



# The Pattenmaker

WEEKLY NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

Issue 36

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

## From the Master Jennifer Bryant-Pearson



I hope you have all seen the invitation to our annual Carol Service on 10<sup>th</sup> December at St Margaret Pattens. I am so delighted that we are going ahead with this traditional event (although shorter this year) and we are privileged that

our Sheriff, Past Master Chris Hayward and his Consort, Alexandra Hayward, will be joining us that evening. A limited number of places, due to Covid restrictions, are available for those who would like to attend the service in person and a ballot is taking place to allocate seats. Please let the Clerk know if you wish to enter the ballot.

For those at home, the service will be streamed on YouTube and there will then be a break out room via Zoom immediately afterwards for all Pattenmakers when we can enjoy a Christmas toast together - so a full glass and mince pie at the ready next week!

This week we made history with our first ever Virtual Admissions Ceremony when we welcomed Deborah Longstaff, Harlan Lunn, Bryan McLaggan and Paresh Patel as Liverymen - many congratulations to our new Liverymen! Full details are inside with a recording of the ceremony on the website.

We have lost a very special friend, Past Master George Andrews and his son, Past Master Nick Andrews pays tribute to him in a moving obituary.

Young Pattenmaker, Freeman Ingrida is interviewed as a member of the Events and Young Pattenmakers' committees and Past Master Richard Kottler continues our series on Court members.

Freeman David Lockyer reports on the Footwear Friends and Liveryman Leslie Gallin provides this week's Postcard from Los Angeles.

Just when you thought you knew all about Pattens, Court Assistant Steve Huxham produces another surprise - Ice pattens this week and Freeman Richard Parlour introduces us to the world of the Yellowhammer.

Our recipes are generating a life of their own - Liveryman Joseph Robertson's recent pasta recipe reminded our Editor of his visit to the Pasta Capital in Italy and Freeman Zoe Chowney's squash recipe inspired Senior Past Master Helen Auty to action! This week, Upper Warden Sarah Leitjen lets us in on her mother's special chocolate cake recipe which is a family favourite from a 1977 Kenyan cookery book.

The Clerk provides answers to his Quiz and Court assistant Alan Lyons produces another Lockdown Brain Stretcher

## Past Master George Andrews



### Past Master Nick Andrews writes

The recent announcement in the press of the death of Past Master George Andrews referred to him as a “banker, soldier (Glosters), historian, poet, musician, gardener, amateur thespian, wit and a true gentleman”.

Some of those descriptions may have piqued a little curiosity in a reader and so I shall pick on a few of these descriptions to provide a flavour of the man.

As a soldier, he was proud of his service with the Gloucestershire regiment as an infantry man, spending time in both Northern Ireland, Jamaica and Belize (British Honduras as it was then). Many tales could be extracted from him as to his antics in such places, both on and off duty, as he had to manage his platoon as corporal, reporting to a Captain Farrar-Hockley in these exotic places. Memorably waiting, in one case, as the part of the small front line for the threatened invasion from Guatemala that never came; the rum industry did well after they were stood down. He kept in touch with his Captain over the years and later, when he was Master, General Farrer Hockley was the principal guest at Mansion House.

Perhaps the army took over from the family that was broken up during the war and that may be why he held it as a great experience and possibly the making of him. Tragically his family life was disrupted by the Plymouth blitz in April 1941 with the destruction of the family house (for the third time) – his father was working all hours as an engineer in the Naval ship yard (and was subsequently sent to Singapore and Malta), his older brother was in the Home Guard and he was evacuated, with his school, to a large requisitioned house near Penzance. The family was split never to live together again. Not long after, the school was bombed and he narrowly escaped with 5 other boys from the rubble. He and the others were declared dead by the radio broadcast by Lord Haw Haw later that week – despite the humour they saw in that broadcast, the bombing did affect him. (As a footnote, our family was on holiday in Cornwall earlier this year and visited the house, knocked on the door and the owner of 36 years was delighted to have some gaps in the house history completed. The wonders of facetime provided him with a walk around of the house and he pointed out exactly the layout as if it were yesterday).

He wrote the story (which I still have) of the Tredarvah bombing for his old school and latterly used to visit a local school every year to talk to the children about life as a schoolboy in the war. His amateur dramatic skills helped animate the stories and bring them to life. In the 1960's and 70's, he was a regular star in pantomime (the Grand Vizier, Genie of the Lamp etc). He loved to read the classics and history books, he would read poetry, sometimes in Latin, and would happily quote some Shakespeare, Chaucer

or another “great” to emphasise a point or make a relevant statement.

Having left the Army, he made his career in banking being posted rapidly to Rangoon, Calcutta and Nairobi before returning to the UK in the mid 60’s. While as manager of the Calcutta branch, he looked after the tea and jute exporters plus a variety of other customers. One such customer was a lady who was always in financial difficulties as her income came solely from donations – all those donations were used to further her charitable aims and he often would allow an overdraft on preferential terms; strictly against the rules of course, but within the “managers discretion”. It happened that he had been granted permission to return to the UK at that time to get married, and prior to leaving, the little lady came to bestow her wedding gift upon him. It was a blessing upon his marriage by none other than Mother Teresa (now Saint Teresa) and he was immensely proud and honoured by that gift but looking back upon it, it was an act of kindness in return for kindness.

His wit came through in many ways, and he could apply it to adults and children alike – he loved children and entertaining them; the next door neighbours young children being happily “parked” with him, children who came from a few streets away to come and chat with him and of course his own grandchildren. He always had a fund of entertaining stories to tell them or to show them something of interest.

He became a Liveryman in 1971 and supported and loved the City and the Company throughout the rest of his life. He was a long term member of the Royal Society of St George, culminating as President for a number of years and similarly he was long term member of the Candlewick Ward Club becoming chairman in 1982. His wife Brenda was a strong supporter of the Pattenmakers (she seemed to know just about everyone in the Company) and was much looking forward to his Mastership, but sadly, she died in the run up to him becoming Renter Warden. Forever wanting to do the “right thing”, he said he would step down but the Court wouldn’t allow it and his daughter Lindsay became his consort when he became Master.



He took an active interest in Livery activities, although latter years saw his attendance drop as he felt he couldn’t participate fully due to an element of frailty. But he was so proud at his last attendance at the 2019 October Court meeting and dinner as his three grandchildren were all clothed as Liverymen.



## First Virtual Admissions Ceremony

This was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> November with 78 members of the Livery having registered to attend.

The proceedings were introduced by the Master.



*Mr Sheriff, Members of Court, Fellow Liverymen, ladies and gentlemen*

*It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all this afternoon to a very special event on the day which should have been the Young Pattenmakers Dinner*

*This is the first occasion on which we are preparing to welcome you, our new Liverymen in a virtual setting so you are all making history today.*

*In normal circumstances, you would be clothed in the Court meeting with just your close family and proposers present. However, the benefit of this virtual ceremony is that you are able to invite all your family and friends to join us - so I welcome them all today*



*It is also exceptional for a Sheriff to be present at this ceremony but today, our own Sheriff, Past Master Chris Hayward is honouring us with his presence. Thank you for joining us, Sheriff.*

*Our Chief Steward, Liveryman Martin Heffer would normally be showing you all into the Court room but he too, is here today to support you*

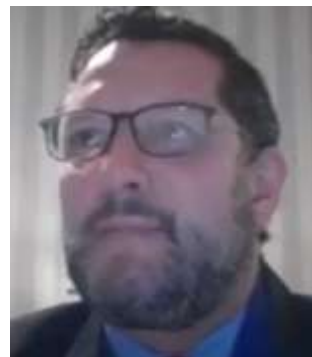
The Master then called upon those to be Admitted to swear their oath to the Livery.



*Deborah Longstaff*



*Harlan Lunn*



*Bryan McLaggan*



*Paresh Patel*



*The Master raises a toast to the newly clothed Liverymen.*

The ceremony is available to be viewed on the members area of the website in the webinar section.

## Our Charitable Fund



### Freeman David Lockyer Chairman/President Footwear Friends



The Livery very generously donated to Footwear Friends. This was of great assistance in allowing us to continue to help a large number of people and make their lives a little more comfortable.

We continue to support people who have worked in our trade and who deserve our continuing support. Amongst them Mr. Dilley, who gave his permission to share his "Thank you" with you.

"This is just a little thank you to "Footwear Friends", who have helped me beyond any words can express. When suffering the loss of my dear wife of 45 years last year, I was left with a mortgage and funeral costs to find, on top of various other commitments. With only my Statutory Pension coming in, it left me wondering what to do. However, with the help of Footwear Friends, and the generosity of this wonderful charity and their support, they helped me and continue to do so, for which I will be forever grateful."

Mr Dilley is only one of many people the charity assists with either a one-off grant or regular grants. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the charity's activities severely. All of the charity's fundraising events in the year had to be cancelled and uncertainty remains over when these activities can resume. Our sources of income from fundraising, sponsorship and company donations have been severely reduced, but as you

would expect the requests for help are continuing to arrive.

These are clearly challenging times, but we remain determined to continue the work of the charity which has been helping people who have worked or are working in the footwear sector for over 184 years.

## Our History

### Ice Pattens – Court Assistant Steve Huxham

One of the fascinating things about historical research is how one discovery or new piece of information can suddenly produce a moment of realisation, or an epiphany, about something else seemingly unrelated. Of course, care needs to be taken that in the moment of realisation, the fun and excitement doesn't take over from hard evidence, but new theories are there to be put out in public and explored, and so it is with what we will call "ice pattens."

In this case, the background is that in June 2017, the Company managed to acquire (£26 – thank goodness for eBay again!) a pair of metal patten bases of an unusual curved design which we hadn't seen before, and certainly have nothing similar to in the Collection, as the rest are all of the usual oval band design. Sadly, these examples were just the metal bases with no wood remaining, but only the two original nails that would have held the metalwork to that part of the patten. They were sold as a pair, although one is slightly larger than the other, as can be seen from the photograph.



## The Pattenmaker

A date was given in the auction that they were thought to be 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Century, but as we know, pattens are notoriously difficult to date precisely. The only other piece of useful, if brief, information from the vendor ran as follows:

“This matched pair were found in the Thames by a registered Mud Larker, near Tower Bridge.”

Interesting, but nothing really to tell us much more about them or the unusual design. In the absence of any further information, they have stayed in the storage of the general Collection since then. This was until we wrote the new Book and in particular the “world tour” of patten types around the globe in Chapter 11. Hence I found myself one day looking at a pair of American pattens from the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. I thought the picture would be a terrific illustration to include in the Book (which it has proved to be) but there was also something familiar about the shape of the serrated metal patten pieces, even given that these examples were from a different continent and of a different design, with the small metal pattens themselves just fitting under the heel area.



It was the last sentence of the accompanying Museum description of these late 18<sup>th</sup> Century examples that really caught the attention:

“The hobnailed leather pads and serrated iron ring suggest that this pair was made for icy winter conditions.”

There is the precise moment of (possible!) revelation in that sentence – a serrated design giving more contact area to the ground, and consequently more grip in icy weather, when an oval ring might just slide. Furthermore, there are also earlier American ancestors of those examples from the Met. Fragments of pattens dating from

the c1770s with a wave-like base were discovered in several archaeological digs in Williamsburg, Virginia, and inspired a project at Colonial Williamsburg outdoor museum to recreate them. These modern recreations look even more familiar when compared to what we have!



Another piece of evidence uncovered during research for the new Book lends further weight to the theory. In Chapter Two, we used an illustration from a Hogarth engraving “Morning”, from his 1738 series “Times of Day”. Although it is a small detail, even when enlarged, the imprints in the dusting of snow, made by pattens hidden from view by the central female figure’s dress, are once again of a serrated outline.



There is one further and final conjecture to make in respect of our own possible “ice pattens” but firstly it’s important to remember that these are not the only design in existence anywhere with the purpose of tackling extreme icy conditions. During our recent research, the staff at the Trinity Historical Society of Newfoundland, Canada, very kindly sent over a selection of photographs of their pattens collection, and these included a pair fitted with teeth to grip the ice much more akin to the crampons on a mountaineer’s boot. Maybe more practical for the Canadian frontier than a London street!



The final thought for now relates back to that provenance description line from our own patten bases: “found in the Thames.” Given the location and the purpose we might think this design to be aimed at, it may be a flight of fancy only, but it is intriguing to think of them maybe as a relic of an early Thames

Frost Fair, abandoned, or otherwise lost, hopefully not with the owner still attached, when the river thawed. A possible theory only. As with the previous article on the Puzzle Pattens, we may never know the full story, but adding to the evidence, as, when, and where, possible all helps to build a case.

*(Photo credits and thanks to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York for the 18<sup>th</sup> century US pattens, Colonial Williamsburg outdoor living museum, Virginia, for the modern patten replicas, and Jim Miller of Trinity Historical Society, Newfoundland, Canada, for the ice pattens.)*

## Members’ News

### Young Pattenmakers – Freeman Dr Ingrida Kerusauskaite

Ingrida very much enjoys the social and historic aspects of the Company and cannot wait until we resume the face to face events. In the meantime,



she’s trying to come up with interesting virtual events and activities as an Events and Young Pattenmakers Committee member.

*How long have you been in the company for?*

3 years

*What industry to do you represent? Please give a quick overview of what you do.*

I work in international development, and I have two hats – a practitioner and an academic one. My day job is with an international development consultancy Palladium, where I lead the Anti-Corruption and Illicit Financial Flow programme portfolio. I have been either Team leader or Programme Director on eight programmes so far - from very small ones to multi-million pound ones, in the Caribbean, Middle East, Africa and China. I also work on business development and growing my portfolio. My academic hat is at the University of Cambridge, where I continue to lecture on issues of justice and development, this year just at postgraduate level but previously – at undergraduate level as well. I am also about to start a research project at the University.

*How did you find out about the company?*

I was introduced to the Pattenmakers by Professor Barry Rider, my PhD supervisor.

***What have you enjoyed the most about our Company or the best experience you have had of our company?***

The Pattenmakers have provided a unique environment to meet such a fantastic group of people. Each dinner is exciting not only because of the traditions, exquisite venues but mostly the interesting individuals that participate. It's always a combination of friends and very interesting new acquaintances. A Pattenmakers dinner, wine tasting and other events are sure to be good evening out (or now – in).

The highlights of my time with the Pattenmakers include participating in the Lord Mayor's Parade, dining inside the Tower of London, going to a private viewing of the Jewelry sale at Christies' and dinner at Brooks's Club and of course the annual banquets at Mansion House.

***Have there been any additional benefits that you weren't expecting prior to entering our company?***

Definitely the second part of the above answer - the range of activities that are so unique! Also, the diversity and inclusion. As a young female non-British national, I have always felt fully included in the Pattenmakers' activities. I'm now on the events and Young Pattenmakers committees and have been engaged in our charity work with the City of London School for Girls where the Pattenmakers fund two students each year. It's really encouraging to see the welcoming and collaborative spirit in the company which goes a long way to debunking stereotypes about the City of London liveries being non-inclusive.

***What are your current aspirations and/or activities/hobbies you are currently pursuing?***

I aspire to get a cat. Beyond that, I am keen to work more on the academic side of my work, and finalise a couple of articles I've been working on, start on my second book and a compiled edition I've been meaning to put together for a while. I generally very much enjoy travelling and team sports, both of which have been difficult during quarantine. Though I have invested in a rowing machine and am hoping to get back onto squash, badminton and tennis courts soon!

***Are you in contact with any other members of the livery outside the events hosted by the company?***

One of the highlights of my year is the Cambridge Symposium on Economic Crime that I have been volunteering at for close to a decade now. It's great to see Pattenmakers at the event in large numbers, and for an entire week straight!

***What have you learnt during quarantine?***

I've learnt that baking an edible batch of cookies might one day be within my reach.

## The Court

### Past Master Richard Kottler



Joining the Pattenmakers in 2004 was for me literally a 'shoe in', and a decision I have never regretted. Just a few years earlier in 1990 this 'footwear virgin' acquired H & M Rayne Shoes, previously owned by Past Master Sir Edward Rayne. As said 'virgin' (albeit with a background in the retail and clothing sector) I was given all sorts of practical help in my new industry by many people who were generous with their time and expertise. It will come as no surprise that Richard Paice (the Livery's resident shoe guru) was of huge help to me and indeed went on to propose me for the Livery, seconded by Thomas Black another illustrious name in the shoe world.

After joining I subsequently became Trade Warden and was admitted to the Court. By then, I had established a headhunting agency specialising in the footwear and allied industries. This role brought me into contact with a very wide range of shoe companies, here and abroad and this stood me in good stead when I sold my

business and became Chief Executive of the British Footwear Association.

So for many years, I have been happily immersed in the uniqueness and friendliness of the footwear sector and this has further connected me to the Livery. As with every organisation, the more you are involved the more you get out of hence I administered the Young Managers programme and acted as the Livery representative on the trade charity, Footwear Friends, for some 20 years.

One of the great pleasures (among many) during my year as Master -2017/18 – was to organise the Summer Tercentenary event at the Guildhall which featured as its theme an exhibition of “Shoes that shaped the World”. We brought together iconic footwear of mainly British companies and had practical demonstrations of shoemaking from a number of our member companies and designers - much enjoyed by the 350 attendees including our Royal Patron!. As with so many things in my life, most of what was achieved was a direct result of the work done by my wife, Sonja who fell in love with the Livery but unfortunately, due to the rules, cannot become a Pattenmaker until she is a widow. I am relieved that she is not pursuing this actively at the moment!

Other highlights of that year included the creation of the panels in our Church that list all the Masters since 1670 (when our records began), the start of the refurbishment of the Display Cabinet in St Margaret Pattens and several sell out Dinners. This culminated in the Mansion House Banquet when spontaneously the whole audience broke into singing “Jerusalem” which I had requested due to my life long attendance at Twickenham for the rugby Internationals. You will get a sense of this passion of mine from the photo that shows three generations of Kottlers after a game at Richmond a few years ago when I was a mere 74.



During my time in the Livery, I have made dozens of friends and together I think we have continued to advance the cause of the footwear industry, so closely reflected in our membership. Together we have introduced an Apprenticeship and other training schemes for the bespoke orthopaedic trade, and the Pattenmakers is leading the field in preserving and developing this key industry which serves a growing demand from the 1m plus people in the UK who have walking difficulties.

Equally, it was a result of my friendship with the two Steves – Cribb and Huxham - that we were able to compile and publish the new Company History Book, ‘Out of the Mud’. I am delighted to see that the list of eccentrics and odd-balls we found from our earlier history would probably be upstaged by many of the present membership!

It is a tragedy that at the moment we cannot get together socially and whilst this may be good for the bank balance, and a slight reduction in the alcohol intake, it is not good news for keeping in touch with Livery friends and families. Thank goodness for the excellent Newsletter and Zoom helping us connect!

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## Postcard from Abroad

### Liveryman Leslie Gallin – Los Angeles



What an unprecedented year this has been. We began in mid-March with a complete lockdown to prevent the spread of COVID-19 which was soon followed by the George Floyd tragedy which in turn sparked the BLM movement, protests and rioting broke out here in Los Angeles. Senseless looting took place along the famed Rodeo Drive and to our iconic independent retailers. Fear swept over us, caused by the precision targeting of upscale residential neighbourhood locations, protesting and looting coming at a time when we were all just trying to understand the invisible demon striking the world, and this was only the beginning... Shortly thereafter we began to experience a wave of forest fires unlike anything ever experienced in California and the Western USA. Towns were wiped off the map, people now homeless during this time of pandemic. Our air was orange and black for weeks



Many began to draw parallels to WW2 and the hardships people endured. What grew out of despair were those who could rise up to the call helping friends, neighbours and strangers with food, clothing shelter.

Our front line workers were at their brink. Some of us joined From Fashion and Friends with Love.Org as we sort out nurses and doctors on the front lines who were here in California away from their families and travelled from other cities to help us navigate the crisis. We provided gift bags chocked full of shoes, clothing and food with the hopes to make these folks smile, as a gesture of our thanks and support.

As summer approached and lockdowns lifted, California continued to take a strong stance on social distancing and gatherings. We came out of our bunkers and began to enjoy life outdoors. We became humble and thankful to our essential workers all of those folks who went to work each day to ensure we had food, gasoline and the much-coveted toilet paper.

As summer faded, we found ourselves with a most contentious political climate in the midst of a worldwide pandemic. We saw lifelong friends no longer speaking over their political differences. Now, this too has passed. As we emerge from our Thanksgiving Holiday and we begin to welcome the season of giving, we do recognize there is much to be thankful for and we all go into 2021 to rebuild, reconnect and reunite as a stronger people. Which is my hope. This past week we lost a young innovator of the footwear industry Tony Heish creator of Zappos. I had the pleasure of knowing Tony and I will add one of the gentle

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soles who through his generosity and kindness spread happiness to all who knew him.

I am sure they will write books on our Life during COVID-19, cheers to optimism, health and calm for the new year.

All my best to my friends across the pond.

## Events

### 10<sup>th</sup> December: Save the Date Pattenmakers' Carol Service at St Margaret Pattens

Break out Zoom meeting at after the Service at 630pm.

Register in advance for this meeting: [Carol Service Registration](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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**Every Thursday - St Margaret Pattens services continue by zoom.**

More information from the Honorary Chaplain [andrew.keep@me.com](mailto:andrew.keep@me.com)

## Photo of the Week

### Pasta – Liveryman Ian Balcombe



*Pasta Factory*

The pasta recipe from Liveryman Joseph Robertson reminded me of my visit to the Pasta Capital of Italy – Gragnano. I was informed the town produces 40% of all Pasta in Italy. Gillian and I were on a Rotary visit to the Rotary Club of Capri whose President owns a pasta factory in Gragnano which we visited, before going to Capri. On the way, I also fulfilled a long held ambition to visit Pompeii.



*Pasta in the shape of the Rotary Wheel*



*The streets of Pompeii – Pattens would have been helpful to the residents*

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## Bird Watch

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



Male yellowhammers are unmistakable with a bright yellow head and underparts, brown back streaked with black, and a chestnut rump. In flight it shows white outer tail feathers. The female is less brightly coloured, and more streaked on the crown, breast, and flanks. The Yellowhammer is a large bunting, and eats seeds and invertebrates such as beetles, flies, caterpillars, grasshoppers, worms, spiders and snails. Yellowhammers feed on the ground, usually in flocks outside the breeding season. These flocks can be quite large. I was lucky enough to see a flock of 44 of them in a meadow where cattle were feeding, a few weeks ago. The Yellowhammers followed the cattle's movements, but were spooked when a red kite appeared overhead. They flew around in a large noisy circle, watching the red kite, before coming back to land amongst the cattle again.

Yellowhammers are often seen perched on top of a hedge or bush, singing. Their song is very distinctive and has a rhythm of "A little bit of bread and no cheese". The song is very similar to that of its closest relative, the pine bunting, with which it interbreeds. The Yellowhammer is thought to have around 700,000 territories in the UK. Yellowhammers are found nationwide. They are least abundant in the north and west and absent from some upland areas, such as the Pennines and Highlands of Scotland, as well as some lowland areas, such as the Inner Hebrides and the Orkneys. Their recent population decline

places them on the Red List however. Look for them in open countryside with bushes and hedgerows, as they are absent from urban areas, forests and wetlands.

The males establish territories along hedges or woodland fringes and sing from a tree or bush, often continuing well into July or August. The male displays to the female by raising his wings and running towards her. The nest is built by the female on or near the ground, and is typically well hidden in tussocks, against a bank or low in a bush. It is constructed from nearby plant material, such as leaves, dry grass, and stalks, and is lined with fine grasses and sometimes animal hair. Both adults feed the chick in the nest and raise two or three broods each year. They do have a hard time of it and the nest may be raided by rodents or corvids, and the adults are hunted by birds of prey. This predation is thought to account for around 2/3 of nesting failures. Typical lifespan is just three years, though some have been found to live for 13 years or more.

This conspicuous yellow bird has inspired poems by Robert Burns and John Clare. Burns' poem "The Yellow, Yellow Yorlin'" gets its title from a Scottish name for the yellowhammer, which is given an obvious sexual connotation: "I met a pretty maid, an' unto her I said, "I wad fain fin' your yellow, yellow yorlin'." Its characteristic song has influenced musical works by Beethoven and Messiaen. Enid Blyton helped to popularise the standard English representation of the song in *The Ship of Adventure*, and *Five Go Off in a Caravan*. The English name is thought to have come from Ammer, another German word for a bunting, and was first recorded in 1553 as Yelambre. Here's the end of John Clare's poem "The Yellowhammer":

In early spring, when winds blow chilly cold, The yellowhammer, trailing grass, will come. To fix a place and choose an early home, With yellow breast and head of solid gold.

Tristan da Cunha has declared a maritime protection zone around the South Atlantic archipelago. Fishing and other "extractive activities" will be banned from 627,247 km<sup>2</sup> (242,181 square miles) of ocean around Tristan da

Cunha and the archipelago's three other major islands. This is an area about three times the size of the UK. The protection zone will become part of the UK's Blue Belt Program, which is providing £27 million to promote marine conservation in the British overseas territories. The initiative has now protected 11.1 million km<sup>2</sup> (4.3 million square miles) of marine environment, or 1% of the world's oceans. The area, roughly equidistant between South Africa and Argentina, supports 85% of the endangered northern rockhopper penguins, 11 species of whales and dolphins, and most of world's sub-Antarctic fur seals. The waters around Tristan da Cunha serve as a feeding ground for the critically endangered Tristan albatross and endangered yellow nosed albatross. The islands are also home to several species of land birds that live nowhere else, including the Wilkins bunting, the UK's rarest bird, and the appropriately named Inaccessible Rail, the world's smallest flightless bird.

In other bird news this week, a Ruby Crowned Kinglet was seen on Barra in Scotland, a first for the UK. A Crag Martin was seen on Orkney, only the third sighting in Scotland. Further south a not so common Common Nighthawk was spotted over Kent. There are plans to reintroduce the Dalmatian Pelican into the UK, it having been extirpated here around 2000 years ago, though there was a brief visit from one in 2016. Closer to the capital, Red Necked, Black Necked and Slavonian Grebes have flown in along with Snow Buntings, Shorelarks, Iceland Gulls and Short Eared Owls. Happy birding!

## Letters to the Editor

### From Past Master Helen Auty

*Thank you, Zoe, for the excellent recipe last week – I'd had a butternut squash staring at me in the fridge for a few days and could almost hear it saying 'OK so what are you going to do about me then?'. The Newsletter arrived and there was the answer. A delicious meal – local shop had run out of Feta cheese so I used a creamy Italian blue 'Castello' and that worked well.*

## Recipe of the Week

### American Chocolate Cake – Upper Warden, Sarah Leijten

This chocolate cake recipe is one that we grew up on and, being neither a baker nor a cook, I have to give all the credit to my mother! It is from a recipe book produced by the American Women's Association of Kenya. We love it as a family, it's very easy to do, as long as you have a robust mixer (!) so please read on.....and enjoy:

#### You will need:

Pre-heat the oven at 180° C      Gas mark 4/5

Bake for 40-45 minutes

22cms/9" sponge tins or one roasting tin 29cms x 23cms to make one large cake

#### Ingredients: (N.B. all American Cup measures. An American cup measure is 8 fl. ozs not 10 fl. ozs as in the UK)

2 cups sifted self-raising flour

1 ¾ cups of castor sugar

1 ¼ teaspoons bicarbonate of soda

1 teaspoon of salt

1 teaspoon of baking powder

¾ cup of oil (any vegetable or sunflower oil will do)

1 teaspoon Vanilla Essence

3 large eggs

¾ cup of water plus an extra ½ cup of water – see recipe

#### Method:

Simply place flour, sugar, bicarb of soda, baking powder, salt, oil and ¾ cup of water into a large mixing bowl and beat together for at least 2 minutes. Then add the vanilla essence, eggs, extra water and beat for a further 2 minutes. The mixture is quite a heavy one so the stronger your mixer the better, as this will let more air into the mixture.

Then turn out into the prepared tins (or tin) and bake at 180° C for 40 minutes. Test cakes and if the top is not springy to the touch, leave in the oven for a little longer. Alternatively test with a knife or skewer - the cake is a very moist one but

it should still not stick to a knife/skewer when you test the middle to see if it's ready.

Enjoy! It's lovely with chocolate butter icing!



## Quiz

### Assistant Alan Lyons' Lockdown Brain Stretcher 2

Each question below contains the first letters of words that will make the equation a correct phrase. Find the missing words.

Example: 26 = L of the A is 26 Letters of the Alphabet

1. 29 = D in F in a L Y
2. 64 = S on a C
3. 40 = D and N of the G F
4. 1 = E in a H A
5. 9 = Z in a B
6. 4 = H of the A
7. 15 = M on a D M C
8. 4478 = H of the M (M)
9.  $13 \times 10^8$  = S of L (M P S)
10. 23 = H C (P)
11. 17 = S in a H
12.  $6.62607004 \times 10^{-34}$  = P C
13. 170 = H C in D
14. 214 = A by JI at W in 2018 (T)
15. 5 = D in a U S Z C

No prizes but special mention to the best performers! Please email answers to [pattenmakersmembership@gmail.com](mailto:pattenmakersmembership@gmail.com). Answers revealed next week.

## Quiz of the Week

The answers to last week's quiz:

1. Which wildlife expert was killed by a stingray at the Great Barrier Reef in 2006? **Steve Irwin**
2. What is Little Mix singer Jade's last name? **Thirlwall**
3. In China, a pierced jade disc is a symbol of what? **Heaven**

At this point decent questions became elusive, as you read this, yesterday was Thanksgiving in the USA. So let's try again:

4. What was the name of the Pilgrim Fathers' Ship? **Mayflower**
5. Where did it set sail from? **Plymouth**
6. Thanksgiving in the USA is celebrated on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in November – when is it celebrated in Canada? **Second Monday in October**

Ditto questions about Thanksgiving, next Monday is St Andrew's day in Scotland; so one last go:

7. Why are Scottish soldiers sometimes called "sweaties"?  
**Sweaty socks - Jocks**
8. St Andrew's Day was first celebrated by wealthy Scottish settlers in Charleston, South Carolina, in what year? **1729**
9. What is Cullen Skink? **Very tasty!**
10. Why is the flag of Scotland a saltire? **St Andrew was crucified by the Romans on a saltire (diagonal cross)**

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