The Pattenmaker
WEEKLY NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

Issue 29 Friday 16th October 2020

From the Master - Jennifer Bryant-Pearson

I want to thank so many of you for your very kind messages of support in my new and exciting role for the Company. It is humbling to play a part in such a wonderfully welcoming and supportive Livery Company and to have the benefit of a hugely talented team of Wardens beside me
The Lord Mayor writes in this issue about the important role that the Livery companies perform with their charitable and volunteer support and in order to obtain a better picture of this activity, the Pan Livery Steering committee will be circulating a survey to all Companies. We are rightly proud of our ongoing support and strong relationships with our charities – as can be seen in our regular reports in the newsletter.

One of latest military affiliations is the Sea Cadets and we are delighted that through Renter Warden Patrick Tyrrell, Martin Coles, CEO of the Maritime Society and Sea Cadets, is providing us with regular updates. Past Master Tim Watts reminds us of the Knit for the Community initiative which will continue through the winter and we congratulate Past Master Richard Kottler who has been elected as a board member of the Livery Schools Link.

Court Assistant Keith Bottomley is calling for volunteers for our new Diversity Taskforce, which reflects the Lord Mayor's emphasis on improving and increasing diversity, to examine how the Companies can do more as diversity brings strength. His article last week on cleaner air is followed this week by a report from the City of London Corporation's Climate Action Team.

Court Assistant Steve Huxham updates us on new tools acquisitions and explains the Gardner tools in the Company's historic collection.

Liveryman Graham Perry tells us how he has changed his life under lockdown and is close to achieving his ambition of becoming a Reservist and Freeman Mark Rogers provides more information on the history of the Corps of Commissionaires.

We introduce the new team in our Court series so you will know far more about us all when we next meet and Court Assistant Steve Huxham provides his own unique perspective on the Court Meeting in Photo of the Week!

The beautiful Little Owl features in Freeman Richard Parlour's Avian column, along with the Bearded Vulture recently spotted moving around the UK and we learn how to construct a nest box
Trade Warden Martin Pickard shares his special recipe for carrot muffins and our own Editor is pictured masked up for his golf game.

We are all very grateful for the many letters received about the virtual Admissions Ceremony and a small selection are published today.

Please don't forget to check the events listings which includes the first virtual Magic Show on 21st October and a PatTEDmakers talk on 26th

October by Murray Craig, Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court on Freedom of the City and Court Assistant Steve Huxham on Genealogy - and as always, the Clerk's Quiz tests your memory!

City of London Corporation

Alderman William Russell The Rt Hon the Lord Mayor

I am sending you this bulletin in an unusual dual capacity, as both Lord Mayor and Lord Mayor Elect. On 30 September, at a COVID-secure gathering of Common Hall, I was humbled to be elected to serve a second term of office, which will start on 13 November. It will be a very great honour to be one of the few Lord Mayors to serve a consecutive term. I am grateful to the Livery and to the Court of Aldermen for the support they showed at what must be a unique Common Hall in the City of London's long history. My thanks are also due to the Livery for their understanding and flexibility regarding the necessary but atypical election arrangements this year, and to the Livery Committee for making them. The Lady Mayoress and I are looking forward to working with you during this extended Mayoralty and to offering a degree of continuity at an uncertain time.

When I sent the first of these Mayoral bulletins back in March I am sure that I was not alone in hoping that the Coronavirus emergency would pass in a matter of months and that the normal rhythm of our lives would be re-established by the autumn. However, the virus continues to disrupt our activities, keeping our halls closed and causing financial anxiety for many. Among those cancelled events is the Lord Mayor's Show, our traditional opportunity to celebrate the Mayoralty, the City and the Livery. While I have been impressed by the Livery's resilience and versatility in response to the crisis, I recognise that this is a frustrating and worrying time for all of us, as well as a disappointing one. I think especially of those masters and wardens whose year in office has not been what they anticipated. It is a troubling time for the City's businesses as well. Firms that had put in place preparations for staff to make a physical return to offices in the Square Mile are now keeping employees at home in accordance with the latest Government guidance. Significantly reduced footfall on our streets is having a clear economic impact on the wider ecosystem, including in the retail and hospitality sectors. Many fear that this will have a profound effect on their business and on London in the long-term.

I am lucky to be working at the Mansion House for most of the week, where, with appropriate precautions, I have been able to undertake face-to-face meetings, including with the President of Ukraine on his visit to the UK this month. This has re-affirmed my conviction that being able to come to work and interact with colleagues and business partners in person is essential for organisations to prosper and for relationships to flourish. For this reason, alongside the Corporation's Chair of Policy, I have been calling on Government to permit people to return to the workplace where appropriate. Employers have already dedicated considerable resources to deliver COVID-secure workplaces, which will be especially welcome to staff that need to be in the office for their mental health and wellbeing.

The Lord Mayor with the President of Ukraine at the Stock Exchange last week.

Alas, this recent progress is in danger of being reversed. We are asking that the Government's advice is reviewed regularly in light of the evidence. Other international financial centres

have seen workers return to the office without an apparently linked increase in infections. The virus is not going to go away quickly so we need to find a way of living with it. Hibernating through the winter is not an option for our economy. To help to bolster confidence among City residents and returning workers, the Corporation is establishing a COVID19 testing site in Guildhall Yard. The facility is currently being installed and will be up and running by the end of this week. These are issues which affect all of us.

I believe that the Livery has an important role to play in helping the City through these challenges and ensuring that London has a robust future ahead of it. One of the ways we are already doing so is through the charitable and voluntary support that our Companies traditionally provide, which this year has been especially important. In order to build a better picture of the Livery's charitable giving, the Pan Livery Steering Committee will shortly circulate a survey to all Companies. The survey will seek to establish the scale and nature of charitable giving across the Livery, including financial, in-kind and pro-bono support. The collated results will permit a sophisticated analysis of the Livery's role in the charitable sector and will be a useful tool both within the Livery and in our communications with key external audiences. I know that many of you are already keen to participate and I encourage you all to do so. Completed surveys are requested by 9 November and I look forward to sharing the initial findings as part of my annual briefing to the Livery from Mansion House on 25 November.

This is just one of the many projects that lie ahead of me as I enter the home straight of my first Mayoralty and prepare myself for another lap. I am in no doubt that these will continue to be very challenging times, but the Lady Mayoress and I draw much strength and cheerfulness from the support that we have been lucky to receive from the whole Livery on our journey so far. We are most grateful for it.

With best wishes from me and Hilary.

A Decade of Criminal Justice

The Central Criminal Courts at the Old Bailey are a jewel in the crown of the City of London. The Old Bailey is the most famous court of justice in the world. This new book, 105 pages and compiled by two former Sheriffs of the City, is a personal collection of the valedictory speeches given in Court Number One for judges and senior officials retiring from 2010 to 2020. At the time, a senior member of the judiciary delivered a light-hearted tribute to these dispensers of justice. These valedictories capture the essence of their public service.

All proceeds from the sale of the book will go to the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund, a charity founded in 1808 to support ex-offenders. http://www.srfund.org.uk The book can be purchased for a minimum of £20 plus £1.50 postage. Please post your order to Rebecca Collins, The Central Criminal Court, Old Bailey, London EC4M 7EH with a cheque made payable to The Sheriffs & Recorder's Fund Name: Copies: Payment: £ by cheque/electronic transfer Address: Or by e-mail to:
Rebecca.collins@cityoflondon.gov.uk
accompanied by an electronic transfer to the Sheriffs' & Recorder's Fund, a/c no. 10842508, sort code 20-10-53), Barclays Bank PLC

Diversity Task Force A call for volunteers! Court Assistant Deputy Keith Bottomley CC

The Court approved a proposal to form a Diversity Task Force as its meeting on 8th October.

This has been sponsored by the Master who has asked me to lead the work, particularly considering the emphasis that the Lord Mayor is giving to diversity as well as the Livery more broadly.

The purpose of the Task Force is to examine the question of what more the Company can do to improve and increase diversity and make recommendations to the Court. Diversity brings strength. A diverse organisation attracts and values people by appreciating what makes them different, in terms of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, education, and national origin. People form judgements about organisations by how well they see them reflecting and representing society. Those that are not seen to be representative may be subject to criticism and be exposed to reputational risk. More importantly a diversity deficient is opportunity missed. Not just in reputational terms but more directly in the breadth and depth of views, experience and contribution that can be brought to outreach, development, culture and long-term success.

The Pattenmakers have much to celebrate in gender diversity. Indeed, the Master and Upper Warden are both women and two recent Past Masters have been female, Dame Heather and Helen Auty, which is fantastic. There is more to consider in terms of ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, education, and national origin of our membership. Although the Company has a number of ethnicities and religions amongst its membership, including as it does Jewish, Hindu, Muslim and other faiths and some diversity of ethnicities. Much remains to be done.

In considering an informed response it is important to undertake some research, both into our own data and membership profile and our associated stakeholder groups as well as the plans and initiatives being taken by other Livery Companies, The Lord Mayor and The City Corporation.

The Task Force will:

"Consider and make recommendations to help promote the merits of membership to enhance the diversity of the Company to represent better its communities."

I'm keen that membership of the Task Force should be drawn from a wide spectrum of members up to 6 people with the ability to co-opt externally where appropriate. The Task Force should, as far as possible, reflect the diversity which the we seek to develop.

If you are interested in helping with this important work or would like to know more, I will be delighted to hear from you. Please get in touch.

Keith Bottomley
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07930 364499

The City of London Corporation's Climate Action Team

Following on from Court Assistant Deputy Keith Bottomley's article on cleaner air, the following report was received from the City of London.

The Court of Common Council voted to adopt the City of London Corporation's Climate Action Strategy. This strategy breaks new ground and sets out how we will achieve net zero, build

climate resilience and champion sustainable growth, both in the UK and globally over the next two decades. By adopting the strategy, the City Corporation has committed to:

- Achieve net zero carbon emissions from our own operations by 2027
- Achieve next zero carbon emissions across our investments and supply chain by 2040
- Support the achievement of net zero for the Square Mile by 2040
- Invest £68m over the next six years to support these goals of which £15m is dedicated to preparing the Square Mile for extreme weather events

Three things set our Climate Action Strategy apart. Firstly, our commitments are informed by an extensive study of our current baseline conducted earlier this year which looked across all of our activities and assets. Secondly, it is accompanied by a fully funded action plan. And lastly, it puts a plan in place to address emissions from our financial and property investments and full supply chain (Scope 3). Scope 3 emissions, while hard to treat, are crucial to address in order to achieve the impact we are all working towards. We have a plan in place to address each category in our Scope 3 emissions using science-based targets under the SBTi methodology. As these account for 97% of our overall emissions, we have important work to do and will get to work immediately in order to meet our targets.

We invite you to read more about how we plan to achieve our goals and stay updated as the strategy develops by visiting our website: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/climateaction.

Together we will build a greener City, where we all play our part.

Livery Kitchens Initiative

The Livery Kitchens Initiative which was launched by several Great XII Companies and the Caterer PI last spring to support NHS front line hospital staff now continues to provide vital support for several Community Groups in East and North London. Financial reserves are in place ready to support the Barts NHS hospitals again as a second wave demands.

- At the end of the LKI's first phase (on 31st July), £110,000 of the funds raised by 32 Livery companies, other organisations and individuals had been spent on delivering just over 34,000 meals to NHS staff working in covid positive environments at Barts, Royal London and Newham University hospitals.

- £94,000 of the remaining funds raised remains in reserve for support to the NHS in the same (or different?) hospitals during this emerging second surge of the virus.

Our Charitable Fund

Sea Cadets – Renter Warden Commodore Patrick Tyrell OBE Royal Navy has received an update from Martin Coles, CEO of the Maritime Society and Sea Cadets.

This year has seen Sea Cadets and our 15,000 young people across the UK confront unprecedented challenges. COVID-19 and its resulting lockdown struck at the heart of the Sea Cadets Experience – leaving young people without the supportive comradeship, adventure and development offered by local Unit parade nights and activities. Sea Cadets responded with typical speed and determination. Within days we started developing a Virtual Sea Cadets programme, making sure volunteers had the resources and support they needed to run safe and enjoyable virtual parade nights, and developing our training programmes for virtual delivery. In fact, 85% of Units engaged with our virtual offer to maintain contact and boost morale. Determined to do our utmost to sustain young people's wellbeing, we went to the experts. Who better to advise on dealing with endless-seeming periods of isolation and confinement than Royal Navy Submariners for whom these are part of their days' work? Over April, our social media channels gave young people the chance to benefit from the experience of submariners such as Commander Ryan Ramsey RN (an awe-inspiring

286 continuous days submerged). Their tips on maintaining morale through routine, exercise and fun attracted a massive audience (38,000 impressions on Facebook, to take just one example). Over August we rose to the challenge of keeping young people active and engaged through a summer holiday like no other with a virtual 'Summer of Adventure' – with a wide range of exciting online opportunities. These included a Virtual Offshore Experience, Virtual Summer Camp for Juniors, semaphore and computing workshops. We were delighted by the enthusiastic uptake among young people who had already been through months where their only opportunities for activity were online: a testimony to the programme's freshness and imagination. While proud of the success of our virtual support, we know that physical activity and adventure are at the heart of Sea Cadets. Over the months of lockdown, staff worked tirelessly on research and planning that would mean young people could begin to enjoy waterborne activities again as soon as restrictions eased enough to allow it. For all involved, this work was richly rewarded in mid-July, when easing of restrictions allowed us to launch our Summer Active programme.

Minister for the Armed Forces, James Heappey MP joins a Unit Parade night

Over four weeks, seventeen locations across the country hosted a programme of daytime waterborne activities, offering nearly two and a half thousand free places to our cadets. We experienced exceptional demand and sessions continue to be offered at weekends from a number of our centres, with a further intense programme planned for the upcoming October half term. These are all meticulously organised to observe social distancing and maintain safety – leaving young people and instructors to enjoy the experience with confidence.

Over these difficult months, we have used surveys to keep a check on wellbeing of both young people and volunteers. In our first survey, an incredible 72% of young people responding agreed with the statement 'Sea Cadets has prepared me for tough times ahead'. We are enormously proud of this endorsement of Sea Cadets' power to build young people's resilience. We feel the spirit of initiative, courage and practicality embodied by the work of our amazing 9,000 volunteers in continuing to offer the Sea Cadets Experience during the last months is testament to why we have earned this tribute. Though these results have been very positive, the 403 local Sea Cadets Units across the country have each found their fundraising streams cut down. No longer able to depend on their usual efforts the national organisation has had to respond by launching an emergency appeal in order to sustain the ongoing costs units have found themselves unable to sustain in the long term. These Emergency Support Grants mean Sea Cadets expect to deliver a deficit of up to half a million pounds this year. Further information on these initiatives, and more Sea Cadets news in general, can be found on our website or by subscribing to our monthly newsletter here: Sea Cadets

Covid 19

Blankets – Past Master Tim Watts

You may remember that in one of the early editions of this Newsletter, my neighbour Liz Green (who was non-Aldermanic Sheriff immediately before PM Hayward), wrote about the Knit for Community, a lockdown project being run by her Livery, the Framework Knitters Company, to knit blankets for suitable charities (eg the homeless). The photo shows a completed blanket. Liz tells me three from our Company contacted her to help, another example of the generosity of our members in giving their time for good works.

The project will now continue into the winter but so far over 48 miles of wool have been used and the more than 100 blankets made (enough to cover a doubles tennis court!).

As well as continuing to knit there is a plea (aimed particularly at anyone within striking distance of Berkhamstead/Tring/Chesham) as follows: *"If anyone can crochet that would be helpful (if they live near us as posting blankets is expensive!) as we have volunteers to sew up but we're short of people to crochet."*

Our History

The Gardner tools and new tools acquisitions – Court Assistant Steve Huxham

What we describe as the "Gardner Tools" must rank as arguably the first acquisitions, or gifts, to the Company's historic Collection that were not either related to eating and drinking at Company meals, or the storage of those items. As outlined in the new History Book, actual manufacturing of pattens had virtually disappeared from London at an earlier stage than has sometimes previously been thought. The industry was realistically gone by the early 1800s, save for a few individuals eking out a living, and probably still making pattens as a part of their footwear repertoire, rather than the single focus.

The last working maker of pattens in the City itself was William Gardner who, by the end of the 19th century, was earning a very limited living from a basement in Bartholomew Place. He does not seem to have been a formal Member of the Company, though from 1897 to his death on 29 May 1905 he made an annual application to the Court for assistance and was granted £1 rising to £1 10s. 0d. The connection with the Gardner family did not end with his death. In 1906 his widow Hannah applied for assistance and was granted £1 10s. 0d. from the Poor Box and this payment continued for the following two years until her presumed death, when in March 1909 their daughter, Mrs Elizabeth Bacon, became the recipient of assistance. The annual payment lasted until her death in 1951 at a similar rate, though this did include a Coronation Special payment of £5 in 1937. On her death her son F.E. Bacon presented more family pattenmaking tools to the Company.

Previously to that gift, and once again as described by Liveryman Stephen Cribb in the new Book, at a Court Meeting on 19 March 1903, the acting Master, Henry Hobson Finch, presented to the Company "the cutting and shaping knives

and other tools used by William Gardner the last working Pattenmaker [*sic*] in the City."

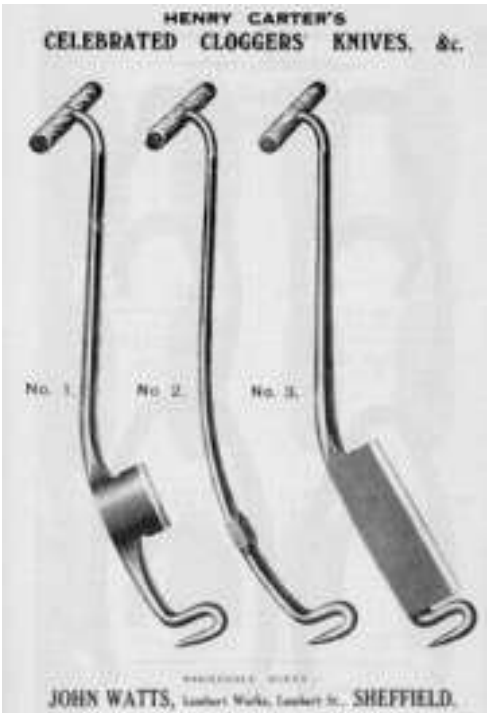
Originally, these tools were loaned to and exhibited at the Guildhall Museum and then after 1965 were transferred to the newly created Museum of London. What happened to them subsequently has been a matter for considerable debate and exchanges of correspondence with the Museum in recent years! Originally it was thought that there were six items and that the Museum had, by their own admission, returned some but marked two as "lost" but still somewhere unknown in their storage facilities. This, by the way, is far from as unusual as it might sound. The Museum has over seven million objects in its care, the vast majority of which are of course in storage rather than display. Re-cataloguing over the years, or loss of a cataloguing label can easily cause a problem. We have the added challenge that we simply do not know how many tools the Company originally had, as the records quoted above do not seem to be specific. An illustration in the original History Book shows only three of them. Hopefully though, recent work indicates that we are in a better position on these objects than we might have thought. Investigative work and exchanges by Past Master Richard Kottler with the Museum suggested that they now think the items were returned to us, and during a recent visit to St Margaret Pattens, Richard and I identified that we do have five of these tools. Is there one or more still with the Museum? We now think not, but rest assured I shall be keeping a close watch on their online collections as they conduct the huge task of re-cataloguing again all of their objects, prior to the future move to their new site development in West Smithfield.

Given this history of these and other objects being lost from our Collection for various reasons over many years, it is no surprise at all that my attention was drawn to a recent auction in Essex for what was described as a "group of early clog making tools", the photos of which make them look almost identical to our items. Therefore, it was not a hard decision to acquire them for the Company for £52, although what was more of a surprise (but shouldn't have been) was that collection, wrapping, and delivery were almost the same again at £45 – the surprise was explained when the very large and very heavy package was delivered – these lumps of iron and wood are no lightweights!

As ever with auctions spotted like this one, the usual question (other than budget) is when and where we are likely to see such items again, if ever? There cannot be many of these, in this instance, still owned privately, and the contents, once the package was opened, did not disappoint. The cutting tools are very similar to the Gardner tools, and although there are two small objects included which were not identified, the large metal "eye" would seem to be what is bolted to a workbench for the hook at the end of a cutter to be slotted into.

The blades bear the imprint of the manufacturer: "HENRY CARTER, HIGHBURTON." A local history site reveals that the village of Highburton in West Yorkshire had generations of Carters making edge tools, and that in the 1830s, three Carters had separate businesses there, with Henry concentrating on clogmakers knives.

A contemporary promotional poster for a set of knives shows ones identical to the ones we now have, albeit with a little less rust.



One further bonus from the delivery was the unexpected inclusion of a copy of the 1984 pamplet "Clogs and Clogmaking" (Jeremy Atkinson, Shire Publications Ltd.) Apart from a cover photo of the author posing in a workshop with a large cutting knife very similar to our large ones, there is quite a bit of coverage of pattens including illustrations, with an explanation of how closely linked the trades were. There is also a 1940 photo of a clog blocker at work, still using these old style tools to cut the wood for the sole.

BELOW: A clog blocker at work in Minsterley, Shropshire, near the Welsh border, in 1940. The block is held against an old file on the bench for grip. The knife is prevented from touching this by the piece of wood set across the bench at the opposite end from the vice.

This is really a very useful illustration, as it helps demonstrate how the same basic tools as used with clog making would be used by a pattenmaker like William Gardner to also cut the shape of the wood for a patten.

All in all then, some good additions to compliment our existing examples. We should also not forget just how central these wood cutting knives are to the history of our Company – we do after all, see a linked pair of them every time we look at our own Coat of Arms!

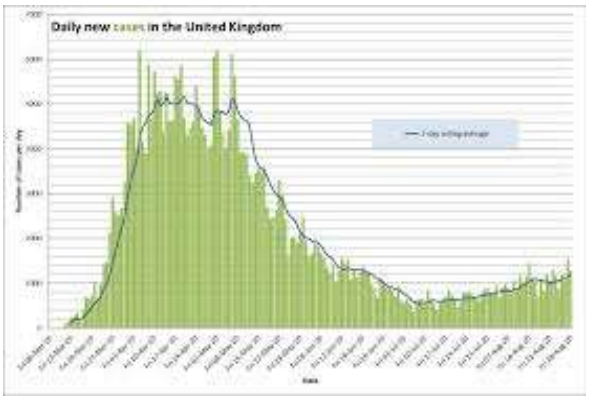
Members' News

Liveryman Graham Perry tells us of some of the changes that have occurred during his time in lockdown.

Well what a strange year it has been and what very strange times we continue to find ourselves in. I remember when this whole thing started and I thought to myself 'its just a bad case of flu, it will all be over once it has blown through'. Well how wrong I was, having spoken to a number of friends, family and

colleagues in the health care sector they tell me what a very nasty disease Covid can be.

As my business is a data analytics company, I find the infection statistics very interesting, whilst we are now getting used to the various lock downs and increased measures in certain cities or areas we are now seeing far more accurate infection rates than back in April. Yesterday alone there was almost 3 times the daily infections that we experienced back in April but there was less than one 15th of the peak death rate. Some will say that we will only see the death rate climb in the next 2 weeks but my personal opinion, and it is just that, is that we have no idea how many people were actually infected back in March and April.



This also seems supported by the global statistics were death rates continue to slow, health services are coping and even those countries that choose to let covid just pass through, the so called herd immunity option, have started to see a slow-down in both infection and death rates.

Now this could all be down to poor reporting, deceptive reporting or inconsistent reporting standards and I should probably point out I am not a supporter of the herd immunity option and I think it is critically important that we continue to support and shield the vulnerable. I am, however, a supporter of data and the stories it can tell. I honestly believe we must continue to take precautions until we have an appropriately tested and available vaccine that will allow us to return to a new normal, a normal that I believe will be very different to the way things were, if nothing else purely down to where we choose to work and socialise.

What this situation has done for our business is very interesting indeed, the FM sector has never been known for its utilisation of data, despite being one of the most data rich industries in the world. As buildings become smarter and suppliers in these environments increasingly use different technology systems to deliver their services, so the sector becomes increasingly data rich but unfortunately the analysis and insights from this data has traditionally been very poor.

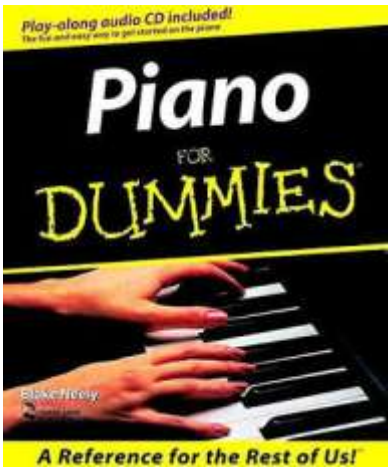
Covid has had two very big influences on our sector and the way we use data, what I can only attribute to the constant bombardment of statistics on a daily basis has caused people, and more specifically business owners, to realise the importance of the data they have to answer complex questions or even to make forward predictions within their business. In addition to this it has caused some areas of the FM sector to expand dramatically, especially cleaning and security and in these areas we are seeing a huge increase in the use of data analytics to improve operations, scale rapidly, ensure compliance and maintain client continuity.

One thing that has not really changed for our business is the way we work. We had already adopted a highly agile and fully remote working capability within our business and so our staff are very used to working from home. We actually have staff across not just the UK but around the world working in different time zones on simultaneous projects. Having said that we do very much enjoy being in our office and getting together, especially when its baking day and time for the office scones

So our office has remained open, with the various precautions in place and we continue to work in the mixed manner that we always did.

In addition to seeing some very interesting growth and development within our business I have also taken the opportunity of lockdown to look at my personal growth and development and have taken the opportunity to start to realise some very long outstanding personal goals.

This began at the beginning of lockdown with deciding to learn to play the piano, definitely something that I under estimated the complexity and dedication that is required, but something that I am absolutely enjoying and really trying to put in as much practise as I possibly can.



In addition to this I have decided to realise a goal that I have held for most of my life and never been able to achieve. Many years ago, at the tender age of 18, I wanted to join the Royal Navy. I had always had an interest in aircraft and wanted to be a part of the Fleet Air Arm. When it came down to signing on the dotted line the prospect of signing up for a minimum 12 years caused me to falter and I did not progress this. I then started my career and this led me to emigrating to South Africa where I lived for 18 years and so joining the forces was no longer an option.

Since returning I have had to wait some time such that I have been permanently resident in the UK for 7 years and finally now having the time to commit to becoming a reservist. Thus a few months ago, just before lockdown, I began the process of becoming an Intelligence Analyst in the Royal Air Force. This has been a far more thorough and intense process than I had ever thought it would be and the inevitable delay caused by Covid have slowed the process dramatically.

I am very pleased now that this has started up again and I will continue with the appraisal, physicals, medicals and assessments that are required to make this a reality. It has been extremely interesting and challenging for me to pursue this role and this life goal over the last few months. There is a level of physical fitness that has been quite challenging, I'm sure for our marathon runners completing 2.4kms in under 13 minutes is an absolute doodle but for me it has meant running at a pace that is definitely faster than I prefer. In addition to this I have had to sit 2 separate tests for general entry and for the role speciality and now I have the fitness test to complete and one more role specific assessment.

I have to say the realisation of a lifetime goal to become a member of Her Majesty's armed forces, assuming that I complete the last few tests, will be an absolute honour and privilege for me and it is funny how the prospect of signing up for 12 years is no longer such a big issue in my life. Having said that you are able to leave at any time as a reservist, but I do think that when you are young 12 years seems like an eternity but as you get older so time is less important and it becomes more about experiences and opportunities. You only live once, as my Dad would say!

The Corps of Commissionaires -

Freeman Mark Rogers provides a little more information on the unique history of Corps Security:

The Corps of Commissionaires (Now known as Corps Security) has a unique place in British history concerning the employment of injured soldiers. It achieved long term goals and invoked wider debate regarding the employment of disabled veterans and the responsibility of the state, paving the way for future reforms.

After the Crimea War, Captain Sir Edward Walter KCB, a retired officer of the 8th Hussars, recognised along with many others, that the military pension was too little to live on and many disabled ex-soldiers were reduced to destitution. He knew that gainful employment for the disabled ex-soldier was the way forward to ensure their lives were 'not forced into idleness and poverty'.

On Sunday 13th February 1859 he marched the original eight one armed veterans to Westminster Abbey and established The Corps of Commissionaires. In 2008 the name was changed to Corps Security and the organisation continues to pursue its objectives as a specialist security provider with Queen Elizabeth II heading up the company as Chief Life Governor as has every monarch since 1901.

The original 8 members

Originally Corps members had to pay into a Sickness and Burial Fund, a Clothing Fund and a General Fund to cover sick days, uniforms and expenses. The cost of admission at £25 set up some barriers for some, but most soldiers with a pension could afford to join. A soldier whose pension had expired would have to use connections to furnish the money for him. Some viewed this admission fee as restricting membership to the middle class or above.

However, the progress of the corps was steady. In 1874 the strength was a little under 500, by 1886 it reached 1200; in 1904 about 3000; in 1909, 3740; and on 11 June 1911, 4152. Of these 2541 men were stationed in London, while the remaining 1611 were distributed in ten other large cities, Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Nottingham.

Captain Sir Edward Walter's vision and legacy is extraordinary – he knew 150 years ago, that soldiers needed to live full and useful lives and was prepared to do something about it. He recognised the issue of mental health was just as vital as recognising the ramifications of losing a limb, he also knew these men needed to feel part of society again. The Corps of Commissionaire did that. It's a wonderful history for any organisation to be proud of and their motto '*loyalty, integrity, service*' still resonates today.

Captain Sir Edward Walter KCB

With acknowledgement and thanks to military historian Evelyn McKechnie. The rest of her article on the Corps' history can be read at:
The Unique History of the Corps of Commissionaires

The Court

The Master - Jennifer Bryant-Pearson

I was fortunate to be introduced to the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers by Past Master Christopher Stone and was admitted as a Freeman in 2000. I was clothed in Livery in 2004 and joined the Court in 2011, since when I have served on various committees, chaired the Fundraising committee and managed our Marathon participation since 2010.

The charitable activities of the Pattenmakers are hugely important to me, hence my enthusiasm for fundraising and my plans for the special fundraiser for Stanford Hall next year. Fellowship is also vital and I have always enjoyed attending the variety of functions within our Livery and have joined many of the City of London and other Livery events over the years.

From an early age, I was very involved in charity activities, from shaking street collection tins for the RSPCA and PDSA to arranging pet shows and other small events to raise funds.

I have continued my involvement with charities throughout my working life and have served as a Trustee on boards of causes close to my heart such as arts organisations, adult literacy, animal welfare and nature conservation. I am currently the Deputy Chair of St Paul's Chorister Trust and a Trustee of the Trollope Society.

My professional life is in politics and communications. I began my career at Conservative Central Office, Westminster before founding a Public Affairs and Communications consultancy which now has offices in Westminster, Bristol, Warwick, and Manchester. In addition, I run a number of All Party Parliamentary Groups in the Palace of Westminster.

I am also a Non-Executive Director of an AI company utilising leading edge technology.

My career has taken me all over the world and I have lived and worked in the United States where I was based in Los Angeles as Vice President, Global Corporate Communications for a health and nutrition company. I had responsibility for 59 countries worldwide so much of my life then was spent on an aeroplane as many countries, particularly in the Far East and Pac Rim, necessitated monthly trips.

I am married to Leslie Perrin, Chairman of an international litigation fund, and have four adult stepchildren.

The arts have always been a passion of mine and Leslie and I both love opera and theatre and we support and are actively involved with a number of organisations.

At home in the Cotswolds, I ride my horse, Crispin, whenever I can at weekends whilst our cats, Daisy and Poppy travel with us each week between London and Beckford.

I feel incredibly honoured and privileged to be Master of the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers and thank you for your confidence. Leslie and I are very excited to serve this wonderful Company which, in spite of the current Covid issues preventing us from meeting, is in such good heart.

Upper Warden - Sarah Leijten

It is an enormous privilege to have been installed as the Upper Warden of this amazing Livery Company. I cannot thank enough all those who have supported and mentored me

along the way – you know who you are, and the journey has been such fun so far.
Who would have thought that a skinny girl (yes I was once) growing up in shorts and flip flops in both Kenya and Nigeria would one day find herself at the heart of a Livery company with so much history to be proud of. My childhood was, I think, a very lucky one. Africa in the 60's, 70's and early 80's, at least through the eyes of a youngster and subsequent teenager, was amazing. The ability to roam across plains, climb volcanoes and appreciate the natural world was something that many just never get the chance to experience. I sometimes wonder, but continue to hope, that younger generations coming behind us will continue to be able to see the continent, and wider world, in all its glory for millennia.

I was educated in both East and West Africa and later came to school in the UK, culminating in an Economics degree from Durham University. Following this I went and joined Coopers & Lybrand as it was then (now PWC), but not enjoying accountancy much, then entered the world of Human Resources via the Oil & Gas sector. Again, I think that I have been privileged to have been able to travel the world to some parts others only see on TV e.g. remoter parts of Kazakhstan, Far Eastern Russia (Sakhalin Island) and Iran, to name one or two. I subsequently ended up as Group HRD for an industrial diamond company, part of the De Beers Group – yes diamonds really are amazing – and not just the lovely sparkly ones that we ladies love to wear. Four years ago I took a step to one side and have used my experience managing talent to move into Education – where I now head up the Careers & HE function in a large independent school. Passionate about helping pupils navigate their next steps post school, I have also partnered with three local academies whose pupils are now benefitting from several activities organised by my department.

I remain committed to animal conservation, probably as a result of my upbringing, have a wonderful husband, Philip and daughter, Victoria (who is also a Freeman of the Company and in her final year at drama school); have one very loud tabby cat rescued while we were living in Nigeria in 2006, a springer spaniel and will soon to add to the menagerie by taking in a rescued setter from Italy. I hope that like me, you are all looking forward to the year ahead under what I know will be the excellent leadership of our new Master and that we can soon enjoy each other's company again. Roll on a vaccine!

Renter Warden - Commodore Patrick Tyrrell OBE Royal Navy

It seems a long time ago since my childhood in Sheffield where I grew up as a proud Yorkshireman!

My father, Val, was a university lecturer in Chemistry and my mother, Shelagh, a doctor in the industrial areas of Sheffield. Despite being just about as far from the sea as I possibly could be in England, I always had a great hankering to join the Royal Navy and follow in my grandfather's footsteps but never really got around to it before going up to university. I attended Jesus College at Oxford to read chemistry (inevitably) and spent a delightful four years amongst the dreaming spires, principally rowing on the River Isis! When this hedonistic lifestyle came to something of an abrupt end, I joined the City of Southampton as a management trainee before becoming a chemistry teacher in Hampshire.

It was when I saw an advert about joining the Royal Navy as an Instructor Officer that my life changed; I spent four months at Britannia Royal Naval College being treated as a raw recruit – I can still remember the delights of EMAs (Early Morning Activities). My life became a sequence of acronyms and being able to give a Royal Salute

with my sword without tripping over the scabbard! The Navy was the right place for me and every other year they would find me something new to keep me busy with particular highlights as a submariner and as an intelligence officer. For some reason, promotion followed, and I did my stints at the Ministry of Defence and then to NATO and then back to MoD. My NATO appointment was recognised with Her Majesty presenting me with an OBE watched by my then 7-year old daughter, Jess. A proud moment for us both.

After 26 years of a fascinating career, at times hectic, always very challenging and completely rewarding, I retired to 'Civvy Street' to work as a consultant.

During my latter years in the RN, I was extremely fortunate to meet a US Navy Captain, Debbie, now my wife and with over 50 years' combined service for the RN and USN between us we are very happily ensconced down in Cornwall, with good Tyrrell family roots. My daughter, Jess, is now in Exeter as a senior lecturer in Epidemiology taking after her grandfather. Debbie and I make the occasional foray up to 'Smoke' (as London is known in the Navy!) to enjoy Livery events and other socialising, Covid permitting.

We both came to Livery late in our lives: Debbie is a Basketmaker and I was seduced by the Pattenmakers (it must have been their reputation as a party livery that persuaded me.) From my initiation as a Freeman, I have found the welcome to be warm and friendly and I was quickly welcomed into the Pattenmaker family. I was honoured to be asked to join the Court and it is a great privilege to be elected as Renter Warden. Debbie and I are looking forward to when our Livery can once more meet in reality rather than virtually and enjoy getting to know all of you better.

Warden to the Trade - Martin Pickard

I am delighted and honoured to take on the role of Warden to the Trade and to follow in the footsteps of Annette Cove who set me a wonderful example. I first attended a Livery Dinner back in 1997 as a guest of Past Master Scarr Hall. I received the Freedom in 2010 and became a Liveryman in 2012. In 2018 I was the proud recipient of the Master's Award from Past Master Alastair Watson-Gandy for my work supporting our Facilities Management and Built Environment community.

I have worked in a variety of FM roles for the last 50 years and have witnessed many difficult times but 2020 has been a truly remarkable period for those who care for the cleaning and servicing of facilities and I pay tribute to all of our members who have served in operational roles this year. Equal respect to our colleagues in the footwear industry and in service or City roles coping with tough times too.

I'm now semi-retired, working from home as a trainer and consultant in Cranfield, Bedfordshire where I live with my beautiful wife Penny, our talented daughter Scarlett and our disobedient Cocker Spaniel Elsie. I look forward to the year ahead where I will do my best to maintain our support and relations with all our trades whether we do that online or in person.

Events

The Secret Zoom – Magic Show
21st October 2020 6.30pm
Cost: A Charity contribution of £10 per head.

This will be a fascinating, interactive event as well as filled with fun and laughter. We are going to be entertained and amazed by Alan Hudson, one of the top Magicians in the country.

The Secret Zoom is an incredible 30 minute virtual online magic show specially for Pattenmakers, their family and friends or even colleagues

You will get your mind read, you'll see some crazy magic (that you help to make happen) and you get the best seats in the house! All done live and virtually, via Zoom

If you are interested in attending this event could you PLEASE email Pat Tyrrell, The Renter Warden, patrickjtyrrell@aol.com

PatTEDmakers TALK: 6pm
26th October 2020

The Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court, Murray Craig, will be talking about the Freedom of The City (during COVID-19) and Court Assistant Steve Huxham will discuss Genealogy

YOU CAN REGISTER FOR FREE BY CLICKING THIS LINK: Freedom of the City (during Covid-19) & Genealogy

Friday 30th October

Messiaen *Quartet for the End of Time* is being performed in St Paul's Cathedral today - Friday 30th October and you can watch it on YouTube by pasting the following link into your browser: Citymusicfoundation Quartet for the end of time

Photo of the Week

Court Assistant Steve Huxham
Picture submitted in suitable attire for the Court Meeting by zoom

Bird Watch

Bird of the week this week is the Little Owl - Freeman Richard Parlour

The Little Owl is one of five owls to breed in the UK (name the other four)? The Little Owl is actually an introduced species, having been brought into the UK in the 19th century. There are thought to be only about 5,700 breeding pairs in the country, and numbers are thought to have fallen about 25% between 1995 and 2008. Although owls are naturally thought of as birds

which operate at night, little owls are often seen in daylight hours, usually perched in their favourite spot, keeping very still, almost looking like an ornament. A couple of little owls local to me can often be seen on a wood pile next to one of the local scout huts, or on the branch of an oak tree on a local farm. Another likes to squeeze between the chimney pots of a local gatehouse and sun itself on brighter days in the winter months. The little owl is our smallest owl. It is about the same length as a blackbird, but has a much bigger wingspan and is a very different shape, chunky, and almost hunched. It has a large head, yellow eyes and long legs. Its white eyebrows give it a stern expression. It has a typical owls face, with two big facial discs operating like the radio telescope dishes at Jodrell Bank to amplify the sound of its prey and guide it towards it. Its plumage is a dark brown, creamy buff and white colour. The wings are specially shaped like a stealth fighter to make its approach much quieter, almost noiseless. It weighs around 6 ounces, so slightly less than a kestrel. It eats small mammals and birds, beetles and worms. The little owl can be found in England and along the coastal areas in north and south Wales, with a few in southern Scotland. It likes lowland farmland with hedges and copses, parkland and orchards. It is most common in central, southern and south eastern England and the Welsh borders. Elsewhere it can reach higher altitudes and has even been found 12,000 feet up in Tibet. Good luck if you are trying to find a little owl in the darkness hours! The easiest way may be to locate where it prefers to hang out during the day. It also does not sound much like an owl, more like a cross between a cat and a lapwing (the "typical" owl hoot is made by a tawny owl, and the owl "screech" by a barn owl).

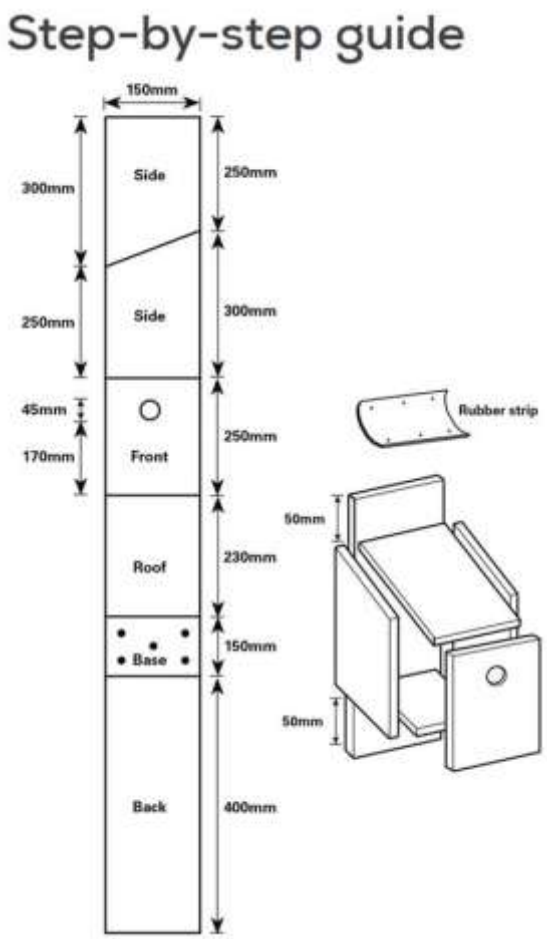
In other bird news this week, the bearded vulture which had been enjoying the Derbyshire Dales has started to move around the country a bit, moving to Lincolnshire and more recently being seen high above RSPB headquarters at Sandy in Bedfordshire. Keep a look out as it is clearly starting to explore the south east! A young Sora has been found on Lundy. A Sora is a bit like a small water rail. The shock at finding it is because it is a bird which is normally found in North America! The 2019 Bird crime report has been released, see: RSPB Wild Bird Crime Report 2019

Those of you who may be RSPB members may have attended the AGM over Zoom last Saturday. The AGM was followed by a number of talks, one of which was on gamebird shooting. Some of the figures are quite startling. Around 57 million gamebirds are bred every year just for shooting. You'll know from this column that many of our rarer species only number in the few thousands, and the specially bred gamebird figure seems a stark contrast against the very small numbers of hen harrier, pallid harrier, Montague's Harrier, etc., so often complained of for "raiding" such gamebirds. There have been some amazing sightings over the course of the last week largely in the north of the country with various unusual shrikes and warblers, plus a few rare harriers and even a snake eagle. The south east has seen a number of yellow browed warblers, spoonbills, and red breasted flycatcher.

Now that we are approaching darker months, you may wish to consider making a nest box or two ready for the spring:

Find a suitable place for your nest box. It will need to be under the eaves of your house or on a mature tree. Make sure you have permission before erecting any box on a property. It should be at least 3m from the ground, facing somewhere between north and east to avoid it getting too hot or wet. It needs to be out of direct sunlight, and ideally not over a doorway, window or well used path

Make sure you have the right wood. The thickness is important to insulate the box from cold and heat, and to stop the box warping. You can use exterior quality plywood (for a light box) or, for something more durable, hardwoods (such as oak and beech) or soft wood (such as pine, but this will deteriorate more quickly). Buy timber approved by the Forest Stewardship Council (look for the FSC logo) that has not been pressure treated.



Measure and cut your wood. Mark and saw your plank according to the diagram. Remember to drill some holes in the base piece for drainage. If you don't have a special drill bit for making a 4.5cm round hole, you can use a jigsaw to cut a square or wedge shaped hole at the top of the front. The dimensions shown are for 15mm thick wood. If your wood is different to that, adjust the dimensions of the base. Starlings like a 4.5cm entrance hole. Use 2.5cm for blue tits, coal tits and marsh tits. 2.8cm for great tits, tree sparrows and spotted flycatchers, 3.2mm for house sparrows and nuthatches.

Nail all the pieces, except the roof, together. The sides, back and front 'wrap around' the base.

Attach the roof. It's best to use screws rather than nails so you can get into the box at a later stage to clean it out. Use a waterproof strip to make a hinge along the top edge, such as a piece of bicycle tyre inner tube, damp proof membrane or roofing felt. Drill guide holes at the top and bottom of the box's backing plate. This is where you'll screw the box to its final position.

Put your box up. If fixing to a wall, use screws and Rawlplugs. If fixing to a tree, use adjustable ties so you don't harm the tree, like thick fencing wire threaded through a strip of hosepipe, with the bare ends twisted together at the back. As the tree grows you can adjust the wire. If you don't have wire and pipe, you can use timberfix bolts screwed into the tree.

Once the box is up, watch in spring for a pair coming to claim their new home. They will take in twigs and straw and then things may go quiet during incubation. Once the chicks have hatched, it will get noisy. Whilst it is tempting to take a peek into the box, birds don't like disturbance and are protected by law when they're raising a family. So just sit back and enjoy from a distance.

Letters to the Editor

The Master received many letters following the first virtual Admissions Ceremony and a small selection are printed below:

Past Mistress Pattenmaker Barbara Edwards

We would just like to say how much we enjoyed last night's unique experience. The whole ceremony was magnificently managed and in no way detracted from the admissions procedure as it normally takes place. Many congratulations on finally being fully vested as Master and every good wish for your time in office. You have made a tremendous start in very difficult circumstances and we look forward to the remainder of what we are sure will be a very successful and rewarding year both for you and for the Livery. It is now over 20 years since Bob was privileged to be Master and over 50 since he was admitted to the Livery. Thanks to you and so many others the Pattenmakers go from strength to strength. We will continue to support you in so far as we are able even though it may be in a more distanced way than heretofore.

Beadle Christopher Moore
I really enjoyed last evening. Well done to all and let us hope we shall be together in person very soon.

Past Master Richard Page
I was delighted to watch your installation last Thursday and am only so sorry that it could not have been a "reality show" with all friends and family physically present.

Being technically illiterate regarding computers it is with pride I was able to work out how to click on at all thanks to the "web master" mixed with embarrassment that my machine does not have a web camera which indicates it has been with me a long time.

Steward Raymond Lewis
May I wish you every success in your period of office and I would like to thank you for your newsletters which have kept the link between members and coma pay very much alive.
Very many congratulations on becoming the 294th Master Pattenmaker (taken from the old History Book - this number might now be incorrect and superseded by new book).

You have taken over command of the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers' knowing its Freemen & Liverymen are now better informed then before the lock down and the morale of the Company is very high with a waiting list of very talented young Freemen, bursting with enthusiasm, waiting to be Clothed.

We now have an updated History Book, and a Weekly Pattenmakers' News Letter. Lectures & an Installation Ceremony of the Master & and Wardens carried out with new technology called "Zoom" which the majority of the Company, including me, have never used before. All this Researched and Produced by a team of volunteers who have gifted their Time & Technical knowhow for the good and benefit of the Company.

The long wait has ended. On the front page of Friday's News Letter was the Master Pattenmaker looking radiant in her Gold & Scarlet Master's Robe.

Watch out the City of London here we come. Time to upgrade us from 70 to 12A.

From the Editor Liveryman Ian Balcombe

I was taking part in a much reduced Charity Golf Tournament – limited to 6 including 2 non playing Captains, which I hasten to add I was one. My team won and I am pictured at the end with my Pattenmakers' mask on of course. It finished later than I thought but was able to watch the excellently produced Installation on my phone in the car, while parked outside the Club House. Congratulations to all and wishing a happy and successful period of office.

Recipe of the Week

Carrot Muffins
Trade Warden Martin Pickard

These are a really tasty, moist and enjoyable snack. My wife and daughter love them. Perfect with your afternoon tea. Over the years I have experimented with reducing the sugar and oil to make them a bit healthier. I reckon these are now a not so guilty pleasure at less than 200 calories each.

Ingredients – Makes 12

225g Plain flour
50g Oat Bran
1tsp Baking powder
1tsp Soda bicarbonate
½ tsp Salt
2 tsp Ground cinnamon
1 Egg
100ml water
2 tblsp Honey
80g Light brown sugar
340g Carrot
1 tsp Vanilla essence
80ml Vegetable oil
90g Raisins
12 half walnuts

Method

1. Preheat oven 375'F (190'C)
2. Prepare muffin tin with 12 muffin cases
3. In a large bowl soft together: flour, baking powder, soda bicarbonate, salt, cinnamon and then stir in bran
4. In a second bowl, lightly beat egg and add water, honey, sugar, and vanilla. Grate and mix in the carrots and then add the oil
5. Pour the wet mixture into the dry and stir till all combined. Add raisins and stir once more.
6. Spoon into muffin cases. Put one half walnut on top of each. Bake for 20 minutes. Cool on a rack.

The Clerk's Quiz of the Week

Several good entries this week led as always by Steward Raymond Lewis and Diana Fieldwick so well done to all.

The answers to last week were:

1. What year did the HAC receive its Royal Charter? 1537
2. Who is the CEO of the Marine Society and Sea Cadets? Martin J Cole
3. Where was William Alfred Delamotte born? Weymouth
4. How much did Past Master Lamb's newest Granddaughter weigh when she was born? 7lb 7ozs
5. How many members of the Pattenmakers' Court are there? 25
6. What is smishing? Social media cyber crime
7. What is Katusobushi? Skipjack Tuna flakes
8. What is Barbie Doll's full name? Barbara Millicent Roberts

To give Mr Google another week off, again the answers to this week's quiz can all be found in last week's newsletter (No 28)

1. What is the date of this year's Carol Service in the Guild Church?
2. Which is the UK's first 24/7 zero emissions Street?
3. What was the time of Jack Clark's Marathon?
4. Who made the Pattenmaker Long Service Medals?
5. What do the initials SPM stand for?
6. What is the collective noun for Starlings?
7. What tree do Sloes grow on?

Please send an email to clerk@pattenmakers.co.uk with your answers. The winner(s) will be announced in a subsequent edition of the Newsletter