



The Pattenmaker

WEEKLY NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

Issue 26

Friday 25th September 2020

From the Master Elect, Jennifer Bryant-Pearson



The Court has agreed that the Admissions Ceremony will now take place virtually on 8th October and the Master's invitation to all our members is below. This will be a first for the Pattenmakers and our gallant Clerk provides

some further information inside the newsletter but he will circulate full details of timing and the ceremony itself next week.

Sadly, as a result of COVID-19, Assistant Keith Bottomley tells us there will be no Lord Mayor's Show this year. This is the first time since 1852 that this prestigious event has had to be cancelled. However, we continue to have a wide range of events for you to join – in addition to the Magic Show there is the PatTED talk and the prestigious Cambridge International Symposium on Economic Crime – just follow the links shown to access these events.

We also have good news from the Hanover Band whose concert series this autumn was cancelled which included the concert in St Margaret Pattens. They have now completed a full recording of the first eight Beethoven Symphonies in Stationers' Hall and all are available to view through their own streamed website on the dates shown in the article.

The Clerk and I attended a virtual Leather Liveries event this week which was notable for the collaboration across the Livery companies and as a result, plans are in hand for a Centre of

Excellence - to be set up with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund – at either Northampton or Leicester in conjunction with the De Montfort University.

Through our charitable foundation, we already support DMU students and this week their Footwear Design course leader, Nanette Westberg-Brown reports on their new online showcase – do take a look at the new Footwear Design brochure, to which we provide a link. Also, as part of our charitable support, Liveryman Susan O'Hare updates us from the City of London School and Past Master Richard Kottler publishes a letter of thanks from the City of London Academy in Islington whilst Renter Warden Elect Pat Tyrrell reports on our military affiliations.

Freeman Julian Hakes tells us about the new disposable face masks he has been designing and manufacturing and Assistant Steve Huxham showcases Cow Shoes as part of his 'weirdest Pattens' article.

Freeman Richard Parlour not only educates us on the Bullfinch this week but also tells us how he rescued a male bullfinch that had been stunned but flew away happily 24 hours later.

The article from Liveryman Philip Rutledge last week stirred a lot of memories for Past Master Helen Auty and for Liveryman Dr Richard Alexander who recalls his own childhood food memories and supplies us with a very special Broni Cake recipe. A very lively debate continues in the Letters to the Editor on Patines and Blue Tits.

Finally, we have Liveryman Ian Balcombe's excellent Photo of the week and, as always, the gallant Clerk gets us thinking with his Quiz -

another random one this week as he received so many entries for last week's version.

From the Master, Dr David Best



On the 8th October at 6pm we will have our first virtual admissions ceremony for the new Master Jennifer Bryant-Pearson and Wardens Sarah Leitjen, Patrick Tyrrell and Martin

Pickard.

This is being conducted via zoom and will, we hope, be an opportunity to assemble virtually for a celebration of our Company and the continuity of our traditions and customs despite these trying times.

Please join us if you can for this event and be sure to have glasses and something fizzy close to hand. Details of how to register will follow shortly. I hope to see as many of you as possible!

City of London Corporation

City of London announces cancellation of Lord Mayor's Show - Court Assistant Deputy Keith Bottomley CC



The Lord Mayor's Show, one of the landmark events in the City of London's calendar, has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The decision has been taken by the Lord Mayor's Show Ltd. The annual event which, traditionally, features a three-mile-long procession through the City's streets,

would have been held on Saturday 14 November as a contained, televised spectacle with no public access in Guildhall Yard.

According to historical records, the last cancellation of the Lord Mayor's Show was in 1852 to allow for a period of national mourning for the Duke of Wellington.

Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman William Russell, said: "The Lord Mayor's Show is a unique event but, because of serious and increasing concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic over the coming months, we believe that cancelling it is the right decision.

"Safety must remain our ultimate priority. I would like to thank everyone who has worked on this Show. Our gratitude to them will remain undiminished, as will my hope that we will be able to hold the Lord Mayor's Show next year."

Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Lord Mayor's Show Ltd, Alderman Tim Hailes, said: "It seems likely that, as we head towards winter, London and the UK will face increasingly challenging times so, with deep regret, the Board of Directors of the Lord Mayor's Show Limited has taken this difficult decision. Instead of relaxing the public health restrictions, they look set to be tightened, so it would have become untenable, if not impossible, to hold this popular event, even in its scaled-back format."

Pageantmaster of the Lord Mayor's Show, Dominic Reid OBE, said: "The decision to cancel this year's Show is as inevitable as it is regrettable, but we are facing uncertain times and despite everyone's best efforts, we took the view that cancelling the event is the most appropriate and responsible action."

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.

Our Charitable Fund

City of London Academy Islington Past Master Richard Kottler

Following on from our article about the London Livery Schools and our donation in a previous newsletter, PM Richard Kottler received the following email from the Principal Sonia Jacob.

COLAI is back to being open full time to all students. It is proving to be an interesting time because we have had to adjust our school day and routines considerably to ensure we are 'covid secure', but it is good to have the students back and most seem to be pleased to be back – long may that last!

I am getting in touch to let you know that I was contacted by David Barker at the Digital Divide Campaign. He informed me that the Pattenmakers have very generously donated £2000 to the campaign to be passed on to COLAI.

We are incredibly grateful to have received the grant and I would like to thank the Pattenmakers for their generous donation. The grant will enable us to purchase 10 Chromebooks to supply to students who require one. As you will know, having had conversations with me about the nature of the community we serve (i.e. one with very high levels of socio-economic deprivation), the digital divide is depressingly evident in its impact on our students. This grant is a genuine life line for our students. As further interruptions to education look increasingly likely due to rising infection rates, this grant was very timely and very welcome!

De Montfort University – Nanette Westberg-Brown, Programme Course Leader for Footwear Design

We will be launching an online showcase on Instagram highlighting some of the spectacular work by the class of 2020 from across our art, design, architecture, fashion and textiles courses from **Monday 28 September to Thursday 1**

October. Our Degree Show celebrates and showcases all the hard work and achievements of our final year students and normally attracts thousands of visitors, including potential employers, onto campus. This year we're incredibly proud to present some of their exceptional work in an alternative version: [DMU Art & Design](#) As part of a series of live Q&As taking place that week, we're also absolutely thrilled in providing our students an exciting opportunity to join a series of DMU hosted industry Q&A live streams to interact with some of our industry and alumni guests, who will be sharing their experiences, advice and tips with our students.

In addition to this, we also have two dedicated Instagram accounts for our Footwear programme. Please feel free to follow us and support our students along their way. (@dmu_footwear_design & @footweardesigndmu)

I am attaching a digital copy of this year's Footwear Design brochure. [Footwear Design Brochure](#)

It was certainly not the end to our graduates' studies that any of us could have planned or predicted, yet we are extremely proud of each and every one of them for their achievements this year, and also throughout their time studying with us.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of our BA(Hons) Footwear Design programme. We hope this continues as we move forward into the new 2020/21 Academic year.

City of London School – Liveryman Susan O'Hare, Education Committee

We are staying in contact with the school remotely which has now re-opened with restricted social activities. It was lovely to receive the note from the pupil we sponsor. He wrote

I am very happy at School, although a little sad at the lack of Clubs due to the current climate. I am looking to getting back in to the rhythm of school again.

I have missed all of my friends and I was very happy when I was able to see them again.

An update was also received from the School

The School continues to be flexible and adaptive. Pupils and staff are following measures ensure everyone's safety during lessons and co-curricular programming, some of which is still conducted in a remote method. Many events that CLS would normally host have been postponed, including the Livery Luncheon and Prize day. This decision has been carefully considered and we want to ensure that we keep everyone safe, especially when so many uncertain variables are at play. Once we can safely host events again, we will endeavour to reschedule them as expediently as possible. Your commitment to City of London School, especially during extraordinary times such as these, means City can continue to offer crucial aid and bursaries to exceptional boys. We are so grateful and thank you very much for your support as we carry on the long-standing traditions of inclusivity and academic excellence.

Pattenmaker Military Affiliations - Renter Warden Elect Commodore Patrick Tyrell OBE Royal Navy

On the Royal Navy side, HMS CHIDDINGFOLD has arrived in the Gulf for her latest deployment, which will last until 2023/24. Her two crews will rotate on a 6 monthly basis and we hope to receive some photographs from them showing their outbound leg through a very stormy Bay of Biscay and the Mediterranean.

Our newest affiliate, NAS 824 continues pilot and helicopter crew training, principally at RNAS CULDROSE. Their new Commanding Officer, Commander James Taylor, is very keen on our new affiliation and is an avid reader of the Newsletter which he has described as "fascinating"!

Once life has a degree of "normality", we are hoping to be able to arrange a visit to the Squadron.

Covid 19

Liveryman Julian Hakes



As Governments around the world are focussed on attempting to reduce the impact of a dangerous second wave of infections from

Covid-19, the use of face coverings is quickly becoming the new normal. In the UK face coverings are now mandatory within most public and work settings and now that we have had a few months of using masks many people are finding out that not all face coverings are made equal.

Liveryman Julian Hakes designs and makes prototypes and is undertaking a deep dive into face covering material technology. Julian quickly identified a key challenge to overcome was that disposable face coverings would quickly become the next waste crisis.

Since early January, he has been working with UK Company 360 Protex to develop stylish, sustainable and scientifically tested face covering. The face covering design also had to be easy to make at volume to enable a viable price point for fully UK manufactured product.

Julian reports:

"Single use face coverings contain plastic elements which cannot be recycled. Tests have also shown that the virus can live up to 7 days on the outside of a disposable mask and after each use they should only ever be placed in a bin.

Incorrectly disposing of single use face coverings can contaminate recyclables putting more people - especially front line workers - at risk.

Inevitably, single use face coverings will end up in land fill or escape into the natural environment including our rivers and seas. Littering intentionally or accidentally will also have a big impact on our environment.

The huge amount of waste generated by disposable coverings could easily overwhelm our waste infrastructure and the single use plastics within them could be catastrophic for the environment and our wildlife when you consider the global usage of these items.

Indeed, it was recently reported that a juvenile falcon was spotted near the Yorkshire coast with a disposable face covering tangled around its talons. Irresponsible disposal of face coverings poses real risk to wildlife, similar stories have been told in other parts of the country, in Chelmsford, Essex, a gull was found with its legs trapped in the elastic of a disposable face mask.

The introduction of 'Virumask' provides us with an alternative to disposable whilst assuring we are helping the friends, family and colleagues with the on-going battle against Coronavirus'

Reusable face masks are a much better alternative however not all reusable face coverings are the same and some have a greater carbon footprint than others.

As you need to change a cotton mask to a fresh one after each use, many people will end up with as many cotton masks as they have socks. The constant daily washing of a cotton mask uses up 1000's of litres of valuable water, not to mention the highly water intensive cotton production process.

Our new Virumask uses Shield Plus technology from UK company 'Panaz' and maintains its shield-like antimicrobial protection for much longer periods of time, reducing the need for frequent washing and avoiding regular replacement.



Together we are helping to fight the battle against Coronavirus and at the same time protecting the planet and our oceans".

Our History

The World's Weirdest Pattens - Court Assistant Steve Huxham

As I have mentioned before in Newsletter pieces, one of the biggest challenges our project team for the new History Book faced was not what to put in the publication, but what to leave out. Whether we had settled on 250 pages, 350, or even 550, it would have made no difference – there is always more than can possibly be included. This is not a matter for disappointment I feel, but for celebration. What a wonderful Company we have that there is always a new discovery waiting to be found, thanks to the depth and breadth of our history and that of the humble patten!

In our case, and in respect of inclusion and exclusion, we did consider other historic forms of elevated footwear from around the globe, and some real oddities – when the Book arrives do look out for the 19th Century French chestnut crushing clogs! However, other types and trends had to be left out, such as more modern fashion platform shoes (although if any Pattenmaker knows Sir Elton well enough to ask if he has any old ones he did not auction off and can donate to the Company Collection please don't hold back.)

Thus it was that I received a circular email both from our gallant Clerk and Past Master Kottler earlier this year containing photos of unusual objects from around the world, with my attention

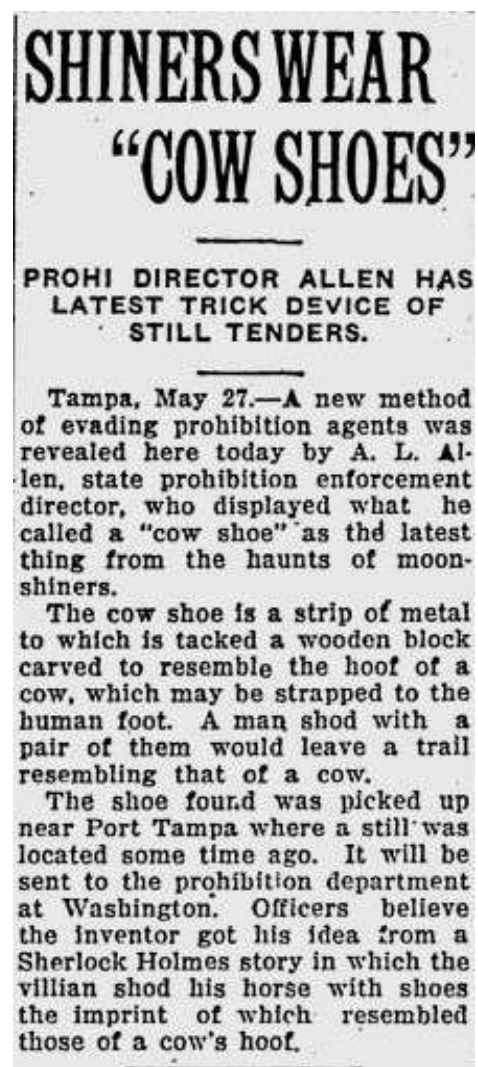
being drawn to the one labelled as “Prohibition Cow Shoes” from the USA. Fascinating though these are, they sadly didn’t make the final “cut” for the Book on grounds of space and (at the time) difficulty in finding the original source of the photo – a common issue for us with online images, especially as we try to avoid the copies held at the commercial photographic libraries and their high charges for usage where possible.



*A moonshiner's Cow Shoe of 1922.
Credit to Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs
Division, Washington, D.C*

The Cow Shoes story is well worth relating though, and in this I am indebted to a US blog with the delightful name of “The Weekly Holler.” This piece draws heavily on an article in issue 3. As is well known, during the Prohibition Era in the USA, running from 1919 – 1933, it was illegal to brew, sell, import, or transport alcoholic beverages across the country. This led to what were known as moonshiners, or blockaders, illegally using their own covert stills to make whiskey in locations where they felt the law would not find them. Although popularly depicted as either hillbillies or gangsters, but both types operating rather crudely, the real story is that considerable ingenuity was often deployed for these illegal ends. An example of this was the Cow Shoes discovery, featured by “*The Evening Independent Newspaper*” of Florida, on May 27th 1922, in which such a Shoe had been found near to a still, and the suggestion made that the concept may have been inspired by a Sherlock Holmes tale, no less. In “*The Adventure of the Priory School*,” which had been published in the USA in 1905, Holmes investigates and solves a kidnapping case of a Duke’s son but is still puzzled as to how the kidnapper hid the tracks of

his horse. In response, the Duke shows Holmes some ancient horseshoes from his private collection of artifacts which although designed to fit horses, had a cow hoof shape made of iron below specifically intended to leave prints that would throw any pursuers off the track. The thinking of the newspaper was that a moonshiner might have had the same idea in respect of fooling Revenue Officers who might follow footprints. Whatever the background to it, the idea certainly created some memorable footwear and the original photographs of the item are held in the Library of Congress, Washington DC.



*Article in the Evening Independent Newspaper of Florida, 27
May 1922.*

It was further reported that another person possibly inspired by the Holmes tale in the 1920s was cattle rustler “Crazy Tex” Hazelwood – yes, fact is indeed often stranger than fiction and that was his name. In this story, ranch hands at the

Utah Construction Ranch in northern Nevada were mystified by the regular disappearance of cattle, but without any obvious signs of rustlers at work. Watching the cattle more closely, two employees noticed that a pair of cows had gone missing one afternoon and followed the cows' tracks into a nearby clearing. Here they found "Crazy Tex" at work and the discovery that he had made a pair of Cow Shoes to wear under his boots to conceal his tracks. He admitted his guilt and showed the ranch hands how he had spent time in practicing walking like a cow to make the deception more accurate. Duly arrested and jailed for his crimes, his Cow Shoes remain displayed at the Northeastern Nevada Museum.



Cattle rustler "Crazy Tex" Hazelwood's Cow Shoes on display. Credit to Northeastern Nevada Museum.

Are these elevated Cow Shoes truly the "World's Weirdest Pattens"? They must surely have a strong claim...until the next discovery at least.

Members' News

Past Master Professor Barry Rider OBE



Over the years many members of our Company have directly or indirectly been involved with the annual Cambridge International Symposium on Economic Crime

which has taken place at Jesus College, Cambridge over the last thirty-eight years. Indeed, in 2007 the Pattenmakers had a joint 'ball' with the delegates. The Lord Mayor, Sheriffs and

Corporation of the City of London have also been supporters of the symposium almost since its inception and the City of London Police is one of the organising institutions. Sadly, we have had to postpone the thirty-eighth symposium until September 2021 but we have prepared a series of video presentations - including a number from members of the Company. You are very welcome to view these at: [2020 Crime Symposium](#)

I thought it particularly appropriate to bring this to your attention as Liveryman Professor Michael Ashe QC SC is one of the Co-Chairmen of the Symposium and Liveryman Richard Parlour is a Symposium stalwart. You will find a number of presentations on the symposium's website addressing the risks associated with cyber-crime.

Events

PatTEDmakers Talks - Cyber Security and Justice – Monday 28th September at 6:00pm

Second edition in our exclusive webinar series, exploring the highly relevant area of cyber security and justice. Two short talks from our very own Pattenmakers including: Liveryman Richard Parlour & Liveryman Michael Ashe QC SC.

Register here: [Cyber Security and Justice](#)

Admissions to Office - The Clerk Thursday, 8th October at 6:00pm

As you are aware the Admission to Office of the Master and Wardens had to be postponed as a result of these unprecedented times (well since 1660 anyway). The Court decided that the Master and Wardens would continue in office until a suitable time to facilitate the handover. We are now at the six month point and it has been agreed that the handover ceremony will take place on Thursday, 8th October 2020 meaning the current Master, Dr David Best will have served 18 months and the Master Elect, Jennifer Bryant-Pearson will also serve for the same period.

To effect this we have had a series of plans which as you can imagine have been changed regularly and often. The plan is now this, and remembering the words of von Moltke that no plan stands contact with the enemy, is what is planned:

There will be a “virtual” admission ceremony at 6.00pm on Thursday, 8th October to which you are all invited. Further details and a link to the Zoom will be promulgated in due course – so please Save the Date!

St Margaret Pattens AGM - Thursday 1st October at 2.00 pm by Zoom.

If you wish to join the meeting and for the Service that precedes the Meeting at 1 pm, please make your intentions known to Andrew Keep, our Associate Vicar at vicar@stmargaretpattens.org, he will then send you an invitation to either or both gatherings with a Meeting Reference and Password to gain access. An Agenda, Annual Report and Accounts are available from the Clerk.

Hanover Band – from Roger Walkinton (Grocer Liveryman)

I am delighted to report that the Hanover Band has successfully completed the recording sessions of the first eight Beethoven Symphonies in Stationers’ Hall. You may therefore like to publicise this to your memberships, as soon as you are able, using the following suggested text: we would be extremely grateful if you would, at the earliest opportunity.

The acclaimed period instrument group The Hanover Band, itself celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, was due to hold afternoon schools workshops and early evening performances of all nine Beethoven symphonies in a number of Livery halls and churches to mark Beethoven’s 250th birthday this year. The Clothworkers, Drapers, Goldsmiths, Grocers, Ironmongers, Leathersellers, Pattenmakers and Stationers were all involved in this. As you are aware, the Covid-19 pandemic made this impossible: some events in the series were

postponed to the autumn, but now the whole series is being postponed to the autumn of 2021. With the ringing endorsement of the Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell, the twin aims of this series – the City’s Salute to Beethoven’s 250th – were to open young people’s ears to classical music and open their eyes to the historic livery Halls and their role in City life. However, we are delighted to announce that you do not now need to wait until next autumn to experience this music! Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of one philanthropist in particular, together with other Hanover Band Patrons including the Stationers, it proved possible to set up duly socially-distanced recording sessions (visual and audio) in Stationers’ Hall over a period at the end of August and early September, the results of which are thrilling live performances of Beethoven’s Symphonies numbers 1-8 inclusive.

It is believed that this will be the only such recording of Beethoven’s symphonies made in 2020.



These recordings will be streamed from the Band’s own website www.thehanoverband.com. If you visit this site, you will be able to use the link to view the streamed performances on the

dates below. All the Band asks for is your email address but there is also the facility, if you wish, to make a donation of whatever size you can afford towards the work of Hanover Band. You will be able to see and hear the symphonies as follows:

Wed 21 October 2020 20.00

Symphony No. 1 Op.21

Wed 28 October 2020 20.00

Symphony No. 2 Op.36

Wed 4 November 2020 20.00

Symphony No. 3 Op.55 'Eroica'

Wed 11 November 2020 20.00

Symphony No. 4 Op.60

Wed 18 November 2020 20.00

Symphony No. 5 Op.67

Wed 25 November 2020 20.00

Symphony No. 6 Op.68 'Pastoral'

Wed 2 December 2020 20.00

Symphony No. 7 Op.92

Wed 9 December 2020 20.00

Symphony No. 8 Op.93

It is hoped that Beethoven's 9th Symphony ("Choral") will soon be recorded also in time for Beethoven's actual birthday on 16 December 2020, possibly from Mansion House. It was the Royal Philharmonic Society of London who first commissioned the piece which was premiered in London in 1825: Beethoven was paid just £50 for it (the equivalent of about £5,000 today)!

If you would like to contribute to the work of the Hanover Band, its musicians and its educational outreach, whether for £5,000 or £50, or £250 for Beethoven's 250 years, or have any other queries, please contact the Band's CEO Stephen Neiman on stephen@thehanoverband.com

Goldsmiths Fair goes Digital for 2020 24th September to 6th October 2020

Goldsmiths' Fair, a selling event and exhibition for fine jewellers and silversmiths, is launching a digital Fair in 2020. The Fair will provide an online platform for around 130 exhibitors and

established visitors, 9,000 of who ordinarily attend the live event at the Goldsmiths' Hall in the City of London, as well as to new audiences from around the world.

It is being held from the 24th September to 6th October 2020

[@thegoldsmithscompany](https://www.thegoldsmithscompany.com)
linktr.ee/goldsmithsfai

Photo of the Week

Liveryman Ian Balcombe



Seen on a still empty Bond Street. Not wearing Pattenmaker masks but sitting socially distanced

Bird Watch

Bird of the week this week is the Bullfinch - Freeman Richard Parlour



The male bullfinch is a delight to see, unmistakable with his bright crimson breast and

cheeks, grey back, black cap and tail. It also has a bright white rump, visible at rest, but most noticeable as a flash in flight. The female would find it hard to sit unobtrusively on a nest with such bright colours and has the same markings, but a subtle orange buff colour instead of the male's crimson. Nests are usually in large bushes, around 4 m tall and wide. Despite the bright colours of the male in particular, you will often first notice the presence of a bullfinch by its call. It is a weak, plaintive call, very distinctive, almost mournful. If you are not quite sure which finch is in front of you, wait until it flies off, as the bright white rump is another sure-fire indicator, along with white flashes on the wings. Bullfinches are quite bulky bull headed birds and have a voracious appetite. If they land on your feeders, they will jump the queue and all the smaller birds will have to await their turn. When not feeding on seeds from feeders, bullfinches are partial to the buds of various trees in spring, so much so that they were once considered a pest of fruit crops. For centuries, parishes used to offer a bounty for every bullfinch killed. There are thought to be around 190,000 of them in the UK today, however. They, like so many of our species, are under threat, but are on the amber list rather than the red list. Bullfinches can be seen all year round, and are present throughout most of the UK. They are absent from certain parts of Scotland, and are winter visitors only to certain central parts of the Northern Pennines and the Highlands. For some reason they do not like the Isle of Man or the Outer Hebrides, or Shetland and Orkney (though there are few decent bushes in the latter locations)! Good places to see bullfinches are large gardens with mature trees, woodland and farmland. They like ash and hawthorn in winter, maybe with kale, millet or quinoa planted nearby.

Bullfinches are a real delight to come to your feeders. Last year I had a new family descend upon my garden, parents and five young, hanging around for weeks and getting through the seed at rapid speed. The photo is of the male, an unusually close up shot, not because of a long lens on the camera, but because it had flown into a window and was stunned. I'm not sure how this happened. It may have been startled by a bird of prey and hit a window whilst making its escape. Stunned birds will have very little chance if there

are cats around, so what do you do if you come across one? The best thing to do is to remove the bird to a safe environment. In my case I put it in the animal carrier in which we used to take my daughters' rabbits to the vet for a check-up. Safe from predators. They then need to be in a cool dry place, preferably darkened, so put a towel over the carrier, along with a small amount of water, and some food. Leave the bird alone for 24 hours whilst it gets over its raging headache. In this case, the bird made a full recovery and flew off straight away the following day with no problem.

The autumn migration has now nearly taken its course. The swallows, swifts and martins have all but gone, and winter duck and geese are starting to arrive. Many thanks to those of you who might have petitioned Mme Barbara Pompili over the proposed shooting of turtle doves in France this autumn, as the French government reversed its decision. It may have come too late for many birds, but at least this is a step in the right direction for this seriously threatened avian. The white tailed fish eagle has bred on Deeside for the first time in 200 years. One of the white tailed eagles reintroduced to the Isle of Wight decided to spend two months in Lothian, but gave up and headed back home when it discovered the Edinburgh Tattoo had been cancelled. If you have managed to get to Norfolk, it has been an amazing week including such rarities as a brown shrike, red breasted flycatcher (looks suspiciously like an off colour robin with a thin bill), white-chinned petrel, yellow breasted bunting, lesser yellowlegs, wrynecks and Ortolan buntings, to name but a few. Apart from that, more raptors have disappeared over shooting estates, so please take a look at www.rspb.org/defend.

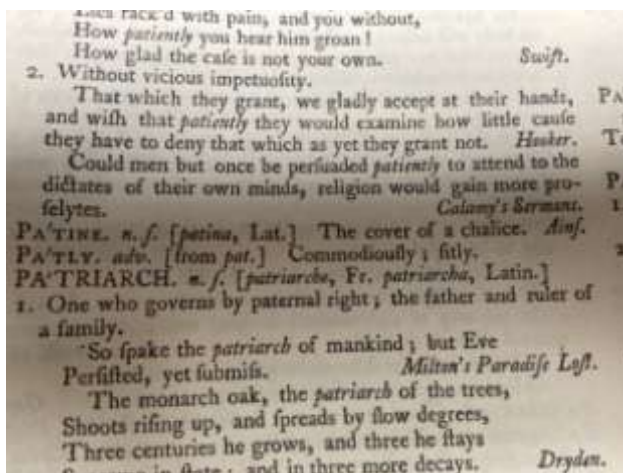
Letters to the Editor

Due to the mysteries of the Internet the Master's letter to the editor arrived in truncated form, and we are pleased that we have now received it in its full extent, which we are pleased to include below

From the Master Dr David Best

This matter of the meaning of Patine is more complex than at first sight appears.

In Johnson's dictionary, the title page of volume 2 of which I provide here, the meaning is given as "the cover of a chalice"



By the 1830s it was regarded as a verb, to cover with a thin film, a patina presumably from its earlier meaning of a cover. We may speculate that it became the plate for wafers after this original function as a cover.

Inlays in jewellery are also referred to as Patines in Birmingham jewellers language but I can find no reference for this usage which I learned as a young man in the jewellery quarter when lodging there.

Perhaps other of your readers can contribute more?

Court Assistant Steve Huxham

Firstly, the Master neatly identifies the issue with words and their historical meaning(s) in his reference to the ecclesiastical item, the Patine, and the definition of it from Johnson's dictionary. Words are troublesome things! Even with what should be a simple item like our own footwear pattens, the most basic historical research still has to consider the myriad spellings, and differing definitions over time, which include: patayne, paten (which is the spelling used throughout the Company Charter), pateyne, patyn, patan, patin, patent, patine, paton, pattyn, pattin, pattent, and patane. That is not an exhaustive list, by the way, and please let us not even start on galoshes!

Secondly, I was delighted to see that the Master Elect found the reference to pattens during her re-read of Mrs Gaskell's Cranford. Jennifer and, I am sure, the

whole Company will be pleased to know that this quote does make it into the new History Book. There is another mention to find though in the same novel. Chapter 8 is the clue! All of this prompts my speculation of which author managed to pack the most patten references into their collected Works? My strictly non-scientific thinking is that it would be a close competition between Charles Dickens and Thomas Hardy. Perhaps if we have any aficionados of either/both author(s) in the Company, we should run a competition to see if anyone can find them all?

The Master commented on last week's newsletter

Another triumph, although I looked wistfully at the picture of the pheasant since I doubt I shall get much shooting this year!! Excellent postcard from abroad as well reminding us of the reach of our company.

Past Master Helen Auty

Thank you Philip Rutledge for the recipe for Bara Brith – I'd quite forgotten about it but it takes me right back to my own childhood when my Welsh mother, who was an excellent baker, would often produce this tasty tea treat. This reminder may even persuade this very reluctant cook into the kitchen to have a go at Bara Brith....

From the Clerk to Freeman Richard Parlour

Richard, how can, for example little Blue Tits, eat sunflower seeds relentlessly - no problem for me (only costs about five quid a week) as it is such a joy to watch them on my office window but the question is – where do they put them all? Given their size, ergo the size of their little tummies, how can they eat so much? They don't fly away with the seeds they just sit there, eating, not bothered by my staring.

I have never seen a Blue Tit sitting down with a half decent glass of Port and an Havana cigar, saying "not for me thanks, couldn't possibly eat another seed, but thanks anyway – could manage an After Eight though"

"oh, and can you call me a cab – can't possibly fly at the moment"

As Toyah Wilcox once said "it's a mystery"

Response to the Clerk from Freeman

Richard Parlour

Great question and I'm not sure I know the answer. Birds generally need to eat every day. If they eat too much then they may not be able to fly properly. If there is no food they starve to death, and then get eaten. There are not many bird carcasses around. Swallows don't generally put on a lot of fat for their flight to Southern Africa, just rely on the avian service stations on the way. I spent a day hawking once. The kestrel, I was told, usually weighs around 7 ½ ounces. When it reaches 7 ¾ ounces it is unable to fly properly. It's a bit like the RAF performance v payload calculation. I went birdwatching in the Bharatpur bird sanctuary a few years ago, in Rajahstan, not far from Delhi. A heron had managed to catch a particularly large fish and spent a good five minutes trying to swallow it down. I wondered how it would possible be able to take off. Its pals arrived, presumably to help digest this magnificent catch, but herons do not like to share, so it tried to become airborne, promptly crash landed neck first after all of 10 metres, but just about managed to get upright again. I guess that one did not need to eat again for quite a few days!

Toyah – there's a blast from the past! I saw her perform before she became famous, at the Barrel Organ pub in Digbeth, Birmingham, with a bunch of mates on the way back from school. Our first thoughts were "what the heck is all that screeching? She'll never make it!" Probably explains why I don't run a record label. There again, our tastes were more for heavier rock and better beer whilst listening to the Handsome Beasts playing at the Mercat Cross. They definitely did not make it. That really is a mystery!

Recipe of the Week

Childhood food memories – with Central European influence - Liveryman Dr Richard Alexander

Liveryman Rutledge's piece in the Silver Jubilee edition of The Pattenmaker reminded me of my own childhood food memories. Like him, my family included immigrants: my father's family were refugees from Nazi Germany. So while fish fingers, Sunday roasts and other British staples graced our table – along, Liveryman Rutledge

might be interested to know, with Cawl Mamgu from my mother - so also did pork loin and red cabbage. (That paid dividends on a school trip to Germany when several other students declaimed that they had never seen red cabbage before and weren't about to eat it now!) And "Broni cake".

What is "Broni?" I hear you ask? The correct question – as some of you will have recognised - is rather "who" is Broni? Or who was she – she passed away many years ago now, although well into her 90s. Bronislawa Feige, a Silesian from Kattowitz, now Katowice. She had been my grandmother's dressmaker in Berlin in the 1920s and 30s, when Omi, as my sister and I always called her, had been a contralto with the German State Opera; Broni, like my grandparents, fled as the skies darkened, although sadly not before her Jewish husband was rounded up and sent to the camps, never to be seen again. Somehow, she and her daughter, when they arrived in London made contact again with my grandparents and evenings of cards at her flat remain a fond memory of my childhood. "Broni cake" was our standard celebration cake, at least for adults (including my sister and me in the fullness of time).

I commend it to you, not just as a fond family recipe, but because I realise, looking at the recipe now, that it is both gluten free and dairy free. (For how we manage that, see the recipe.) So it is particularly inclusive – perhaps befitting its story – although it is definitely not for those allergic to hazelnuts.

Broni Cake

Ingredients

Cake:

- 225 grams (8 oz.) ground hazelnuts
- 6 eggs
- 6 tablespoons castor sugar

Icing:

- 6 tablespoons icing sugar
- Water
- Lemon juice

Method

Separate the yolks from the egg whites.

Beat egg whites stiffly, and add half the ground nuts to this blend.

and

Mix the yolks well with the sugar, and mix the other half of the nuts into this blend.

Fold the whites mix into the yolk mix with a fork.

Line the baking tin with greaseproof paper.

Put the mixture into the tin and bake in a moderate oven for 50 minutes (180 degrees C)

Add a little water to the icing sugar to turn it into a paste and add lemon juice

When the cake is cool, finish with the icing and decorate with a few whole hazelnuts.

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

Quiz of the Week

Following my mention that there had been no entrants to the City Church Spires Quiz two members, Assistant Steve Huxham and Steward Raymond Lewis responded with correct entries this week – so well done to them. The Silver quiz prompted more responses than ever before which shows that random questions appear far more popular so that is what we will do this week.

The Answers to last week were:

1. Who is Jay Silverheels best remembered as? **Tonto!**
There was an alleged incident when the Lone Ranger and Tonto were surrounded by a war party of hostile Native Americans, the Lone Ranger said “what do we do Tonto?” Tonto replied “what do you mean we?”
2. What is the Chemical symbol for silver? **Ag**
3. Who had a hit with “Hey Ho Silver Lining” **Jeff Beck**, sadly, not only do I still know all the words, the tune has been in my head all week . . .
4. What is the Atomic number of silver? **47**
5. Who had silver buckles at his knee? **Bobby Shafto (e)**
Who was an C18th politician
6. Which is the Silver State? **Nevada**

So, in memory of Tonto, and to continue the Western theme, here are the Magnificent Seven (extraordinarily random) questions this week:

1. Name the lead singer in the 70's pop group Showaddywaddy?
2. How many breathes will a human body take in one day (24hrs)?
3. What is the world's smallest bird?
4. Who invented “Cats Eyes” (on the road)?
5. What is Barbie Doll's full name?
6. What did Al Capone's business card say his occupation was?
7. Who invented the tin can for preserving food and in what year?

Please send an email to clerk@pattenmakers.co.uk with your answers which will be entered into a draw to be made by an independent adjudicator at noon on the following Wednesday. The winner will be notified in the subsequent edition of the Newsletter