, Senior Solicitor and Common Councillor and old friend of the Master, who regaled us with many stories of his long friendship with the Master and some inside stories of some of the major decisions made by the City of London Council in recent years. Extremely illuminating.

The Master then spoke, thanking Michael Cassidy for his kind words and explained his plans for his year ahead and some of the key events which are planned for all Liverymen and Freeman including The Master’s Weekend in the New Forest, and the charities he will be supporting through the year.

An excellent Installation Luncheon looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

- Jeremy Ray



The Banquet

To the stirring sound of Handel's Scipio the doors of the Egyptian Room in the Mansion House were opened and the Master's Procession entered, to herald the start of the Livery Banquet.

A glittering evening followed built around an excellent four course Dinner and speeches reflecting the importance of the event, as well as a musical interlude of the Post Horn Gallop performed brilliantly by two highly talented musicians. Following the Toasts, the Master spoke of the achievements of his year and presented a cheque from the Livery for the Lord Mayor's Charity, which was received by Sir David Wootton, Representative of the Lord Mayor, who then spoke of the priorities of the Lord Mayor in 2019 and through 2020, including a renewed focus on International Trade and Innovation, especially through fintech, and renewed attention paid to the culture of The City in order to give greater opportunities to more people to take part in the activities of the City, including through the activities of the Lord Mayor's charities. He also mentioned the green credentials of the Lord Mayor including the bee hives on the roof of the Mansion House producing the Lord Mayor's honey !

First Warden, Mike Gunston, then welcomed our guests, including Lt Gen Sir Mark Poffley, RLC, Lt Gen Sir Andrew Gregory, SSAFA, Col Andrew Maber-Jones, RLC, Lt Col Johnny Williams, CO RLC Kinton, Lt Col Rich Hallett, RLC, Maj Craig Hallatt, RM School of Music, Rear Admiral Tim Hodgson, SM, Cdr Sarah Birchett, CO 814 Squadron, and Wg Cdr Pete Thorbjornsen, CO 101 Squadron, and the Masters of the Woolmen, Loriners, and Fanmakers as well as leading members of the Company of Merchants of Edinburgh, and other private guests of the Master. Also, of course our Guest of Honour Lord Jeffrey Archer, who then responded on behalf of the guests. Lord Archer then entertained us with many stories and anecdotes of his interesting and varied life and career, from Wellington School, Oxford, and then into politics, and proposed the toast to The Company.

Finally, the Master spoke appreciatively of the many people who had helped him to make his year so successful. He also applauded the increasing contribution of our young Liverymen and our growing band of Freeman, and he was presented with two magnificent Trophies produced by Freeman Nan Nan Liu and Matt Powell, one of which will become the Prize for the new GSWD Award for Excellence and Achievement to be presented in conjunction with the University of Cambridge later in 2020.

Finally, the Master acknowledged the stair guard on duty before the Banquet, made up of Sea Cadets from the Training Ship Barossa, and Cadets from St John's Ambulance, Orpington.

An inspiring and extremely enjoyable evening.

- Jeremy Ray

An Exceptional Year

This has been a particularly momentous year for fundraising by the Gold & Silver Wyre Drawers Livery Company, with the Master, Malcolm Craig, leading from the front.

Twelve months before he started his Year as Master, Malcolm Craig identified that a particular theme of his Year would be to try to raise the maximum amount possible for charity. His charity fundraising efforts throughout 2019 have been spectacular, with huge support for this endeavour from members of the Livery company and others. Not only was there amazing support at the events organised, but all attending the events such as the Sports Lunch and the Charity Musical Evening had great fun at each occasion. Including Gift Aid, the Master has raised the fabulous sum of nearly £80,000 for Charity.

Donations have so far been made to;

Orpheus Centre (<i>for young disabled adults</i>)	£15000
British Limbless Ex-servicemen's Assoc. (<i>BLESMA</i>)	£15000
Cardiac Risk in the Young (<i>C-R-Y</i>)	£15000
Soldiers, sailors & Airmen's Families Assoc. (<i>SSAFA</i>)	£7000
The British Red Cross (<i>via Jailed and Bailed Event</i>).	£2600
Lord Mayor's Appeal (<i>via Consort Lunch</i>)	£1000
Felix Fund (<i>Bomb disposal Charity</i>)	£500
Child Bereavement UK	£560
Commonwealth War Graves Commission (<i>visit to the Somme</i>)	£250
Northern Ireland Opera	£250

All remaining money has been taken into the GSWD second charitable fund for future allocation. The Master is due huge thanks for his efforts not only from those receiving the charitable gifts but also from the whole of the GSWD.

- Roger Carter

Chairman, Charity Fundraising and Events Committee



Clerk's Corner

Key Court Decisions

The Court has approved the following:

- 'GSWD Events Ltd'. A new company, alongside the General Fund, has been set up to streamline the running and financing of events by the Clerk.
- 400th Anniversary Exhibition. Assistant Karen Watts has been chosen to be the Curator of the 400th anniversary exhibition in 2023 which will be held in the Guildhall Art Gallery.
- Social Media Sub-Committee. This Sub-Committee has been set up under the aegis of the Communications and Editorial Committee.

Internal Elections

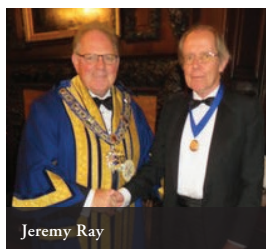
The following has been elected and installed as the new 4th Warden:

Roger Carter is a Civil Engineer and Project Manager experienced in Property Management. A dedicated chorister, church official and charity Chairman he is also a keen cricket fan. He joined the livery in 2010.



The following have been elected to the Court of Assistants:

Jeremy Ray is an International Business Executive in sales and marketing. An Independent Consultant and Company Director. He is the Wyre Drawer magazine editor and sits on two committees. He joined the livery in 2010.



The following has been made a Steward:

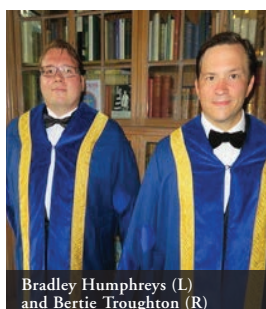
Lesley Balding runs her own Estate Agency in Limehouse where she is very active in the community and is an organiser of the Limehouse Festival. She recently also launched 'Canary Woof' for local dog lovers. She joined the livery in 2017.



New Admissions

The following have been Clothed in the Livery:

Bradley Humphreys is a prizewinning Goldsmith who was apprenticed to Theo Fennell and now runs his own company.



Bertie Troughton is an ACII qualified underwriter for Upstream Energy. The fifth member of his family to join the livery.

Christopher Edgcumbe is a student. The son and grandson of Court members and the fourth member of his family to join the livery.

Sheila Eastman is a retired Radiographer with over 30 years experience. A singer and dressmaker with a keen interest in jewellery and jewellery design.

Philip Egerton is a retired Project Manager. Latterly HR Business partner for IBM computers.



Todd Evans is an Insurance specialist. The Executive Vice President of Business Development for Engle Martin & Associates in Atlanta, Georgia.

Brendan Minahan is a retired builder who worked for John Laing International Construction Group and Byrne Group.

Dr Sanjay Mody is a Consultant, a Director of Healthcare Consultancy Company and medical lecturer.

Kritanand Nathoo is an Accountant and a former Finance Director who runs his own property business.

Hari Sparkes is the Education Manager at the RSN specialising in events and training. She is Malcom Craig's Goddaughter.



William Colgate is a Human Resources Coordinator who started in the livery as an apprentice to his Grandfather.

The following have been made Freeman via the Trade Route:

Harriet Styles is an embroiderer and graduate of the RSN. She is an award winner who is currently working in Saudi Arabia.



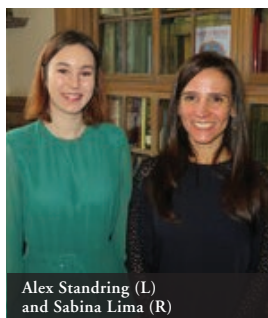
Lucie Gledhill is a jeweller and teacher. She is a regular exhibitor and award winner who joined by special admission.

Teri Howes
Teri Howes is an architect and director of a design company. She is an embroiderer and won the GSWD prize in 2019.



Alex Standring is an embroiderer and won the GSWD prize in 2018. She is working in the Haute Couture team at Ralph and Russo.

Sabina Lima is an architect and director of a design company. She is an embroiderer and won the GSWD prize in 2019.



Merchandise

I hold a stock of GSWD merchandise which can be purchased on request clerk@gswd.co.uk : this include 2 designs of Livery ties (incorporating real gold wire) from £35, golf umbrellas £23, city umbrellas £22, cufflinks £15, and lapel pins £10.

Website

I hope you have bookmarked the GSWD website www.gswd.co.uk on your computer and know the password for the members' section. Apart from being an interesting fount of knowledge and a fabulous collection of photographs and archive material, the website contains the definitive events diary and Liverymen's contact details. PLEASE CHECK YOURS and let me know of any changes.

Deaths

The Company regrets to inform you of the death of Liverymen John Miers, Richard Grobler and Geoffrey Jackson.

Charities supported

Name of Charity	Rationale/Comment:	Amount
React	<i>Medical, Children</i>	£2,000
Keen London	<i>Sport, disabled children</i>	£2,000
Headway (West Sussex)	<i>Medical, Brain injury, Liveryman</i>	£2,000
Lord Mayor's Charity (Banquet)	<i>City, Lord Mayor's Appeal</i>	£2,000
Decibels	<i>Disabled children, music</i>	£2,000
Up 'N' Away	<i>Disadvantaged youth, City</i>	£1,500
Theodora's Children's Charity	<i>Medical, Children</i>	£1,500
St Mary le Bow Homeless	<i>Disadvantaged, City</i>	£1,500
Mark Evison Foundation	<i>Disadvantaged children, City</i>	£1,500
Build Up Foundation	<i>Disadvantaged children, City</i>	£1,500
Tower of London Chapel Royal	<i>City, culture, Liveryman</i>	£1,000
River Thames Boat Project	<i>Disadvantaged children, Liveryman</i>	£1,000
On Course Foundation	<i>Disabled Veterans</i>	£1,000
Merry Opera	<i>Autistic children, Music</i>	£1,000
Docklands Sinfonia	<i>City, Music, Liveryman</i>	£1,000
Insurance Orchestra	<i>City, Music</i>	£1,000
Prostate Cancer UK	<i>Medical, Liveryman</i>	£500

PUBLISHED BY
The Worshipful Company of
Gold and Silver Wyre
Drawers

Lye Green Forge
Lye Green
Crowborough
East Sussex TN61UU
www.gswd.co.uk
clerk@gswd.org.uk
M: 07825 157866

MASTER 2020 - 2021
Mike I Gunston

WARDENS
Brian C Turner
The Rev Gordon L Warren
Air Cdre Cynthia R Fowler,
RAF Retired
Roger Carter

CLERK
Commander Mark C Dickens

NEWSLETTER EDITORS
Jeremy Ray
jeremy.ray@blueyonder.co.uk

Nick Sillitoe
nsillitoe@hotmail.co.uk

PRINTED BY
Longridge Print, Crowborough
Design, Artwork, Printing

GOLD AND SILVER WYRE DRAWERS WELCOME THE SUPPORT OF WATCHFINDER & CO.

EXPERTS FROM EVERY ANGLE



WATCHFINDER & Co.

THE PRE-OWNED WATCH SPECIALIST

No one understands watches quite like we do. At Watchfinder & Co., the pre-owned watch specialist, every watch we sell must meet the standards of our manufacturer accredited watchmakers, who work to centuries-old Swiss tradition at our state-of-the-art service centre. Buy your pre-owned, prestige watch from Watchfinder, and leave the complications to us—so you can make sophistication look simple.

WE ARE ACCREDITED TO SERVICE

Ω
OMEGA
SERVICE CENTRE

Cartier
CERTIFIED SERVICE CENTRE

AUDEMARS PIGUET
AUTHORIZED SERVICE CENTER

OFFICINE
PANERAI
CERTIFIED SERVICE CENTRE

IWC
SCHAFFHAUSEN
CERTIFIED SERVICE CENTRE

JAEGER-LECOULTRE
CERTIFIED SERVICE CENTRE

WATCHFINDER.CO.UK | 01622 805 822 | THROUGHOUT LONDON & NATIONWIDE