



The Wyre Drawer

Edition 41 - Spring 2022



A Message from The Master

I was born in Kingston, Surrey in 1947 and grew up in East Sheen. I joined Barclays Bank only because my older sister was 'in banking' and enjoyed working in the Kings Road in Chelsea in the sixties. However, that didn't satisfy my wanderlust, and so at the tender age of twenty I joined Australia & New Zealand Bank in New Zealand for four most enjoyable years travelling around the South Pacific region. Since my return to the UK I have held senior positions in several banks and fund management companies in the City before establishing my own corporate financial consultancy in 2002, which I still manage.

I am married to Denise and we live in a small village in Essex with a French sounding name – Layer de la Haye. We have two daughters who are married and have two young children each. They live relatively near to us, and so our grandchildren are regular and very welcome visitors!

I became a liveryman in 2003 but my interest at the time was purely social, and it was only some years later when I took a greater interest in the structure of our livery company and became more involved in committee work. I served on the Charity, Fundraising & Events Committee for nine years, including four years as Chairman, and I have been involved with the Finance Committee since 2014. I joined the Court in 2012 and the rest, as they say, is history!

I have always had a passion for travel, and I still have a lengthy bucket list of places to visit which is 'on hold' until after my year as your Master. My other passion is Fulham Football Club, who I have loyally followed since 1957 and have the grey hairs to evidence I have watched them play in all four divisions. I also have the unusual hobby of collecting old passports from England and the USA, the oldest of which is dated 1640.

I have nominated The Kernos Centre as my charity for 2022. Kernos is a small counselling charity based in Sudbury in Suffolk, although it receives referrals from far beyond. I served as a trustee at Kernos for several years, and I assure you that this charity is most worthy of our support.

It is an honour and a privilege to serve as your Master of the Gold & Silver Wyre Drawers, and I hope to meet many of you during the year at the events I am planning and at our formal dinners. It is a daunting task to follow in the footsteps of my predecessors, but I assure you I will represent our wonderful Company to the best of my ability.

My very best wishes to you all.

- *Brian Turner*

101 Squadron's Vital Role in the Evacuation from Kabul

In the days and weeks following the 9/11 attacks, 101 Squadron VC10s were active in 'the War on Terror' and subsequent stabilisation missions in Afghanistan. For two decades the conflict in Afghanistan has influenced generations who have passed through the Squadron, many of whom cut their operational teeth on deployment with 101 or on previous aircraft types. Involvement in the country defined, and even limited, how we thought and trained.



In August 2021, many of 101's crews who had personally invested in Afghanistan found themselves involved in the tragic nadir of our mission there - Operation PITTING, the evacuation from Kabul Airport. Over 18 days, 50 sorties and 300 flying hours, the Voyager Force aided the evacuation of over 4,000 people. Amongst them British civilians, diplomats, service personnel and of course many Afghans, who in supporting the UK mission in Afghanistan were considered entitled to leave via RAF aircraft. Emotions amongst crews and passengers ranged from fear, confusion, sorrow and regret through to pride, elation, and even some laughter through the tears.

Whilst for some of 101's crews involved this was an end to much time spent in Afghanistan, there was an overwhelming number of pilots and cabin crew for whom this was their first taste of operational flying. It was these inexperienced crew members who were on the frontline engaging with the raw emotions and effects of the desperate scenes witnessed in Kabul. Regardless of age or experience, the task assigned to the Voyager and her crew was carried out with the utmost professionalism and excellence. When faced with long hours, difficult working conditions and challenging situations, the people of 101 responded with compassion and respect. One flight took off from Brize with the Taliban 50 miles from Kabul, only to land in the UAE to discover that the capital had fallen. Scared, sick, weak and mourning passengers were welcomed on board and given sanctuary. For many, taking their seat on the Voyager back to Britain was the first time they truly felt safe.

Facilities onboard were unfamiliar to many passengers, as were the western protocols and etiquette of travelling in an airliner. A great deal of patience and understanding was required by our cabin crew in seeking to look after distraught and confused passengers. On later flights, an interpreter was carried to assist. The challenges for the cabin crew were significant and took them well beyond their training. On arrival at Brize Norton,

a lengthy process began to arrive the evacuees into the UK. Crews remained on the aircraft caring for passengers for up to 5 hours after landing until the last passenger had left for their reception process.

As the last aircraft lifted from Kabul Airport came the end of Operation PITTING, but merely the beginning of the next chapter for the Royal Air Force and Afghanistan. Op PITTING has given way to further operations where Voyager aircraft and 101 Squadron continue to provide support and hope for Afghans. Having fled the Taliban government and sought refuge in neighbouring countries, the UK has committed to recover entitled persons to Britain under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy. For us on 101, the Voyager is familiar and a workplace, yet it is more than mere rhetoric to say that for many, a space on the Voyager is hope of a new life.

Voyager also contributed in the Air-to-Air Refuelling role during one final episode of Op PITTING. The US were the last nation out of Kabul, and required all of the air support available in case of Taliban aggression against the final few tactical airlifters. A Voyager was hurriedly deployed to the UAE to then rendezvous with F/A-18 aircraft from the USS Ronald Reagan and keep them in the air during the final extraction. Voyager was one of 37 tankers up over Kabul that night as the last few aircraft departed. Running the concurrent airbridge from the UAE to the UK and planning this special tasking happened alongside our permanent commitments to air policing in the UK and Falkland Islands, and our enduring missions over Iraq and Syria. Stretched close to breaking point, the Squadron took some time to reset afterwards.



Whilst we take pride in the work done and all that has been achieved, we do so with significant humility. After every Voyager landed at Brize, most of the crew would be home within a couple of hours. However, arriving in Britain is another step in a traumatic journey for many whose homes, families and livelihoods have been destroyed by the conflict in Afghanistan. We often think of them. Operation PITTING is viewed by many of us as a success – the rate of extraction of entitled persons was extraordinary given the circumstances. It concludes two decades of direct involvement in Afghanistan and, while a difficult strategic outcome to accept, the Squadron played its proper part and is proud of doing so.

- Wing Commander Mike Udall, Officer Commanding 101 Squadron

The Banquet at the Mansion House

What a long awaited gathering this was.

The doors of the Egyptian Room opened and the Master's party entered to the familiar sound of Handel's Scipio, played by the Band of the Welsh Guards, heralding the start of our first Banquet since 2019.

We were entertaining many special guests including Aldermen and Sheriffs Alison Gowman and Nicholas Lyons, Wing Commander Mike Udall RAF, OC 101 Squadron, Commander Justin Codd RN Commander Submarines, and of course our Guest of Honour Lt General Sir James Hockenhull.



Lt Gen Sir James Hockenhull

After a superb four course dinner with equally superb wines, Alderman Sir David Wootton, the Representative Lord Mayor, spoke and delivered the apologies of the Lord Mayor who was detained in Derry as part of a very important visit to Northern Ireland. Sir David thanked the Livery for their unflagging support to the City of London in so many ways especially through the last two difficult years, and expressed his particular appreciation to the GSWD for its support dating back to his year as Lord Mayor some 10 years ago.

First Warden, Brian Turner, then spoke with great feeling about our guests, the Representative Lord Mayor and Aldermen, and the representatives of our service affiliates, Army, Navy and Air Force, who are charged with the

fundamentally important role of 'the defence of the Realm', and of whom we are very proud.

Lieutenant General Sir James Hockenhull responded on behalf of the guests and delivered an inspiring, and at times amusing speech based on his experiences in the Army and the necessary qualities of a good leader, ie Commitment, Courage, both physical and mental, Compassion, Humility and Charity. Then, showing his innate modesty he joked about his constant fear of being 'found out'! An inspiring and thought provoking speech.

After the toast to the Company, the Master spoke and thanked the many people who had supported him and worked so hard over the past two years to support him and the Livery through

very difficult times. He spoke with pride of having many members of his family with him at this important event and thanked his wife, Judy, for her unwavering support. He also presented the Man of the Boat Award to POMA Jessica Metcalfe from HMS Victorious. Also, the Master presented a cheque from the Livery to the Representative Lord Mayor for the Lord Mayor's charities.

Finally, and most importantly, he asked the Representative Lord Mayor to present two new Awards presented for the first time in 2021.

Firstly the GSWD Award for outstanding work in promoting the Livery in the creative/trade sector, which was presented to Jean Scott-Moncrieff.

Secondly, following the recent Agreement with the University of Cambridge, the 2021 GSWD Award for Excellence and Achievement in Computer Hardware was presented to Cambridge graduate Jack Parkinson for his extraordinary work on wind effects on sound systems.

This followed the delayed presentation of the same Award for 2020, presented earlier in the year to Cambridge graduate Jonas Fiala, who also received a cheque from the Representative Lord Mayor to go with his Award.

A highly successful and enjoyable evening after a difficult but successful year for the Livery.

- *Jeremy Ray*



Jack Parkinson receiving the GSWD Award from Alderman Sir David Wootton

Longmore Army Visit - Exercise Sea Stoot

Every year bomb disposal experts from the Royal Logistic Corp have their skills retested to renew their accreditation to continue their work.

They do this by carrying out three assessed tasks based on real life scenarios they would encounter in the real world. This assessment is carried out under the banner "Exercise Sea Stoot".

Through our Army Liaison Officer, Liveryman Mike West, the Company received an invitation to observe this exercise at close quarters. So on a bright September morning a party of 15 Liverymen, Freeman and their guests, led by the Master, gathered at the Longmoor Camp in Hampshire looking forward, with some trepidation, to a day of bangs and explosions.

We were first given a presentation that described the devices which are encountered by the team, ranging from the simple letter bomb through to the more sophisticated explosive devices used by large terrorist groups.

It was interesting to note that the Unit are called out 3,000 times each year to neutralise such devices.

After a "range meal" of pasta bolognese we were then allowed to watch a team member undertaking one of his tasks. A suspected explosive device had been identified and it was his job to approach it, identify its capacity to cause damage and neutralise it. On television this would probably take 10



A Load Bang

minutes. We were advised that in real life this could take up to 24 hours of painstaking work by an operative moving forward centimetre by centimetre in full, heavy and hot protective gear. At one point we were asked to move away as things could get noisy.

We then moved to the range to witness a series of increasingly loud and spectacular Hollywood style explosions that displayed the damage which could be inflicted by a very small amount of explosive material.

It was impossible for us not to be impressed by the high skills and dedication of the bomb disposal experts and The Master thanked our guides for the dangerous work they undertake on our behalf.

- Liveryman Mark Russell

October Livery Dinner

The Master welcomed us to an excellent Dinner at the Vintners' Hall – the first for more than 18 months.



Murray Craig in Full Flow

We were entertaining a number of special guests including Squadron leader Brendan Dunne, OC Queen's Colour Squadron, Colonel Zac Scott, Chief Liaison Officer of the Royal Logistics Corp and Dr Susan Kay-Williams, CEO of the Royal School of Needlework; and our Principal Guest Mr Murray Craig, Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court.

Grace was said by our Hon Chaplain, the Rt Rev Richard Fenwick, with even more humour and wit than normal, but also of course the appropriate amount of solemn advice to us all.

After an excellent Dinner dominated by superb Confit de Canard, Fourth Warden Catherine Carr, introduced and proposed a toast to our guests.

Mr Murray Craig responded, and was as entertaining as ever talking about his experiences as Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court over many years including numerous overseas visitors to The City, especially a party of Chinese, who could not understand why the 'Little Red Book' given to all new Freeman of the City of London, did not contain any of the words of Chairman Mao !

The Master concluded the evening with thanks to Mr Murray Craig for his wise and amusing comments, and reflected upon other Masters of the Company who had served two years in the role, but he said that he had enjoyed every minute of it and thanked all those who had made this possible.

An excellent and entertaining evening which immediately followed the Annual Church Service at St James Garlickhythe, which included the incomparable organ playing of Sir Andrew Parmley, former Lord Mayor of London and now Liveryman of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers.

- Jeremy Ray

New Forest Experience

Finally, The Master's Weekend delayed from 2020 could go ahead, so a group of Liverymen and spouses gathered at the beautiful Four * Balmer Lawn Hotel in the New Forest in early September.



The Master welcomed everyone over a glass of champagne and Dinner on the first night and said what a pleasure it was for him that we could finally enjoy gathering in the beautiful surroundings of the New Forest.

Haven Charity Lunch

One of the highlights of a Master's year is the haven charity lunch generously sponsored by Liveryman Julius Oberegger at his North London restaurant.

The occasion is a wonderful opportunity for us to meet casually and enjoy Julius's hospitality. This year was no exception for our Master Mike Gunston who was supported by 40 liverymen and guests. The lunch got off to a slightly confused start as there was conflicting information over the time of the reception, which meant that some of us luckily enjoyed a rather extended Prosecco reception.

We sat down to a four-course lunch, starting with a delicious, cured salmon starter, followed by a perfectly cooked pink rack of lamb, a magical cheesecake was the pudding course, and finally, we enjoyed an excellent cheese board accompanied by a glass of port.

Julius became a Liveryman in January 2007 and to date he has supported fourteen Masters with the haven charity lunch raising many thousands of pounds for our 2nd Charitable Trust. On this occasion, with gift aid, a total of £5,142.50 was raised. A special mention must be made of Liveryman Trevor Lock who most generously donated £900 in celebration of his 90th birthday.

- Michael Powell

The next day the magnificent Exbury Gardens gave us the opportunity to enjoy these extraordinary 100 year old gardens in their early Autumn colours and beautiful views over the Beaulieu River. Also, for those wishing to relive their childhoods, a trip on a narrow gauge railway around other parts of the Gardens.

A formal dinner in the evening back at the Hotel enabled the ladies to dress in their finery, and a magician added to the pre Dinner entertainment

The following day we drove to the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu which was a delight for all the 'petrol heads' amongst us to get up close to a unique collection of fascinating vehicles, many over 100 years old.

From thence to Bucklers Hard for an excellent late lunch at the Master Builder's House Hotel, a quick tour of the 18th Century village and Maritime Museum, and then home after a wonderful and stimulating few days.

Very many thanks to the Master and the Clerk for organising.

- Jeremy Ray



News from our Freeman and Prizewinners *from Jean Scott-Moncrieff*

Kate Pankhurst won the Gold & Silver Wyre Drawers Award 2021, at the Hand and Lock prize giving ceremony at the Oxo Tower in November with her piece 'Lockdown O' Clock' (right).

'Lockdown O'Clock' is constructed from silk dupion, Edinburgh linen, silk thread, metal purls, bright check, passing, spangles, beads, paper covered wires, traditional bell alarm clock, moonphase complication set at 29.25 days. Kate comments, 'the piece explores our perception of the passage of time during the pandemic. In lockdown, time flies, yet is marked by the analogue slow phases of the moon and the growth of plants. For the first time, we have time to appreciate a dull cityscape and flocking pigeons as beautiful. The embroidered QR code links to a YouTube film I made as time progressed.'

In 2018 Kate was accepted onto the Future Tutors course at the Royal School of Needlework (RSN) at Hampton Court Palace, and was awarded a bursary from GSWD. She hopes to use her newly acquired conservation skills to assist in the preservation of historic British textile artefacts at RSN.



'Joanne Thompson is an Edinburgh based jeweller who makes special everyday wearable pieces and extraordinary three dimensional necklaces and bracelets which are comfortable, elegant and easy to wear. Her distinctive silver and soft black palette is playful and sensual; movement is integral to her jewellery – beautifully made, beautiful on and loved by women.' *Christina Jansen, Scottish Gallery*

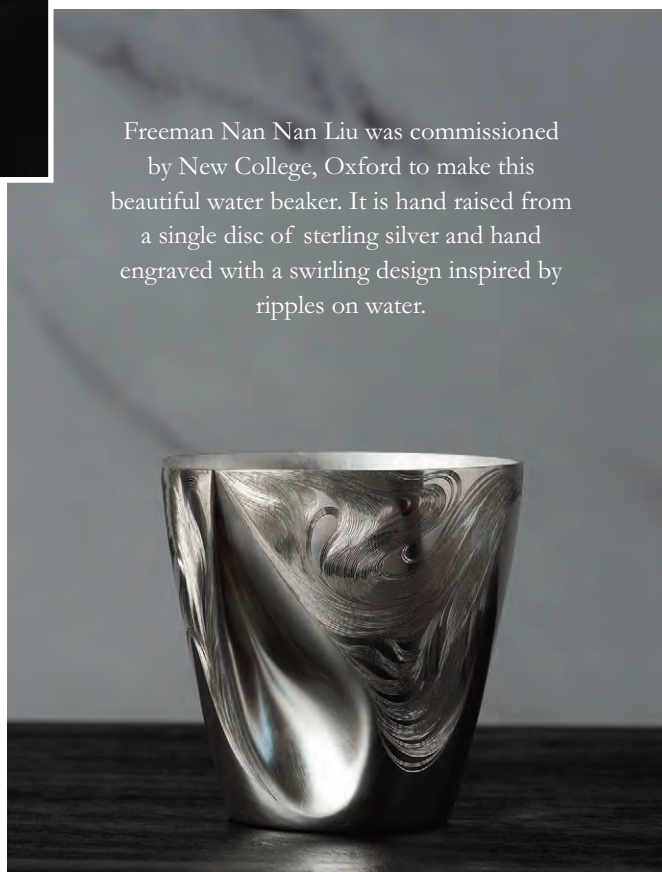
Freeman Joanne Thompson showing her work to Dame Lynne Brindley, the Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company during Goldsmiths' Fair in September (left). Dame Lynne gave the 'Best New Design Award' to Joanne during Week One of the Fair.
photo: Lucy Emms



Freeman Anja von Kalinowski has had her piece selected for The Broderers' Exhibition: 'The Art of Embroidery' which will be showing at the Bankside Gallery from 22nd to 27th February. <https://broderers-exhibition.co.uk>

*The Unseen II
Stranded Cotton, Oil
& Gold leaf on Mahogany
25.5cm x 20.5cm x 6cm, 2013*

Freeman Nan Nan Liu was commissioned by New College, Oxford to make this beautiful water beaker. It is hand raised from a single disc of sterling silver and hand engraved with a swirling design inspired by ripples on water.

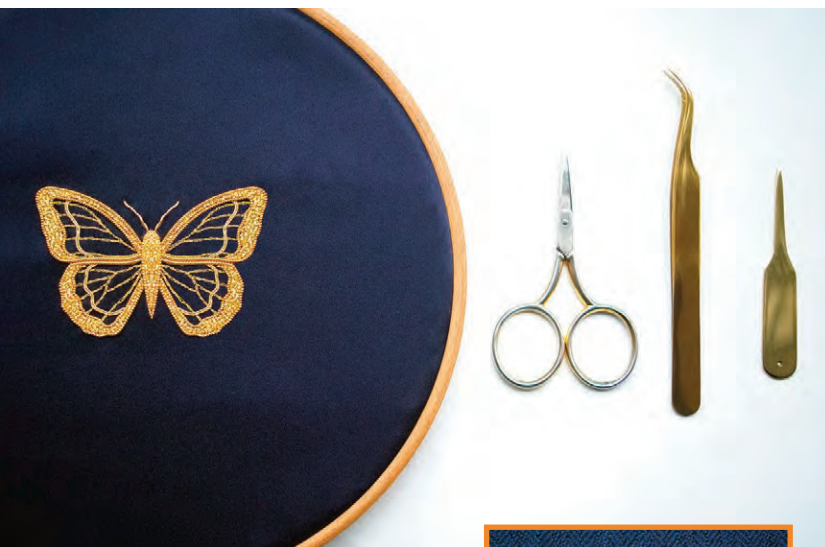


Freeman and 3rd year degree student at the Royal School of Needlework, Sabina Lima, won the Textile Open Art prize at the 'Embroidered Arts' exhibition at Oxo Tower curated by Hand and Lock. (right)

'Sentient' is a contemplative art installation that mixes two different media - traditional hand embroidery techniques and procedurally generated animation. It is inspired by morphology, in particular by fractal patterns – the visual connections between nature and us. The artwork creates a moving representation of a forest for the viewer to go through and experience in their own way. The artwork has two sides. On one side a printed design embellished with different materials and intricate 3-dimensional hand embroidery using traditional techniques of crewelwork, canvaswork, blackwork, goldwork, raisedwork and beading. On the other side an animated projection creates a living surface displaying her hand embroidery as the starting point for dynamic and mesmerising visuals.

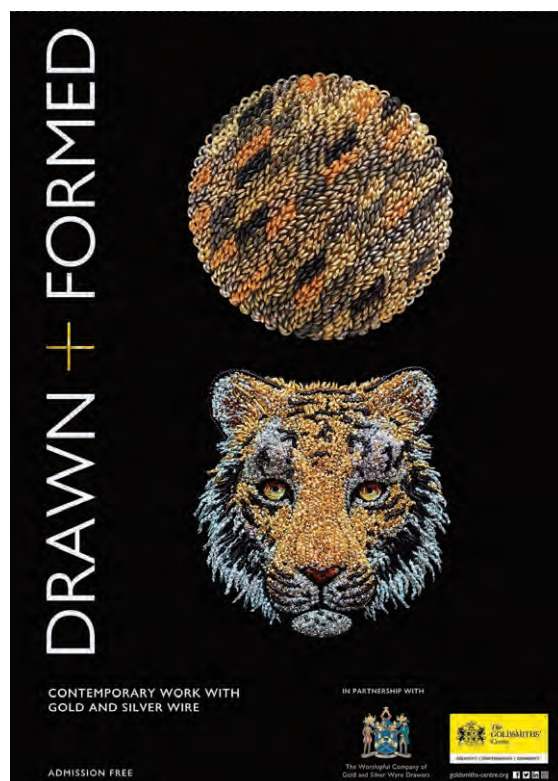


Entrepreneur and Freeman Liigah Thrower has launched AI ART SPACE (left). She says, 'it is the world's first Avatar led art gallery and shop built on an artificial intelligence platform. There is huge interest in this right now and it is used in many other major industries. Our mission is to expose high class artists to global collectors, buyers and visitors. Our intention is to display the best art in 2D and 3D trades and all art trades in one space, giving buyers structured, easy to follow and interactive access to investable art pieces.' Visit www.aiartspace.co.uk



Freeman Laura Baverstock was thrilled to be holding an exclusive masterclass in goldwork for The Prince's Foundation and the Future Textiles Programme in December.

She taught fundamental and advanced aspects of goldwork at 'The Golden Butterfly' masterclass at Barley Court on the Highgrove Estate in Gloucestershire.



Our major exhibition *Drawn + Formed* that was postponed due to the pandemic will now be held at The Goldsmiths' Centre, from June to September 2022. The exhibition will showcase the wonderful variety of the talents of our Trade Freeman - jewellers, silversmiths and embroiderers - all featuring gold and silver wire. There will be a programme of lectures, talks and masterclasses given by some of our experts.

Brooch by Andrew Lamb/Tiger by Laura Baverstock

Paul Constantinidi

Past Master Paul Constantinidi died of leukaemia in June 2021 at far too young an age, leaving Hannah, daughter Alexandra, a Liveryman and son George, along with his large, wide ranging family and friends devastated.

It was a massive tribute to him that at his Memorial Service in September there was a tremendous and impressive turnout of over 500 people at St. Botolph-without-Bishopsgate, followed by a reception at the City of London Club - where reminiscences went on for some considerable time!

The attendees were present to not only mourn, but to celebrate and remember a full and very impressive life. The Master and Mistress attended along with many other Liverymen, with the Lord Mayor reading a lesson, other past Lord Mayors present and with past Lord Mayor Sir Andrew Parmley playing the organ. The City civic was well represented, and the tributes were led by Dominic Christian, Paul's chairman at Aon and General Tim Hyams a close family friend and past speaker at one of Paul's dinners when he was Master, followed by a eulogy given by myself, his brother in law.

We will all remember him in so many ways and for so many different things, but also learned that day much more about his other varied interests and hobbies, as well as his total devotion to his wide family.

In addition to his family and City life he loved all sport and especially golf, cricket, hockey and rugby, but his oft hidden talents of skiing, fishing and shooting, as well as a near obsession with fine wines and Cuban cigars were also highlighted! He was a Life Member of MCC, a member of the City of London Club, where he had been on the committee for some time, Boodle's, Lloyd's Golf Club, Preston Cricket Club and the Poets Golfing Society at Lloyd's.

Practical jokes played a major part in his life as well as/but also with the immediate ridicule of any pomposity or bullying he found- especially towards the young or those less able to defend themselves.

The support given to him in his early years by his parents, Past Master George and Sheila, also shone through.

His City nickname was Rocky, but he was known elsewhere in our family as Punk,



by the younger generation, or just simply P by us.

He will leave a deep hole in all of our lives and that of the Livery which he supported to his very core, and where he will be remembered for his total dedication as Master, and where he made the most of every single minute of his year in office, always supported every second of the way by Hannah.

Rest in peace P.

- *Alistair Troughton, brother in law*

Installation Luncheon Monday 10th January 2022

Monday 10th January 2022 brought together The Master, Past Masters, Wardens, Liverymen, Freeman and Guests for the Common Hall Installation and Lunch at Vintners' Hall.



Retiring Master Michael Gunston opened proceedings by thanking the Wardens, Clerk and Debbie Dickens, for their support over a challenging two years. The ceremony then proceeded with the

installation of Brian Turner as Master and Catherine Carr, Roger Carter, Cynthia Fowler and Anneliese Edgcumbe as first to fourth Wardens respectively. We are now in the happy position of having three lady Wardens which is a first for the GSWD, and we suspect, fairly unique in City Livery Companies generally.

The new Master thanked Michael and presented him with his Past Masters' badge, and was pleased to announce the Rt Rev Dr Richard Fenwick had agreed to remain as his Honorary Chaplain for the coming year.

A splendid lunch was followed by toasts, Loyal, Royal together with Lord Mayor and City of London Corporation.

Past Master Malcolm Craig bidding welcome to our guests, started by thanking Michael Gunston for his two years in office and wishing our new Master Brian well.

Malcolm mentioned the Court had approved Assistant Nick Sillitoe as

Company Almoner, Liverymen Tom Kelly and Mike Whitson as Stewards and six new Liverymen were clothed, Ian Burgess, Major Craig Hallatt, Leslie Hutchinson, Richard Kay, Frank Spencer, and Willie Shuttleworth.

Our guests, Lt. Col Mags Miller, Commanding Officer 11 EOD and Search Regiment, Master Vintner Mrs Ann Hill with Clerk Brigadier Jonathan Bourne-May, Master Spectacle Maker Mr Ian Davies with Clerk Helen Perkins, and Master Gunmaker Graham Hill were welcomed. Also, Rachel Gardner from the University of Cambridge.

Response was by Principal Guest Michael Jones, a long standing friend of the Master, and as might be expected, Michael had some amusing tales to tell, not the least of which was that our new Master was once arrested by the New Zealand police for possession of firearms. But that's a story for another day.

- *Brendan Minahan*

John Hollingsworth – Our Long Standing Beadle

A couple of lucky breaks brought me in to my current career.

I was due for retirement from Special Branch, Metropolitan Police in November 1988, and was wondering where to direct my talents when a colleague, who was also coming up to retirement, drew my attention to one of the positions advertised in the Employment Circular issued by the Welfare Department. A publication I didn't usually bother with as most of the jobs advertised were all 'police type'. I wanted something completely different.

My colleague knew that, in the past, I had been asked to act as MC or Toastmaster for various friends who were too mean to pay for the 'real thing'!! So he thought that the job advertised, Beadle to the Guild of Freeman of the City of London, would be right up my street.

I applied and was fortunate to be appointed. So, buttressed by my police pension, and the Guild stipend, I was able to gradually increase work at West End hotels. In addition, I found myself 'head hunted' by Clerks in need of a Beadle. The late John Williams was Clerk to both the GSWD and the Tin Plate Workers and so, when the vacancy arose, I ended up as Beadle to both companies. I have gradually cut down, over the years and now have only the Guild of Freeman and the GSWD. I also continue with my



West End work and have been fortunate to have been asked to officiate at a number of events in the US and on the Continent.

My Toastmastering has been largely uneventful but I have had two deaths. The first, I was assisting a very experienced Toastmaster at Grosvenor House. When the Host stood up to speak, he immediately slumped back down in his chair. My colleague grabbed the next senior man and told him to make the speech, while we lifted the Chairman, in his chair, off the back of the platform, through the curtain. Nobody noticed!

The second was at a Jewish wedding.

Grandma was 'doing all the moves' on the dance floor and suddenly collapsed. We carried her out and went to put her on a chaise longue. A quiet female voice behind me said: 'Put her on her side facing the wall'. She was of course a doctor and could see that Grandma was dead and didn't want to alarm the other guests. Grandma went off in an ambulance and the party continued.

My appointment, as Beadle to your Company, was confirmed by a letter dated 19th March 1994, which means that, next March I will have been with you 28 years! I have enjoyed all of them.

- John Hollingsworth

Annual Carol Service and Supper



The Right Rev. Christopher Chessun Bishop of Southwark. Church Rector The Rev. Fr. Tim Handley.
The Right Rev. Dr. Richard Fenwick.

The annual Carol Service and Supper took place on Thursday 9 December at our Livery Church, St James Garlickhythe, shared as usual with the

Needleworkers' Company. Despite the ravages of Covid, a good number of Liverymen attended, and as usual there were plenty of children's presents placed

under the festive Christmas tree which were to be distributed by the Salvation Army to local disadvantaged children.

The service followed a traditional format of readings and carols, and once again the Church choir were in magnificent voice, ably assisted by organist Andrew Baars. The Honorary Chaplains of both Liveries shared the duties of the service, and it was good to see our Chaplain The Right Reverend Dr Richard Fenwick in fine form!

Afterwards, we processed to a local hotel for supper, and enjoyed a delicious three course meal with wine, and plenty of Christmas cheer.

- Assistant Nick Sillitoe

Young GSWD Reception at the Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall

The Young GSWD held an extremely successful and well attended Drinks Reception at the RAC in Pall Mall on Wednesday 27th October.

There were over 50 attendees at this sold out event including the Master, Master elect, Second Warden, Fourth Warden and Fourth Warden elect. It was also great to see so many younger faces who dominated the Reception.

The theme of the evening was 'Dress to Impress' and many of the Trade Freemen came wearing their masterpieces. Everyone made a great effort to dress up to enhance the theme, and the Prize for the most impressively dressed Lady went to Chikako Osawa-Horowitz, who was dressed in Japanese national costume. Alexander Samarenko, who despite being a Russian, came dressed in his full Scottish Highland dress won the Men's prize. Both won free tickets to the next YGSWD event – the Christmas Party.

Other amazing outfits included Freeman Francesca Lim's poppy themed dress with a handmade poppy handbag, and Trade Freeman Bella Lane's hand embroidered Albert slippers. Others wore spectacular jewellery accessories.

Clerk's Corner

Court Decisions

Wyre Draw

The Court has approved a new draw to replace the 200 Club which will be introduced this year.

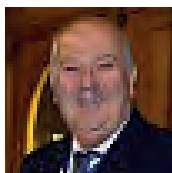
Almoner

This important role, the point of contact for all Liverymen and Freemen in cases of ill health, bereavement or general wellbeing, has previously been held by the Fourth Warden. This will now be held by a member of the Court for a period of several years which will provide essential continuity.

Elections

Almoner

Nick Sillitoe has been selected as the new Almoner. His email address is nsillitoe@hotmail.co.uk and mobile number is 07970 782252.



New Assistant

Henry Hobson was elected to the Court in October 2021. He is also the Schools' Liaison Officer and official photographer.



Wardens for 2022

The following have been elected as Wardens for 2022. First Catherine Carr, Second Roger Carter, Third Cynthia Fowler, Fourth Liese Edgcumbe.



Alexander and Chikako with the Committee

There were also two prizes for a business card (Gold and Silver Wyre) draw – a fabulous bottle of Champagne won by Leonid Dementiev, and an excellent bottle of Red Wine won by Isobel Gravestock.

Everyone had a terrific time and the last man standing, was our Master, Mike Gunston, along with two Prizewinners, who concluded the evening at a Chinese restaurant in China Town at midnight !

- *Lui Hui*

Stewards

The following have been elected as Stewards to support the Honorary Assistant Clerk and assist in livery functions: James Howarth, Mark Russell, Thomas Kelly, Mike Whitson.



Mike Whitson and Thomas Kelly

Admissions

The following have been admitted as Liverymen of the Company:

Colin Brown is a Proofer and Printer and is involved in Dancing and Scouting.



Eliot Budd is a University student, the fifth member of his family to become a Liveryman.

Paul Cushen is a Company Director and the Managing Director of his own company.

Rajiv Sabharwal is a Chartered Accountant and CEO of a Commercial Property Consultancy.

Ian Burgess is a Chartered Accountant and senior banker at HSBC.



Leslie Hutchinson is Chief Operating Officer of the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

Richard Kay is a senior partner in Beckett and Kay LLP. A registered valuer and he is a member of the RICS Dilapidations Forum Steering Group.

Craig Hallatt has held several senior appointments in army music and has been selected for promotion to Lt Col and take over as Commanding Officer Household Division Bands.

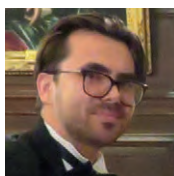
Frank Spencer is a businessman, Chairman and Managing Director of his own company.

Willie Shuttleworth has been readmitted as a Liveryman having originally joined in 1990.

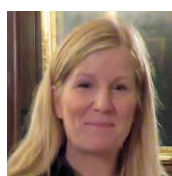
Admissions

The following have been admitted as Freeman of the Company via the Trade Route:

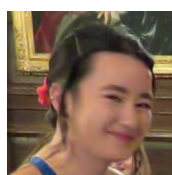
Leonid Dementiev is a jeweller and was a GSWD prizewinner in the 2020 GCDC awards.



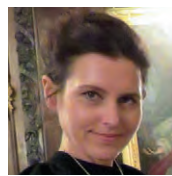
Anna Gordon is a jeweller. She was awarded first prize in the 2020 GSWD awards.



Francesca Lim is an embroiderer who won the 2020 GSWD award at the RSN.



Anja von Kalinowski is an embroiderer who won the 2010 GSWD award at the RSN.



Deaths

The Company regrets to inform you of the death of Liverymen Tom McKinstry (78), Sheila Eastman (91), James Salmon (46), and former Liveryman John Wynn (89).

Charities supported

The Court has approved the following donations to charities.

Name of Charity	Rationale/Comment:	Amount
Bishopsland Educational Trust	<i>Jewellery Courses (GSWD Trade)</i>	5,000
Live Unlimited	<i>Underprivileged youth support</i>	1,500
City Remembrancer	<i>LM and Corporation support</i>	1,500
Bede House Foundation	<i>Community Support</i>	1,000
Action Medical Research	<i>Medical research</i>	1,000
Ditch the Label	<i>Children's education and equality</i>	1,000
Rainbow Trust Children's Charity	<i>Support for children with severe illness</i>	1,000
Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity	<i>Medical support</i>	1,000
Royal Choral Society	<i>Music support</i>	1,000
Sheriffs & Recorder's Fund	<i>Rehabilitation of offenders</i>	1,000
Waterloo Uncovered	<i>Support for forces veterans</i>	1,000
Liquid Vibrations	<i>Medical support for disabled</i>	1,000
Royal National Lifeboat Institution	<i>In remembrance of PM Paul Constantinidi</i>	1,000
GSWD Freeman bursary	<i>Support for Trade Freeman</i>	1,000
Cedars Youth Community Centre	<i>Disadvantaged youth – GSWD Liveryman</i>	500

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Drawers

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

MASTER 2022 - 2023
Brian C Turner

WARDENS
Catherine M R Carr
Roger W Carter
Air Cdre Cynthia R Fowler
Anneliese M Edgcumbe

CLERK
Commander Mark C Dickens

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

Nick Sillitoe
nsillitoe@hotmail.co.uk

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