



The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers

REPORT OF THE IMMEDIATE PAST MASTER



It has been a great honour and privilege to serve as Master and to represent you, the Liverymen and Freemen of this Ancient and Worshipful Company, at around 150 events during the last year.

My priority has been to help keep the Company moving in the right direction and to foster fellowship and fun through every one of our formal and informal events. The fact that our membership continues to strengthen and that our events have been well attended, bears testimony to

Spring 2017 Newsletter

success on both fronts. A big thank you to all members who attended events, introduced new members and gave generously in support of our charitable aims.

[Click here to read the full article](#)

THE NEW TEAM

With effect from March 16th, the senior team in the Livery will be Richard Kottler as Master, Alastair Watson-Gandy as Upper Warden and Dr David Best as Renter Warden. Jane Wilson continues as Trade Warden.

Mission Statement

Our aim, and that of the Court, is to continue to develop the membership of the Company and, more importantly, encourage more members to participate in the many events planned as well as being involved with the many fascinating aspects of running the Livery.

We also are planning to maintain and expand our charitable giving by increasing our income from fund raising and other activities.

We see the Livery continuing to be an influential player in the City Livery movement and in the two trade sectors it represents – the Footwear and Facilities Management professions.

Currently we have over 340 members of which 110 are Freeman and 215 are Liverymen.

ADMISSION TO OFFICE CEREMONY



In the front row in red gowns, from left to right, there are Jane Wilson, Alastair Watson-Gandy,

Spring 2017 Newsletter

Richard Kottler, Dr David Best and on each end there is the Beadle, Raymond Lewis and the Learned Clerk, Col Robert Murfin. The rest of the Court are alongside and behind the Master and Wardens.

BIOGRAPHIES OF MASTER AND WARDENS 2017/18

MASTER RICHARD KOTTLER

Richard was born in Chester and has lived in Ealing since 1987. He is married to Sonja, a management and communications consultant and has two sons and five grandchildren.

He attended Northampton Grammar School and read Law at Queens' College Cambridge.

[Click here to read the full biography](#)

UPPER WARDEN ALASTAIR WATSON-GANDY

Alastair was born in Westmorland and then moved to India and Germany. He was in Berlin during the Air lift, when the Russians decided to blockade Berlin. He was educated at Eton, Keele (BA in Economics and Chemistry) and Lancaster (MA in Operational research). He also organised the micro and macro forecasting study group. His wife was a famous China artist, who died in 2001

[Click here to read the full biography](#)

RENTER WARDEN DR. DAVID BEST

Prior to joining ONS, David was Acting Head of Transformation, Digital Services Directorate at the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) in London, designing many of the structures and processes currently implemented at MoJ to enable effecting working between Technology and Digital Services. Before that, he was the Senior Technical Adviser at the Government Digital Services for 15 months.

[Click here to read the full biography](#)

TRADE WARDEN JANE WILSON

Jane is an experienced business leader with an international background in commercial management. She has achieved proven success, over many years at board level, creating growth and business-turnaround throughout her career in the footwear and accessories sector. She was Chief Executive of the children's footwear group Start-rite and Chief Product Officer at Clarks International.

[Click here to read the full biography](#)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Here's a quick run-down of what's currently in the pipeline;

- **May 10th:** Young Pattenmakers talk by Bryan Okonyansky on 3D Printing at St Margaret
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Spring 2017 Newsletter

Pattens.

- **May 19/20th:** The Northern Dinner in Manchester Town Hall.
- **May 25th:** Ascension Day Service. This is always a wonderful and moving service held in our own Guild Church along with our sister Company, the Basketmakers. But this year will be different and unmissable for we will be incorporating the celebration of our Tercentenary with special elements of the service reflecting that history. We hope to have our Patron, HRH the Duke of Gloucester as well as senior representatives from the Lord Mayor's office and the London clergy. There will be a special musical performances and a splendid Reception afterwards in the Church.
- **June 2nd:** Tour of the Chelsea Physic Gardens and lunch
- **July 6th:** Court Meeting
- **July 11th:** 300 years ago on March 26 1717, during the reign of George 1, The Pattenmakers was granted the Livery. We will be celebrating this with a fantastic cocktail party at the Guildhall

The Guest speaker will be Alexandra Shulman, outgoing Editor-in-Chief of Vogue and our Patron HRH the Duke of Gloucester will be present.

The theme will be '*The Shoes that Shape Our World*' and there will be fascinating displays of iconic shoes and working demonstrations of shoe making.

We will showcase the charities supported by the Livery especially the Rehabilitation Centre for injured servicemen at Headley Court.

There will be a Raffle with some amazing prizes and it promises to be a memorable and hugely enjoyable event

GEORGINA WESTON'S VIRGIN STRIVE CHALLENGE 2016

In September 2016, I travelled 2000m from the Matterhorn in Switzerland to Mount Etna in Sicily to raise funds for Big Change.

Having seen how tough life can be for youth in the UK in the course of my work with vulnerable children, I couldn't resist when I was offered a last minute place on this adventure. I knew that it would be a challenge, but I was thrilled to have the opportunity to raise funds for such a great charity.

[Click here to read the full article](#)



YOUNG PATTENMAKERS REPORT FROM MARTE REKAA

November 9th event: Talk by Liveryman David Sharp

The event consisted of a presentation by Liveryman David Sharp at St Margaret Pattens followed by networking at the nearby pub The Ship Inn.

David ran the marathon for the Pattenmakers 2 years ago, and went on to do the Iron Man South Africa the following year, raising nearly £4500 for our charitable foundation on the process.

It all started as a challenge between friends 2 years prior to that, and David decided to use the London marathon as a “warm up” for the big event in South Africa.

David is a great speaker and inspired us all to step out of our comfort zones

Spring 2017 Newsletter

We're happy to announce that David inspired his audience so much that Gemma Halliday signed up to run the marathon this year for the Pattenmakers!

Read more about David's journey here:

<https://looksharpinlycra.wordpress.com>

November 18th event: Young Pattenmakers Dinner

The 7th Young Pattenmakers dinner was held on board the HQS Wellington, the hall of the Worshipful Company of Mariners. The event is generously sponsored by Clarks, Timpsons, William Lamb Group and the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers.

As in the past, the event was a sell-out demonstrating the popularity and attraction of this group and making us the envy of other Livery Companies.

Matthew Grimshaw, our guest speaker had us all in stitches during his speech. He is the founder of The Pioneers, Management Innovation Consultants. After studying Law at Oxford University, Matt's career has been varied and exciting – from politics to management consultancy. In 2013 he launched his own Management Consultancy firm, The Pioneers – embracing the challenges of entrepreneurship, while giving innovative modern advice to businesses, large and small, to help them get more from their people by allowing their people to get more from their work.

The Master spoke and thanked Mathew and Liveryman Jack Davis proposed the health of the guests. After the dinner a lot of us went on to continue the evening at a local wine bar. A fabulous evening all round and we owe the sponsors a massive THANK YOU!

Forthcoming events

May 10th: Talk by Bryan Oknyansky

Freeman Bryan Oknyansky, a pioneer in 3D printing, will share with us stories about his work in architecture, product and footwear design. Read more here: <http://shoesbybryan.com> / <http://www.bryanoknyansky.com>

May 20 -22nd: Inter-Livery Yacht Race

We would like to enter the [Inter-Livery Yacht Race](#) organised by the City Livery Yacht Club this year. So far we have a crew of three, but we're still missing crew members, a captain and a boat! If you would like to join us, please contact marte@mlrphoto.co.uk ASAP.

October 11th: Talk by Georgina Weston

Georgina ran the marathon for the Pattenmakers 2 years ago and went on to do the Strive challenge starting from the base of the Matterhorn, more than 2000 kilometres to the summit of Mt Etna in Sicily by walking, running, cycling and swimming.

November 17th: he Young Pattenmakers Dinner

This year's Young Pattenmakers Dinner will be held in Cutlers Hall.

NEWS FROM HEADLEY COURT

On this occasion, we are quoting an interesting letter from Bill Bird Shoes which makes the footwear for the Headley Court veterans

“Andrew Ledger took delivery of a pair of brown brogues just before Christmas and has another pair in black being finished. He is at present doing voluntary work for different charities based in both South Africa and France. He said that the footwear had reduced his overall pain immensely and was a joy to be able to wear “proper” footwear again rather than trainers!

Richard Macey took delivery of his second pair and is now based abroad and back in service in a senior office based role. His shoes enable him to feel normal in his work environment rather than always living in trainers.

Andrew Bennett is awaiting further surgery after complications with his foot. Thus his footwear is now on hold until further notice.

David Longmore is also having on-going treatment and although his footwear is ready to try on, is also on hold.

Timothy Croydon took delivery of finished shoes at the end of 2106. A truly grateful gentleman (as are all). “The shoes are an amazing gesture”, quote! He is a key trainer in coastal command and his feet were hindering his ability to work until now!”

WHISKY TASTING

On November 22nd 2016 , Richard Muir, Chief Steward, again organised a great evening at the Scotch Malt Whisky Society, which was attended by 20 Liverymen and friends

It was hosted by John McCheyne the Society’s Ambassador and followed the normal pattern of sipping (!) five different drams of superb, aged cask full strength malts whilst enjoying a charcuterie board to accompany the drinks

The success of the evening could be gauged by the empty glasses, flushed cheeks and the increasing decibel levels of the happy attendees !

THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON AIR SQUADRON

We were pleased to receive this note from Squadron Leader Plank

"The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers prize is awarded to the student who contributes the most to the squadron and is awarded this year to APO Luke Jeffrey. As the Senior Student, Jeffrey leads not only the three Squadron Flight Commanders but the entire Student body. Jeffrey's calm and organised manner coupled with his excellent work ethic has seen outstanding results in this role. He is highly respected by both Staff and students, leading by example and showing unwavering loyalty and commitment to the unit"

REPORT FROM THE BRITISH FOOTWEAR ASSOCIATION

A commitment to supporting and helping to develop UK Footwear manufacturers is at the heart of the British Footwear Association strategy for the New Year and beyond. 2017 will

see the BFA focus on the provision of new footwear training programmes and other training led initiatives that will ensure existing and future employees have access to the knowledge and skills they need to ensure the continued growth and success of the UK footwear sector.



The UK government is also committed to significantly increasing the quantity and quality of apprenticeships in England and thus a new apprenticeship training levy will be introduced in April 2017, payable by all companies with payrolls of £3m per annum and above. The funds generated will be used to pay for accredited UK apprenticeship schemes. Smaller companies who do not pay the levy will also be able to apply for 90% funding from the government to access approved apprenticeships.

As representatives of the footwear industry, the BFA continues to help coordinate the footwear Trailblazer group, made up of 17 key footwear manufacturing members, and has completed a new, industry lead, footwear apprenticeship standard that has now gone to government for sign off and will become the official Level 2 **Shoemakers Apprenticeship** for use across the sector. Importantly, this standard will be the official route recognised by the UK government for footwear manufacturing companies to reclaim levy funds against high quality shoemaking apprenticeship training.

For non-manufacturing companies the BFA will also assist in identifying other apprenticeships (e.g. in logistics, digital marketing, merchandising, management and leadership etc.) that are relevant to businesses and employees and that will also be eligible for levy funding support.

As part of the process the BFA is also working to set up a network of training providers and assessors to ensure the shoemaker standard is deliverable nationally and that the quality of

Spring 2017 Newsletter

attainment is measured to required, consistent accredited standards.

BFA understands that this is a complex area to navigate for most companies and as such, the BFA is also committed to providing the level of knowledge, support and professional guidance you will require. To support the sector further, BFA will increase their in-house resource and specific expertise in this area as they move forward.

FM REPORT

Emerging from the occasional uncertainties of 2016, FM greeted the new year with a reassuring calm. The headlines for sector news show it's pretty much 'business as usual', at least for the time being, with new contracts being announced, some key senior appointments and a smattering of M&A activity.



At the time of writing, the annual FM Business Confidence Monitor data is still being crunched, but we can see some preliminary indications of what the industry itself expects from 2017. Interestingly, FM remains a pretty positive place: the proportion of companies taking a positive, or even very positive, view of the business environment is nearly identical to last year. On the other hand, there's been a significant dip in the level of confidence expressed for the coming 12 months – the great majority of survey respondents are now split over whether business conditions will improve or do no better than remain the same. As the researchers note, it seems that the relatively high number of 'known unknowns' in the wider environment is raising the level of caution amongst many FM businesses.

[Click here to read the full article](#)

LONDON MARATHON 2017

We have six runners, five of them first time Marathoners who all completed the race held on **Sunday 23rd April**.

Uniquely, in this special anniversary year, we are delighted to have three runners from the footwear trade – Shirley Hardy, Mark Jeffrey and Paul Bennett - not to mention a Young Pattenmaker - Gemma Halliday. Sam Cranwell and Gerard Shore complete the team.

As another first, Paul Bennett ran the entire course in a pair of ordinary day shoes and is attempting to enter the Guinness Book of Records by achieving this.

At a recent reception held for our runners, one of the dedicated team said: *"It is a great honour to run on behalf of the Pattenmakers knowing that the money I raise will go towards such worthy charities. I had no idea about the extraordinary relationship between the Livery and the Headley Court Rehabilitation Centre and was amazed to hear about the differences to the lives of these*

Spring 2017 Newsletter

heroes that some good looking, serviceable shoes can make “

Our brave runners completed the course and here are their amazing times:

Paul Bennett: 3.24.45

Sam Cranwell: 4.29.37

Gemma Halliday: 4.15.40

Shirley Hardy: 7.28.36

Mark Jeffery : 4.56.49

Gerard Shore : 3.12.30



Paul Bennett - Brogue Runner!

Spring 2017 Newsletter

PEOPLE

New Court Assistants

At the January Court Meeting, Liveryman **Christopher Dean** was elected to the Court as an Assistant.

Christopher is married to Jill, is a father of three, an Open water swimmer and England Water Polo player. He is a Solicitor and MD of the Dental Law Partnership Solicitors.



At the March Court Meeting, Liveryman **Alan Lyon** was elected to the Court.

Stewards

At the January Court Meeting, the following were elected to serve as Stewards working with Liveryman **Richard Muir** as Chief Steward

Liveryman **Keith Glennister**

Liveryman **Keith Bottomley**

New Liverymen

The following Liverymen were admitted at the March Court Meeting

Simon Adler

Richard Alexander

Rachel Davis

David Emanuel

Martin Heffer

John Holt

If you would like any information about the activities of the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers, please contact Robert Murfin on clerk@pattenmakers.co.uk
