



The Wyre Drawer

Edition 43 - Spring 2023

GSWD 400
1623-2023



Installation Ceremony

A Message from the Master

What a fabulous honour it is to be the first lady Master of this wonderful Company, and especially in this most prestigious year celebrating the 400th anniversary of our first Royal Charter.

There are three things I will be focusing on: our membership, our charities, and the anniversary celebrations.

We have a strong membership, and it would be great to see it grow with more brilliant people from diverse backgrounds, and I ask you all to look for new members. Following the recent survey into how to make your experience of the Livery more enjoyable, the events planned for this year, both formal and informal, are designed to have wide appeal to you all. I do hope to see you at some of them.

We are understandably proud of the donations the Company makes to charitable causes. I am keen that we target these to where they will have the greatest effect and at the same time build strong relationships with them. I know many of you have personal links with charities and I would welcome ideas about who we should support. Charity is, of course, the foremost purpose of the Livery. My chosen charity for the year is The Chiltern Centre which supports young adults with disabilities to live life to the full. We will be holding a fund-raising event on our farm in Henley in September, to support the charity. All are welcome.

The main highlight of the year will of course be the amazing Exhibition to be held at the glorious Guildhall Art Gallery which will be opened on 28th September and will run for 6 weeks. It will celebrate stunning treasures of gold and silver wire throughout the ages. I hope that when you come and visit the Exhibition, and bring your friends, you will be impressed by the incredible objects we have been loaned, some of which have rarely, if ever, been seen in public. There are more details on page 12. To coincide with the exhibition, we will be holding our sumptuous Banquet in the beautiful Guildhall Old Library on Friday 13th October. It would be wonderful to have your support for this truly unique event.

For those that do not know me, my professional career has been spent in Human Resources. My first Directorship role was with Habitat in my early 30s and I have worked at Board level in a variety of successful companies ever since, with my last senior role being a Group HR Director. I am still working for the Ministry of Justice as a member of the Employment Tribunals. Married for 35 years to William, an arable farmer, we have 3 children, Sam who lives and works in Austria, and both Harry and Emily who work on the farms. I am a beekeeper, a potter, have a broad and eclectic interest in the arts and nature, and am happiest in wellies.

I'm looking forward to a fantastic year with you all.

- Catherine Carr

Installation Luncheon Monday 9th January 2023

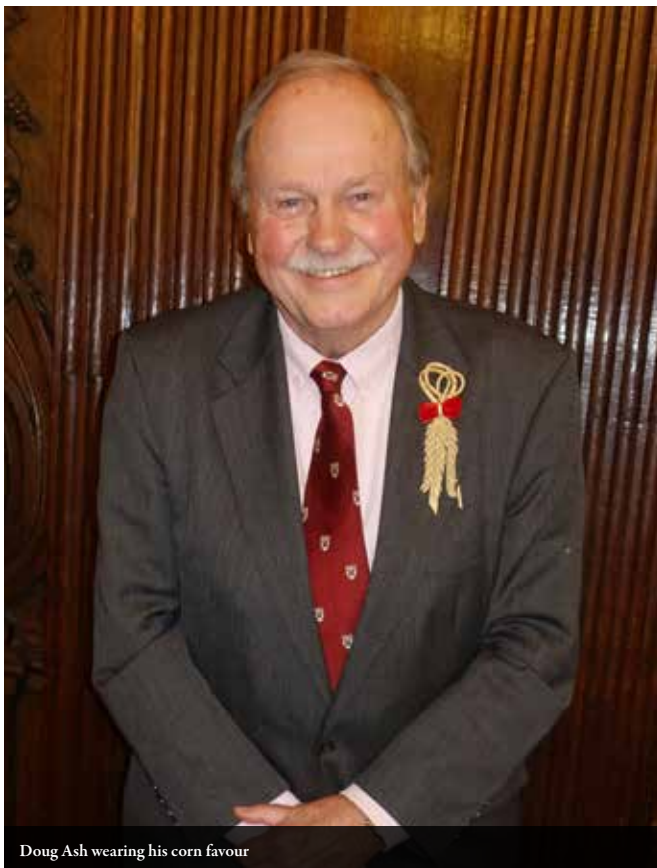


The New Master and her Wardens

Monday 9th January 2023 brought together The Master, Past Masters, Wardens, Liverymen, Freemen and Guests for the Common Hall Installation and Lunch at Vintners Hall.

This year's ceremony was particularly significant in that it marks the start of our 400th anniversary and for the first time the installation of a Lady Master.

To a trumpet fanfare the Master's procession entered Common Hall, and retiring Master Brian Turner opened proceedings by thanking the Wardens, Clerk, and all who had helped during his year in office. Brian had particularly warm words for Cynthia Fowler, who is stepping down from the Court.



Doug Ash wearing his corn favour

The ceremony then proceeded with the installation of Catherine Carr as Master and Roger Carter, Tim MacAndrews, Anneliese Edgcumbe and Jeremy Ray as first to fourth Wardens respectively.

The new Master thanked Brian and presented him with his Past Masters badge, and was pleased to announce that Rt Rev Dr Richard Fenwick had agreed to remain as her Honorary Chaplain for the coming year. In accepting, Dr Fenwick was quick to point out that this was the first time he had kissed a Master of the GSWD.

In speaking after her installation, the Master stated how much she was looking forward to the year ahead. Also, the Master talked warmly of Cynthia Fowler in presenting her with a lovely bouquet of flowers.

Trumpeters from London Heritage Brass welcomed us to a splendid Lunch followed by Royal toasts and a toast to the Lord Mayor and the City of London Corporation

Speaking about how much she was looking forward to the coming year, the Master drew attention to the events listed in the luncheon programme. She also introduced new Liveryman Dr Stephen Schofield together with Freemen through the Trade Route; Millie Whitehead, Jonas Fiala, Jack Parkinson and Jessica Jue.

The Master proposed a warm toast to the guests, who included a number of Masters and their Clerks from fellow Livery Companies, including the Vintners, Spectacle Makers, Gunmakers, Needlemakers and the Pattenmakers, as well as Rachel Gardner from the University of Cambridge.

In response, principal guest Mr Doug Ash, a long standing friend of both Catherine and Will Carr, voiced some trepidation in that his address was preceded and would be followed by the Master. Notwithstanding that challenge he then regaled us all with some amusing stories of the Carr family. Doug was wearing a special corn favour, provided for everyone by Liveryman Vivienne Havell.

- *Brendan Minahan*

Livery Banquet 2022 at The Mansion House



Major General Hutchins addressing the Banquet

To the familiar sounds of Scipio, the 2022 Master, Brian Turner, the Lord Mayor representative and his procession strode into the magnificent Egyptian Room of the Mansion House to announce the start of the Livery's annual Banquet on 1 December.

Guests arrived to a champagne reception with accompanying music from the London Banqueting Ensemble. Once again this year the staircase was manned by the Sea Cadets from training ship BARROSA, and the principal guests for the evening were Major General Simon Hutchings OBE, and Alderman Sir William Russell, representing the Lord Mayor, and Lady Russell.



Gabor Pituck - 2022 Cambridge Award Winner

A most delicious four course meal was preceded by a typically topical grace by our Honorary Chaplain, the Rt Rev Richard Fenwick. The London Banqueting Ensemble entertained us with background music, and as usual, the trumpeters created a highly enjoyable series of fanfares.

The Master, then proposed the traditional toasts to the new King, other members of the Royal Family, and the Lord Mayor and his Corporation, before presenting a cheque to Sir William towards the Lord Mayor's appeal.

This was followed by a thought-provoking response from Alderman Sir William Russell reflecting upon the difficult time that the City and the Livery have been through, but that the future was now much brighter especially through the great work of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers.

The First Warden, Catherine Carr, then proposed a toast to all our guests, with a response from Major General Hutchings, who gave us a most interesting briefing on the challenges currently being faced by the British Army, especially in the logistics of supplying much needed military support and equipment to Ukraine.

There were then two presentations of special Awards by Sir William Russell on behalf of the Company. Firstly, the Award for Excellence and Innovation in Computer Hardware to Cambridge graduate, Gabor Pituck. Also, the Award of special service to the Livery made to Liveryman Elizabeth Elvin.

As the evening drew to a close, the Master proposed a final toast to the Company, and guests enjoyed a final stirrup cup before heading home after a most enjoyable evening.

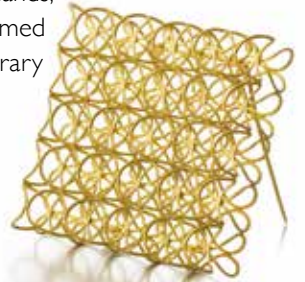
- Nick Sillitoe - Court Assistant and Honorary Almoner



Master, Brian Turner and Sheriff - now Lord Mayor - of the City of London, Sir Nicholas Lyons

Drawn + Formed exhibition at The Goldsmiths' Centre *from Jean Scott-Moncrieff*

The second Private View of our exhibition at The Goldsmiths' Centre was on 13th July for all the Masters and Prime Wardens of other Livery Companies. Our guests were welcomed by Master, Brian Turner and Sheriff, Sir Nicholas Lyons who explained the history of the GSWD and how the Company has reconnected with its trade roots and now has nearly 40 Trade Freeman and Liverymen. Many of the Freeman and Prizewinners, whose work was on show, were there to discuss their work and explain contemporary jewellery, silversmithing and metal thread embroidery made with hand-drawn wire. Spun, woven, coiled and twisted in their expert hands, hand-drawn gold and silver wire is transformed to make an exciting selection of contemporary work, using traditional skills and processes that are thousands of years old, as well as cutting edge modern techniques.



right, 'Perpendicular brooch' in 18 carat yellow gold by Anna Gordon (40x40mm)



'Floral Vase with Magnetic Frog' by Kyosun Jung in sterling silver, and 18 carat gold (20cm) in the collection The Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers



'Cocooning' ring and brooch by Siqui Zhang in fine silver (brooch 40x35mm, ring 80x35mm)

right, 'Pegasus' by Sabina Lima in gilt wires and gilt passing thread (17x17cm)



Lucie Gledhill's 'round crumpled hoops bamboo style' in silver (6cm)

below 'Loop the Loop' brooch by Susan Cross in oxidised silver and 18 carat gold (7.5x7.5cm)



'Brush Stroke Beaker' by Jessica Jue in Britannia silver with 24 carat gold foil (8x8x9cm),





Laura Baverstock's 'White Tiger' in silver 90% wires and coated silver gilt wires (18x18cm)

left, 'Dandalarm II: Lifecycle' by Kate Pankhurst in silver and copper metal embroidery thread, kid leather on a silk ground, mounted in a traditional bell alarm clock.



'Yoga Lady' by Elizabeth Elvin. Background turquoise even weave linen, with hand embroidered gold wire including passing, dull check purl, bright check purl, pearl purl, twist, spangles and 18ct gold Japanese thread (31x15cm)



above, detail of a woven belt by Liigah Thrower in fine silver (3x31 cm)

left, 'Barnacle' centrepiece. A pair of sculptural forms in Britannia silver and gilding metal by Hazel Thorn (24 and 30cm high, 12 cm wide)

below, Alex Standring's 'Metamorphic' in silk velvet, coloured purl, passing, kid leather, silk dupion, vintage ribbon, cotton thread (39x31 cm)



'Filigree' earrings by Filipa Oliveria in 18 carat gold, oxidised silver filigree and citrines (8x2.5cm)



left, Trophy for Outstanding Contribution to the Company by Matt Powell in silver with 24 carat gold wire (25cm high) in the collection The Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers (photo Juliet Sheath)

right, Trophy for Computer Excellence at Cambridge University by Nan Nan Liu in silver with a microchip containing pure gold wire. (30cm high) in the collection The Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers



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



Leonid Dementiev at 'Trove' (right) and demonstrating wirework at 'The Field of the Cloth of Gold' event held at the Painter-Stainers in the summer (above)



Freeman Laura Baverstock with her showcase at Milan Jewellery Week in September

Three Freeman, Jessica Jue (right), Kyosun Jung and Leonid Dementiev have their studios at The Goldsmiths' Centre, and showed their work at the 'Trove' exhibition in November.

The Centre was recently honoured by a visit from His Majesty The King as part of their 10th Anniversary celebrations. King Charles III has long been a supporter of young people starting their careers so it was a delight for them to be able to show him their workshops.



Freeman Andrew Lamb won the Trade Warden Award chosen by Joanna Hardy at Goldsmiths' Fair Week Two in October.



Andrew's Vortex Brooch in 18ct yellow gold, titanium and silver. Photo Graham Clark



Freeman Lucie Gledhill's 'Curb' sculpture (in fine silver and iron) was acquired by global law firm DLA Piper and is now on display in one of their client floors in their City offices.



Freeman Alison Evans was in New York in August showing new work at 'Melee The Show'.

Liveryman Nan Nan Liu

Nan Nan Liu's creative career first flourished with innovative paper sculptures. The cutting and layering processes that she favoured led her to silver wire and the fresh challenges presented by this new medium. She studied at the Royal College of Art and Bishopsland Educational Trust, where she is a Course Leader and Masterclass Tutor.



In 2015, she won the GSWD prize for Innovative use of Gold and Silver Wire at the Goldsmiths' Craft and Design Awards with her stunning Coiled Silver Beaker (above). The judges were very impressed with the fluid use of silver and gold wire and high level of craftsmanship to achieve this complex piece.



Sterling Silver Champagne Bucket - a magnificent commission created in 2022.



She subsequently became a Freeman of the Company in 2017 and then a Liveryman in 2022 - the first Freeman via the Trade Route to become a Liveryman in modern times.



(left) Silver Menu Stands commissioned by Past Master Malcolm Craig and presented to the Company in 2022.



(above) Candlelight holders which can be displayed singly or arranged together as a set.



Master Brian Turner, Past Master Malcolm Craig and Clerk Mark Dickens with Nan Nan receiving The Freedom of the City of London.

Charity Cheque Presentation - Mary's Youthwork



The photo shows CFE Chairman Roger Carter (far right) and Mary's Youthwork Team (Director Jason Allen third left). Mary's is one of the smaller charities that the CFE Committee are focussing on supporting as our charitable donation is a lifeline to them. London, like much of the rest of Britain, is suffering from an epidemic of violent gang-related crime as disenchanted youths battle for territory and drugs business. Many young people are excluded early from home and school and find they have nowhere to go save the streets. Mary's offers a safe place for the young person at a time of crisis and offers support to help that young person to become a valuable member of society. Patron Andrew Marr says "Jason and his Team are quite exceptional and exceedingly brave" and the previous Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Dame Cressida Dick once remarked "Listen to Jason; he knows how to solve youth crime".

- Roger Carter

Air to Air Re-fuelling Visit to RAF Brize Norton



The GSWD 'crew' Post Flight in front of Voyager ZZ332

On 15th July, Wing Commander Mike Udall, OC 101 Squadron (with whom we are affiliated), hosted the Master and 37 other Liverymen and guests on an outstanding and privileged visit to RAF Brize Norton to witness the Squadron performing their air-to-air re-fuelling role. This was the first event of this type since October 2018.

After check-in and security at the Terminal Building, we enjoyed a continental breakfast in the VIP Lounge before boarding Voyager ZZ332, callsign TARTAN59, for the flight. The Voyager is a version of the Airbus A330 airliner with 291 seats – so more than enough window seats for one each! The flight deck and cabin crew were members of both 10 and 101 Squadrons as both squadrons integrate together seamlessly to operate the Voyager and the announcements from the flight deck and from the cabin crew were no different to those on a commercial flight.

The flightplan was to head west, over GCHQ at Cheltenham, before heading north-east to intercept a military corridor through the airspace north of Birmingham, then out over the Wash to an Air-to-Air re-fuelling zone north of the Norfolk coast. Here the Voyager would remain on station flying elliptical circuits whilst waiting for “trades” (aircraft in need of fuel). Before leaving Brize Norton we know that we would be re-fuelling 3 Typhoons from RAF Coningsby but the possibility of re-fuelling the secretive, stealth F35B Lightnings from RAF Marham was in the balance with it being repeatedly on and off.

When on station, at 10,000 feet, the refuelling hose extended from each wing and Mike Udall gave us a detailed briefing on what was about to happen. Shortly thereafter, 3 Typhoons (1 RAF and 2 Qatari) appeared in very close formation line abreast to the left of the Voyager. Once the Voyager crew were happy that the Typhoons were stable and that their speed matched the Voyager, one Typhoon dropped below the Voyager and re-appeared on the right wing to engage the right re-fuelling

drogue and another engaged the left hand line. Each aircraft took on 2.7 tons of fuel at a rate of 500kg/min. Once the third aircraft had re-fuelled, the three aircraft reappeared in formation on the right wing and departed.

The re-fuelling lines remained out and we remained hopeful! The flightcrew make it known that they have spare fuel available to aircraft that need it and, in our case, I think some behind the





Typhoons in formation

scenes “negotiating” may have taken place. Whilst we waited, those that wanted to could visit the flightdeck and talk to the Captain, First Officer, Refuelling Officer and to Mike Udall. All were extremely welcoming and engaging.



Close up of Typhoon refuelling - port wing

Rumours started spreading that the F35Bs were on their way! After a short period of time a pair of stealth F35B Lightnings appeared in formation before each refuelled from one of the wing refuelling lines. For many, this was the highlight of the trip.

The cabin crew from 10 and 101 Squadrons were superb and true ambassadors for the RAF. They were friendly, engaging, happy to talk about their experiences in the RAF and provided great in-flight service.

Once back at Brize Norton, Wing Commander Mike Udall showed us around the exterior of the aircraft discussing things such as the engines and refuelling pods and answering the many



F35B Lightning



Typhoon refuelling - starboard wing

questions. The final part of the day was a visit to the Voyager Hub – the home of 101 Squadron. Here we were shown around the History Room which contained many interesting artifacts relating to the history of 101 Squadron, which was initially formed in 1917. One item, a full dress uniform belonging to the first Officer Commanding 101 Squadron – Group Captain the Honourable Laurence John Evelyn Twistleton-Wykeham-Fiennes, had the RAF wings made from gold and silver wyre and may be of interest for our 400 Exhibition next year.

- *Phil Egerton - RAF Liaison Officer*

101 Squadron Memorandum of Association



A formal Memorandum of Association was never established with 101 Squadron at RAF Brize Norton.

However, on 28th November 2022, on board Voyager ZZ333 at Brize Norton, the Master and Wing Commander Mike Udall, OC 101 Squadron, signed a formal Memorandum of Association between the GSWD and the Squadron. This formalises the relationship set up many years ago by Past Master Tim Fitzgerald - O'Connor.

Also present were Tim Fitzgerald - O'Connor and Group Captain Pete Thorbjornsen, who was previously OC 101 Squadron, and was

clothed as a Liveryman in October 2022.

The beautifully hand drawn and calligraphed document was based on the Memorandum of Association established with RAF Uxbridge 30 years ago.

The new agreement entitles the Master to become an Honorary Member of the RAF Brize Norton Officers' Mess during their year in office and also entitles Liverymen to become Associate Members of the 101 Squadron Association.

- *Phil Egerton - RAF Liaison Officer*

GSWD "Big Bang" High Explosives Demonstration – Shoeburyness

What do Monty Python and Farrow & Ball paint have to do with high explosives? Read on to find out...

On 5 September 2022, 7 intrepid explorers from the GSWD ventured out to the Ministry of Defence range at Shoeburyness, Essex – a 9,300 acre (when the tide is in) weapons testing site, with a small village. Our mission – to observe the Defence Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Munitions and Search (DEMS) Training Regiment (Royal Logistics Corps) at work.

The intro safety video's the key message was "if you didn't put it down, don't pick it up". Good advice! Then a 10mile drive across the range to our temporary home for the day, a 'splinter-proof shelter', surrounded by designated areas for testing explosives.

Rather than a scene from Saving Private Ryan we were therefore pleasantly surprised to be welcomed into a lovely single-storey building fitted out with lounge chairs, a wide screen TV (for watching detonations on the range via CCTV) and kitchen facilities, where our hosts greeted us with coffee before taking us up to the roof terrace to enjoy the views across the range, and see some shrapnel from previous detonations that had landed on the roof (we had not put it down, we did pick it up...with permission!).

From there we were escorted down onto the range to observe the students placing charges to detonate artillery shells. This is where Monty Python made an appearance – as a 'Ministry of Silly Walks'

exaggerated step was required to traverse the 'tan and black' (for laymen like myself, the wires that set off the detonations) which were laid along the ground. We also learned that NATO colour coding on artillery denotes certain characteristics, with 'smoke' indicated by a pale green (or "Vert de Terre" as one of our hosts described it - which may not be a NATO-approved description, but did demonstrate an admirable knowledge of the Fallow & Ball colour chart).

An immensely informative and entertaining day followed. We were treated to hands-on displays of shells and explosive charges, explanation of the design and technology of artillery - and its evolution as defensive protection to viewing (and holding) of larger missiles – some of which ('longbows') were detonated later in the afternoon, and much, much more. The highlight of the day for the Master came when one of the students kindly allowed him to detonate the charges they had carefully prepared – and the 'Big Bang' (or 'high order' explosion) that followed.

A huge thank you to the DEMS training regiment, and our hosts for the day (Major Anthony Gleave, Captain Adam Kennedy - and all the staff and students) who, without exception, were delightful, very generous with their time and knowledge, and patient with our many questions. Thanks also to Mike West, our GSWD Army Liaison Officer, for arranging this excellent visit.

- *Liveryman Karen Brewer*

HMS Victorious



On board HMS Victorious with the CO

In the brief turn around after a very long patrol of 135 days the Master and Clerk were invited to Faslane for a short notice visit and tour of HMS Victorious by the Commanding Officer Cdr Paul Jamieson. Due to current operation awareness security was very tight thus only allowing a very small group to visit. The Master and

the Clerk were joined by Past Master John Walsham. Past Master Malcolm Craig was unfortunately unable to attend due to covid.

On 1st August the delegation flew from City Airport to Glasgow to be met by Lt Christopher Jones who was on hand for

the transfer from Glasgow to Faslane. The Master then hosted a dinner for the CO Cdr Paul Jamieson, the XO Paul Hayes, the Commander Submarines (their boss ashore) Cdr Justin Codd and two other officers.

The following included a fascinating tour of the boat ending with an impressive formal Lunch in the Wardroom that had been prepared onboard. Chief PO Michael Shapley had been chosen as the Man of the Boat, but as he was on leave during the time of the visit, the CO accepted the Decanter on his behalf and will make the presentation when at sea.

Victorious has completed her last patrol before long maintenance and will be heading for the USA to offload missiles followed by a port visit for a run ashore and then to Plymouth.

We wish her well.

Master's Weekend 22-24 July 2022

The 22nd July 2022 saw GSWD's Liverymen and their guests arriving at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Stratford-Upon-Avon for the Masters Weekend, which turned out to be a lovely event in terms of the company, facilities and weather.



The Master in character

The first evening consisted of a sparkling wine reception, which enabled some catching up among old friends together with introductions to new ones, this was followed by an informal dinner which left everyone with a warm glow, not just because of the wine but also due to a very warm evening.

Day two started with a guided tour of the beautiful Cotswolds, stopping off for coffee in the picturesque village of Broadway. It was noted that one or two purchases had been made during this break. On return to Stratford we arrived at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre where lunch was taken at the Rooftop Restaurant. There then followed, what turned out to be an absolutely fascinating tour of the theatre costume department together with an equally interesting talk by staff into how the costumes were produced. At the end of the tour the Master presented to the Royal Shakespeare Company's Costume Department with a cheque for £1,000 on behalf of the GSWD.

The evening of day two consisted of a formal Black Tie dinner in the Seymour Room preceded by a sparkling wine reception.

Following hotel checkout on the morning of day three we all made our way independently to Charlecote Park Wellesbourne near Warwick, for a delightful walk round the house and gardens. Once again, as with the whole weekend, the weather was kind to us. There then followed lunch at the Charlecote Pheasant Hotel with much merriment before all taking their leave and bringing to an end what had been a lovely, relaxing and instructive weekend. Given that our clerk, Mark Dickens was on sick leave during the planning period much thanks goes to our Master Brian Turner for the organisation and time he put into the arrangements, no small task and very time consuming however, those of us lucky enough to attend came away having very much enjoyed the whole weekend.

- *Brendan Minahan*

Treasures of Gold and Silver Wire

An exhibition to commemorate the 400th anniversary of our first Royal charter by King James I in 1623



Queen Elizabeth I dress

The excitement is building. It is hard to believe that after 5 years of planning there are only six months to go before the opening of this sensational exhibition. Due to the tremendous generosity of so many of our Liverymen, and despite the significant costs envisaged at the outset, sufficient funds have now been raised to put on a truly stunning display of items

through the ages containing drawn gold and silver wire. However there are many more items we would like to display so fundraising continues to raise additional funds to put on an even better and grander exhibition.

The exhibition will be held in the prestigious Guildhall Art Gallery from 29th September to 12th November and be open to the public. There will be a grand opening ceremony and it will be opened by a VVIP. The City of London Corporation media, marketing and exhibition teams are fully engaged in supporting us to make sure it will be a great success. We are expecting thousands of visitors and particular emphasis will be given to schools and outreach. The annual Banquet will be held in the Guildhall in the middle of the exhibition on 13th October which will without doubt be a very special occasion.



Queen Mary coronation robe



Herald tabard

There will be 7 sections in the exhibition featuring: the history of the company and livery movement, the craft and technology of wire-drawing, royal and civic regalia, military, ecclesiastical, the performing arts, and present day applications. There will be over 200 rare and beautiful items, many of which have never been displayed in public before and we have been staggered by the kindness and enthusiasm of lenders. These exhibits will range from gold embroidered royal clothing, including the only surviving clothing worn by Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Mary's coronation robe and Queen Elizabeth II's coronation

glove, to military uniforms, civic and religious robes as seen on state occasions, and more modern items such as costumes from the theatre and ballet worn by stars such as Helen Mirren, David Tennant and Darcy Bussell. It will also feature our own treasures, some incredible items from other livery companies and a remarkable display from our own Freemen and their spectacular creations.



Supreme Court Justice



This is probably the most ambitious project ever undertaken by the GSWD in its 400 year history. It will be truly amazing and we sincerely hope every Freeman and Liveryman will want to come and bring their families and friends. Be prepared to be astonished - you may need to wear sunglasses with all the shining gold on display. See you there.

- Mark Dickens



Ancient wire-drawing



George Constantinidi

George X Constantinidi, MA (Oxon) was born in London in 1928. His father, Spiro Constantinidi, a member of the Greek Diplomatic Corps served as Greek Minister (then Ambassador) in Japan, attended the Peace Conference at Versailles after the Great War as Greek representative. In 1927 Spiro married Ariadne Rodocanachi whose family had settled in England in the early 1800s having fled from the island of Chios following the 1822 massacre. Her grandfather, Emmanuel Rodocanachi, was a member of the Fishmongers' Company and a banker in The City.



George (who had a twin brother) was born and brought up in England. He was educated at Eton where he played in the soccer first eleven and was second keeper (Vice Captain) of the Eton football game known as the Field Game. His National Service was in the Royal Horse Artillery serving at Osnabruck in Germany and the demonstration regiment at Larkhill. After leaving the Army he read law at Christ Church, Oxford, served his Articles in London and qualified as a Solicitor in 1952 - the same year he married Sheila Whittington, whose family were Mercers and had long been associated with The City.

George joined Royds Rawstone in 1955 and ultimately became Senior Partner, retiring in 1990. Since then, he had been Churchwarden of St Mary's Henley, Captain of Huntercombe Golf Club and Chairman of Henley YMCA. He was also a Parish Councillor of his local Parish- Remenham.

A keen sportsman, he was a member of the MCC. He played golf at most Livery meetings and in the GSWD team which came second in the Prince Arthur of Connaught Cup in 1988. For over 30 years George and his family owned a 70ft narrow boat, which they kept at the end of their garden and travelled many miles on Britain's canals.

George and Sheila were blessed with two sons, one daughter and eleven grandchildren of whom they are justly proud.

George joined the GSWD in 1974 and progressed onto the Court as an Assistant in 1987 becoming Master in 1999 making him the 268th since records began in 1693. George was an ardent golfer and a long-standing member of the GSWD Golfing Society. George, together with Sheila, participated fully in all aspects of the Livery and he will be sadly missed.

- Lesley and Ken Blundell'

October Livery Dinner at the Vintners

It was the Master's great honour to host Alderman Sir Peter Estlin, as our principal guest at the October Livery Dinner. The night was full of wives, partners and friends and some wonderful Gold & Silver Wyre art work and of course, delicious food.

We would like to express our pleasure in welcoming Hannah Constantinidi, Sanjay Gohil, Nan Nan Liu, Pritesh Patel, Peter Thorbjornsen who were admitted into the Livery and the Wyre Drawer family. No doubt they will become familiar to us all over the coming years! Lucky them!

The Third Warden also mentioned how honoured we were to have guests from other Livery companies; Mr Stephen Gilbert – Master Plaisterer, Mr Philip Hall – Master Needlemaker, Mrs Karen Mercer – Master Farmer and Mr Stephen Plumb – Master HCD. And of course from our military affiliations; Lt Col Simon Jenkinson RLC CO Kinton, Lt Col Dave Pickersgill RLC CO DEMS and Fl Lt Liam Williamson REF QCS

Finally, I would like to echo our Master Brian Turner and thank and salute for the last time our Clerk, Mark Dickens who was on



duty for the last time. I would personally like to thank him for his guidance and for all his hard work over the years. Also mentioned in a number of speeches was Past Master Tim Waller, whose sad passing earlier in the year will be keenly felt by all!

- Jay Bhatt



Our Livery Company has a vibrant Golf Society. Handicaps range from 4 to 40.

It's free to join, if interested, please email the Secretary with your name and mobile number.

Our 2023 fixture list is below

- Friday 31st March. Hadley Wood GC. A challenging and enjoyable course for all standards of golfer.
- Thursday 20th July. Tandridge GC. A Harry Colt designed classic course in the Surrey countryside.

- Monday 4th September. Ashridge GC. A beautiful Course where we hold our Captains Day.

- Thursday 28th September. West Surrey GC. A friendly private members club,

Inter Livery Competitions

Tuesday 19th May. The Prince Arthur Cup. 36 holes played against teams from most of the other Livery Companies at Walton Heath Golf Club.

Friday 14th June. The Army Golf Course where we play against a team from the Carmen Livery Company and The Royal Logistic Corps.

We have a great selection of trophies, team and individual prizes of bottles of wine and golf balls.

After each game we finish with a meal and prizegiving. Photos above are from 2022 Captains Day.

Secretary Henry Hobson
henry5hobson@gmail.com

Inter Livery Competition organiser is
Paul Day pauljday78@hotmail.com.

Captain is Brendan Minahan
brendan.minahan@trafoi.co.uk

Announcements

Admissions

Liveryman

Dr Stephen Schofield
– Director of IP
Innovation



Freemen through the Trade Route

Jonas Fiala - Computing
Cambridge Award
Winner 2020



Jessica Jue -
Silversmith -
Special Entry



Freemen

Adam Wilton MBE –
Investment Consultant



Millie Whitehead -
Embroiderer -
RSN Award Winner
2021



Deaths

Alderman and Past Master

Bryan Toye - 21st November 2022

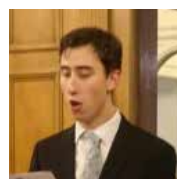
Liveryman Roy White - 2nd January 2023

Past Master George Contantinidi -
31st January 2023

Pragnesh Modhwadia -
Solicitor



Jack Parkinson - Com-
puting - Cambridge
Award Winner 2021



Resignations

Liveryman -Chris Somers

Liveryman David Williams

Liveryman Larry Haig

Charitable Grants

The Court approved the recommendations of the CFE Committee and grants will be made to these organisations. Most of these bodies were unknown to the Company before they sought our funding and the CFE Committee would like to encourage members of the Livery to recommend charities that they feel we should support. Typically, these should be smaller organisations who are London based or national but with a strong London presence. Charities with links to the trade or Armed Forces are also considered. Typically grants given by the Company are £1000 so the priority is charities for whom that amount of money would make a real impact.

You are also encouraged to review your annual charitable donation. After all, the more we receive the more we can give.

Affiliations

The Company has several affiliations, including military and cadets, and each has a Liaison Officer. They produce reports for the Court, and these will now be routinely circulated to the whole Livery so that all can see what we are doing with our affiliations.

Events

The updated events list will be circulated with this note. The following events are now open for booking:

Master's Weekend - Jersey - 11th – 14th May.

Name of Charity	Rationale/Comment:	Amount
Build Up Foundation	<i>Build up foundation puts young people in control of construction projects that make a lasting contribution to their local community.</i>	1,500
KEEN London	<i>The provision of free, one-to-one supported sports and recreational Opportunities for children and young adults with additional needs</i>	1,500
Regenerate RISE	<i>Reaching the Isolated Elderly with a day care programme, support and outreach to the community</i>	1,500
React	<i>Improves the quality of life by providing essential aid and equipment to families caring for a child living with a life -limited illness.</i>	1,500
Spire Centre	<i>Spires supports people to exit homelessness, maintain accommodation and access a network of support in order to achieve their goals.</i>	1,000
Kids Space	<i>Kids Space provides a safe haven for disadvantaged, vulnerable children in Hackney aged 4 - 17 where they are given the opportunity to thrive</i>	1,000
British Red Cross	<i>Request from Lady Mayoress</i>	250

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

*40 Woodcote Road,
Wanstead,
London E11 2QA
www.gswd.co.uk
clerk@gswd.co.uk*

MASTER 2023
Catherine Carr

WARDENS
*Roger Carter
Timothy MacAndrews TD JP
Annieliese Edgcumbe
Jeremy Ray*

CLERK
David Utting

MAGAZINE EDITORS
*Jeremy Ray
jeremy.ray@blueyonder.co.uk*

*Nick Sillitoe
nsillitoe@hotmail.co.uk*

PRINTED BY
*Longridge Print, East Peckham
Design, Artwork, Printing*

AUDLEY

The Seychelles

Island-hopping in barefoot luxury

Sugar-soft sand, boulder-framed beaches, ponderous tortoises, and luxuriant rainforests... An Audley trip to the Seychelles, shaped around you, can help you unlock the islands' different personalities.



By Kate,
Seychelles specialist

Wild Praslin

Venture beyond Praslin's white-sand beaches and enter its jungle interior to explore the UNESCO-listed Vallée de Mai with a private guide.

Languid La Digue

Spend your time idling along the boulder-strewn beach, kayaking the palm-shaded shoreline, or cycling the island's only road.

Secluded Denis Island

Tiny, remote, and largely untamed, this private island is your best choice if you judge exclusivity as the highest form of luxury.

For more information, contact Audley's Seychelles specialists
on 01993 460 295 or at www.audleytravel.com