



The Pattenmaker

WEEKLY NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

Issue 8

Friday 22nd May 2020

From the Master Elect, Jennifer Bryant-Pearson



Sir Tom - what a wonderful recognition from Her Majesty the Queen for Captain Tom's amazing achievements over the past few months!

Sir Tom's influence extends to our Pattenmakers as a number of Freemen are now planning to apply for their Freedom ceremony, having been inspired by his last week and Freemen Leanne Williams and Phil Taylor have now started the process for their Freedom of the City of London.

Continuing our report on front line activities by our Pattenmakers during the Covid crisis, Liveryman Sarah Hodge was inspired by the article on St Bartholomew's, where she has strong connections and she writes today about her rewarding role as a Bart's Volunteer

We welcome two more Freemen, Lucy Jaynes and Andy Polycarpou in the Members' News and introduce baby Oscar Lundby Hughes - newly born son of Liveryman Marte Lundby Rekaa, who chaired the Young Pattenmakers so successfully for a number of years before moving to Oxfordshire last year.

Our charitable cause this week is Footwear Friends and our Master provides an introduction about our latest involvement to an article from Freeman David Lockyer, Chairman and President of the Charity.

Former Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley shares his experiences of his year as Lord Mayor in our City of London Corporation column.

Postcard from Abroad moves to Sweden where Freeman Mats Vikstrom gives us an insight into life in a more relaxed lockdown whilst Past Master Helen Auty provides us with our Photo of the Week.

We introduce a new section today - Birdwatch and begin with a quiz to find the Robin's nest in the Clerk's garden. There has been a huge increase in bird watching and feeding during lockdown and we would welcome your own bird stories and photographs from your gardens around the country.

The Quiz is now becoming hotly contested each week resulting in a draw by an independent adjudicator. Our gallant Clerk provides the original nursery rhyme from which last week's answer comes ... does this bring back memories of childhood games?

Enjoy the bank holiday and please send us your contributions for Letters to the Editor and Birdwatch.

Our Charitable Fund

Footwear Friends

– Master Dr David Best



The Honorary Freemen of our Company from Zurich, are of course also Past Masters of the United Guild of the Tanners and Shoemakers of Zurich (formed in 1887 from the

two pre-existing guilds), and are no strangers to us. Peter, Hans Peter, Jurgen, Alex, and Marc have often been with us at Mansion House, and we of course visit them for the Sechselauten Festival. They have expressed their support for the History Book and will be recognised in it; They have very kindly made a donation to us, which we are directing to Footwear Friends, which seems a very appropriate charity for this support. It also seemed a good opportunity to provide a piece for this edition on that Charity and its work, and I am grateful to Freeman David Lockyer the current Chairman and President of the Charity who has written an article for the Newsletter. The Pattenmakers have supported the Charity for many years and always has a representative on the managing Committee.

Freeman David Lockyer the current Chairman and President of the Charity writes:



Footwear Friends is one of the oldest Trade charities having been founded on the 17th

May 1836 and is the only Footwear Trade Charity. The original name was the Master Boot and Shoe Makers Association for the Relief of Aged and Decayed members, their Widows and Orphans.

In the early days both male and unusually for the time female candidates for support received an annuity of £30 per annum, with orphans receiving £20 until they reached the age of 14. The charity also built a number of alms houses at Mortlake in London which were in use from the 1850's until they were sold for £6,000 in the early 1930's. One of these houses recently sold for more than £600,000! Today we provide grants at mid-year and Christmas for around 140 beneficiaries.

Over the years a number of name changes have occurred with the official name changing to the Footwear Benevolent Society in 1998 and our working name of Footwear Friends adopted in 2007.

Originally the charity only provided help to people in need in the manufacturing sector but over time the remit has widened to cover all sectors of the footwear trade with retailing providing an increasing number of claimants in recent years.

As well as our regular grant payments we provide one off grants to cover a large range of requirements through the purchase of domestic appliances, household maintenance and repairs, holiday grants and assistance with funeral expenses.

All the money we raise through events, sponsorships and donations, both company and individual, is distributed to our beneficiaries with the running costs of the charity met from the income from our investments.

The Society is governed by an Executive Committee who are responsible for ensuring the charity fulfils its constitutional and legal duties. Over the years many members of this committee have been drawn from the ranks of the Pattenmakers with in recent times Richard Paice, Simon Goodman and Richard Kottler, all Past Masters of the Pattenmakers giving long and valued service and acting as Chairman and/or President of the Society. Livery members Gordon Smart, Justin Morgan and David Lockyer (the current President) have made important contributions over the years.

Throughout our history we have relied on the support of shoe industry people to raise funds to help their former and current colleagues and their families who fall on hard times. Despite the existence of the welfare state we still have many examples of people who fall through the net and need urgent assistance.

In the mid 2000's Richard Paice developed a new initiative for the charity with the establishment of an annual award scheme for fledgling businesses who receive a financial award to help with their business and equally important mentoring support from industry experts to help them in their early days. This has developed into the influential Annual Awards which recognises outstanding footwear entrepreneurs and is a key event in the industry calendar.

This year is proving exceptionally challenging for the charity with all our fund raising events cancelled and income reduced to a trickle whilst at the same time requests for assistance increasing. At this time assistance from all our Footwear Friends is most appreciated.



City of London Corporation

The Mayoralty 2016-2017 - Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley



I have many friends who are Pattenmakers and it is a pleasure to share with you some of my experiences as LM689.

In most walks of life you do your best and, if you're lucky, somebody says "thank you" and throws a small party. When you become Lord Mayor you start with the world's best party – Silent Ceremony, Presentation of Addresses, service of Blessing, the world's longest (and most televised) unrehearsed parade; fireworks on the river, the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall, Remembrance in St Paul's Cathedral, wreath laying at the Royal Exchange and the Lord Mayor's Banquet.

Then you wake up. And it's Tuesday. And there are still 361 days to go.

Days filled with planning, travel, speech-making, interviews, interaction with a plethora of stake-holders. They used to say that the chief objective of Mansion House staff is to exhaust the new Lord Mayor by day one. That way the LM is much more likely to be manageable. Nothing has changed. Other than to say, the entire wonderful staff of Mansion House work at such a fever pitch that we spend the year collectively exhausting one another, living on adrenaline, caffeine and the support of any willing passers-by – especially the Livery.

As is well known, my background is a little different from that of my 688 predecessors. But make no mistake, the most important part of leading the civic City and being the

titular head of the Corporation of London is to promote the Financial, Professional and Business Services (and the Maritime industry – *pace* the late Bruce Farthing) for which we are held in the highest esteem across the globe. All of which, of course, is underpinned by the Rule of (British) Law, another fantastic asset.

During the year I had meetings with Royalty, business leaders, overseas representatives, ambassadors, military leaders, representatives of the church in all its manifestations and charity workers. These meetings coupled with the standard round of daily briefings meant that the diary regularly had up to twenty entries per day.

The role is far from a solo performance and I was particularly fortunate to be supported by a brilliant Lady Mayoress who made a huge contribution to the life of the City in her own right and whose own work, particularly with young people, made a massive difference.

The Mansion House staff is made up of, individually and collectively, outstanding people – ever courteous, professional and ridiculously hard-working. It was a privilege to stand beside them.

It is well-known that Lord Mayors travel extensively and I could give you at least one anecdote for every destination. Let me give you a list of those destinations and you can ask me for the anecdotes when I see you “on the circuit”: Qatar, Kuwait, Malta, Nepal, Pakistan, Hong Kong, South Korea, China, Turkey, Estonia, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Guernsey, Jersey, Mexico, Colombia, Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Kazakhstan, Isle of Man, Zambia, Mozambique, South Africa and the Republic of Ireland.

Under the banner EDUCATE – SUPPORT – INSPIRE Wendy and I had a great time raising funds for three charities, particularly

LSO Discovery, very close to our hearts. It was a real pleasure (for me, at least) to play the Saint-Saëns Organ Symphony with the orchestra in St Paul’s Cathedral. Less of a pleasure was the abseil down all 717 feet of the “Cheesegrater” Many of you supported both and we thank you for that.

Thank you, Pattenmakers, for your friendship over many years; I am especially in debt to Past Master Donald Newell who gave me enormous assistance when I inherited the planning of a concert and dinner at the Old Bailey from the indisposed Secondary. Lastly, I could not be more pleased that PM Chris Hayward will continue for a second year as Sheriff. The Pattenmakers and the City of London are lucky to have him.

Covid-19 Frontline Response

Freeman George Lilley



George Lilley - Managing Director

I work for Eric Wright FM, a regional business, operating predominately across the North West. We’re part of the wider Eric Wright Group, which in turn is 100% owned by the Eric Wright Charitable Trust. The company is *still* relatively unknown on a national basis, despite our victory with the IWFM 'Impact' award for 'Society and Social Value' in 2019.

We work primarily within the healthcare and education sectors. As such, our employees are working on the frontline every day, maintaining critical infrastructure which allows NHS workers and teachers to provide

the best outcomes for their customers and the general public.

FM companies are unsung heroes. We do the things that people assume happen by themselves. During project handover, there's no defining moment for us. We do all the daily, weekly, monthly and annual tasks with a monotony, confined to the sub-conscious state. We are background noise.

FM is a people-orientated industry. I have over 160 employees within Eric Wright FM who ensure clean, safe and functional facilities for building users 24/7/365. With this in mind, establishing effective communication with our people is the key to delivering successful FM services.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are facing new challenges every day - this includes increased anxiety within the workforce. To tackle this, we have been communicating through a weekly newsletter which aims to reassure the workforce. We comment on the latest government announcements and explain how the company is adhering to their guidance. We also provide wellbeing resources in each issue, along with positive news stories from our frontline team.

I'm so proud of how well the back-office teams have adjusted to home working and how the frontline teams have overcome their anxieties and continue to provide exceptional support to those who care for our nation.

I wanted to share the following correspondence from a client at one of our Extra-Care facilities, which illustrates perfectly the character of our people:

"I just wanted to send you a heartfelt message from myself to express how grateful I am that Anne-Marie and Stacey still come into work every day and keep people safe during such a challenging time.



Not only that but they have made an effort to take out 10 minutes once a week for the last six weeks to join us in entertaining the residents for a pick me up sing-song and dance in the gardens.

They have really put in the effort and helped pick up the spirits of the residents, and I really can't express in words how grateful I am for this. We have had so many positive comments from all involved. The residents look forward to this every week now."

I have met some fantastic people throughout my career, just like Anne-Marie and Stacey. But unfortunately, I often see these people at the receiving end of the 'race to the bottom', with unrealistic targets, working on minimum wage and zero-hour contracts.

I genuinely hope that society will recognise their value and that business leaders will reward exemplary performance during the pandemic with a permanent change to their pay and conditions, providing a sense of security and belonging - a real silver lining, in light of these harsh and challenging times.

Freeman Sarah Hodge



It was fabulous to read the article on St Bartholomew's in our last newsletter. Barts Healthcare Trust is made up of 5 amazing hospitals that serve the whole of East London including my local

hospital Whipps Cross. A very special place and one that is particularly dear to my heart, as I was born there. My personal connection with Barts has continued and a few years ago when diagnosed with breast cancer it became the focus of my life for 18 months.

First, I was under the amazing care of the leading breast cancer centre and surgery at Whipps Cross Hospital and then continued my lifesaving care on St Bart's 7th floor where I received chemotherapy and radiotherapy. Looking out at the spectacular views of St Paul's Cathedral and across the City every day made me thankful and proud to be a part of the fabulous City of London.

I have often wondered how I can ever repay the NHS for what they have done for me. During my treatment, I did a campaign of 50 not so random acts of thanks to specific front line staff that made my experience as a patient just that little bit better, small gifts to thank them for the relentless way they serve day in day out giving their kindness freely.

When the COVID crisis started it presented the perfect opportunity to give back and support in some small way the fabulous work of the NHS. I immediately applied to join Barts Volunteers and was accepted. My first weeks were spent sorting and distributing the unbelievably generous donations from organisations, institutions, groups, and individuals.

This included being the Easter bunny and

handing out 30,000 Easter eggs and organizing a warehouse full of food and goods to be sent across the Trust. The kindness and generosity has been overwhelming to those in the hospitals. I particularly enjoyed thanking the fabulous Facilities Management teams including the cleaners and porters who have played such a critical role in this crisis.

The relationship and value that is placed on the FM staff working for supplier organisations such as the domestics, porters and security guards has transformed overnight with all staff working together for the common cause and hopefully this will be a legacy of the crisis.

In our last newsletter we heard about the emergency funding from Barts charity COVID appeal being made available to be rapidly deployed to support staff to address some immediate welfare needs and hopefully, in the longer term, to reduce the impact of the crisis on staff. I am delighted to be able to tell you how this has been implemented and that the fund is already having a positive impact on staff wellbeing daily.

I got involved offering my experience and time to setting up and running the new Wellbeing Hub at Whipps Cross. A suitable disused space was identified, and the team got to work and begged and borrowed furniture, equipment and acquired items to make the rooms cosy places to help staff relax and unwind. Equipped with sofas with throws, cushions, aromatherapy diffusers, phone chargers, and battery powered candles and artificial plants we transformed the space into a relaxing haven.

The hubs offer a comfortable and welcoming space where downtime is encouraged in a calm room with gentle music and a neurotoxic massage bed and aromatherapy

diffusers and activities such as mindfulness colouring, puzzles, creative arts and crafts activities and writing messages of encouragement and kindness to each other. Hot drinks, fruit and snacks are available throughout the day and croissants are served each morning.



Neurosonic Bed

This has created a space where staff can take some time out from their intense day-to-day work on the COVID-19 front line. The space and these services are open to all staff including the cleaners, domestics, security guards, porters as well as NHS Trust staff - All are welcome together in this space for the first time and daily drop-in psychology therapy sessions have started for staff who need more support.

This has quickly taken off with everyone loving the space and it is already serving over 100 staff daily. It is hoped that the service will continue and be expanded as be a legacy of the COVID crisis on a permanent basis as it has had such a great impact.

There have been some lovely celebratory days bringing lightness and fun to the hospital and raising morale including the Easter Bunny, International Midwives' day, View Day and last week a great celebration for International Nurse's Day when the volunteers made and handed out 1000 pamper parcels to nurses thanking them for their extraordinary care and dedication.

It feels good to be supporting in some small way the incredible work of the NHS and be a part of this wonderful institution that has been caring and supporting London since 1515.

Members' News

Liveryman Marte Lundby Rekaa



Oscar Lundby Hughes was born on May 9th 2020 at 12.06 after keeping us waiting for nearly 2 weeks over his due date.

He weighed in at 9lbs 10oz and doesn't lack in height either! He is as cheeky as he is gorgeous and we couldn't be happier!!

New Freeman Lucy Jeynes



I grew up in Doncaster, before studying Modern Languages at Pembroke College Cambridge. No-one in my family had been to university before, and it was the first year the College had accepted women so it was a

learning curve all round. This experience gave me a love for our heritage and traditions – something which I've been enjoying again at our Pattenmakers events.

I worked in the City and then for the Crown Agents before starting a facilities management consultancy practice in 1995. I have been enthusiastically involved with the FM profession as it has matured over the last three decades, helping to build up our professional associations, developing qualifications, and setting up the Women In FM network.

I live in Leamington Spa with my daughters Katy (21) and Emily (19). I volunteer as Deputy Chair of the board of South & City College Birmingham, one of the largest FE colleges, and I am passionate about creating and supporting educational and apprenticeship opportunities for young people, particularly from disadvantaged communities.

Outside work I spend time writing and performing poetry, and renovating my house in Brittany.

New Freeman Andy Polycarpou



I was born on the sunny island of Cyprus and came to the UK to study Computer Science in East London and here I settled, became and remain a loyal West Ham

football fan, a true Hammer! Just as I was intending to return to my native land, I had an offer to work at Dow Jones Telerate as an Installations Planning Engineer at managerial level, which enhanced my horizons both professionally and socially and was very much involved in liaising with the various banking institutions within the City square mile and beyond

In 1995 having noticed the requirement and trend of subcontracting chunks of IT business from large companies to individuals Information Technology, I decided to go it alone. We have successfully served clients for almost 25 years and recently had a company name change to Progress IT London Ltd, which emphasises more accurately the spectrum and sphere of our works.

As the UK government has nowadays officially placed the country under new restrictions in a bid to contain COVID-19, we have accordingly risen to the challenge and continued to serve our clients and have also managed to set most of them working remotely and seamlessly from their home locations.

I am married to Despi and we have two daughters, Ileana and Amelia and a dog - I adore them all! We have a big fat Greek family which keeps us busy, in Whetstone, North London where we live and similarly in Cyprus, where my father lives and who I visit as often as possible. As well as family and socialising I also like reading, poetry, learning, history and philosophising. I enjoy exploring ideas and self-development.

I met and became friends with my proposer Michael Kemsley and seconder Keith Bottomley in 2006 and my wife and I have attended several events and dinners at The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers. The ancient and long history and existence of the Livery Companies in general fascinate me and I totally approve and admire their charitable purposes.

Finally, I would like to stress what an absolute privilege and honour it is to have been proposed to for the Freedom of the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers.

Postcard from Abroad

Sweden - Freeman Mats Vikström



Astrid, my oldest daughter, is based in London but relocated to the Tyrrell household in Ponsanooth, Cornwall for the first two months of the nationwide lockdown.

She has been doing her bit to keep the Renter Warden Elect Pat Tyrrell and his wife safe during lockdown. Known as the “sacrificial young one” she’s been sent out to do the shopping as well as providing me with live updates from the frontline. Astrid’s live reports from the UK have provided stark contrast to the Swedish response to the pandemic.

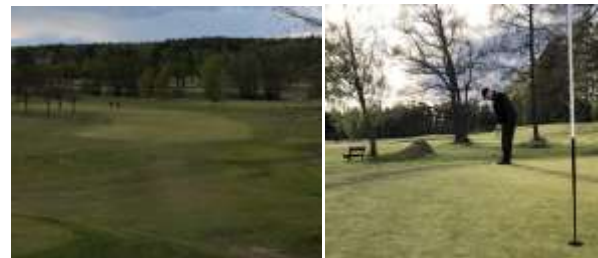
My impression so far was that the UK initially adopted a rather lax approach (not too dissimilar from the Swedish way) but faced with the seminal report from Neil Ferguson (Imperial College, London) and team, shifted to a stricter lockdown.

In contrast, the Swedish approach has garnered worldwide attention for how relaxed it has been. As I’m sure you know, the Swedish strategy has been one of “social distancing” based upon “individual responsibility” to minimise disruption to daily life, and the resulting economic impact, whilst ameliorating the impact on the health services. The official strategy in Sweden is to pursue ‘herd immunity’, and given the structure of Swedish society, and low density of population in most of the country, I think could work.

By and large, the strategy seems to be working. The main “failure” so far, has been a disproportionate increase in number of

deaths in elderly care homes caused by poor safety procedures for staff.

In terms of my daily life, a lot remains the same. The Government guidelines advise people to remain “socially distant” but are also encouraging physical activity. This has resulted in a large pick-up of bicycling, walking in the woods and all sorts of sports where physical interaction is not required. For example, I have kept my weekly golfing routine going for the whole duration, and plan on keeping that up despite the desperately slow arrival of spring up here.



Gyms are also still open, and my wife and I have been going 2-3 times a week. The gym is not as crowded as usual, and there is more emphasis on wiping down equipment after use.

My children are both grown up, but unlike most other countries Sweden decided to keep the kindergarten and 1-9th grade open. The main reason for this was that a very large portion of the staff in the health care system have kids in that age group. Had the whole school system been closed it would have meant that large portion of the health care staff would have been tied to taking care of their kids.

I suppose Sweden is an outlier in most things and prefer to do things “our way” – starting in the Viking age and continuing today. So why change? My hope is that we can keep it up when we gear up to “re-start” after corona!

Photo of the Week

Photograph provided by Past Master Helen Auty



My daily walk often takes me through Walpole Park, Ealing, the original grounds of Pitzhanger Manor, Sir John Soane's Regency county house. A renowned architect (Bank of England, Dulwich Art Gallery) whose

London home was the Soane Museum in Lincoln's Inn Fields, he redesigned part of an earlier house by George Dance (1768). The Manor has recently undergone a very successful 3 year restoration project taking it back to the period of Soane's redesign (1800 and 1804). The picture shows the lovely wisteria pergola in the old kitchen garden of the Manor. There is also a closer Pattenmakers' link as PM Kottler's partner, Sonja Garsvo, has been much involved in the recent restoration project.



Note from the Editor - Thank you to all those who have sent photographs, these will be appearing in future newsletters. We always welcome contributions.

Letters to the Editor

The Clerk has sent our newsletters to our Patron HRH The Duke of Gloucester and has received a response from the Private Secretary who is "impressed at how much you seem to pack in to each weekly newsletter".

"The answer to your quiz " What did the Bells of Shoreditch say?" Is "When I grow Rich"

Both Margaret and I are really enjoying reading the weekly issue of The Pattenmaker.

I have been busying myself going through my father's old papers, mess bills and letters etc trying to work out where he was and what he did during his 32 years in the Army (11 years British Army, 18 years Indian Army and 3 years in the Pakistan Army)".

From Steward Raymond Lewis

Richard Alexander wrote regarding the Freedom Ceremony for Captain now Sir Tom

"I cannot think of anything more appropriate in these current times! Thank you for the link to the livestream of the ceremony"

It is interesting to see a photograph allegedly showing anti-aircraft fire engaging a V1 bomb dated 1940 since the first V1 to be targeted against London was in 1944.
Renter Warden Elect Pat Tyrrell

Editor – well spotted. Pat is of course correct. In mitigation m'lud the caption does not relate to V1 attacks against London. As I understand it from the web, the V1 was developed from 1939 onwards and British Intelligence were aware of the danger that they posed. Perhaps there should have been an s after 1940.

PM Richard Paice wrote:

" to congratulate the Master Elect on the outstanding weekly newsletters she initiated"

The Clerk to the Company - Colonel Robert Murfin TD DL

X Marks the spot

Here is a picture of the eastern end of the Clerk's vegetable plot



Somewhere in the picture there is a Robin's nest.
entry with an X nearest the actual spot will win a highly prized and
sought after £10 Pavarotti voucher
To make it easier– here is a close up



All you have to do is place a cross where you think the Robin's nest is
and send it to clerk@pattenmakers.co.uk And spare a thought for Mrs
Robin who is sitting there day in, day out, no internet, no Netflix, no
mobile signal just social distancing in lockdown!

The Clerk's Quiz of the Week

The first name drawn from the hat on Wednesday was:

Past Master George Andrews

The correct answer was that the Bells of Shoreditch say:

"When I grow rich"

From the nursery rhyme "Oranges and Lemons". I am sure you will remember the game and recall that the last child caught on each turn leaves the game. You will also recall that the last few lines are:

*Here comes the candle to light you to bed
Here comes the chopper to chop off your head
Chip chop, chip chop - you're dead!*

Like most nursery rhymes there is often a sinister meaning behind their origin. These last lines refer to the fact that before 1783 condemned prisoners were transported three miles from Newgate Prison to Tyburn to face execution. At midnight, on the Sunday before their demise the bellman of St Sepulchre would inform them of their execution by candlelight. The executions were public events and thousands of people would line the route. The direction of travel of this last journey is also the origin of the phrase "gone west".

PS I thought there were only hangings at Tyburn but why spoil a good story?

Each correct entry will be entered into a draw to be made by an independent adjudicator at noon on the following Wednesday. The winner will be notified in the subsequent edition of the Newsletter

Each question is in or about our City.

This Week's Question

London Bridge was the only bridge across the river Thames until which date? And how many bridges cross the tidal river Thames?

Please send an email to

clerk@pattenmakers.co.uk with your answer(s) to enter into the draw. The lucky winner of the draw will receive a £10 voucher redeemable against any Pattenmakers' products