



# The Pattenmaker

WEEKLY NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

Issue 19

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020

## From the Master Elect, Jennifer Bryant-Pearson



August has seen a positive change here in my village in Gloucestershire as we had our first service at Beckford church since lockdown – a very happy occasion. Our Honorary Chaplain, Rev Andrew Keep was able to conduct the first service from St Margaret

Pattens since lockdown and is hoping to conduct a form of hybrid zoom and physical attendance in the future.

Back in London this week, I was struck by the array of different masks on display and so, as always, the Pattenmakers will be leading the way with our very own design available for purchase at the end of next week!

The exclusive Pattenmakers' mask is shown inside the newsletter and available at only £15, of which £5 from every sale will be donated to our charitable fund. Please place your order now with the Clerk as we have a limited number available.

Our charitable activity is even more important in these unprecedented times and today we feature Mawuenam Agbenu, the very deserving winner of the Paice Memorial Young Manager Award as well as the new Commanding Officer of 824 Naval Squadron.

From the City, Andrew Carwood, Director of Music at St Paul's cathedral brings us up to date on their activities and some other Livery events are listed. Liveryman Graham Perry reports on the successful Pattenmakers' wine tasting event we held last week - a second virtual tasting is already being planned.

Court Assistant Steve Huxham follows up on the discussion at our recent history book webinar with a report on the Vanity Fair print and Past Master Donald Newell provides the Liverymen's Lament.

Trade Warden Elect Martin Pickard writes about his life and original introduction to the Pattenmakers and we welcome new Freeman Mats Vikstrom and Group Captain Teresa Griffiths.

Steward George Lambert is interviewed by Chief Steward, Martin Heffer and Freeman Steward Raymond Lewis recalls his days as Beadle, following our Beadle Christopher Moore's article last week.

Our avian correspondent, Freeman Richard Parlour introduces us to the world of the kingfisher and Past Mistress Barbra Edwards shares her vegetarian recipe for stuffed peppers.

Our quiz this week is very different and has been prepared by Freeman Jo Holloway whose gardening article last week proved very popular.

Enjoy reading and don't forget to order the Pattenmaker mask!

---

## City of London Corporation

### The Rt Hon Lord Mayor



The latest bulletin from the Lord Mayor to the Livery and Guilds can be watched as a video message from the Lord Mayor by clicking the link below, which will take

you through to the WeTransfer file-sharing site where the video can be viewed or downloaded:

[Livery and Guilds Bulletin](#)

---

### City Giving Day - 7 weeks to go The Pattenmakers are on the Roll of Honour



This year City Giving Day will provide the perfect opportunity to reflect back on the last few months and applaud the

way businesses and their employees have come together to support each other, their charity partners and local communities and, of course, frontline workers.

City Giving Day 2020 is really building momentum, almost 450 organisations have already signed up and are listed on the [Roll of Honour](#) on our website. It's really exciting to see so many new names on the list.

---

### Mansion House Scholars - Appointments in 2020

The Lord Mayor's overseas visits programme this year has been seriously disrupted as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, he has been able to appoint six new overseas scholars for 2020, drawn respectively from India, Mexico and Nigeria. Four will join this September, with the other two deferring their Masters' degree courses

until 2021. Together with the newly appointed scholar from Northern Ireland, this brings to seven the number of Mansion House Scholars appointed this year.

---

**Past Master Mike Kemsley** clearly has his finger on the pulse of the City. Following his article last week looking ahead to 2050 for the Company, it has been announced that Think tank Centre for London has launched London Futures, a multi-year strategic review to shape London's future to 2050 and beyond.

### From Paul Jagger – Worshipful Company of Information Technologists

The shift to virtual meetings and increased digital communication within and among the Livery has triggered several Freeman, Liverymen and two City organisations to enquire whether I have produced a digital version of The City of London Freeman's Guide, ideally one that isn't tied to Amazon Kindle.

I'm pleased to say that I have created a device agnostic eBook version of the guide which will work on any smartphone, tablet device, laptop or desktop computer with any of the myriad free eBook reader apps that are available on the web. The eBook is available for download from: [eBook](#) priced £9.99. If you'd like to circulate news among your membership **the first 100 downloads may use the discount code LIVERY2020 at the online checkout to receive a 20% discount** off the retail price.

The guide is also supported by my blog at: [City and Livery Blog](#) and my Voices of the City audio podcast interviews with leaders of the City at: [City and Livery Podbean](#)

Note: I update the eBook every month with new discoveries, significant new events (e.g. Sir Tom Moore and the first virtual Freedom admission) and the occasional correction. Updates, within edition, are free to past purchasers of the eBook. Hardcopies of the Book are available from the Clerk

---

---

## July update from St Paul's Cathedral



St Paul's, like many, has been undergoing a radical re-structuring process and we are now able to get to work in our new configuration, focused on keeping the Cathedral at the heart of the City and the nation. You will remember that in one of my earlier updates I talked about our virtual book of remembrance for those who have died during the Covid-19 pandemic: [Remember Me 2020](#)

It is very poignant to look at the many photographs and messages and it has quickly become a moving and helpful way to preserve the memories of those who have been lost. I am pleased to say that the Choristers singing *Lift thine eyes* by Felix Mendelssohn has been, and continues to be, an important part of that remembering process.

St Paul's now has a job of work to do and we will not shirk from it. We want to build a physical memorial to the victims of Covid – and many thanks to those who have already generously contributed to this; we need to provide a new support network for our world famous Choir – and again many thanks to those who already contribute; we need to help our brilliant Adult Learning and Schools and Families Departments to reach more people; and we need to develop our digital media strategy to allow people across the world to connect with St Paul's, to encounter a spiritual resource and draw strength from it – that is why we are here. It should go without saying that we also need to keep this great building in good shape for the present and for the future, so that many more people can marvel and be inspired by its greatness.

Thank you for your support which matters to us more than words can adequately express. The Cathedral is again open for public worship and for tourism and we look forward to being able to welcome you back as the lockdown eases. Please be assured that we remember you and all of the City Livery Companies in our prayers.

## Our Charitable Fund

### Winner of the 2019 Paice Memorial Award – Mawuenam Agbenu



I hope you and your families have been doing well during the pandemic and uncertainty which it has brought with it. Hearing about redundancies and companies going into administration is really upsetting but I am hopeful that everything will be better and stronger in the future.

One thing that has kept me optimistic was winning the 2019 Paice Memorial Young Managers Award. Firstly, I was ecstatic to have been nominated by Barkers Shoes so a big thank you is due there but then when it came to winning, there are no adjectives in the dictionary to explain that winning feeling. I never imagined what winning would do to my confidence. I have grown as a manager because of the belief I now have in myself, I am more confident in the decisions I make and I honestly feel that I can achieve anything.

The Paice Memorial Young Managers Award gave me the opportunity to access additional training in the form of Graphic Design course and also a Product Design and Luxury Brand Management course both have helped me to further develop my design skills. I had a great time learning something new and truly enjoyed both courses.

Occasionally, you are under the day to day pressure of designing a collection of shoes you

don't have the time to really enjoy, the process or even the finished out come. Both courses I participated in really helped me fall in love with design and the process of design all over again and of course everything becomes easy when you truly love what you do.

Not only has winning the Award helped improve my skill set but I have also gained a lot of confidence and knowledge that I didn't have before and as my grandmother always tells me, 'Knowledge is Power'. I have learnt that without encouragement, hard work and confidence, the knowledge that you have will just stay dormant

Thank you, the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers, for your generosity and kindness.

## **824 Naval Air Squadron - New Commanding Officer – Commander James Taylor**



A Cornishman who used to watch Royal Navy helicopters flying off the coast as he was surfing is now in command of his own squadron.

Commander James Taylor, who grew up in

Holywell Bay on Cornwall's north coast, has taken on the responsibility of training the ground and air crews of the Royal Navy's Merlin Mk2 helicopters.

The 40-year-old is now the commanding officer of 824 Naval Air Squadron, based at Royal Naval Air Station Culdrose at Helston – the home of the navy's anti-submarine warfare and airborne early warning helicopter force.

He said: "It is a real honour to take command of this fantastic naval air squadron. The work that we do here in training the next generation of air and ground crews is critical for defence – to protect the UK's nuclear deterrent and aircraft carriers."

From his office, Commander Taylor can look down on the airfield where the squadron's six Merlin Mk2 helicopters prepare for daily training sorties. Around him, in the large office building, hangar and nearby Merlin Training Facility, are 350 men and women of the squadron.

There are around 30 trainee aircrew – either helicopter pilots, observers or aircrewmen - and about 100 trainee engineers. Running the squadron are an extra 150 engineering staff, 50 staff aircrew and 20 civil servants.

He added: "For some of the aircrew students, this is the culmination of three years of flying training. The pilots, for example, spend a year at Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth, a year of elementary flying training and then they come to us for their final year at the school of Merlin.

"As well as training with live helicopters, we've got seven simulators in the Merlin Training Facility and we are pioneering the use of virtual reality. We pride ourselves as an academic environment for learning, right up to an honours' level degree.

"The first half of their training here is learning how to fly the aircraft. The second half is learning how to use that aircraft to fight. Then they go to the front line and after that, they come back again for more training with us. Their learning never stops."

Commander Taylor, a former pupil of Truro's Penair School and student of Truro College, said that despite growing up in Cornwall which has strong links to the navy, he did not initially think of a military career.

"I remember seeing Royal Navy helicopters flying off the beach when I was surfing," he added, "but it wasn't until I went away, to university at Cardiff, that I realised what Cornwall has to offer."

He added that it took a hateful university careers' fair to demonstrate to him all the jobs he did not wish to do – many of which involved talking jargon and sitting in front of a computer all day looking at spreadsheets.

---

"I hated that careers' fair. I didn't know what I wanted to do so I started to leave when I saw a navy lieutenant playing a Top Gun video. It took her to show me what I already had in Cornwall.

Later I joined a boxing gym and my sparring partner was an observer in the navy, and it was then I knew what I wanted to do."

Commander Taylor went on himself to become a helicopter observer, a job which combines the roles of mission commander and weapons' officer, in airborne early warning with 849 Naval Air Squadron. He took command of 824 Naval Air Squadron in July.

## Covid 19

We are producing our own face masks, the cost of which will be £15 with £5 going to our Charitable Fund. Keep an eye out for the order form.



### The Liverymen's Lament With thanks to Past Master Donald Newell

We heard our fate – "Don't congregate!" – the Companies were aghast  
Corona's struck, we're out of luck, our meeting days are past.  
No dinners at the Skinners', or any other Halls  
The Pewterers and Fruiterers are silent, like St Paul's.

"Stay at home - don't try to roam" - so nobody's around,  
The Haberdashers dash away; the Founders can't be found.  
Barbers are barred from Monkwell Square, the Cutlers' links are cut,  
The Stationers are stationary, and every Hall is shut.

The Saddlers are unsaddled, Musicians make no sound,  
The Coopers are cooped up at home, nobody's badged or gowned.  
The Chandlers - Wax and Tallow - have candles no one needs  
Our Halls are lying fallow, their gardens growing weeds.

The cellars of the Leathersellers – sadly underused,  
No one can dine with Vintners' wine, and Brewers feel bruised.  
The City's empty now; but still, the Companies will thrive  
They've been through times like this before - in Sixteen sixty-five!  
*With acknowledgment to Geoffrey Preston, Barbers' Company*

## Our History

### Kaid Maclean Vanity Fair print of 1904 Court Assistant Steve Huxham



At the end of the last newsletter item on the Loveday Commonwealth Cup, I mentioned my intent to go in an "entirely different direction" for the next featured item from the Company's

Collection. I will try to do so, as an example that the Collection is not just silverware, ceremonial items, or even pattens, but includes a wide range of what is perhaps best generally described as ephemera. This week's featured example, a caricature style portrait from Vanity Fair's "Men of the Day" series (apologies – different times!) also illustrates that there are different reasons that we might look to acquire an object.

In this particular case, the project team for the new History Book decided to feature a vignette of possibly one of the most exotic and intriguing Pattenmakers in all of our history: Sir Harry

---

Aubrey de Vere Maclean, or as he was usually and more succinctly known, Kaid Maclean. As outlined in the piece his story could be a Boys' Own adventure of the time. Born into the Clan Maclean in 1848, he was the great-great grandson of Lt-Col Charles Maclean of Drimmin who led the Clan in the absence of his Chief at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. In the family tradition, Harry joined the Army and saw service in Canada, Bermuda, and Gibraltar. After resigning from his Regiment in 1876, the story takes the exotic turn as he re-emerged the next year in the army of Moulay al-Hassan, the Sultan of Morocco, and then rose to become Commander-in-Chief, with the title of "Kaid", the Moroccan equivalent of General. Numerous adventures ensued, which included: concealing the death of the Sultan during a tax gathering expedition for five days so that the preferred succession could be secured; battles against opposing tribes; and his kidnap as a hostage for seven months by a rebel until a ransom was paid in February 1908. Admitted to the Pattenmakers on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1913, his listed address was "Drimmin House, Tangier." This was where he spent his retired years, and where he died on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 1920. He is buried in St Andrews Churchyard, Tangier.

We decided that the wonderful Vanity Fair depiction of Kaid Maclean in his typical Moroccan attire, and in the usual style of prolific portrait painter and caricaturist Sir Leslie Ward, pseudonym "Spy", would be perfect to accompany the piece. However this gave the project team one of the usual challenges we had for all images that we do not own – the need to seek appropriate permissions from the owners of the original prints. Of course, the copyright of the original Vanity Fair magazine in this case has long since expired, but owners of surviving prints of a portrait like this will in turn have the copyright to the print they own and need to be asked. Sometimes, as with this case, it proved potentially more economic, and certainly more expedient, to try and source an original print to buy, so that we can "give ourselves permission.". Once used for the Book, the illustration then joins our Collection, and maybe one day the Company will have somewhere where it can be framed and displayed.

Please read the vignette on Kaid Maclean in the Book for his full story, but it is worth repeating the final words written there on him. Vanity Fair used to run quite light hearted biographies on the next page to these portraits – in the Kaid's case, his ends as follows:

*"In spite of his love for the bagpipes, which is now shared by his Emperor, he is very fond of music."*

## Members' News

### Liveryman Sir Philip May



Congratulations to Liveryman Sir Philip May, the son of former Trade Warden R J May, who received a Knighthood in the Dissolution Honours List.

### Trade Warden Elect Martin Pickard

As the Trade Warden Elect I thought it was a good time to introduce myself properly to members of the company that perhaps don't know much about me. Even though I have been a Pattenmaker for many years it is surprising how many members I have never talked with and many others with whom I have enjoyed a thoroughly good dinner conversation without ever sharing anything of our personal or professional background. Getting to know one another a little better thanks to this newsletter may be one of the good things to come out of this strange year for us Pattenmakers.

Although born in Islington as the son of two proud Londoners I grew up in Hertfordshire when, like many others in the 1950's, we were relocated from the blitz damaged capital to a

“temporary” Greater London Council housing estate in the leafy countryside. My father commuted into London where he worked at the Royal Mail (then GPO) sorting office in Farringdon Road. Although I grew up in Hertfordshire, (The temporary housing estate is still there!) weekends were always spent going “home” to London to visit family and always including a visit to Cooke’s pie and mash shop and Petticoat Lane.

I was one of a small handful from our estate to pass the 11 plus exam which meant Bushey Grammar School, a 40 minute journey by bus and train each way. I’m sorry to report that although the teaching was undoubtedly very good I did not enjoy the strict discipline of the school and became something of a rebel leaving school with a lot of knowledge but no qualifications. It was, after all, the sixties and our generation didn’t need universities because we were going to change the world.

My father had other ideas and before long I started my career at the GPO Headquarters as a messenger boy. The Grammar school education paid off and before long I was running the mailroom and other promotions followed. That was the start of a 50 year career in what we now call Facilities Management.

I spent 20 years with what became BT, managing buildings in the City and for 7 years in East Anglia before being seconded to a new business called Cellnet which was going to sell a new product, the mobile phone. My boss at the time told me not to throw away my career on a gimmick that would never catch on! Needless to say the cellphone was here to stay and I spent 11 years heading up the property and facilities department in one of the fastest growing industries of all time.

As my building management career progressed I became involved in the development of Facilities Management as a profession in the UK. I was a Founding Fellow of the Association of Facilities Managers in the mid 80’s and got involved with The International Facilities Management Association, with the first FM training and university courses, our first trade journals,

exhibitions, and industry awards. Then as outsourcing increased a new FM industry arose to meet the demand for professional FM.

Sometime in the mid 90’s we outsourced much of Cellnet’s facilities maintenance to a company called G S Hall and I was delighted when the company’s owner Ian Scarr Hall, who was then Master Pattenmaker, invited me to a Livery dinner. I was awestruck by the occasion if a little intimidated being a young scruff from a council estate but I decided that I would join this organisation one day. However, I was going through a divorce at the time and just about to leave Cellnet to join the supply side of our industry as Managing Director of a new international FM business, a move which led to me heading up businesses in France, Spain and Hong Kong before becoming CEO of an established UK provider. The Livery would have to wait.

It wasn’t till 2010 that Liveryman Richard Muir kindly reintroduced me to the Company and I am very grateful to him and to my friend Liveryman Keith Glennister for supporting my application first for the Freedom and then for the Livery in 2012. By then I was running my own FM training and consultancy business, known as FM Guru, together with Freeman Sarah Hodge. Since then I have had much pleasure in being able to use my connections in the FM and Built Environment world to support the Pattenmakers activities. I was thrilled last year when Past Master Watson Gandy presented me with the Master’s Award for my efforts.



*Pattenmaker Award*

My career in FM was an exciting journey from messenger boy to CEO. I may have flunked school but I received seven awards from the British Institute of Facilities Management including two for FM Journalism, I was named by FM World as one of the 20 Pioneers of FM. The BIFM and PFM Magazine both gave me Lifetime Achievement Awards for my contribution to the profession and in 2018 the RICS awarded me a Fellowship of that esteemed Institute.



I now live in Cranfield, Bedfordshire with my wife Penny and daughter Scarlett. I have three other children and four grandchildren. For the last twenty years Penny ran a successful soft furnishing business and is both a Fellow of the Association of Master Upholsterers and Soft furnishers and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Upholders. Through her I got to know the soft furnishing industry and became an Upholder myself and served for a while as Chair of the AMUSF Board of Directors.

Last year we decided that our lives were too busy for our age, health and wealth and we began the process of closing our businesses, resigning from boards and committees and finding more relaxing ways to have fun. I joined a choir, took up Tai Chi and started growing vegetables. Penny rediscovered the joy of sewing for pleasure. We are looking forward to a happy retirement in which participation in the Pattenmakers will be a big part.

I was therefore greatly honoured to be asked by the Master Elect (having been instructed by the Court) to take on the role of Trade Warden and had lots of great plans for this year. Sadly, the pandemic meant that my garden has benefitted instead but I look forward to serving next year. I am very proud to be a Pattenmaker, to support the greatest City in the world, and to know so

many wonderful people thanks to my time in FM and my time with the Pattenmakers. I look forward to dining with you all again soon.

### Freeman Dr Mats Vikstrom



I am a true Viking - born in the land of lakes and meatballs in the 1960s by two Swedish parents whose families have lived in Sweden as far back as they can be traced. I married a beautiful

Norwegian, Stine. Together we have two daughters. Astrid is the elder and is pursuing a career in management consulting in London, whilst her younger sister Linnea is based closer to home (Stockholm) and working in the IT sector.

I myself completed a MSc in aeronautical engineering at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, just short of completing my PhD I was asked and proceeded to lead the development of the Swedish National capabilities for full life-cycle management of fibre composites in the Swedish built fighter aircraft JAS39 Gripen.



I have continued specialising in systems engineering and design and progressed to hold various senior managerial positions within the information security and IT industry. Today, I run my own consultancy business, and specialise in assisting Swedish SMEs with material technology inventions to launch and scale their business.

---

I had the privilege to attend an annual dinner in the Mansion House where the honorary speaker did refer to the Pattenmakers to always be known as the fun livery company. That made me decide for the Pattenmakers. I hope my experience can be of use to the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers.

## Freeman Group Captain Teresa Griffiths CBE ARRC



On the 1 Nov 1993 I joined the Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service as a Flying Officer.

**Deployments:** Kosovo x 2, Sierra Leone, Karachi, Kuwait, Baghdad. Total days deployed > 728.

### **Most surreal moment:**

Building sandcastles on a beach in Karachi teaching the local children to play whilst being guarded by armed police.

**Number of times moved:** 19 in 26 years.

**Glass ceilings broken:** First serving female to visit Aden in the Yemen since the 1980's, first nurse to command the RAF's high readiness medical Squadron, first nurse to be a medical planner at our operational HQ, first nurse to Command DMRC Headley Court at senior rank.

**Best Jobs:** Being the nurse in Baghdad 2005 responsible for looking after 300 soldiers in the Green Zone; being the Military Matron in Birmingham responsible for those returning from Afghanistan and Iraq with unprecedented life threatening/changing injuries.

**Most sombre moments:** During my 3.5 years at Birmingham (2010-2013) we treated more than 6000 patients. Over 30 patients died...I stopped counting at 30.

Cradling two injured orphans in Baghdad aged 3 and 5 and then being asked to treat the suicide bomber that had detonated the bomb that had killed over 30 people and orphaned the children.

**Career highlights:** Going to Buckingham Palace to collect the Associate Royal Red Cross (2008), OBE (2013) and CBE (2019).

Welcoming our first patient at DMRC Stanford Hall after a very long transition journey.

**Greatest achievements:** Leading the inspirational team that relocated the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre from Headley Court to Stanford Hall.

#

**What I am most proud about:** I joined the RAF a girl I leave a leader.

In November this year I leave the Royal Air Force as a Group Captain after 26 years of wonderful memories. I am excited to explore the next adventure.

Having observed first-hand the incredible work of the Pattenmakers at DMRC and the amazing impact this work has on the patients, I am immensely proud to now be able to call myself a Pattenmaker and to be part of an organisation that has such a longstanding history of making a positive difference to so many people.

---

## The Charles Dickens Quiz last week brought back memories

**Freeman Steward Raymond Lewis MSM - Two days in the life of a Beadle (now retired)"**

I would extend the one day work day into two: **Day 1** would be a working day and **Day 2** would be a fun day in the City. The best days would be **Ascension Day** and the **Carol Service**.

Although I was not required for duty until 5pm I would arrive by 10am at the Church. This would be my admin period. I would check for a last minute work emails then open up the safe to count the Livery Medals. (The Financial

Controller, Diana, had a thing about me counting my medals - thank goodness). I knew that if the total matched her account I would have a good day! Next I would then collect any engraved Livery Medals from Timpson Ltd at the Monument then return them to the safe or drop off / collect gilded medals (for new Court Assistants) from the jewellers.

One special day, **Thursday 13th May 2010, Ascension Day and The National Charles Dickens Day**, the City Corporation had invited the **Charles Dickens Society** to put on a presentation of **Charles Dickens** readings in **Leadenhall Market**.

I was approached by the City Organiser, in the Vestry of St Margaret Pattens, and asked if I would introduce **Gerald Dickens**, the Great, Great Grandson of the great man himself. She informed me that in the 1800's Leadenhall Market was policed by a Duty Beadle from one of the City of London Livery Companies and asked me if I would be the Duty Beadle during this lunchtime presentation. As you know I am a shy person and it took a lot of persuasion for me to do it.

It was a wonderful lunchtime event. Please see below 2 beautiful photographs taken one the day.



The reason I am wearing my "Gunner" Regimental tie is that, by tradition, all Beadles at the time were very tough ex Sergeant Major's who had served in many War Campaigns but who had a very polite & courteous manner when dealing with civilians & Liverymen!

**Day Two.** Would be the next function Recce Day. I would tip my bonnet to the incumbent Beadle and request a recce of his establishment. In most cases I would be left to freely wander around and ask for any tips he could offer.

I would wear my Regiment Tie and as a result would get frequent insults about being a "Drop Short" or "Deaf". I would retort by calling them "Wooden Tops", "Donkey Wallopers". Insults complete the recce would a very worthwhile exercise because you had a new friend watching your back and ready to help on the night.

**Liveryman Ian Balcombe** remembers visiting Dickens House and having Mark Charles Dickens as Tour Guide. The tour however was not complete until he had asked the great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens to sign a First Day Cover for him.



## Pattenmaker Stewards

### Quick Fire Interview with the Pattenmaker Stewards

#### George Lambert

*Where were you born and one interesting fact about your 'home town':*

I was born on the west coast of Ireland. My family are originally from North Yorkshire, they were Saddlers and supplied tack to the Scots Greys. Having completed the contract they moved to live closer to their cousins who had 15,000 acres and farmed 800 acres. Unfortunately the family house was burned out in the 1920's and they had to move away.



The coastal area has been my "wild untamed" affinity.



*Where do you live now and the one word you would use to best describe it:*

Lightwater, Surrey which is surrounded by woodland

*First job and what it taught you:*

I was an engineer with British Rail in Electrical Power Control Room, supplying power to West London Underground and Overground. It taught me responsibility and punctuality.

*Current or last job:*

My last role was a multi-exchange Manager with British Telecom. I also had a private business – Pre-Prep Montessori schools.

*Who or what has been the biggest influence in your life:*

Family – the advice they gave: firmness, with reason; also to show respect regardless of what I thought.

*Your biggest passion:*

Rugby! 6 weeks of joy – triple crown, grand slam.

*The one piece of advice you would pass on to others:*

To listen to what people have to say.

*The object you couldn't live without:*

John Milton's "Paradise Lost"

**Where would you like to visit once all the current restrictions are lifted:**

Relatives in San Diego, California, where I have seen a blue whale feeding and other amazing wildlife.



*How would you describe 'the Pattenmakers' and being a Pattenmaker to someone from another planet:*

The 12th Century poet John Gay wrote :

"A new machine, mechanic fancy wrought,  
Above the mire her sheltered step to raise".

The Pattenmakers are a historical livery, currently linked to the shoe industry. Supporting several charities: DNRC Stanford Hall, Leicestershire, Guildhall School of Music, the Young Enterprise Youth Organisation, and St. Margaret Pattens Church, East Cheap, London.

Being a Pattenmaker reflects fellowship, social intercourse, and the City of London history.

## Events

### Virtual Wine Tasting Liveryman Graham Perry



On Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July the Pattenmakers undertook their first virtual wine tasting event and the general consensus; this was an event enjoyed by all who attended. The event was organised by Liveryman Graham Perry and hosted by

Penny at Great Wines Online. Some 23 Pattenmakers attended the event with partners, families and even work colleagues. After an initial welcome by our incoming Master, Jennifer Bryant-Pearson, the event was handed over to our host Penny to introduce our Sommelier Denzel Swarts, Brand Ambassador of Simonsig wines in South Africa.



There were 3 wines to taste, a Chenin Blanc, a Cabernet/Shiraz blend and a Pinotage. Denzel has been working on the wine farm all his life and is immensely passionate about the wines they produce, their heritage and this 3 generation, family owned winery. South Africa started producing wine in 1659 using imported French Muscadel grapes, so whilst still considered as a 'New World' wine producer a lot of their techniques are very much in an old World style. In addition was Steve 'the cheese' Parker, who had provided us with some recommendations on

cheese and cold meats to accompany the wines as we proceeded to taste them.

As all good wine tasting should, we began with the white and Denzel explained this wine begins with its great colour and convinces with its aromas, combines fruity notes of apples and pears with nuances of kiwi and melon. On the palate, the wine presents itself fresh and with a balanced acidity. Steve then explained this wine is great when accompanied with a goats cheese or good quality mozzarella, equally with Buratta or Gorgonzola, even sushi or smoked fish.



Moving on Penny introduced us to the Cabernet/Shiraz which is a very unusual blend of full body and spice, the dark red colour combines with berry aromas, it has a fruity tone but is rounded off by the good tannin structure and light oak flavour. Accompanied with a vintage cheddar or hard goats cheese, a Bresaola or Pestrami, at this point the wine was flowing and the food was equally as good.

All too quickly it was time for the final wine the Pinotage, this very typical and native South African red is little known in Europe as there are very few who grow it, with its rhubarb red colour, vibrant sweet cherry and strawberry on the nose. The palate further displays depth of fruit with layers of cherry and plum, followed by a light dust of cinnamon. To accompany this, we were recommended Parmigiano or Gouda with smoked cold meats.

After a very pleasant hour thank you and goodbyes were said by all and a few left to

---

partake in the extra bottles of wine that were included within the order.

In closing our incoming Master has asked me to add a few words about myself and so I shall make these as few as possible. I am a Director of a Business Intelligence company. I joined the company some 5 years ago through my association with the Facilities Management Industry, but I have been in technology for all my life. My apprenticeship was served with British Aerospace, before I moved into the world of print technology, this led me to emigrate to South Africa where I lived for 18 years, started my first business and where my two sons were born. Returning 9 years ago I was introduced to the world of technology in the Built Environment and 'adopted' by Liveryman Martin Pickard who was my sponsor and to this day, great friend. Subsequently, I now judge several technology in FM awards, recently completed my Master's degree and live by the motto I was once told, 'if you want something done, give it to someone who is too busy to do it'.

---

### Reminder Forthcoming Pattenmakers' Events

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am - Coffee Chat (very informal)**

All participants need to register in advance with the following link: [Coffee Chat Registration](#)

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 6.00pm - PatTEDmakers Talk : [PatTEDmakers Talk Registration](#)**

**Save the Date : From the Turners' Company Wizardry in Wood 2020 Virtual Livery Reception Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Hopefully you and your Master already have this saved in your calendar, the only difference is that the reception will now be virtual. The actual exhibition will be held in October 2021, so you will have to wait a year before you can actually touch the incredible wood art on show.

However, we very much hope you will join us for a virtual drink and celebration of woodturning on the evening of the 13<sup>th</sup> October this year. Details of the event are in the planning stages, and another email will follow this to give you a better understanding of what to expect during the evening, and to enable you to confirm your place. We are delighted that The Lord Mayor already previously booked to open the event, has confirmed he will attend our virtual one.

### Photo of the Week

#### Liveryman Steward Joseph Robertson



The photo was taken from the balcony from our house in Wivenhoe last week; it had just finished raining and my wife Lucia noticed the most beautiful rainbow. With no time to spare, I rushed upstairs to get a shot on a wide angle lens!

### Bird Watch

#### Bird of the week this week is the Kingfisher - Freeman Richard Parlour



OK so not many will have a stream at the end of their garden, but they can quite often be seen along slowish flowing rivers and canals, quite often in public parks with lakes, and around gravel pits, now that we are allowed out again. Kingfishers are small unmistakable bright blue and orange birds. Both sexes look alike, but the female has a red lower bill (thing of it as wearing lipstick!). They are also distinctive in silhouette and flight pattern. They fly fast and low, hunt from perches, and can hover. Kingfishers are widespread, especially in central and southern England, becoming less common further north, though they are increasing their range in Scotland. In winter, some birds move to estuaries. Kingfishers breed in their first year. Both excavate a nest burrow into stone-free sandy soil of a low stream bank. They choose a vertical bank clear of vegetation to give some protection from predators. The narrow nest tunnel is usually 2-3 feet long. They make a slight depression to prevent eggs rolling out, but do not build a nest. 2-3 broods are raised in quick succession. Both adults incubate. Each chick can eat 12-18 fish a day and they are fed in rotation. Once a chick is fed, it moves to the back of the nest to digest its meal, so the others can move forward. The chicks are normally ready to fledge when 25 days old.

Once fledged, the young are fed for only four days before the parents drive them out of the territory and start the next brood. Kingfishers eat mainly minnows and sticklebacks, but also take aquatic insects, shrimps and tadpoles. They can handle fish up to 3 inches long. Once a bird has located a fish and assessed its depth, it dives. On entry, its beak opens and its eyes closed by its third eyelid, effectively blindfolded as it catches the fish. It repeatedly strikes the fish against the perch to kill it and eat it head first. Kingfishers must eat their own bodyweight in fish each day. Territory is extremely important for kingfishers. A bird that is unable to secure a territory with an adequate food supply is likely to die. A breeding pair will often divide their summer territory between them. The size of the territory depends on the amount of food available and the local bird population. Territories tend to cover at 1-3 miles of river. Kingfishers are on the amber list. They are vulnerable to hard winters, pollution or

unsympathetic management of watercourses. Only half of fledglings survive more than a week or two, but a quarter survive to maintain the population. Only a quarter of birds survive from one breeding season to the next. Very few birds live longer than one breeding season, the oldest on record being only 7½ years old. Most kingfishers die of cold or lack of food. Despite high breeding productivity, populations can take many years to recover from a bad winter. Cold weather or flooding in the summer can make fishing difficult, resulting in starvation, while flooding can claim many nests. Cats are their main predators, but rats can also be a serious problem. Cat owners, please put a bell on your pet's collar! Contamination by agricultural run-off kills the fish birds rely on, effectively killing off stretches of river that would otherwise be suitable habitats. Long-term population declines since 1970 are generally attributed to river pollution. If human presence close to a nest prevents these shy birds from entering the nest for too long, the chicks may weaken enough to stop calling. Heavy machinery that grades banks and drains the land destroys many nests each year on lowland rivers. Persecution by fishermen, and to provide feathers for fishing flies and to satisfy fashion trends seem to be well in the past, however.

Good news more generally this week is that bitterns have bred in Wales for the first time in 200 years, cranes have bred in Lincolnshire for the first time in 400 years, and white storks have bred in the UK (Sussex) for the first time in 600 years. On the negative side, a white tailed sea eagle has been found poisoned over the grouse moors in the Cairngorms, following lots of killings of hen harriers in particular over the grouse moors of North Yorkshire and Lancashire. On the other side of the Channel, Barbara Pompili, the French government's new Minister of Ecological Transition, has presented a draft decree that would allow the killing of some 18,000 Turtle Doves this autumn. To give you some perspective, turtle doves are on the UK red list, a summer visitor which has to fly through France to get here, and there are only thought to be around 14,000 pairs in the UK in total. They have suffered a 78% decline since 1980. Mme Pompili is on Facebook if you would like to send her a message!

---

**Continuing with the photography tips** from last week, the temptation in bird photography is often to try and take a shot which has the bird occupying the whole of the frame. This is great for identification purposes, particularly if you are not quite sure what bird it is and want to check later, but it might not convey much context. Photographers often use the “rule of three” when composing a shot, and this works well in bird photography too. All you do is to imagine you are dividing your camera screen up into three, both horizontally and vertically. This will give you four intersections of your imaginary horizontal and vertical lines, so try placing the centre of your attention at one of these intersections. This simple trick often leads to a bit of the bird’s environment being included in the photograph too, sets context, and in photography terms “tells a story”.

I have attempted this in the two shots of a kingfisher in this week’s article, yet trying to zoom in close enough so that hopefully you can identify which is the male and which is the female. Another useful tip is when focusing, aim to focus on the eye of the bird if possible (this tip works well for human portrait photography too). Focusing “through” the bird and then back out again will help to work out where the best point of focus is. If your camera or phone only has auto focus, aim to get the point of focus on the eye. With some cameras you can get the focus and lock it on by pressing the shoot button halfway down, then swing the camera left or right, up or down, which will enable you to add more context while keeping the target in focus. Click all the way down to take the photo when you are happy with your composition. Practice this a few times so you get the hang of it before you use this technique for real. Happy photography!

## Letters to the Editor

### Past Master Helen Auty

Our newsletter just gets better and better – not only do we have two liverymen brave enough to help with a bomb disposal, a report of an excellent webinar about our forthcoming History, but a fascinating ‘postcard’ from Freeman Lucky Gopalakris about his career and current life in Zimbabwe and perhaps a second career as a wild

life photographer. And at last I know the difference between a swallow and a swift.

**Honorary Freeman Colonel Peter Zwicky** Comments on last week’s recipe. *Kurcher Geschnietzeltes* should read *Zürcher Geschnietzeltes* as the sliced veal comes from Zürich and not from a family *Kurcher*.

**Editor** – well spotted and thank you - without making a meal out of it, the recipe did state later on that veal strips from Zurich should be used, so no effect on the recipe. Obviously the first description managed to get through the sieve.

## Recipe of the Week

### Roast Peppers Stuffed With Mushrooms Past Mistress Barbara Edwards



I originally used it as a starter - one pepper half per person garnished with salad leaves and herbs. However, although it is listed as a starter and is a very good one, it can also be served as a light meal, in which case one red pepper half and one yellow half per person. It is best served hot but is also delicious served cold as part of a

buffet and of course it can be adapted to suit individual tastes.

**Preparation time: 20 mins**

**Cooking time: 45 mins**

**315 calories per serving**

**Serves 4**

### Ingredients

2 large orange or red peppers

2 large yellow peppers

450 gr (1 lb) tomatoes or 400 gr (14oz) can chopped tomatoes

1 large onion

45 ml (3 tbsp) olive oil

2-3 garlic cloves

30 ml (2 level tbsp) tomato paste

5 ml (1 level tsp) light muscovado sugar  
Salt and pepper to taste  
50 gr (2oz) mushrooms  
50 gr (2oz) pinenuts or flaked almonds  
15 ml (1 level tbsp) chopped fresh marjoram leaves  
50 gr (2oz) pitted black olives  
25-50 gr (1-2oz) freshly grated Parmesan cheese  
Salad leaves and fresh herbs to garnish

**Method**

1. Preheat the oven to 200 degrees C (400 degrees F) Mark 6. Halve the peppers lengthwise, then remove the core and seeds. Place cut-side down on a baking sheet and roast for 15 mins, turning frequently.
2. Meanwhile, make the sauce. If using fresh tomatoes, place them in a bowl, adding boiling water to cover and leave for 15-30 seconds. Transfer them to a bowl of cold water to cool, then remove and peel away the skins. Roughly chop the tomatoes.
3. Finely chop the onion. Heat 30ml (2 tbsp) oil in a saucepan, add the onion and crushed garlic and fry gently until softened and lightly coloured. Add the chopped tomatoes, tomato paste, muscovado sugar, salt and pepper. Cook uncovered, stirring, for 15-20 mins or so until it is reduced to a thick sauce. Adjust seasoning.
4. Thickly slice the mushrooms. Heat the remaining 15ml (1tbsp) oil in a pan and sauté the mushroom slices until softened.
5. Stir the mushrooms, nuts, marjoram and olives into the tomato mixture. Fill the peppers and top with the grated Parmesan cheese. Cook in the oven for 15-20 mins or until thoroughly heated through.
6. Serve one red pepper half and one yellow pepper half per person. Garnish with salad leaves and herbs.

**Quiz of the Week**

See last page for something a little different this week and for the answer to last week's quiz!

All contributions are welcome – please send to the Editor Ian Balcombe : [ianbalc@gmail.com](mailto:ianbalc@gmail.com)

## Quiz of the Week

### Freeman Jo Holloway

Following on from the story of her father's garden last week, Jo Holloway offers some flowers for identification.



*Flower Number 1*



*Flower Number 2*



*Flower Number 3*



*Flower Number 4*



*Flower Number 5*



*Flower Number 6*

Answers please on an email to the Clerk: [clerk@pattenmakers.co.uk](mailto:clerk@pattenmakers.co.uk)

### Answers to last week's quiz

1. Oldest Football Club in London - Fulham
2. Football Ground with same name as Battle in 1066 - Stamford Bridge
3. Only Past Master to date who has played Football for England and scored a goal in the first International Game against Scotland - Alfred Joseph Baker Master 1890-91

### Liveryman Ian Balcombe was the winner

Read more about Past Master Baker in the new History book – have you ordered yours yet?