



The Pattenmaker

WEEKLY NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

Issue 23

Friday 4th September 2020

From the Master Elect, Jennifer Bryant-Pearson



This week sees the return to schools and many offices. The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs are working hard to encourage major employers in the City to bring back 45% of the workforce (currently about 25%) as the impact on businesses

such as coffee bars, restaurants and retail has been horrific during the pandemic. Past Master Sheriff Hayward reports.

“I intend to be based back in the Old Bailey five days a week from next Monday to support the Lord Mayor in showing leadership in line with Government encouragement to ask City employees to come back to their offices in a COVID secure way if they feel comfortable to do so. I fear it will take time before we can all enjoy Livery dinners again but our legendary fellowship lives on through this wonderful weekly publication.”

The level of activities in the City are now increasing significantly and this week, I attended the launch of the annual City Giving Day on 22 September, when businesses come together to raise money for the Lord Mayor’s Appeal. The Lord Mayor is hoping to raise in excess of £500,000 this year – in spite of the fact that the majority of events will be virtual.

A decision has now been made about the Lord Mayor’s Show on 14 November – it will be a tribute to all key workers and their organisations for their work during COVID. Assistant Deputy Keith Bottomley reports on the changes which

sadly include no public access but you can watch the Show live on the BBC.

The City has just launched a consultation on City landmarks with historic links to racism and slavery so do have your say!

Our Honorary Chaplain conducted his weekly service from St Margaret Pattens for the first time since Covid and it was a source of great pleasure for many to step inside the church after so many months and for others to be able to participate by Zoom.

The Pattenmakers are proud to support the military through DMRC at Stanford Hall (and formerly Headley Court) and today one of our recipients of the bespoke shoes, Emma McCormick tells us just how important our charitable funding was to her – a wonderful story! Past Master Nick Andrews gives us an insight into life in the City post Covid and Liveryman Jeremy Hewitt writes from Watford.

Mistress Pattenmaker Victoria Best sends us a Postcard from Ukraine and Liveryman and Steward Chris Stears is interviewed by Chief Steward Liveryman Martin Heffer.

Our regular columnists, Liverymen Steve Huxham reports on our historic collection of beautiful Georgian shoes and Freeman Richard Parlour’s bird to watch this week is the Hobby. We feature a Ugandan recipe this week from Past Mistress Sonja Garsvo and there are some interesting Letters to the Editor

Keep writing to us!

City of London Corporation

The Show must go on: Scaled-back Lord Mayor's Show set to take place in November - Assistant Deputy Keith Bottomley CC -



The Lord Mayor's Show, one of the landmark events in the City of London's calendar, has been reduced and redesigned this year, because of COVID-19 public health restrictions.

The annual event, which traditionally features a three-mile-long procession of decorated floats, military bands, City businesses, charities, and schoolchildren, will now be held as a contained and televised spectacle in the historic Guildhall Yard on Saturday 14 November.

Organisers are keen to stress that there will be no public access to view the Show from the pavements at, or around, Guildhall, and are encouraging people to stay at home and watch the live coverage on BBC1 from 11am to 12pm.

The theme of this year's Lord Mayor's Show will be a tribute, on behalf of the City of London Corporation and the Lord Mayor, to all key workers and their organisations for their work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As well as representatives from NHS frontline staff, the Show is expected to include a military band, charitable organisations, and the Lord Mayor's Pikemen and Musketeers.

Subject to his formal re-election later this month, William Russell, the 692nd Lord Mayor, will serve

an additional year in office to ensure continuity of leadership during the pandemic.

William Russell, Lord Mayor of the City of London, said:

"This year's Lord Mayor's Show will feel particularly special, because it will provide us with an opportunity to pay tribute to the vital work of thousands of remarkable people.

"From doctors, nurses, and midwives to care assistants, social workers, and bus drivers, these, and countless many other key workers and their organisations, have responded with admirable skill, commitment, and dedication to the pandemic.

"We owe them an immeasurable debt of gratitude so, come Saturday 14 November, we will use the Show to express our recognition of their contribution to London and the country."

Dominic Reid OBE, Pageantmaster, Lord Mayor's Show Ltd, said:

"My team and I have been working on creating a dignified and high-quality event, held in the City of London's historic Guildhall Yard, and broadcast live on television, to enable as many people as possible to watch it safely at home.

"The scaled-back nature of this year's Show is a response to these unprecedented times but despite being smaller in size, it will have a big heart and we are confident that viewers will be engaged and entertained by what we have in store for them."

The City of London Corporation, which is headed by the Lord Mayor and supports the Lord Mayor's Show, is the fourth largest funder of heritage and cultural activities in the UK and invests over £100m every year.

Have your say on City landmarks with historic links to racism and slavery

People are being asked to give their views on statues, street and building names and other landmarks in the City of London with historic links to slavery and racism in all its forms.

The City of London Corporation is launching a three-month consultative exercise asking people

which landmarks they think are a problem and what action they would like to see taken.

The survey is being promoted by the City Corporation's Tackling Racism Taskforce, set up in June with the aim of considering what action the organisation can take to tackle racism in all its forms.

It comes as organisations across London and the UK review the cultural legacy of slavery and colonialism in the light of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Caroline Addy, Co-Chair of the City of London Corporation's Tackling Racism Taskforce, said: *"Like many areas of the country, the City of London has a number of statues and other landmarks with links to the slave trade and historic racism."*

"It's important that we acknowledge and address this legacy with openness and honesty, and carefully consider what should be done."

"We are committed to equality, inclusivity and diversity, and to ensuring the Square Mile remains a place where people of all ethnicities and backgrounds feel safe and welcome."



During the exercise, people can give their views online and by post on landmarks and historic items such as plaques, statues and street names in the City of London and on City of London Corporation sites outside the Square Mile.

The City Corporation is seeking the views of City residents, workers, students, visitors, and the general public. It is also asking other stakeholders including City firms, cultural institutions and

political bodies across the capital and nationally to take part.

All views expressed will be considered before a recommendation is made by the Taskforce to the City Corporation's Policy and Resources Committee for a final decision.

Andrien Meyers, co-chair of the City of London Corporation's Tackling Racism Taskforce, said: "We know that historical symbols continue to have an impact today and we want to understand how people feel about this aspect of our cultural history and whether such landmarks should be re-sited, reinterpreted or retained as they stand.

"We want to hear as broad a range of opinions as possible from City residents, workers, learners, visitors and other stakeholders before any decision is made on how we should deal with this issue."

People can take part in the consultative exercise, which runs until Tuesday, 24 November, online at: [Historic Landmarks Consultation](#) or by writing to:

Tackling Racism Taskforce
City of London Corporation
Guildhall, PO Box 270
London EC2P 2EJ

Our Charitable Fund

Headley Court

Emma McCormick



I'm a veteran of the Royal Navy and am now an Operations Manager for Amazon based in the East Midlands. I've led a comfortable and happy life, I had a great military career and really did travel the world (twice) but a couple of years ago things changed for me – quite drastically. I found myself injured, not happy with life and in need of help. Luckily help found

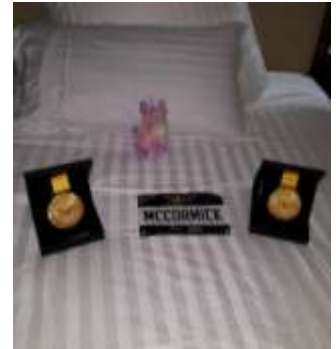
me and set me off on a journey of recovery and along the way I was helped by a few organisations including the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers.

Four years ago I was undertaking service sport. I was horse riding for a chance to try out for the Royal Navy show jumping team – a sport that I had participated in since I was 7 years old – and without a slip, trip or fall ended up losing part of my leg. A completely freak set of circumstances had cut off the oxygen to the muscle that attached the knee to the ankle. Under emergency surgery I lost the muscle and seemingly the ability to lift my foot properly, balance without support, walk and go up and down stairs. My little world closed in very quickly and I found myself in a rather sombre mood that I was unable to break.

Luckily at this point I was picked up under the care of Headley Court, the military rehab unit in Surrey, that has now been moved to Stanford Hall just outside of Loughborough. The place and the people that worked there are true miracle workers and used cutting edge technology, brand new methodology to put many service men and women back together after injuries sustained in service. And they did just that with me. They got me out of a wheelchair onto crutches, off crutches and onto a stick and off a stick to the use of a brace.

Whilst there sport became a major part of my rehabilitation journey and with a fear of anyone touching my leg I took up the sport of powerlifting. Supported my Help for Heroes I went on to compete at the Military World Championships in 2017 winning my weight class and breaking a world record whilst I was doing it.

The following year I was selected to represent the UK in the Invictus Games in Sydney, Australia. I competed in Shot and Discus bringing home gold medals in both. The games gave me a chance to lead again and to have some confidence, not only with my injury but with changes in my body and most importantly with my scar. My scar and I had a fractious relationship, I tried to deny its existence for quite some time



After the games there was more surgery and another stint at rehab. It was during this time I accepted that my future career in the military was over and it was time to

look outside. The head of my care at Stanford then introduced me to the Pattenmakers and put me forward as a candidate to have some shoes specifically made to help me in my transition to civilian life. A lot of time is spent in my brace that attaches wonderfully to trainers but slips straight off the back of civilian shoes. The Pattenmakers accepted me as a beneficiary and it was then I was sent to meet the absolutely delightful Bill Bird and team. Wow! What Bill doesn't know about gait analysis, correction, hidden support and women's fashionwear could fit on the back of a postage stamp! Over a period of 3 months and a few visits to his workshop he and his team created me an absolutely magical pair of boots. Fashionable and safe and no need to wear a brace. Furthermore spending time with his team was an absolute pleasure, they were so proud to show their work, talk multiple members of my family through the process and regularly had me in tears of laughter – and tears when I saw the finished product. The confidence that a pair of shoes gave me was unreal! They are looked after and cherished whilst being very much used – I feel as if I am walking taller and with more confidence; that

feeling hasn't gone away since the 1st time I tried the completed product on.

From the bottom of my heart I thank you for supporting my fellow service sisters and brothers in such a vital way. Please don't underestimate the difference it makes to us and what having a smart pair of shoes or boots can do for a person's confidence. Hopefully once this horrible pandemic is over I will get to meet you and thank more of you in person for your continued support. Then I can also show you the hidden diamonds in my boots, set in to remind the old Emma it's time to shine again. Stay safe. xx

Covid 19

Pattenmaker Facemasks

The Clerk

The first order "flew off the shelves" within 36 hours. A second order has been placed and delivery is expected here in about one week.

Please click here to order: [Order Form for PM Mask](#) – don't delay if you haven't already bought one!

Editor's note – I showed my Face Mask to a friend who is a Liveryman elsewhere, who was very jealous. He immediately took a photograph and emailed his Clerk and asked why they did not have one. Our Clerk kindly gave me our supplier's details and they ordered a supply immediately.

Covid – A Game of Two Halves? Past Master Nick Andrews



The Master Elect has asked me to write a few words regarding the effect of Covid on the City Financial Sector; that is a tough one to answer in a few lines as it is multi-faceted and complex and therefore can only be observational from my point of view!

Starting then with a bit of background to set the scene, I work in the financial sector with various hats on. I am an iNED at large investment bank, I run an FCA regulated company and I also run a boutique consultancy company into the institutional financial sector – I give you that background as I see the sector with different eyes!

A few words though about the people we employ on all those entities and those of my friends/acquaintances in the sector and it does feel as if the people are divided into groups, being those with work and those without and then further divided into age categories. I shall explain.

Those who are lucky enough to have retained their jobs are actually feeling better off financially – the cost of the commute, the cost of lunches/coffee, clothes and shoes have all been cut leaving much more in the bank account at the end of the month; those without work are undoubtedly in a far worse position with the previous buoyancy in certain sectors of the City being slowed and stifled. The age part comes about as the interactions that we all had in the office environment has disappeared – certainly in my own firms, the junior staff (generally younger) used to be able to feed off the experience of the more mature members of the team; it was easy to listen and contribute to/learn from discussions on certain issues or simply ask questions. It is much harder for them to pick up a phone and ask anything – it takes a true self-starter to do that and it's not easy. So I fear that a section of that generation are simply not learning and gathering experience and therefore will be less valuable in the future. That is not good for the City as a whole especially as the experienced people are contemplating not returning to offices.

Offices, now there is another subject. I wonder loudly what the City fabric will look like in a few years' time. We heard in PM Sherriff Chris Hayward's webinar recently what the infrastructure could like in the next 15/20 years, but since then, two major employers (granted, in Canary Wharf) have publicly announced that home working is the way to go and others are seriously contemplating whether large office blocks with thousands of staff are really the future. In my own specific experience it is a

question raised at Board meetings as to what the plans are – that tends to then stray into, what will we do with the building when we know that only a few dozen key people out of x thousand people need to be in the premises to keep the machines working. Possibly then, some of the blocks will be converted to flats? That of course raises the further questions of property values for both commercial and residential property in and around London.

If I then turn to real business flows and I again suggest that this is a tale of two halves (noting that my comments refer to the financial sector that I exist in, and not any other sectors). Some areas are suffering greatly such as securities trading that survives on volatility which has been markedly absent for many years; lock down saw horrendous value write offs followed by improved trading commissions as some volatility returned. Other areas are seeing absolutely no effect from Covid and are booming – specific areas of fintech and especially the digital asset/crypto sector (noting there is difference between those two terms). London is seen as the place to be for both of those activities and we have seen two new digital exchanges get full regulatory authorisation (one in the equity sector the other the derivative sector). These two together, I would suggest, are the beginning of the game changers for the securities/investment sectors and will potentially cause a massive disruption in the way the whole City has worked for the past 200 years. Covid did not give rise to them, but will certainly give them an advantage as they have the ability to remove people and operations and replace them with technology that can be located anywhere. Their impact on the major existing participants could be phenomenal in a short period of time and make London the centre of the digital world (mind you, plenty of others wanting same position and technology can be moved easily...).

It may be worth a few words on the cryptocurrency sector as well – we have all heard of Bitcoin (not yet in the Pattenmakers investment portfolio....) but it is going mainstream. It started as students playing/trading/buying it (yes, the two most expensive pizzas in the world in today's prices, were purchased in 2010 ago for 10,000 bitcoin, current value now making the cost of

those pizzas £86million) and in recent months, the big institutions are announcing their intentions in this sector. Were you aware that the first new UK Clearing bank in over 250 years was established in 2018 and is crypto friendly (and that is a bank to watch) and the rest of the world watches it with envy. What is this to do with Covid impact? – really to say that this whole sector is glowing white hot in the UK, centred in London, and significant brain power is coming here, as is investment into these new businesses and that all supports the other financial services sectors that make up the City. Note that two of the world's largest cryptocurrency firms are now FCA regulated and therefore drawing others to centre in London.

I have drawn very high level lines between certain specific parts of the City and observed there are two halves in various sectors – I haven't given you a feeling of what its actually like to go back to the office. Again I can draw that self-same "two halves" parallel – the surreal nature of being able to walk around in London with no traffic (ok, this was a few weeks ago), no fumes, no noise, no people just the tumble weed for company – yet all those small businesses in the City set up to support the offices such as restaurants, shops, bars etc who may not be there if and when we finally return in numbers. In my view therefore, I think Covid has coincided with the advancement of technology that can support remote working therefore we are in the midst of radical change to the future fabric of the City.



Our History

Update on “Out of the Mud”. Past Master Richard Kottler

These strange times we are in have led to a number of unexpected delays in publishing, just a few of the issues in trying to publish in 2020 include the printers being much later than anticipated in coming back from shutdown, and our Indexer (a very specialised role) being unable to complete the task due to illness, giving the publishers the difficult job of finding a replacement at short notice!

So thank you for your patience, I am sure when it arrives you will enjoy the read. We the team very much appreciate your support for this publication and we hope that not only will you find it interesting, but that it will enhance your understanding of The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers.

Please click here to order: [History Book Order Form](#) if you have not already ordered your copy

The Company’s Historic Collection – Georgian polychrome shoes with matching pattens - Assistant Steve Huxham

As the regular Newsletter section featuring items from the Collection has demonstrated recently, the diversity of objects held by the Company is considerable. However, it might be appropriate this time to return to a more core theme – actual pattens! The Company does in fact have quite a reasonable Footwear Collection consisting of shoes, clogs, galoshes, and pattens, with some examples dating from mediaeval times. These have been acquired or kindly donated over the years, and in addition to UK items we have historic examples of other elevated footwear from around the world; the global “cousins” of our own pattens. Once again, due to the constraints we currently have on display space, very little of this Collection can be put on public show, other than at St Margaret Pattens, although in the past

various items have also been loaned out on request to exhibitions at other museums.

The pair chosen for this week’s article are the most decorative and delicately produced examples in the entire Collection, being polychrome needlework shoes and matching pattens thought to date from the period 1750-1780. As can be seen, they are a world away, in original cost as well as in design, from the more “industrial” leather, iron and wooden items of patten construction that we more commonly think of. In this case, the pattens themselves are constructed of thick leather in a shape that would perfectly fit the specific silk brocade shoes of the time so as to be almost indistinguishable from the actual shoe once in place.



Would these exquisite shoes and their pattens have served the original practical purpose of safely elevating the wearer above the proverbial filth in the streets of the time? Somewhat unlikely, I fear! The notes to these assets in the Collection Inventory, presumably originating from the auction where they appeared, state that this 22cm

long pair show little signs of wear and further conjecture that perhaps they were made and worn for a wedding. Maybe so, but in purely practical terms, even if a lady of the time who could afford such shoes could also easily engage the services of one of the many casual “crossing sweepers” to clear her walking route, such delicate shoes would soon become soaked, discoloured and ruined.

What in fact these shoes and pattens represent is the apogee of patten design as a fashion accessory rather than just a practical necessity during the Georgian period. In footwear as in other attire, English trends followed in many ways the strict Court protocols of Louis XIV, the Sun King, in France, where in the second half of the 17th Century, the wearing of “red heels” was restricted to the King and his Court. This passion for high heels was mirrored in England, reaching a peak during the reign of George II, and with the “red heels” of England further popularised by Charles Fox in the 1770s. It is no surprise then that the detailed Inventory description of our shoes and pattens includes the line: “Heel: Louis heel, 75mm high, covered in fabric.”

We can only speculate, but if we remember the state of the streets of London at the time (with or without “crossing sweepers”) it perhaps then should be no surprise that pattens seem to have gone in two very different directions at this stage of history – basic and practical for the working and middle classes, and more fashionable as in these examples for elegant society.

The elevation of the patten to fashion accessory (pun definitely intended!) could not last, and the high point represented by pairs like ours seems to have been no more than a “brief shining moment” ahead of changes in trends and a return to practicality and then decline. The 1762 Westminster Paving Act and then the 1766 London Paving and Lighting Act, followed by similar schemes in most town centres around the country, set the scene for improvements to street construction, design and drainage and consequently the path to extinction for the patten, in urban areas at least, long before the attentions and inventions of Macadam and Bazalgette in the Victorian era.

These items were spotted at an auction in Cumbria by late Past Master Paul Ziff, whose recent obituary everyone will have seen in Issue 11 of the Newsletter. Thanks to his timely intervention, they were acquired by the Company in November 1998 at a total cost of £2,640.

Members' News

Postcard from Watford Liveryman Jeremy Hewitt

We have certainly gone through an incredible Journey in the last 6 months. As well as the Lockdown my Football team got relegated from the Premier League and both our local



Department Stores -Debenhams and John Lewis have closed for ever. Even my local Music venue closed down so no live music for us. But there has been a brighter side, as we spend more time with our families and get to know our neighbours and friends in a socially distant way. We are very lucky that we live next to Cassiobury Park, which then becomes Whippendall Woods and Crosses the West Herts Golf Course. To live in Suburbia and also to be able to walk into the countryside has been wonderful, all be it we have to cross the M25 to reach our nearest country pub. In fact Star Wars was filmed in the Woods and Harry Potter was made at Leavesden Studios, overlooking the Woods, but I've not yet bumped into Harry Potter or Luke Skywalker in any of my rambles –yet.



Cassiobury Locks

I have worked in retail and sales since 1981 when I learnt my trade as a Graduate trainee with Debenhams, so it was very poignant to see this marvellous old Department store appear to be in terminal decline. Since 1983 I have worked in the shoe trade firstly for Clarks, then Start-rite and Hush Puppies. Five years ago I set up my own Footwear Agency - Shewitts and have specialised in Children's Shoes, selling to Independent retailers in the South of England. My brands have evolved selling Lurchi by Salamander (a wonderful quality German brand) Term School Shoes (a great UK designed School Shoe and Wellington brand) and Oomphies (a Californian Funky Canvas Shoe brand)

The biggest change to my life during lock down has been the less time I have spent in the car and more time spent on the telephone, Zoom calls and working from home. I have been lucky being able to work from home from the 1980s but 5 years ago my home office became "The Office". I think most people have become more supportive and there is a sense of looking after each other, which I commend as a return to community.

There is of course a downside, I really miss our Pattenmaker Dinners and get together and hope these will return when sensible to do so. I think that 2020 will be remembered for accelerating retail decline, such as the demise of the Department stores and the rise of online shopping, such as Amazon, but will also be remembered when we re-discovered local shops and eating fresh. The big cities are struggling to get footfall (as everyone is at home) but my Independent Children's Shoe shops are booming this Back to School, as consumers shop locally. I hope this trend continues and as more of us eat local produce, travel less but re-discover our wonderful country, we may all find we are lucky after all.

September will (hopefully) see a return to some face to face selling appointments with Retailers and we are able to hold trade shows of less than 30 people in Hotels, Showrooms and Business Centres. But the big exhibitions at the NEC, like Football matches at my beloved Vicarage Road, will have to wait, like my other big love - going to

Pop Concerts. Roll on 2021 when I will get to see Simply Red, Simple Minds and The Who in their re-arranged concerts. My local venue, The Horns has also re-opened and is back doing acoustic sets due to the generosity of crowd funding locals.

Hopefully our local communities will all pull together and bring back a bit of normality.

Pattenmaker Stewards

Liveryman Chris Stears

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

I was born in Hemel Hempstead, home of the 'magic roundabout', a piece of traffic management genius to some, a living nightmare and a 'must avoid at all costs', to others - in fact, when it opened in 1973 it 'managed' to bring traffic to an absolute standstill, I'm told. In 2013, Hemel won the coveted title of 'Britain's ugliest town'. I might agree. Anyway, the family quickly traded this Hertfordshire town for the quiet Bedfordshire parish of Linslade



Hemel Hempstead's 'magic roundabout'. Need I say more?



Hemel Hempstead old town, with a Norman church in the centerground

The Pattenmaker

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

We live in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Milton Keynes might be described in various ways – there are, commonly forgotten, a great many green spaces, lakes and waterways; there's a few roundabouts, sure; and let's not forget that Superman visited once. But what immediately comes to mind when thinking of Milton Keynes are the 'Concrete Cows'. One word...some might say Marmite. I'd say, eclectic.



*Milton Keynes, Willan Lake. No concrete jungle in sight....
...it's just off camera to the south(!)*



Liz Leyh's 1978 iconic Concrete Cows, fine specimen 42 year-old Holsteins

First job and what it taught you:

Scratching my head, I delightfully recall working at 'Shoe Express' for a few months during the summer before A-Levels. But, I'd consider my first full-time job was as a paralegal at a City law firm. And aside from the vagaries of insurance law and learning what an LMX spiral was, the most notable (and lasting) takeaways was a good [team] work ethic and that responsibility matters.

Current or last job:

I am currently General Counsel for a financial services consultancy practice and lead the firm's regulatory advisory practices. I am also a

consultant with DLA Piper and work with a few fintech start-ups – I love working with entrepreneurial teams, at speed, helping them stand-up initial operations, engage with strategic partners and outsourced services and generally support in the effective management of legal risk in those early critical stages. I also lecture part-time at BPP Law School, which offers the privilege of working with PM Prof. Barry Rider.

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

A difficult question, for there's been (and continues to be) many people who I would consider mentors, influencers; those who have supported or inspired me throughout my life. But the biggest influence would have to be becoming a father of four. My children have changed my outlook on life, and how I spend my time - I am trying hard to get that work/life balance. My wife and children do not think I'm there yet and must do better! (see below for some conflicting advice from my 9-year-old daughter)



A recent trip to Blackpool and my 4-year-old son's insistence that he dresses up as a cowboy. So naturally, we all joined in.

Your biggest passion:

A family man; my wife Marea and I have four children – so never a dull moment as they run feral about the house! I still have a love for gymnastics – as an artistic and incredibly challenging sport, that not only teaches you how

to do a good roly-poly, but also such obviously transferrable life skills as commitment, patience, perseverance, respect (for your fellow gymnastics and coaches) and a passion for a healthy lifestyle. I now have the pleasure of coaching myself.

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

Crikey...well, I think it's incredibly important to build – and to continually invest in – friendships, to remain humble, inquisitive and open minded. As my grandmother used to say (with an unmistakably Irish tongue), 'you have to speculate to accumulate, Christopher'. Life's about relationships not transactional. Go out of your way once in a while.

But, I should add (as I look up while writing, only to notice a couple of post-it notes attached to my computer screen no doubt left by my 9 year-old daughter): 'try your best' and 'work hard [Daddy]!'. Suitably inspirational although she does have one eye on a new bike.

The object you couldn't live without:

While my wife would probably insist that I confess this to be 'my phone', I'd have to say, perhaps equally sadly, it would have to be our family car...okay van...aka 'the beast' – our amazing 8-seater that takes us regularly to the beautiful Lakes (and away from the MK roundabouts!).

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

Cooped up in the home office for months...London would be great. Really had no need to travel since the restrictions were imposed, but I do miss the City. We'll try and take the kids abroad, perhaps a camping trip in the south of France or a holiday to Disneyland, Florida.

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

The Pattenmakers do so much that it would be too complex to explain in detail, so I would simply describe the Pattenmakers as a group of people who have come together from many walks of life to support the production of such things as 'orthopaedic shoes', encourage the development of trade through awards and grants and help others through charitable givings. I'd also

mention the fact that we also have lovely dinners in very beautiful buildings. Once E.T had settled into life on Earth, and been to a dinner or two, I'd give him/her a more detailed description and talk of Royal charters, historical self-governance and democracy...and, well suggest signing up!

Postcard from Abroad

Postcard from Kyiv

Mistress Pattenmaker Victoria Best

It was more than two years since I had travelled back to Kyiv to see my mother and other family, as well as my friends. Last year was extremely busy with the Pattenmakers during our year as Master and Consort, and of course the last six months have been locked down. At Manchester Airport at 4am only Diana and I were allowed into the terminal with masks all prepared for our pre-booked slot to go through security. The terminal building was pretty deserted and not simply because of the time; The flight too was only half full.

When we arrived into Borispol International Airport about the same distance from the centre of Kyiv as Heathrow is from London, we were asked to take a test for Covid-19, to specify where we would be staying, and to download an App that we would use for the next cc days. This app requires you to take a selfie showing where you are, at random times, mainly to demonstrate that you are observing the instructions whilst waiting for the test results. Effective but quite invasive.

Happily for us, we were negative and after 2 days were free to go out and about. Whilst we were looking forward to some quiet time, we had so many people to catch up with that the time turned into quite a whirlwind of get togethers. Though we had to wear masks all the time, indoors in shops and outside in public spaces.

Kyiv is officially recorded as being founded in 482 but with records of habitation going back 2000 years. According to legend Kyiv was founded by three brothers; Kyi Shchek and Khoryv and their sister Lybid. The city is named after Kyi, the

eldest brother, and reached its Golden Age in the 10th to 12th Centuries as the capital of Kyivan Rus'. As a city Kyiv is very beautiful as these pictures show.

Maidan (Independence Square) at one end of the main street of Kyiv, Kryshatik Street is the heart of Kyiv, and is where the orange revolution initially began. This began the end of the corrupt rule of former President Yanukovich, and gave rise to independent elections although often it seems that not many things have changed, or changed fast enough!

Kryshatik, as you can see below is a very broad street with plenty of room for social distancing! But even with masks in the period following the Covid crisis it was crowded with people during a normal working day. We did however manage some shopping!



Overlooking the main thoroughfare of Kryshatik Street, where all the main brands are represented is the huge statue (102m) representing the nation of Ukraine, The Motherland Monument erected to record the effects of the second war- there is a museum in

the centre recording the costs in lives of the war.

Kyiv was the first place in Ukraine to be converted to Christianity through the influence of various saints and by monks from Constantinople (Istanbul)

Princess and Saint Olga visited the City in 945 or 947, and it was her grandson Knyaz, (Prince) Vladimir who had his people baptised in the Dnieper river. This began the dominance of Eastern Orthodoxy and its influence in Ukraine and later Russia. The most important site is the complex called the Pechery Lavra on a hill overlooking the Dnieper river covering a large area in churches and monasteries.

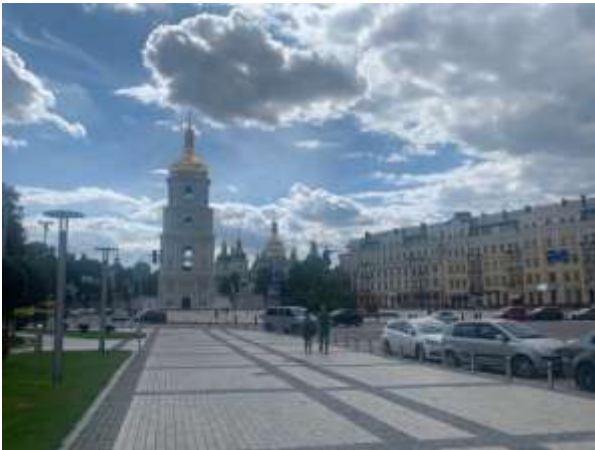
The caves beneath the hill of the Lavra are the last resting places of many saints and draw many pilgrims and worshippers. The Pechery Lavra is the centre of Ukrainian Orthodox religion, and in the caves beneath, at a constant 37 degrees, lie the bodies of many saints from the past thousand years. Despite the temperature these bodies show no sign of decay.

People visit this and the other cathedrals and churches mingling with the tourists who are coming to Kyiv in increasing numbers to see the cultural heritage and to sample the wide range of tastes and activities.

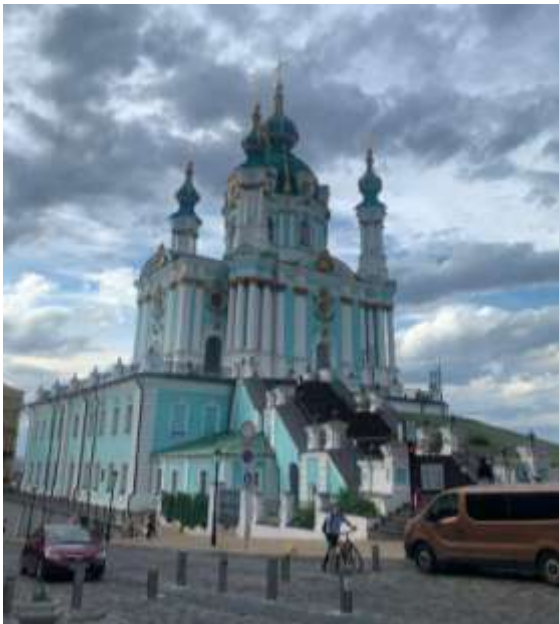


The photos above and below show the expanse of Sofiyivska Square, with behind it on the left of the picture above the extraordinary building of the Mikhaelovsky Monastery on a prominent hill overlooking the City. The square is named after the Cathedral of St Sofia the most ancient building of Kyiv and Russ, built in around 1011 and ended in 1018 making it at least as significant of any other European church building and emphasising

the important role that Kyiv has held down the centuries.



St Andrew's Church is one of the most striking buildings, originating from 1747 and 1752 designed by an Italian architect during the reign when Elizabeth the Empress of Russia decided to build a summer residence in Kyiv consisting of a Palace and a Church. The church is all that remains. This photo also shows the cobble streets which have been retained in much of old Kyiv contributing to the interest but making for a bumpy taxi ride!



The picture above again of St Andrews, shows the imposing frontage of the church so that after climbing the steps the congregation are in a suitably humble state of mind! The Church has no bells, as according to legend their sound would

cause flooding to the left bank of the river and the City!



This is the monument to Princess St Olga the wife of Igor 1st and the grandmother of the Prince Vladimir who converted his people to Christianity. On the right side of Olga on the monument are Kiril and Methodius earl saints, and on the left, St Andrew, Patron Saint of Ukraine

We spent a lot of time with friends either in the parks or along the river, the Dniepro, (or Dnieper), the fourth largest of Europe's great rivers, which flows though the centre of Kyiv and is about half a kilometre wide as it passes below the limestone cliffs on the top of which is the Pechery Lavra complex.



The weather at this time of year is around 32 degrees although storms are possible. In this heat, the cool of the parks and the breeze off the river is very welcome. Close by is the "friendship" or "Unity Arch"



This arch was built in 1982 to celebrate the 60th anniversary Soviet Union, and the unification of Russia and Ukraine- but now it is “cracked”. You can see the painted mark on the arch symbolising the break in the friendship between Russia and Ukraine following the illegal annexation of Crimea, which has taken many lives and continues to do so, as well as drawing attention to the illegal detention of political prisoners in Russia.

Like any capital city in Europe, Kyiv is a fascinating place whether for culture, food or nightlife and is worth a visit to explore. It was great to be in my home City and to see old friends and all my family, and equally good to be home again when we arrived back in England even if we did have to self isolate for a further 14 days!

If you have the chance, I would encourage you to visit Kyiv, it has excellent restaurants and hotels and I or David would be happy to provide recommendations.

Events

Reminder about our Pattenmaker Events previously advertised

Monday 7th September 6.00pm - PatTEDmakers
Talk: [PatTEDmakers Talk Registration](#)

Tuesday 8th September – Coffee Chat with Susan O’Hare and Zoe Dodge

Register in advance for this meeting: [Coffee Chat Registration](#)

Wednesday 21st October 2020 6.30pm - The Secret Zoom – Magic Show with Alan Hudson
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86834456564?pwd=dU1KMWppeERjeGV2dnFMSEV2bldSOT09>
Meeting ID: 868 3445 6564
Passcode: 840493

Other Events

Jeremy Willans Chair, Inter-Livery Bridge Committee, Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards

We plan to host an Inter-Livery event at least once per quarter, and wanted to let you know the dates well in advance:

- monday, October 12th
- Monday, December 7th
- Monday, March 1st (see below)

All on-line events will be Duplicate Pairs, starting at 2.15pm, but we may introduce some variations such as Swiss Pairs, and so please feedback to us your preferences. An online booking form will be sent round for each event nearer the time - please look out for the invitation for October 12th, shortly. This will also be visible on the home page of our website: www.makersofplayingcards.org

Monday March, 1st 2021 - 38th Annual Inter-Livery Bridge at Drapers’ Hall

Our annual event is currently booked for the normal bridge evening and dinner, and we are considering how this may be organised. If the event has to be cancelled or postponed, we will definitely replace it with an Online Inter-Livery Pairs competition on that evening.

We look forward to your participation in these events. As with the first Online Inter-Livery Pairs competition last month, all online events are open to any member of any Livery Company and, in order to make the event more inclusive during the pandemic, we are continuing to relax the normal ILB rule that your Partner must also be a Livery Company member. Accordingly, you are most welcome to join us and play with any partner of your choosing.

Wednesday 9th September 2020 - The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators

The next webinar entitled Innovation in the New World, by Steve Kaye, CEO UK Water Industry Research . Our webinars are open to all.

Feedback has indicated that our series of webinars has been very well received, and we trust this one will be equally interesting. If you missed the webinars, or you'd like to watch again, all to date are now uploaded onto our website.

The webinar will be held over Zoom Video Conferencing and attendees may join free of charge. Please ensure you have down-loaded Zoom v.5.0 which is available free at <https://zoom.us> Once installed, attendees should click on this link to join the webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81712196959?pwd=NTIzczBFWkZHeTd3WUVESGpOV2x0UT09>
Meeting ID: 817 1219 6959
Passcode: 784827



Bird Watch

**Bird of the week is the Hobby
Freeman Richard Parlour**



Photo of the Week

Liveryman Ian Balcombe

Gillian and I had a very enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend in Bournemouth. When we got there I noticed 4 Cruise Ships out to sea and thought that it was a strange time for them to be leaving port and in such numbers. I then realised that they were not moving and where in the same position all weekend. Either they were not going anywhere or Bournemouth has become a new destination. In the evening as we walked back from a very nice Fish Restaurant I saw the Pier illuminated by the setting sun.



I haven't covered any raptors yet, so I'd better cover this one before it leaves for the winter! Hobbies start leaving our shores in September and October, so you still have a chance to see one this year. Their main prey are hirundines, so swallows and martins, and the occasional swift. If those are not around then a favourite snack is a dragonfly. They catch their prey with their talons and often transfer them to their beak in mid air. Hobbies will stick around while their prey does, so if you know somewhere where their prey frequents, you will have a better chance of seeing them. Gravel pits are a good choice, and better earlier in the morning, or in the evening about an hour or two before sundown. They are about the same size as a kestrel, but with longer pointed wings. Unlike a kestrel, they don't hover, but fly around very fast and are capable of great acceleration. Their Latin name is *falco subbuteo*, and gave its name to the football game invented

in England in 1947 by Peter Adolf. The trademark included the hobby, but the word "hobby" was not licensable, hence Subbuteo! The speed of a Subbuteo player being flicked across the baize will give you an idea of their aerial speed however. Subbuteo is Latin for "smaller than a buzzard", technically correct, but not of much help in distinguishing between hawks and falcons! There are thought to be around 2,800 pairs of hobbies in the UK, their range extending into mid Wales, and almost up to Scotland. 2,800 doesn't sound like a lot when compared to 46,000 kestrels, but hobbies are on the UK green list. The best way to tell a hobby from a kestrel is to look at its thighs, which are a rusty red colour, as if it is wearing red trousers. This distinguishing mark also helps to differentiate from the much larger peregrine falcon, and the much smaller merlin.

The wings are a dark grey on top, and white with dark streaks underneath, longer and more pointed than those of a kestrel. Their white face stands out, and they sport a black moustache like other falcons. It is often said that their wings are sickle shaped. Their feet are a bright yellow. Hobbies fly high and are rarely encountered on a tree stump like in the photograph. When on migration, they often move around in small groups, following the hirundine migration. The photograph was taken in spring when there were three of them chasing around one of the gravel pits close to me. They circled the pits like formula 1 cars on a race track, taking the first dragonflies to appear, but had moved on by the following day.

The autumn migration is now in further swing, flocks of yellow wagtails having been seen heading south. Black winged stilts have bred in Somerset on the levels, the only stilts to have bred in the UK this year. The Somerset Levels have also seen 36 young Great White Egret (looks like a white heron with a yellow beak) raised this summer. Much of the other bird news this week is raptor based, a hobby having been shot and killed in Essex, Montagu's harrier having failed to breed in the UK this summer (this has become a very rare bird here). However, an Eleanora's falcon was seen in Norfolk. This was an extremely rare sighting as they normally hang around the Mediterranean. Autumn migrations are a great

time to see flocks of birds leaving these shores for warmer climes, as well as to see ones coming here for the winter from colder Northern climes. If you are heading out to an estuary or large reservoir, they may be easier to see if you take a telescope with you, or even invest in one. Considerations in telescope selection are much the same as for binoculars. A 30x – 60x magnification should be fine. Ones with a larger lens at the business end will let in more light, but will come at a higher price. The view can be superb, however. Using telescopes requires a steady base, and using them in a handheld fashion is not recommended! The heavier the tripod you use, the more stability, but there again the heavier the weight to carry. Some get around this by hanging a bag from the middle of the tripod and weighting it down with stones and rocks found where they are viewing from.

There are smaller tripods which you can use on a shelf such as you might find in a hide, or some use a bean bag, which you could use on your car, whether on the roof or through a wound down window. As with binoculars, you can usually obtain a special mount to be able to attach a smartphone to take pictures ("digiscoping"), and some mounts will allow you to add an SLR camera body, so plenty of options here too.

Happy birding!

Letters to the Editor

Past Master Tim Watts

How scrupulous (or, if you like, pedantic) should we be about the use of language in our Newsletter (excellent though the content is)? This week there were references to "on a weekend", something which to me still sounds strange even if increasingly common. My copy of Fowler's Modern English Usage (3rd edition) is quite clear that in matters of time British English (as opposed to the American version) requires "at" and not "on". Harrumph!

Editor's note: Does anyone else have an expression that they particularly dislike.

To the Master Elect from Honorary Freeman Lady Verney

Having just read The Pattenmaker, I thought that you may be interested to know that my husband Lawrence

The Pattenmaker

was born in Rhoscolyn, Anglesey . This meant that he qualified to play squash for Wales. He played squash as an amateur for longer than anyone else, & was in The Guinness Book of Records.

Steward Raymond Lewis

The Clerk emailed me on Saturday to inform me that the Face Masks had been despatched. They arrived today @ 12:35 today - that's what I call service. My wife & I are very impressed. They look very smart and distinctive and will wear them with pride. I hope everyone will support this good cause.

Below is a photograph showing how good it looks. Margaret asked if I would wear it all the time at home because I look very handsome in it. I don't know what she means!



To the Clerk from Freeman Ernest Bartol.
The face masks arrived today. They are fabulous. Thank you very much.

Recipe of the Week

Authentic Potato Curry (by Dipak and Sandhya Kanabar) - Past Mistress Sonja Garsvo

This was a lovely lockdown evening with our neighbours during that very isolated period. Our lovely Ugandan Indian neighbours gave us a Zoom cookery class together with much wine and hilarity, and we all sat down and ate together. So fond memories of this one. Great as a vegetarian main or a spicy side dish.

Instructions

Heat oil (3/4 of a tablespoon per person)
Add black mustard seeds - a few to begin with to test 'popping' then add the rest (1 level teaspoon per 2 people). When all are popping cover pan,

Add c. 1.5 large diced potatoes per person. Lid on again

Stir the potatoes - basically sautéing them until going golden,

Add one clove of crushed garlic per person and stir

Add 1 level teaspoon of Turmeric per 2 people and stir

Add c 1/4 to half a can of tinned tomatoes per person

Add 1 level teaspoon of salt per person.

Ready when the potatoes are tender and fragrant....

Note: keep adding water as you go along to prevent sticking, and check taste for saltiness and tenderness of potatoes.



Quiz of the Week

The Answers to last week's Flower Quiz:

1. Snowdrop
2. Campanula
3. Aubretia
4. Freesia
5. Lily of the Valley
6. Peony

This week's quiz kindly supplied by Freeman Jo Holloway

Identify the flowers pictured below:



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

All contributions are welcome – please send to the Editor Ian Balcombe: ianbalc@gmail.com