



The Wyre Drawer

Edition 38 - Summer 2020



A note from the Master

It is said that the style of each year changes with the Installation of the new Master every January. Few would have predicted that mine would be so very different due to the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic !

After a thoroughly enjoyable Installation, the year got off to a positive start with the Mistress and I, either individually or together, attending some forty meetings or events.

However, it was all change with the Government's declaration of lockdown on the 23 March. From then it demanded a completely different approach from just about every angle.

The April Court meeting was conducted by telephone conferencing but that was not the ideal. It was then that we, like so many others, looked to Mr Eric Yuan the developer of Zoom!

I have now attended online the full range of Court and Committee meetings, two group meetings with the Lord Mayor and of course our Livery Quiz. I also recently attended the online graduations at the Royal School of Needlework and the Royal Ballet School.

This modern facility has enabled the Court to make sure that the business of the GSWD is continued and the machine kept well oiled. However, it does not provide many photo opportunities and so this cover picture was taken pre-lockdown at the Goldsmiths' Craft and Design Council Awards on 24th February. I was delighted to present the GSWD prize to Anna Gordon for her stunning gold wire brooch alongside the Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company.

Two things with which to conclude. The following evening, on 25th February, I was delighted to receive from Liveryman Colin Cork the Past Master's badge of his late father Leslie Cork, who was Master in 1975, which he has very kindly donated to the company for future use by a Past Master.

And I was recently profoundly saddened to learn of the death of our Second Warden, the Reverend Gordon Warren. He had been a member of our company for fifteen years including eight as Honorary Chaplain. A fuller report will appear later in this publication.

My very best wishes,

- *Mike Gunston*

DEMS visit

On the 20th February a group of twenty, including the Master and his Clerk, attended a fascinating day at the Defence Explosive Ordnance Disposal Munitions and Search (*DEMS*) Training Regiment in St George's Barracks, Bicester. The day was led by Lieutenant Colonel Richard Hallett OBE and Major Colin Taylor, the Colonel having been affiliated with our livery for a number of years.

At the beginning of the day the Colonel presented an overview of the unit including its aim and structure. Bomb disposal approaches across countries, which vary considerably, were then discussed. We were then informed of the tangible benefits, including the lives saved across the world, due to the sophisticated training available at the establishment.



The Clerk very focused

We moved on to the large munitions Exhibition Hall where our estimably knowledgeable guide provided a tour and explanation of the hundreds of neutralised bombs and ammunition items on show. Next stop was 'Helmand Hall' (*a converted aircraft hanger with an extremely large sandpit*) where we were first employed in very confined metal training mazes whilst having our eyes covered. We then had the opportunity to practice metal detecting in the sand, before moving over to ground sign awareness training.

The group then relocated outside where we were given an insight into Improvised Explosive Device Disposal apparatus and kit, as well as being able to take control of a £750k state of the art bomb disposal remote controlled vehicle. The skill and precision of the demonstrating personnel, as well as their nonchalance for the February rain, was clearly on show.

The day culminated in a luncheon within the officers' mess, with both the curry and convivial conversation enjoyed by all. Our thanks again go to Lieutenant Colonel Hallett and Major Taylor, with special thanks to Liveryman Mike West, as Army Liaison Officer, for organising this rather special day within an area of the military that we as a Livery have enjoyed a close relationship for several decades. We are delighted that since this visit Rich Hallett has been promoted to Colonel and will be taking up a new appointment. He has also started the application process to be clothed in the Livery of the GSWD.

- Lewis Speke

Bank of England Visit - 30th January

In late January a group of Liverymen and their guests visited the Bank of England Museum in Bartholomew Lane in the heart of the City of London where we were treated to a fascinating talk on The Bank – Past and Present with an opportunity to ask questions.



We learned that the 'Old Lady of Threadneedle Street' as the Bank is affectionately known, was founded in 1694 during a period of economic uncertainty, in order to 'promote the public good and benefit of our people' by acting as the Government's banker and debt manager.

We then visited the Bank's Exhibition Hall where the history of the Bank's buildings through the ages was explained. Also, the production of bank notes and all aspects of security were very carefully explained.

There was also a chance to try and lift a solid gold bar, through an aperture in a thick glass case – quite difficult !

This visit provided a fascinating insight into the history and function of one of the great institutions of the City of London.

After we left the Bank we all enjoyed a delicious supper at the nearby Browns Brasserie which rounded off an excellent afternoon.

Many thanks to Assistant Pat Hobday for organising Supper, and to the Master for arranging the Bank Museum visit.

- Nick Sillitoe

Helicopters from Royal Naval Air Station Culdrose in Action

Helicopters from Royal Naval Air Station Culdrose joined the national struggle against the coronavirus in the West Country.

As part of the Royal Navy's support to the NHS throughout the UK during the pandemic, Merlin helicopters from Culdrose were on standby to act as flying ambulances and transporters, flying supplies and personnel.



814 Squadron operating with Type 23 frigate HMS Kent

The helicopters – typically used for submarine-hunting – were ready to provide round-the-clock assistance to the NHS and South West Ambulance Services, serving a population of more than 4,500,000 people across Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Bristol, Somerset, the Channel Islands and the Isles of Scilly.

Three Merlin Mk2 helicopters and their crews from 820 Naval Air Squadron (*sister squadron to the Livery's affiliated squadron of 814 NAS*) were set aside for the task, aided not just by their own engineers and technicians, but the entire support network at the Helston airbase: medics, air traffic controllers, safety and logistic experts.

The submarine-hunting equipment which normally fills the helicopters' cabins was stripped out so the Merlins could carry several stretchers, passengers and stores quickly, smoothly and efficiently over long distances.

It's the second time in five years the squadron has been called upon to help during a medical emergency. Its helicopters supported the UK's response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa over the winter of 2014-15.

At the same time as supporting civilian authorities, Culdrose's Merlin Force continued their usual duties; protecting UK waters and safeguarding the strategic nuclear deterrent.

Thousands of face masks produced by sailors at Royal Naval Air Station Culdrose have been handed out across Cornwall in the fight against coronavirus.

Around 10,000 face shields have been produced on the Cornish air station's 3D printers while another 10,000 masks have been produced by a group founded by an air engineering officer.

Doctors surgeries, pharmacies, care homes and charities have all been given the masks, to help prevent people catching covid-19.

The small group responsible has been praised by the head of the Royal Navy, the First Sea Lord Admiral Tony Radakin, who said their actions were an example for all to follow.

Back in March, Warrant Officer Scott 'Barney' Barnett came across a design for a headband which could be produced on a 3D printer and made into a visor.

He had an interest in 3D printing as a member of Culdrose's innovation hub, a centre set up last year to encourage sailors to use new technology to solve problems and think creatively.

He said: "We try and support the NHS where we can but we're also supporting those smaller organisations. The reception has been so rewarding. We're just doing our small part just to try and help get over this crisis."

Warrant Officer Barnett set up his own printers at home in Mullion and enlisted his family and a small number of people he met online to begin producing thousands of masks. He also shared the design with five other innovations centres at navy establishments. At Culdrose, sailors have been volunteering their time to help trim and assemble the masks.

Helicopters from 814 NAS (now under the command of Cdr Chris Wood RN) have also been taking part in a 14-day battle in Icelandic waters. More than 500 British submariners, sailors and aviators are locking horns for NATO's annual test of anti-submarine forces in cooler climes.

Exercise Dynamic Mongoose, which took place in Reykjavik, involves around a dozen warships and submarines – nuclear, such as Royal Navy hunter-killer HMS Trenchant, and diesel-powered – and around 2,000 military personnel drawn from Canada, France, Germany, Norway, the UK and US.

Leading the charge above the waves are Portsmouth-based frigates HMS Kent and Westminster, each dedicated submarine hunters, and each with a specialist submarine-hunting Merlin Mk2 helicopter embarked.

A 14-strong team of aviators and engineers from 814 Naval Air Squadron from Culdrose in Cornwall provides the helicopters for both ships.

Kent takes part in Dynamic Mongoose having spent the spring focusing on tracking submarines in the Arctic, Baltic and more recently working with carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth in home waters.

"The exercise sees the combined team of HMS Kent and her Merlin pitted against other nations' submarines playing 'the enemy', a complex game of cat and mouse which everyone prides themselves in winning," said Lieutenant Commander Sid Shaw, in charge of Mohawk Flight, 814 NAS on Kent.



WO Scott Barnett and his innovative Face Masks

"Preparation involves every member of the Flight. The team are experienced in operating from a small flight deck and hangar. It's a harsh environment but one in which Mohawk Flight pride themselves in operating safely."

*- Liveryman Captain Stuart Finn
Commanding Officer, Royal Naval Air
Station, Culdrose*

A Ground Breaking New Award

In February 2020 The Livery signed a five year Agreement with University of Cambridge establishing an Annual 'Award for Excellence and Achievement in Designing Computing Hardware' to be presented to the best Graduate or Post Graduate Student in the University's Department of Computer Science and Technology.



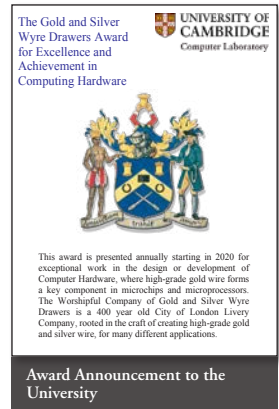
Rodney Brody with Dr Laura James of the University of Cambridge and our Trophy

Cambridge is of course the most highly respected University, not only in the UK but across Europe, in the field of computer science and technology, and therefore the candidates from whom the Award winner will be chosen are probably the brightest in the entire country in the field of computing hardware, which in all cases is built around very high grade gold wire, which forms the heart of every Microchip or Microprocessor produced worldwide, the total number of which runs into hundreds of billions !

This is the elite of this very specialised field, and we therefore have an Agreement to link this unique group to our Company, and draw these young Computer Engineers into our growing

band of brilliant young Freeman, in a way that we believe no other Livery Company has ever done.

Also, the Department of Computer Science and Technology at Cambridge has an illustrious past, since amongst its many alumni are the two great giants of computing, Charles Babbage and Alan Turing (*of Bletchley Park fame*), both of whom were Cambridge men.



Jeremy Ray and Past Master Rodney Brody had an excellent meeting in Cambridge in early December 2019 with a Senior Lecturer and Senior Business Manager at the Department of Computer Science and Technology, from which the outline of our agreement was sketched out. In early March 2020 Jeremy Ray and Rodney Brody visited Cambridge again with the Trophy, designed by GSWD Freeman, Nan Nan Liu, which forms the centrepiece of the Award, to show to the senior management of the Department – they were impressed. Each winner of the award will also receive a specially embroidered personal Certificate, made by Freeman Laura Baverstock.

The first winner of this new Award will be announced shortly, and it will be presented either at the Livery Banquet in late November, if this takes place, or at a separate ceremony around that time by the Lord Mayor.

- *Jeremy Ray*

101 Squadron RAF

It has been a fairly difficult time for 101 Squadron since lockdown in the UK in March.

We have continued to support Operation Shader, flying out of Akrotiri, Cyprus over Iraq in particular.

Also, Operation Tansor involving ongoing air to air refuelling support for RAF Typhoons in the Defence of UK Airspace, especially of the North Sea and the North Atlantic is of course vital.

In addition, many special operations in support of UK Defence Ministry and Foreign and Commonwealth Office in bringing back to the UK civilian personnel from various global destinations including the Caribbean, the US and Brunei have been carried out.

The Covid restrictions meant that we have had to leave aircrew out on operations longer, because



when deploying to Cyprus or the Falklands all aircrew had to isolate for two weeks prior to flying. All overseas deployments have therefore increased from three weeks to six weeks. Wives who in many cases are NHS workers, teachers or care workers, especially with children, also need to be supported.

Challenging but also rewarding times.

- *Wing Commander Pete Thorbjornsen*
Commanding Officer 101 Squadron

Queen's Colour Squadron

Covid-19 continues to restrict the full effect ordinarily achieved by our high profile activity.

In May and June the Squadron conducted Public Duties, providing the Queen's Guard at the London Palaces (Buckingham Palace, St James's Palace and the Tower of London) but without the ceremonial Changing of the Guard. However, we were able to contribute to a 700 year old unbroken daily tradition of the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London.

Also, during March, April and May QCS Gunners were deployed to protect key RAF establishments across the country in support of the wider military response to the pandemic, until RAF Reservists were mobilised to take over these duties.

We are now looking ahead to August and supporting the VJ Celebrations, and in September the Battle of Britain 80th Anniversary.

- *Marcus Hicks QCS*

The Life and times of Cynthia Fowler - Our First Lady Warden

I was born and bred in Huddersfield and for the first five years of my life we lived over my Grandmother's sweet shop.

My mother and father had met during the 2nd World War at RAF Cranwell while she (*at five foot high*) was keeping wicket!

Despite my young age I used to wander off to my father's relatives' shops in the market. One Sunday I heard music down the street only to find an RAF band marching and playing. I loved it and it started my desire to join the RAF, which in turn influenced my whole life.

London first featured in my life when my step grandfather often took me to the Docklands area of the East End where he worked. He explained to me a great deal about London's amazing history – I was fascinated.

Later on I attended school in Huddersfield until the 11 plus which I passed. My parents then gave me the choice of school and I chose Fulneck Girls school – a Moravian boarding school in Pudsey, between Leeds and Bradford. Moravians preferred peace to war, having broken away from the Roman Catholic Church in Prague in the 1470s. My admiration for the Moravians was gained from my friends who had families working worldwide helping poor families to earn a living, giving medical help and teaching the basics of life. Nevertheless I never lost my desire to join the RAF. Thirty five years later, as an RAF Air Commodore I am proud to say I was invited back to Fulneck School to speak at the Speech Day. My teacher Miss Joan Mort was still there and I was able to tell the Assembly how much Miss Mort who was the history teacher and later head teacher had given me a love of History and Latin.

I had joined the RAF in 1964 and was sent to RAF Spitalgate, just south of Grantham. I rose to the rank of Corporal very quickly, and after a 4 month tour in the Middle East I came back and was promoted to Sergeant. I was really learning about life, serving with men and women who had served all over the world and many in the 2nd World War. One lesson that stays with me is that I had to learn to listen, and learn more about life in all its forms.



The most senior female RAF Officer

I was commissioned in 1969 and posted to RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire, as adjutant of 228 OCU – the Phantom Training School. After a tour in RAF Germany I was posted to the Glasgow Recruiting Office and subsequently to Sheffield as Office Commander, the first woman to hold this position. It was to become a theme of my career.

In 1991 I was appointed Station Commander of RAF Uxbridge, a station with many responsibilities and many different units. We looked after personnel who were serving in the MOD and worldwide - 4000 in number at that time.



With Boris Johnson at RAF Uxbridge

Additionally I was responsible for several other units at Uxbridge:-

- The RAF School of Music and RAF Central Band
- The Queen's Colour Squadron

Both of which are of course affiliated to the Livery.

RAF Uxbridge had a long and illustrious history covering two World Wars, and in 1940 it was the Battle of Britain Operations Centre (*visited regularly by Prime Minister Winston Churchill and King George VI and the then Princess Elizabeth*)

Uxbridge was a superb RAF Station to take charge of and I was very proud to do so. Indeed it was also where I first had contact with the Gold and Silver Wre Drawers through Past Master, Derek Kaye and subsequently Geoffrey Perkins and Roy Rutter.

I was posted away in 1994 and in 1995 I was promoted to Air Commodore.

In 1996 I became the Director of Recruiting and Officer Selection at RAF Cranwell and spent the last 4 years of my Service all over Britain at Recruiting Offices and Speech Days. We were and still are amongst the best in the world so much so that I was invited to lecture in Canberra, Australia and Randall Air Force Base in Texas.

I left the RAF in 2000 and went to live in Aylesbury. I had joined Ashridge Golf Club in 1982 and when I could, I really enjoyed a game of golf. I am still a member and 2 years ago was elected Club Captain. Also, I was Chairman of the local University of the Third Age (U3a). During this time I was Chairman of the Battle of Britain Operations Centre. In due course Boris Johnson became MP for Uxbridge and Ruislip and we met on several occasions.

In retirement I had an urge to travel and went all round the world – India, Tibet, Bhutan, Crossed Russia via the Trans Siberian Railway, China, Antarctica, Peru, Galapagos and Ecuador, up and down the Amazon several times and New Zealand. I made films of these journeys and gave talks all over Buckinghamshire.

It was in 2008 when RAF Uxbridge closed, we had a Dinner in the Officers Mess, at which I met Master James Simmons who asked if I would like to become a Liveryman. And so I was in a very short space of time. I am delighted to be now on the Court and 3rd Warden and looking forward very much to becoming Master in 2023.

- Air Commodore Cynthia Fowler RAF rtd

Prize Winners and News from our Freeman



On 24th February at the Goldsmiths' Craftsmanship and Design Council Awards (the jewellery Oscars!), Master Michael Gunston presented the GSWD's awards for Wire Innovation to our prizewinners in the magnificent surroundings of Goldsmiths' Hall. Anna Gordon won first prize with her 'Gold Wire Brooch'.

The following afternoon a group of Liverymen and Freeman viewed the exhibition of all the prizewinning work at Goldsmiths' Hall and then enjoyed a very convivial evening with supper at the nearby Haz restaurant.



Liverymen, Freeman and prizewinners at the GCDCA exhibition at Goldsmiths Hall

Freeman Sabina Lima won the Royal School of Needlework prize in 2019 and has now created 'A Crown to the King Aegon / Targaryen' two of the characters in 'Fire and Blood' a fantasy book adapted into a prequel to Game of Thrones.



See her Instagram account @sabinalima_embroidery showing it from different angles.



left: The Master and the Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company presenting Anna Gordon with her certificate (photo Juliet Skupny)

above: 'Gold Wire Brooch' by Anna Gordon (photo Richard Valencia)

above right: Freeman Andrew Lamb won second prize with 'Vortex Brooch' (photo Richard Valencia)

right: 'Eternity Waves Bracelet' by Leonid Dementiev was highly commended (photo Richard Valencia)



The winner of the Hand & Lock prize 2019, Frances Stone, was commissioned to make an embroidered facemask in silk dupion with 2% gold wires for the goldwork embellished with delicate gold chippings

below: Ballroom dance scene from the new film 'Emma' by Jane Austen. Floral work, chenille and goldwork embroidery created by Freeman Laura Baverstock (photo Focus Features)



'Drawn + Formed' the GSWD's first exhibition in partnership with the Goldsmiths' Centre was fully prepared for opening in April but sadly is now postponed, we hope to continue with the full programme next year. As well as exhibiting work from all our Freeman, this will include lectures, workshops, demonstrations and masterclasses to show the public the huge diversity and creativity in using precious metal wire.



left: 'Long Fractured Vessel' by Hazel Thorn (photo Shannon Tofts) was due to be featured at 'Drawn + Formed'

'Bowl' by Patrick Davison



Patrick Davison, Freeman, has been awarded a residency at Cove Park overlooking Loch Long on the west coast of Scotland in August but it may be postponed till next year. See <https://covepark.org/artists/patrickdavison> In 2019 Freeman Heather Woof spent a month there for her residency – see <https://covepark.org/artists/heather-woof>

'Sleeve Cuff' a unique bespoke piece was made by candidate Freeman Liigah Thrower as part of her university project. She applies gold leaf to silk fabric and then sets it up on a loom she has made herself - silver wire is warped through - followed by a weft of delicate gold and silver plated silk.



Kyosun Jung planishing her 'Tree Wall Piece', Britannia silver, diameter 560mm

The Goldsmiths' Centre has awarded three of four Career Catalyst Grants worth up to £5000 each to our Freeman and prizewinners - jewellers Lucie Gledhill and Filipa Oliveira and silversmith Kyosun Jung. These grants enable those with at least five years experience to grow their knowledge and skills through ambitious learning experiences.



During the lockdown many of our Freeman have been unable to get to their studios but some have been able to set up a workspace at home. Leonid Dementiev shows his ingenious solution for drawing down wire on his balcony workshop with the drawplate clamped to the railings!

Candidate Freeman Anja von Kalinowski showed her 'Russian Centenary Sampler' at the 157th exhibition of the Society of Women Artists at the Mall Galleries.

- Jean Scott-Moncrieff



'Russian Centenary Sampler' Mixed Media & Oil on Linen, 50cm x 50cm 2018

Professions of our Liverymen - The Restaurant Business by Julius Oberegger

The modern restaurant industry encompasses a wide variety of eating establishments ranging from upscale artisan eateries to chains and franchises with thousands of locations. On one end of the spectrum, passionate chefs with skills and knowledge pay close attention to quality ingredients and sophisticated preparation techniques. On the other end of the spectrum, restaurants with multiple locations buy pre-made menu items from food service warehouses, hiring chefs to prepare these dishes using carefully choreographed systems that leave little to chance.

As a small-scale restaurateur, my business is actually part of a tradition that is very old, yet relatively modern. Human beings have always eaten, but the business of selling food to customers who order off a menu is a phenomenon dating back to the French Revolution. Before that time, diners bought food at street food stalls and public houses. Today's restaurants are characterized by their capacity to create a space and a dining experience. They also usually offer customers a choice of menu options. Upscale restaurants offering fixed price menus are an exception to this trend, but they nonetheless focus on the dining experience, as compared to the expedient fare of historical eating options.

I started my catering career training as a chef in Austria when I was 14 years old, when I was 17 and having graduated, I moved to Switzerland. After 5 years traveling around Switzerland and working in the best restaurants and hotels I decided to move to the UK. Catering was still at an early stage with some chefs using a tin opener far too often.

Having been trained in French cuisine by some of the top chefs I was very passionate and hugely successful in turning several restaurants into almost Michelin star quality establishments.

In 1975 I ventured into my own restaurant business career, very quickly building up into 4 of my own restaurants with the help of a very friendly bank manager who saw the potential in me. I worked extremely hard and was very successful.

In 2001 I opened Haven Bistro & Bar in Whetstone, this was going to be my Grand Finale of my career. It was here that I first met Past Master Michael Powell who introduced me to the wonders of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers. I became a Liveryman in January 2007 and a Court Assistant in July 2017. After 18 years with the Haven Bistro we are still going strong and I love looking after my customers and especially the fundraising event for the GSWD, long may it last!

- Julius Oberegger



Julius and his wife Jill

The Lodge of Love and Friendship

Back in 1945, the GSWD Court gave permission for a Masonic Lodge to be formed for the benefit and exclusive membership of Liverymen of the Company, and it was so formed as the 'Lodge of Love and Friendship'. It is one of 24 such 'Livery Lodges' within the 1,200 Lodges currently existing in London.

The Lodge meets and dines four times a year at Innholders, and currently has 44 members who enjoy the fraternity that the Lodge offers as well as a further opportunity to raise funds for good causes (both Masonic and non-Masonic).

Indeed in 2017 London Masons bought London's second Air Ambulance and is now, post Grenfell, funding two fire appliances for the London Fire Brigade both sporting the world's tallest high-rise ladders at a cost of £2.5m.

Despite inaccurate news in the press about many aspects of Masonry, we are an open institution and welcome

enquiries, questions and visits to our Grand Temple, library and museum at our headquarters in Great Queen Street.

At our last meeting we had a number of non-Masons present to listen to a performance of A Christmas Carol by our Clerk, Mark Dickens (himself not a member). London is also the home of two ladies Grand Lodges which operate in exactly the same way as their male counterparts and we work in harmony with them to promote our orders and charitable giving.

If you would like any further information about Masonry in general, or Love and Friendship in particular, please either contact our Lodge Secretary Mark Cockburn (Secretary@lodge6123.org) or myself (tim@datgroup.pro).

*- Tim MacAndrews,
Worshipful Master
Love and Friendship Lodge*

The Reverend Gordon Warren



It is very sad to record that our Second Warden, Gordon Warren, died on 16th July aged 75 years after a short but brave battle with pancreatic cancer. Gordon was born in Pembrokeshire on 13 May 1945 and was educated and brought up in West London. From 1962 to 1968 he served with the Royal Navy, including in submarines. After leaving the Royal Navy, he was appointed Computer Operations Manager for ICL & Collins. In 1974 he became Flight Operations Manager for a corporate public transport operation based at Heathrow, operating throughout the Middle East, Europe, North Africa and the USA.

In April 1974, he married his wonderful wife, June, who has always been a tower of strength and support. They were blessed with a daughter, Anouchka and subsequently three grandchildren.

In 1991 Gordon realized his vocation to be a Minister in the Church and consequently went up to Oxford University and enrolled at Wycliffe Hall to study theology. On completing his studies, Gordon was ordained Deacon at St Paul's Cathedral in 1993 and later Presbyter in 1994.

His first appointment was Curate at St Mary's Church, Sunbury, followed by Curate at All Saints Church, Laleham. In 1998, Gordon became Rector of St Anne's Church, Limehouse, a post he held for 15 years, during which he was responsible for raising £330,000 for the organ restoration and a further £180,000 for landscaping the gardens and a further £500,000 for restoration of the interior. Gordon also provided a rehearsal space and regular performance venue in St Anne's for a vibrant new orchestra, the Docklands Sinfonia and enjoyed many years as their Vice Patron.

Also, during this period, he planted a new Anglican Church in West India Quay, Canary Wharf, on a Dutch barge 'St Peter' which he had sailed from the Netherlands.

This was London's first floating church and was dedicated on 17 March 2004.

He also became an Honorary Chaplain to the Royal Navy which involved many interesting activities including services at Windsor Castle, Chaplain to the Warden of the Cinque Ports (a very ancient office and one he was very proud to have). He was Chaplain (and crew member on 'Janthia') to the Association of Dunkirk Little Ships on their veterans' cruises, quayside services and returns to Dunkirk. Gordon also derived great pleasure from being Chaplain to the Sea Cadets at Ramsgate. For many years he enjoyed and felt privileged in taking the Remembrance Day Service on HMS Belfast.

Over the years, Gordon was a great supporter of education in London and had served as Vice Chairman of Governors at Stepney Green Coat School, and a Governor at Cyril Jackson School and the Montessori School in the crypt of St Anne's, and on moving to Ramsgate he served as a Governor at St Lawrence College.

It was during his time in Limehouse that he came into contact with the GSWD, for which he held a great affection. He was clothed in the Livery in January 2005 and quickly became the Royal Naval Liaison Officer, a post he relished, achieving splendid work with the livery affiliates, 814 Naval Air Squadron and the ballistic missile submarine HMS Victorious. Gordon was elected to the Court in October 2011 and became 4th Warden in January 2017. He was already hard at work developing exciting ideas for his year as Master of the company in 2022 (subject to election), plans that will sadly never be realised.

Gordon will also be well remembered for his great contribution as Honorary Chaplain to many Masters (2011-2018). His counselling was always much appreciated and not least his rendering of grace before lunch/dinner which was always beautifully recited with mention of the culinary delights to follow, very amusing comments on current affairs, and always beautiful thanks to the good Lord for his blessings.

Gordon will be greatly missed by all of us and it is very much hoped that a service of thanksgiving will be celebrated for him when circumstances permit.

– Tim Fitzgerald-O'Connor

Dennis Johnson

- a Tribute

Past Master Emeritus Dennis Johnson, who was born on 20th January 1924, died at the age of 96 in February, with his funeral taking place in early March. He joined his brother, Murray, at Highgate School. On leaving school he went, as an apprentice, into the family firm of Benton & Johnson, who produced gold and silver wire for military uniforms and badges.



Joseph Johnson (GSWD Master 1821) started the firm in 1809 and in 1829 traded wires with Stephen Simpson with whom he later went into partnership producing laces and embroidery. Five other family members were also Masters of the Company between 1840 and 1971. Dennis joined the GSWD in 1945, came onto the Court in the early 1950s and was fourth Warden in 1960 becoming Master in 1964 at the young age of 40. He was one of its youngest ever Masters becoming its 233rd after our 2nd Charter in 1693.

Dennis was a driving force and committed member of the GSWD and in 1972 he joined the Company's Masonic Lodge of Love & Friendship. He and his wife Ione always participated on the organised holidays.

After WW2 the Livery developed greater interest in the trade and Dennis organised many trade events in London and in Liverpool and the Livery's Tercentenary Exhibition in 1993.

Dennis had a remarkable memory, which I was constantly using, especially in identifying old photographs.

Dennis's family meant everything to him and the loss of Ione in 2009, from Alzheimer, hit him hard, but he had the love of his daughter Susan to help him through this difficult time.

Dennis will always be remembered with great affection.

– Ken Blundell

Charity Donations

As all Liverymen will know, charity giving is at the heart of being a Liveryman. The Charity Fundraising and Events Committee (CFE) exists to try and maximise the amount of money that members of the GSWD give to charity as well as search for those in the most need to whom to give money. The proposals from the Committee are approved by the Court quarterly, with the money distributed as soon as possible afterwards.

With the current problems from Coronavirus many charities are experiencing significant hardship and an extra effort was made by the CFE committee at its meeting on the 16th June to try to assess those most in need at the moment. A wide range of charities were examined, with particular consideration given to those in need in our Trade activities such as Jewellery and Needlework. Help was consequently given to students in the jewellery trade through a donation to the Bishoplands Trust, and to the COVID-19 appeal of the Royal School of Needlework for needlework students.

Financial support was also given to provide one week of nursing care from a Roald Dahl haematology specialist nurse for seriously ill children in London living with sickle cell, following a drop of 40% of their income due to the impact of COVID-19. A donation was also given to The Respite Association, the charity that supports carers, and to Scotty's Little Soldiers, a charity dedicated to help children who have lost a parent who served in the British Armed Services and are particularly in need. Funds were additionally given to the Young Urban Arts Foundation that tries to protect disadvantaged young people in East London from harm, since the COVID-19 crisis has closed their normal revenue streams which they have relied upon to keep operational.

Many are suffering due to the Coronavirus pandemic and needs increase, but due to many factors including the reduction in value of shares, the amount of money available to the CFE Committee to distribute has unfortunately reduced. We know times are difficult, but if you feel able to give a little extra to the GSWD charitable fund we all would be very grateful. Please either just let me know what you might be able to give to the email address below, or write to Mark Dickens, the Clerk, or just make a donation directly to our 2nd Charitable Trust bank account 20- 32-00 account 00991651.

Thank you

– Roger Carter, Chairman, CFE Committee
Email: Roger.carter3@me.com

Clerk's Corner

Key Court Decisions

The Court has approved the following:

- Move to Vintners' Hall. The Company is now associated with Vintners' Hall following a move from Skinners' Hall which will be having a major refurbishment. All the treasures were moved to Vintners' Hall just before the lockdown. Vintners' Hall has accommodation for Liverymen to use <https://vintnershall.co.uk/bedrooms-vintners-hall/>
- Direct Debit system. A Direct Debit system is being set up for payment of Quarterage replacing the previous Standing Orders. Once this is complete, Direct Debits will also be set up for charitable payments for those that would like to do so.
- Finance policy. The organisation for the financing of the General Fund and the policy for its investment has been overhauled.

Internal Elections

The Court has unanimously elected Michael Gunston to serve as Master in 2021 for a second year in office. This is due to the Covid-19 pandemic and is the first time since 1939 that a Master has served for two years.

Admissions

The following has been admitted to the Court of Assistants:

Tim MacAndrews is a Chartered Accountant and was the founder and owner of Snappy Snaps photographic shops and many other business ventures. He is a JP and has been a Magistrate for over 30 years, and holds the Territorial Decoration having Commanded a TA Squadron as a Major in the Royal Engineers. He was recently President of the Rotary Club of London. He is a member of the GSWD Finance Committee and joined the livery in 2015.

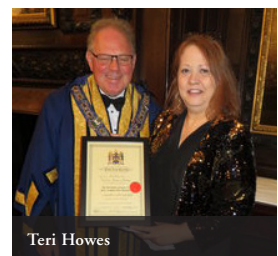


Tim MacAndrews

Due to the covid-19 pandemic it has been decided to postpone admissions to the Freedom and Livery until we are allowed to conduct Court meetings and ceremonies in person.

Correction from WD 37

Teri Howes is a Jeweller specialising in fine crochet techniques. She won the GSWD Gold Award at the GCDC in 2019



Teri Howes

Deaths

The Company regrets to inform you of the death of Past Master Dennis Johnson, 2nd Warden Gordon Warren and Liveryman Richard Mintz.

Website

The GSWD website www.gswd.co.uk is in the process of being upgraded. Any feedback on contents and capabilities is warmly welcomed. It continues to remain a fount of knowledge and a fabulous collection of photographs and archive material, the definitive events diary and Liverymen's contact details.

Charities supported

Name of Charity	Rationale/Comment:	Amount
Bishopsland Trust	<i>Trade - Jewellery</i>	1,500
Royal School of Needlework	<i>Trade - Embroidery</i>	1,000
The Respite Association	<i>Healthcare, carers</i>	1,000
Roald Dahl Haematology Nurse	<i>Healthcare, children</i>	1,000
Scotty's Little Soldiers	<i>Forces, child bereavement</i>	1,000
Core Arts	<i>Mental illness, arts</i>	1,000
Impact	<i>Medical research</i>	1,000
Pinter Youth Project	<i>Disadvantaged children</i>	1,000
Second Chance	<i>Disadvantaged youth, education</i>	1,000
Hot Meals Service	<i>Community, disability</i>	1,000
Islington Somali Community	<i>Community, disadvantaged</i>	1,000
Young Urban Arts Foundation	<i>Community, arts, youth</i>	500

PUBLISHED BY
*The Worshipful Company of
Gold and Silver Wyre
Drawers*

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PRINTED BY
*Longridge Print, Crowborough
Design, Artwork, Printing*

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