

The Pattenmaker

Memorial Edition 17th April 2021

At the end of a week of National Mourning for His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh who died on Friday, 9th April 2021 aged 99 years, it is considered appropriate that a special edition of The Pattenmaker be produced as a record of his Royal Highness and his connection with the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers and its members, in perpetuity.

HRH The Prince Philip
Duke of Edinburgh KG KT



and

The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers

The Clerk Writes His Royal Highness, as you will be aware, was a Liveryman of divers Livery Companies and much involved in the Livery of the City of London, however, he did know the Pattenmakers. I had been invited to Wellington Barracks, the Regimental Headquarters of the Grenadier Guards for luncheon. His Royal Highness was the Colonel of the Grenadiers who had at that time just returned from a tour of duty in Afghanistan. I was presented before lunch and introduced as the Clerk to the Company. His Royal Highness was aware of the Company's work with

DMRC at then, Headley Court, and then went on to acknowledge the footwear that had been produced for Sgt Maj Bernie Broad, a Grenadier who went on to Captain the UK Paralympic Invictus Games team. His Royal Highness knew of the Company and the outstanding lifechanging footwear that was being provided.

Past Master Nick Andrews writes Having been earlier presented with my Gold Award by Henry Cooper, I was spoken to by the Duke at the following ceremony in Buckingham Palace. Different words for all those that he picked to speak to. Many years later as Master, I was invited to the Guild of Air Pilots Annual Awards Banquet where the Duke was their patron. Prior to going into dinner, the Masters' guests were introduced to him – I was amazed as he simply walked up to me in the group, face to face, pointed to the badge and said "Master Pattenmaker" and he followed that by very incisive questions about the Pattenmakers, the shoe trade and our orthopaedic footwear charitable work. That was a formidable and impressive piece of homework on his behalf. However, later on at the dinner the Master Air Pilot sat between the Duke and myself. Most impressively, as the Awards were being given (circa 20/25), at the age of 94 he stood for each recipient without struggling, help or anything and spoke to each one specifically about them and how they achieved their award. Each interaction was different and delivered with great interest in the recipient. That enduring sense that I got from him during that short period of being "up close and personal" was one of a man who was genuine, well prepared and just impressive in his role. We shall miss him.



The Master Pattenmaker So we have seen that his Royal Highness was fully aware of the work the Pattenmakers have undertaken with the provision of bespoke Orthopaedic footwear, particularly to wounded Service personnel. This aim of this edition is to record the personal memories and anecdotes that our members have of His Royal Highness. And I thank you all for your very special contributions.

Past Master Helen Auty writes Personally I met him quite a few times as he was President of the RSA for many years and certainly all the time I worked there and whilst I didn't work as closely as some of my colleagues, I do have one recollection and have scanned a photograph taken in 1999 which was an occasion to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the RSA Student Design Awards which I ran from 1970 – 1999 when I retired.

- On one occasion my colleague showed him the portrait we had commissioned to celebrate his Presidency. HRH apparently looked at it briefly and said something on the lines of 'Oh well, you've got to live with it, not me'.



He played a very hands-on role at the RSA, quite often coming to the House a couple of times a year. He was, for years, Chairman of our Committee for the Environment for many years and, as a result of attending National Nature Week in 1963, he initiated a series of conferences, organized by the RSA and known as 'The Countryside in 1970' which attracted a wide range of all the major players.

Commodore Pat Tyrrell OBE Royal Navy writes Many of us have met the Duke in a wide number of guises. I was the Secretary of the British American Forces Dining Club for a number of years and, as our President, met him on several occasions, the most notable one being a dinner at HM Tower of London to celebrate the 50th anniversary of D Day, for the planning of which the Club had been formed. He took the Ceremony of the Keys at the end of the evening.

Liveryman Barry Lynch writes As you know The Riverside Charitable Trust which I chair has supported the DofE for at least thirty years , first as donation provider then in 1996 as a Shield Holder. My first meeting with HRH was at a Supporters Garden Party in the mid-nineties. Upon the invitation I bought a new "Palace" suit and duly lined up to be presented. At that moment the heavens opened with a tremendous rain storm and without raincoat or umbrella and being soaked to the skin was presented to HRH who looked me up and down from the shelter of his umbrella and made the immortal statement "Looking rather wet!" Quite a start to the numerous times I have met him. At a DofE reception in the Palace some years later The Duke enquired as to my occupation and when I told him I was in the shoe trade we had an interesting talk about footwear in general before HRH pointed to

his shoes and said "You see these I got them for my wedding over sixty years ago and I've constantly had them patched!" I don't think I know anyone who has had shoes over sixty years old. These are just a couple of memories of a long time supporter of the Awards which have made so much of a difference to thousands of young people's lives. One of my proudest moments of supporting the DofE was to help liaise the setting up of Awards within the Prison Service Youth Offending Institutions which has led many young people serving custodial sentences turning their lives around.

Deputy Assistant Keith Bottomley CC writes I met the Duke of Edinburgh, and Her Majesty the Queen, at a Commonwealth reception at Guildhall 4 years ago. The Duke asked me which Ward I represented. 'Bridge and Bridge Without, Your Royal Highness' I replied. 'Without?' he asked. 'That part of the City which was once without the City walls but was formally part of the City until the 1970s but we still keep the name.' I said. 'Ah good' HRH exclaimed. 'I thought you had been deprived of something!' and with that on he walked. I have always remembered that exchange and the huge pride and pleasure in having met Prince Philip, and indeed The Queen. They were relaxed, interested and engaged.

Liveryman Bryan McClaggan writes On the very sad news last Friday, we (McLaggan Family) could not hold back and felt we just had to try and pay our own little tribute of thanks and respect to a true bastion of what Great Britain is all about. We decided to go down to Buckingham Palace that day and do just that! Of course as Colonel in Chief of the Royal Electrical & Mechanical Engineers (REME) in which I served for 23 years. We decided to wrap my Corps tie around the railings and next to the many bouquets of flowers, outside Buckingham Palace. Fiona, myself and our daughters, Isla, Phoebe and Erin were very inquisitive about the Prince and also very moved by the news of his passing. After our visit we walked around St James' park with Henry our Cockapoo and reflected on the moment.



On a lighter note when we returned home I fished out some pictures of HRH visiting the WO's & Sergeants Mess in Catterick Garrison in 2005. The moment captures myself and my partner being introduced to HRH. As you can see the laughter captured in the picture was HRH believing the my boss, (Officer Commanding) on the far left, was her husband. I then interjected that she was in fact my wife!!! The Prince very quickly quipped to my boss that he had a narrow escape!!! It still makes me giggle to this day.



Past Master Sir John Timpson CBE writes I will never forget the first time I met a member of the Royal Family. In 1964, Prince Philip opened our new warehouse and office building in Wythenshawe and while I waited nervously in the buying office my father escorted the Prince round the buildings. Suddenly he arrived, I was presented to Prince Philip, he shook my hand and moved on. Not a word was said, no quick quip, not even a passing remark but his presence made very an impression that I can still clearly recall 56 years on.

Past Master Professor Barry Rider OBE writes The death of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh is a profound loss to so many around the world, but it is an opportunity to celebrate the incredible breadth and depth of his achievements and contributions. I and Norma were extremely privileged to meet him on a number of occasions. Prince Philip was made a Royal Bencher of the Inner Temple in 1954 and had a close association with the Inn. I received a scholarship in his name when I joined the Inn and am humbled to now be a Master of the Bench. Similarly Prince Philip became an Honorary Member of the Oxford and Cambridge Club and served the University of Cambridge as its Vice Chancellor for many years. I had the privilege of meeting him in London in 2008 for the 55th anniversary of his membership of the Club and on many occasions in Cambridge occasionally with Her Majesty. Jesus College was one of the few Colleges with space to park his helicopter and on many of his official visits he stayed in College and dined privately with the Fellowship. He was one of the most affable, intelligent and amusing dinner companions. Indeed, it was in part because of these enjoyable occasions, that HRH Prince Edward joined the College as a student.

Norma and I also had the privilege of attending numerous garden parties at the Palace and diplomatic balls. Indeed, on one occasion the Duke in his amusing and disarming manner discouraged a very charming lady member of his family from continuing a very pleasant conversation with me on the basis that I was a suspect Cambridge don who drank too much! On one of his visits to College he approached Norma and asked her where she was from, although this was not the occasion when he remarked to another Filipino nurse that he wondered if anyone was left in the Philippines, he did ask her about her training both in Manila and London. We treasure these memories of a truly great and noble man who was an exemplar of service to his monarch and country.

Freeman Tricia Roeser writes I first met Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh over 50 years ago. The occasion was a very special one for me as I had been feted as a Winner of the 1969 Daily Mail Transatlantic Air Race, with the collection of my award from him coming as the ultimate prize. The weeks beforehand had been full of feverish preparation. As leader of a group of London University students (I was Lady Vice President of the Union at the time) we were raising money for a new charity - the MacIntyre Fund for mentally handicapped children. They were desperate for more exposure and the Daily Mail Race provided them with a heaven-sent opportunity. Our small university group were going to "recolonise America" and sort out sponsors to help us. That would cover the cost of our trip; to help the charity we had to try to win one of the many prizes on offer. Typhoo tea gave us an enormous crate of tea which we duly presented to the Mayor of New York; original costumes were donated by Bermans and Nathan's; our flights were given by Icelandic Airways; carriages took us partway to Heathrow and The Sun newspaper (then a broadsheet) enthusiastically supported our endeavours with amazing publicity.

We had the most exciting few days of our lives racing from the Post Office Tower to the Empire State Building in New York. There we were greeted as treasured guests, shown the sights courtesy of the Mayor, who threw a civic reception in our honour. The crate of tea duly presented (the last one had been lost in Boston Harbour if you remember) we headed back home to a tumultuous press and daily press exposure. When our team was awarded the Butlin Prize for the Most Meritorious Non-Winner (what a title!) we were elated. I was to be honoured, as the group's representative, to receive our prize from HRH the Duke of Edinburgh at the awards ceremony a week later. The prize money meant the charity had enough funds to see it through a year of operation, so our efforts were amply rewarded in the end. HRH was charming, charismatic and certainly had a twinkle in his eye upon meeting a comely young student in a mini dress; our photograph together made it into The Sun the following day, and my moment of fame went as quickly as it came.

Many years later, accompanying my husband, who as Master of his Livery Company was attending an event in the City, I met his Royal Highness again. I ventured to remind him that this was not the first time that we'd met, but he obviously had no recollection of the Air Race, let alone meeting me. I'm sure that he'd met thousand of others in between, so why should I have stood out? But he pretended I looked familiar for a minute or two, before moving on to the next person.....as always, a very gallant gentleman!

Past Master Stuart Lamb MBE writes I regret very much that I never met the Duke in person but Jean and I were fortunate enough to be presented to HM The Queen at a Garden Party at Buck House during my year as Master. During our very pleasant chat with the Queen there was uproarious laughter coming from the next group of people and HRH looked up, saw that Prince Philip was at the centre of the distraction - her Majesty beamed and (ever so slightly) rolled her eyes and the message was clear that life with His Royal Highness was never ever dull! A great character and wonderful personality - we will all miss him very much indeed.

Liveryman Ian Balcombe writes In the late 80s when I was an elected member of the London Borough of Barnet Council I was invited to attend the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. The Duke of Edinburgh was processing down with his Gentlemen Ushers when he broke away from them and came to the lady in front of me, and pointing to the chain around her neck said "so what's this". She replied that she was the Mayor of Bangor and it was her Chain of Office. The Duke said "Mm Bangor – North Wales - used to like going there but Charles won't give me a passport". Looking at me he said "So where have you come from" to which I replied Barnet – "well that's not very far" the Duke said and his Gentlemen Ushers got him back in tow.

The Duke of Edinburgh was an Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of London, first elected in 1975. At the first luncheon that I attended when HRH Prince Phillip was the guest of honour, I was sat at table near the entrance to the room and heard the Sergeant at Arms outside explain to HRH the procedure. He advised Prince Phillip that the procedure was that he would go in to the room and announce that HRH was present and would then ask him to process in with the President. His Royal Highness said "Don't they know that I am coming – get on with it!"

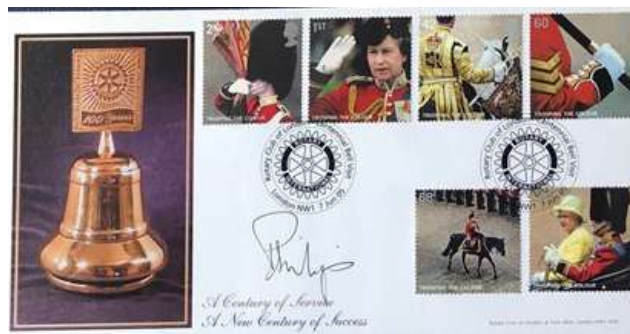
At the next Luncheon HRH spoke about organising a conference of the WWF at Assisi so that they could discuss Conservation and Religion. To my surprise it was announced he would take questions. The first question was from an American visitor who said that he had read a book about Lord Louis Mountbatten and asked if there was anything that HRH could tell him that was not in the book. Quick as a flash the Duke was on his feet and answered "I can tell you this – Lord Louis Mountbatten never ever had a conversation about Conservation". The next question asked if he could comment on the connection between Conservation and Politics – again quick as a flash he answered "As you will know, as a member of the Royal Family I don't get involved in politics – but it does seem to me that leaders of Political Parties are always conserving their position. The Club had presented a cheque in aid of Ex Commonwealth Soldiers which was the Duke's chosen charity. The President of the Club and I were invited to Marlborough House to a fund raising event in a speech he said how important the charity was as he hoped that it would look after him in later life and that coming to Marlborough House reminded him of visiting his grandmother in law Queen Mary who lived there after the death of King George V.

Some years later I couldn't decide whether to go stay at the last session of the last day of a Test Match at Lord's, or go to a debate at the RSA which Prince Phillip was chairing. As the game was heading for a draw, my wife and I went to the RSA. After the debate it was announced that there would be a reception, which I went and there standing on his own was Prince Phillip. As I had my cricket tie on – he immediately pointed at me and said "so what's the score?" I replied that when I had

left it was looking like a draw and said "I think we let it slip in the previous day" and he said "do you think so" and asked me why I thought that. I was having such a relaxed conversation with him, I then said "I am so glad that I have seen you this evening, as I am the Honorary Secretary of the Rotary Club of London and we have just re-elected you as an Honorary Member" to which he replied "I have to be elected?" I informed him that under the Constitution, all Honorary Members had to be re-elected. "so who put me up for it?" he asked. I told him that the Club Council proposed it at the AGM. "Oh, I am so pleased that someone told me".

At the last luncheon he attended I was in the welcoming party. I had my MCC City tie on – which is a more sombre version of the bacon and egg type, my wife asked him if he recognised my tie. Bending down and putting his nose almost right up to my tie – he peered up and said "doesn't everyone wear the other tie?" There was a lull in the conversation amongst the assembled party so my wife asked if he was watching the Rugby (England had reached the World Cup Final after having won it in the previous tournament. He replied – "But it is not on at the moment" So I said " I know that it is not on at the moment – but do you watch it when it is on" to which the Duke responded "I think that we are out on Saturday night".

I then produced a first day cover for the Rotary Club and HRH very kindly signed several for me for fund raising – the added bonus being that he appears on one of the stamps.



Wonderful memories of a wonderful gentleman.

Past Master Philip Saunderson MBE writes Some years ago I took three guests to the annual St. George's House lecture in St George's Chapel when HRH Prince Philip always took the Chair. Afterwards outside in Denton's Common beside the chapel there was a drinks reception. We had all finished our drinks and I offered to go in search of a soldier with a tray of fresh drinks. Having made my way through the crowd I faced a soldier with his tray but suddenly became conscious of my four empty glasses and said, 'These are not all for me. I am looking after some guests'. Whereupon a smiling face appeared over the shoulder of the soldier, that of HRH Prince Philip, and he replied, 'I should hope so too!!' I was so shocked that I uttered the immortal greeting, 'Oh! B.....y hell; it would be you!'. He roared with laughter and we had a lovely conversation together for a few minutes. I have always wondered if he was often greeted in this manner?

Past Master Alastair Watson Gandy writes The Duke of Edinburgh's first charity after his marriage was the Federation of the Boys Clubs (now London Youth), held to support children during and after the War. In 1947 the Duke of Edinburgh became its patron. The Worshipful company of Goldsmiths presented Woodrow High House, a Grade II listed building with 120 acres, to the federation in 1945 and it opened in 1946. The visiting children from London often have not seen such a large amount of green space. Since then, we have all worked hard to improve it and the facilities. The City Liveries helped. The Worshipful Company of Cleaners generously purchased two large washing machines, when Woodrow's fell apart.

In 1998 the Duke of Edinburgh opened the leisure facilities, containing a swimming pool and sports hall. Nothing goes smoothly as the day before his arrival the swimming pool emptied into the sports hall. We were there with mops!! Jenny Dicken and I were on the fund-raising committee on one occasion the Duke of Edinburgh looked at us and pronounced "when you see a friend cross the road to avoid you, maybe you should stop fundraising" On his last visit in his nineties, he drove to Woodrow High House and after inspecting the bedrooms and the loos, he rightly lunched with the boys, while the great and the good of Buckinghamshire waited. When he came to us, he welcomed us with hello Blackmailers. As an ex-blackmailer we will miss him greatly. He added to the joy of life.

And from the Clerk Now please permit me an indulgence, a couple of anecdotes of my experiences with the Lieutenancy. My first Royal detail with His Royal Highness was to receive him whilst Her Majesty was visiting the Crystal Palace. His Royal Highness was to visit the Dinosaur Park, a Victorian garden with models of dinosaurs as the Victorians imagined them. Given the obvious headlines the scurrilous popular press would exploit the Palace Press machine decided there would be no publicity!

Second, during the Royal Visit to the London Borough of Bromley during the Golden Jubilee two incidents that remain in my memory. I was totally preoccupied hosting Her Majesty as you can imagine but there were two incidents which typified His Royal Highness. First when his mobile telephone went off (notice HM's look!) and second the Red Dress Zip!



As the Royal Party was preparing to move on I had to present the key players that had effected the visit (many, many, months of preparation and recces once we had heard our submission had been successful).



Notice His Royal Highness speaking to the blonde lady in a bright red dress, She had been responsible for the primary school competition to design the streamers that were hung from the lampposts on the Royal route in and out of the Borough . .

[Daily Mail/Prince Philip and the Red Dress](#)

[Metro: Prince Philip and the Red Dress](#)

I say no more . . .



The Master Mercer has written a letter of Condolence to Her Majesty on behalf of all the City of London Livery Companies and Guilds as tradition dictates.

THE MASTER



MERCERS' HALL
6 FREDERICK'S PLACE
LONDON EC2R 8AB

April 10th

Madam,

On behalf of the Livery Companies, Companies without livery and Guilds of the City of London I offer Your Majesty, and all members of the Royal Family, our deepest sympathies and condolences on the death of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

The Duke of Edinburgh was a great supporter of the City of London and His Royal Highness maintained close links with many of its Companies. His Royal Highness's many visits to the City, and participation in its life, are all remembered with gratitude and affection.

We also recall with gratitude His Royal Highness's ardent service to the Nation and the Commonwealth. As strong supporters of the Armed Services and the education and training of young people we particularly recall His Royal Highness's service in World War II and his pioneering work with The Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme.

The Duke of Edinburgh's unshakable support of your Majesty and his service to our Nation is a life lesson to all of us!

At this sad time, may I assure your Majesty of the steadfast support and loyalty of the Companies and Guilds of the City of London. I have the honour to remain Your Majesty's most humble and obedient servant.

Mark Aspinall

To bring this up to date, Liverymen Francesca Andrews describes her Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award I was encouraged and had both arms twisted to participate in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. The appeal for me was having the opportunity to undertake the residential and expedition parts of the award in Africa. The down side, and the part I dreaded was the thought of the trek. Yes, my feet were covered in blisters - both on the practice expedition walking on the beaches of Northern France to mimic the sand of the desert of Mozambique and also on the real thing.



I completely resented the DofE on those days! But the rewards far outweighed the pain. I loved fundraising at school by selling doughnuts, I loved my time volunteering too. Other rewards included making lifelong friends, visiting, seeing, and experiencing safaris in South Africa, spending a night under the stars with the animals in Swaziland, teaching and organizing games with orphans in Mozambique, and last but by no means least receiving my award from the Countess of Wessex in the gardens of Buckingham Palace. I am sure that the achievement of this award has helped me both personally and professionally. Thank you DofE - you made this possible.



A final thought from Liverymen Gail Devereux-Batchelor

The shock of bereavement and a sense of loss is often claimed by those unknown personally, unrelated to immediate family – older members of our community can be beacons to many, as in the late HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, constant, solid rocks in a sea of change.

No one can tell from a Passer-By what loss, personal grief or uncertainty they may be feeling. A mask hides a smile, and also hides sadness. We should be caring as we return to the outside world and to one another. And we should be kind.

The Beadle, upon attending the first post lockdown in church Eucharist at our Guild Church of St Margaret Pattens on Thursday, 15th April 2021, requested that our resident bell ringer, Mr Hans Rashbrook, did toll our large bell 99 times before said service, in memory of HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. This is now recorded in the Bell Ringing book in the Guild Church.



May He Rest in Peace

17th April 2021

God Save the Queen