



# The Pattenmaker

WEEKLY NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

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Issue 52

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021

## From the Master Jennifer Bryant-Pearson



Today marks a year since we started producing a newsletter to ensure that we could all keep in touch during the temporary break in physical events

That temporary break has turned into a full year of

fascinating news of our members and activities thanks to our many contributors and the newsletter is now the primary source of information about the Company each week,

I want to pay tribute to Liveryman Ian Balcombe, our Editor, who has been alongside me throughout the past year ensuring that we produce our weekly update with a wide range of interesting articles and photos – and always on time for our Friday 8.30am delivery!

Ian will now be taking over the reins completely of The Pattenmaker, although I will support him along with our Clerk and Assistant Clerk. He will continue to publish your news so please send in your articles and photos – and don't forget we need garden photos for a calendar and recipes for a cookery book!

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## From the Editor Liveryman Ian Balcombe

The Master has insisted that I come out from behind the shadows.

When I stopped full time work 2 years ago I responded to a Livery questionnaire and asked if having more time on my hands I



could do something to help the Livery. The Master at the time Dr David Best and Renter Warden at the time Jennifer Bryant-Pearson asked if I could start the newsletter again, which had been in abeyance, with a view to it being published every quarter. This I was happy to do and all went well for 3 issues and then the pandemic struck. Jennifer Bryant-Pearson then Master Elect asked if I could have a go at producing the newsletter on a weekly basis and I said I would give it a go, and see how we got on. So here we are on issues 52 – who would have believed it. I am grateful to the both the The Master and Immediate Past Master, for all their assistance as well as the Clerk, and the Assistant Clerk Jane Foreman who formats the issue on the Thursday night before it arrives in your email on Friday morning. I am also grateful to the contributors and the regular columns that have come about, and to the readers many of whom have kindly given feedback and have been encouraged to contribute themselves. The Clerk has calculated that the issues to date represent 1000 pages – all are available on the website. Now that we have a roadmap out of lockdown, the publication may become monthly sometime in the future, but for now it remains weekly.

In this week's edition The Lord Mayor is optimistic about the future and speaks about the Reopening Campaign, and the Livery Kitchen Initiative is given a boost.

The Master reports on a virtual evening at St Paul's Cathedral and the chorister whom the Livery assists, and the new Commander of HMS Chiddingfold gives us a report.

There is to be an addendum to the Livery History "Out of the Mud" to reflect on this extraordinary year and Past Master Richard Kottler gives details. We are delighted to welcome our new Freeman Freya Allen.

Both myself and the Pattenmakers' Financial Controller Diana Fieldwick contribute pictures to the Garden Section, and our Avian correspondent is assisted by a cocktail in the choice of the Bird of the Week.

Past Mistress Pattenmaker Zoë Verney contributes to the origins of the Master's weekend.

There are Pattenmaker and City Livery events and many Cultural events for this week.

Finally the Clerk's quiz reflects on the past year.

## City of London Corporation

### The Rt Honourable the Lord Mayor



The recent anniversary of the start of the first lockdown gave us an opportunity to reflect on the tumultuous year that has passed since then. It is clear that our lives will

never be quite the same again. I send my sincere sympathies to all those mourning loved ones who have been lost to the Coronavirus. To those who are still struggling with the virus and with its impact, I send my warmest good wishes. And I send my heart-felt thanks and admiration to all

those who have done so much to support everyone over these difficult twelve months – the healthcare professionals and key workers, the volunteers and charities, and all who have found themselves on the front line over the last year. Their contribution has not gone unnoticed and neither has the spirit I have encountered in the City and among the Livery in the face of COVID19.

But as the Spring sunshine and the cherry blossom usher in the start of British Summer Time, it is difficult not to feel more optimistic about the future. We have had the good news this week that over 30 million adults have now received at least one shot of the vaccine, an incredible achievement by the NHS that has also involved the help of St John Ambulance and Volunteer Responders. As lockdown restrictions begin to be eased, with the return of the Rule of Six and an end to shielding, we can tentatively look forward to the reopening of the Square Mile's shops, bars and restaurants. St Paul's Cathedral and many of the City churches are open to celebrate Easter in person this year. And businesses and employers are developing plans to return staff to the workplace in greater numbers. I am told that even the bees in the Mansion House hives have emerged and are busying themselves among the City's gardens.

This confidence is critical to our Reopening Campaign, which will highlight the return of a more normal life to the City, driving increased activity and footfall in the Square Mile and supporting a longer-term economic recovery. We are working closely with communities across the City, but particularly at this stage with businesses, large and small, on a phased return to typical operations, following closely the timeline of the Government's COVID roadmap. From 12th April I will be marking the return of non-essential retail and outdoor hospitality to the City's streets and spaces with visits to re-opened shops and venues, before indoor hospitality and other visitor attractions start again in May. During this time we expect the number of workers returning to their desks to increase steadily, and I have had many conversations with business leaders who are staunch in their conviction that the office is not dead. From 21st June we hope that the current

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progress we are seeing with the vaccine will enable the majority of restrictions to be lifted. We have a number of activities planned for that week to mark that watershed, devised with the help of a group of Reopening Champions.

We are keen for the Livery to be involved and plans are being made both for a United Guilds Service later in the Spring, and for a Common Hall for the Election of Sheriffs on Thursday 24 June. Arrangements are still being worked out but further details will be shared when they are finalised.

Supporting firms that are struggling with the current operational and economic challenges is a key focus of our Reopening campaign. I am therefore delighted that the Securing Future Prosperity initiative, pioneered by the Worshipful Company of Management Consultants, has completed a pilot programme, working with SMEs to weather the pandemic. The project has successfully matched small businesses in and around the City, many of them run by young business leaders, with expert members of livery companies to provide help and guidance. I know that liverymen from the Framework Knitters, Musicians and Fuellers companies are already participating in the pilot, and the scheme would be keen to work with other livery companies who might be interested in taking part. Liverymen are also encouraged to refer businesses in need of help to the scheme - more information about SFP can be found here: [Securing Future Prosperity](#)

Well done to everyone involved.

My virtual programme of activity has included some recent “visits” to the US and Canada, Brazil, Chile, China and Birmingham, as well as online events with the Livery. One area of real focus for me at the moment is the sustainability agenda, as the UK prepares to host the COP26 climate change summit in November. I am keen that the Livery is fully involved in these discussions and that we explore together the way in which liverymen can help to secure a green future for the City of London.

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## Livery Kitchens Initiative

The City of London Corporation has provided funding for thousands of meals to be delivered to families in need – and is urging others to follow suit. The £25,000 grant from the City Corporation’s International Disasters Fund to the food distribution charity City Harvest will enable the Livery Kitchens initiative to continue until July.

The scheme, which supports people in East London, sees three City Livery Companies partnering to provide food, kitchens and chefs who cook meals which are distributed to charities identified by City Harvest. It forms part of the wider Livery Kitchens initiative, in which 62 Livery Companies and other donors have given over £640,000, funding over 130,000 meals delivered since April last year.

City Harvest, which operates across Greater London and delivers surplus food to over 300 charities across the capital, has seen a tripling of demand for its services during the pandemic.



*Food being prepared in the Grocers' Kitchen*

## Our Charitable Fund

### St Paul’s Cathedral Chorister – The Master

The Senior Past Master, Helen Auty, Past Master Donald Newell and I attended a virtual evening at St Paul’s Cathedral School when we had an insight into the life and role of the choristers. The event was for those Livery companies that are affiliated to a chorister and we were joined by

some of the Cathedral's Music Patrons, many of whom are former choristers themselves.

The Director Music at the Cathedral, Andrew Carwood interviewed the Head of Boarding, Jaco Brand from the new boarding house into which the choristers moved in the autumn term. The building is light and airy with a good communal space where the boys can watch television and play a variety of games. The new boarding house is adjacent and directly linked to the music practice rooms in the school building. All choristers learn to play two instruments as part of their musical education but they also participate in all school sport and activities and are not treated any differently from the day pupils.

There are between 30 and 36 choristers at any time as new children join and older boys' voices change

Jaco gave us a great description of their lives in the boarding house and at the cathedral services where they sing at 7 services every week



*Andrew Carwood is centre and Jaco Brand back right with the choristers wearing livery medals*

The musical training they receive from Andrew is second to none and the pastoral care and support from the school is very significant as the boys see more of Jaco and his team of boarding staff than they do of their parents for much of the year!

Jaco comments:

"The choristers love their association with the livery company they are supported by. They wear the company medal with pride and are very much aware of and grateful for the support they receive for their education and instrumental tuition. They

are certainly missing the opportunity to sing at livery events and we all hope it won't long before it is possible to get out and about in the City again."

### **Naval Affiliate HMS Chiddingfold – Lt Cdr Simon Reeves RN Commanding Officer has written to Renter Warden Commodore Patrick Tyrrell OBE RN**

It is my privilege to write to you as HMS CHIDDINGFOLD's/MC M2 Crew 3's Commanding Officer. MCM2 Crew 3 has recently moved back onboard CHIDDINGFOLD after four months back in the UK. This letter is to update all of our affiliates and friends back home on the tasking and progress of your Ship whilst she conducts vital work abroad, protecting the nation's interests during this difficult time for all.



CHIDDINGFOLD is currently deployed in support of Operation KIPION in the Gulf. She is based out of the United Kingdom Naval Support Facility in Bahrain and comes under the United Kingdom Maritime Component Commander (UKMCC) influence. The ship is one of four MCMVs (Mine Counter Measures Vessels) forward deployed in Bahrain on Operation KIPION, where the Ship's Company is working a four months on, four months off rotation over a combined 24 month period; this includes the Crew training at home, back in the UK, as well as taking some well-deserved leave before returning to Bahrain to relieve our sister crew (MCM2 Crew 1) in theatre for a further four months of operations.

Operation KIPION is the United Kingdom's commitment to maintaining peace and security and to deter threats to UK interests in the region. The impact of the recent blocking of the Suez Canal by the mechanical failure in the MV EVER GREEN has arguably underlined the importance of ensuring global chokepoints are kept free and

open for trade. The Royal Navy's permanent presence in the Middle East, a region which includes three of the world's six maritime chokepoints, helps keep maritime trade flowing. Ensuring the region's strategic shipping lanes, remain open for business is essential to UK security and trade. The MCMVs operating in the Arabian Gulf are an important asset working in support of this aim by maintaining presence and deterring any aggressors. The UK imports 39 million tonnes of oil, most of which passes through our area of responsibility. When at sea, CHIDDINGFOLD will seek out and, if necessary, destroy unexploded sea mines using our highly trained Mine Clearance Divers and the Seafox unmanned mine disposal system.

CHIDDINGFOLD has recently undergone Theatre Integration Weapons Training (TIWT). This is an intensive week of training overseen by staff from CHIDDINGFOLD's squadron. This included gunnery serials using our 30mm cannon, as well as smaller arms such as our heavy machine gun. It also involved testing our state of the art minehunting equipment, firefighting abilities and reactions to machinery breakdowns. Overall, I am happy to report, we were assessed to be ready in all respects to be deployed on operations.

CHIDDINGFOLD is currently alongside in a maintenance period for a few weeks. Your ship is one of the oldest ships in the fleet (37 years old), but also one of the hardest working ships. Our highly trained and hard-working engineers ensure that CHIDDINGFOLD is in good shape and is ready to fight another day.

If you wish to be kept informed of our activities whilst deployed please follow us on Twitter @HMSChiddingfold.



**Editor's note.** Since receiving this report, we have learned of the incident with HMS Chiddingfold in the Gulf and are relieved that there were no injuries and that all is now well.

## Our History

### Out of the Mud Again – Past Master Richard Kottler

Life over the last fourteen months has been extraordinary and all of us have experienced situations that none could have envisaged in January 2020.

We know the impact that this has had on our own Company; the cancellation of all face-to-face events, the disruption of our normal operating practices and the inability to arrange many of our prime fund-raising and social activities.

However we also appreciate, after a perhaps understandably hesitant start, just how magnificently the Company responded to these difficulties. A multiplicity of virtual social and informational evenings have been organised and most of the day-to-day Company business is now transacted online through Zoom. But by far 'the gem' of our response has been the creation of the weekly Newsletter, initiated in early April 2020, which has had a massive effect in keeping all members more informed than ever before about our activities, our people, our *raison d'être* and the history and current life of the City.

It was suggested that a record should be made of the many significant features, occurrences and highlights of the Pandemic period, with the intention of publishing them as an addendum to the new history book "Out of the Mud". The aim is to place our experiences within the overall context of what happened in the UK and the World as a whole during that time. In this way all of us will be able to capture a unique period in our lives and that of the Company.

The production team is led by Liverymen Dr Stephen Cribb and PM Richard Kottler, ably supported by Assistant Steve Huxham. IPM Dr David Best, Master Jennifer Bryant-Pearson and

the Learned Clerk Colonel Robert Murfin have all had central roles in these turbulent times and their reflections will form an important aspect of the book. Sheriff and PM Chris Hayward will also contribute his thoughts on how the City managed during this period and on a personal note, how he was able to slim down to become a shadow of his former self! We are also fortunate in having the services of Liverymen Peter Dixon who has authored and published several books and will guide us through the mysteries of self-publication.

The aim is to produce a thin, glossy, soft-cover booklet with lots of pictures, taken principally from the growing archive that is the Newsletter. Publication is anticipated towards the end of 2021 providing, of course, that the Pandemic is deemed to have ended by then.

This is becoming a fascinating project and will be an amazing record of amazing times.

The book will be given free to all those who bought "Out of the Mud" and it will also form part of the welcome pack given to all new freemen in the future.

If you want a copy, but have not yet purchased the new History Book, it is still possible to order a copy of "Out of the Mud" by completing the form here: [Out of the Mud Order Form](#)

## Members' News

### New Freeman Freya Allen



I graduated from De Montfort University in 2019 with a First-class honours degree in Footwear Design. In my early years, I knew I wanted to be a part of a creative industry. I

get a thrill from exploring new possibilities and stretching my mind to discover new concepts. Coming from a creative background, I was

encouraged to pursue different genres of craft from knitting and hand sewing to painting and drawing. My Grandma is and continues today to be a big influence to me, having spent her whole career dedicated to creating unique, free-hand painted pottery at Royal Crown Derby. At 15 years-old I gained my first experience as a Saturday Girl in my town's local Dressmaker's Shop. Finishing school, I moved to my Mother's hometown in Derbyshire to study for college and gained a part-time job at a Paint-a-pot studio, furthering my artistic skills.

Throughout the 3 years of study at De Montfort University, I developed a strong interest in most areas of design, however Children's footwear became a strong passion. In my 2nd year, there was an Orthopaedic project lectured by Bill Bird for a term. He created inspiring lessons on orthopaedic ailments and bespoke shoe making – which is something of a rarity in today's age of fast fashion and overseas manufacturing. It was through his passion that I discovered mine: Orthopaedic, Biomechanics & Bespoke Footwear.

The creativity and innovative designs I could produce were endless! There is a strong challenge to Orthopaedic designing and making: majority of the clients wish for a standard design and fit, un-wanting to draw attention to a potential personal insecurity. It's important to tailor to the needs of the client. Currently, I am employed by an orthotic company in Leeds, learning the bespoke side to footwear in the design and pattern-cutting department. Each order we receive from the NHS Clinics are entirely bespoke made from start to finish, using traditional methods of last carving, hand patterning and hand lasting.



Having studied biomechanics and now working within bespoke orthopaedic, I have a personal motive to design the best children's footwear on the market, so future footwear nurtures healthy feet. By working in orthopaedics – where the clientele is predominantly above 50 years old - I have been able to witness first-hand how people's feet have become deformed not just through illness/ailments but through general neglect and ill fitted footwear from day one. So, to start at the beginning of the 'footwear chain' in children's wear, I feel it would enable me to ensure the health of the child's foot is always at the forefront of designers, developers and manufactures mind.



I first came to know about The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers following the Bill Bird Orthopaedic project set in year two of university. Having achieved first place in the Orthopaedic competition, I was welcomed into the Company with open arms as a First-Prize Reward. Hannah Eveleigh became a great support mentor throughout my third year; taking me to leather suppliers for projects, meeting for coffee catch up's in the week and escorting me in my first Pattenmaker's Autumn Dinner.



Coming to the end of my third year at university, Annette Cove was introduced to us as a class to help with networking, career advising and lending us a supportive hand as we stepped into the unknown after graduation. Having attended a handful of Dinners in the City of London and joined as many virtual events already hosted this year, I can't express how thankful I am to have been given the honour of joining this prestigious Livery Company, and welcomed by so many warm and friendly members.



## Gardening

### Financial Controller Diana Fieldwick

Here are a couple of photographs of our Magnolia Soulangeana, which my parents bought for us 35 years ago when we moved into our house in Twickenham.





I consulted Senior Past Master Helen Auty about the next plant that I took a photograph of.



### Liveryman Ian Balcombe

The Spring beds in Regent's Park



She kindly advises that the plant is *Euphorbia characias*, almost certainly 'Wulfenii' – one of a family of Mediterranean Spurges – a lovely lime green at this time of year.

### Bird Watch

Bird of the week is the Stonechat –  
Freeman Richard Parlour

and in St John's Wood Park look magnificent.



I sat down thinking about what we could have as an avian theme for the 52<sup>nd</sup> issue. There is nothing really related to a 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary that I could find, so I was reduced to attempts at word association. Nothing much relates in the avian world to a B52 Flying Fortress, but then I discovered the B52 cocktail! If you haven't tried one, this is a combination of a coffee liqueur (e.g. Kahlua, Tia Maria), a cream liqueur (Baileys, etc.), and an orange liqueur (Grand Marnier, Sabra, etc.). If you pour this slowly and carefully, over the back of a spoon, you will get layers of black, cream and orange. There are quite a few birds which have this combination of colours, but the bird selected this week is the Stonechat. Celebrate with a B52 cocktail when you have seen one!

Stonechats are robin sized birds. They have a big head and short tail, so appear a little on the dumpy side. For a very long time the stonechat was considered as a type of thrush, but genetic evidence shows that it is part of the flycatcher family, and they do exhibit a flycatcher kind of behaviour when feeding on the small clouds of flies that often appear above ferns on a hillside, for example. Males have striking black heads with white around the side of their neck, orange-red breasts and a mottled brown back. Females lack the male's black head, but have brown backs and an orange tinge to their breasts. Stonechats are frequently seen flicking their wings while perched, often doing so on the tops of low bushes. As its name suggests, they utter a sharp loud call that sounds like two stones being tapped together, and both sexes do this. The male's song is high and twittering, like a dunnock. Others have a different approach to naming, so the scientific name *Saxicola* means "rock-dweller". Stonechats breed in western and southern parts of the UK, but disperse more widely in winter, so they do a sort of short distance internal British migration. European stonechats move further south in the winter to slightly more forgiving climes.

Stonechats eat invertebrates, seeds and fruit (such as blackberries). In the UK there are thought to be 59,000 pairs, so they are on the green list. Stonechats breed in heathland, coastal dunes and rough grassland with scattered small shrubs and bramble, open gorse, tussocks or heather. Look out for them on heaths, conifer plantations or

coastal sites near you, especially in southern and western counties. They very much like low scrubby areas and often appear on the top of fence posts and reeds. Whenever I have seen them, their presence is given away by their call, or by their behaviour. The flicking of the tail is a great tell-tale sign. Whenever you try and get closer to them, they will allow you to come a certain distance, but then fly off a little further away from you, perhaps along a track, a hedge line or a dry stone wall (to follow through on the other name of rock dweller). They are often in pairs, so if you see a male, a female may not be far away, and vice versa. They do not tend to flock together, though, or at least I have never seen a flock of them. Look closer in summer months, as a relative of the stonechat, the whinchat, visits our shores, and shows similar behaviour patterns, though is differently marked. On heathland in the south of England, Dartford warblers can often be seen following stonechats around, perhaps catching the small insects that the larger bird disturbs, so you might be in for an unexpected bonus!

In other bird news, we focus on the use of lead outdoors, which can bring a serious negative impact to wildlife. Here are two examples, both abroad and at home:

### **Cyprus urged to ban hunting to protect flamingos**

Conservationists in Cyprus are urging authorities to expand a hunting ban throughout a coastal salt lake network, amid concerns that migrating Greater Flamingos could swallow lethal quantities of lead shotgun pellets. Birdlife Cyprus says flamingos are at risk of ingesting the tiny pellets lying on the lake bed as they feed. Like other birds, flamingos swallow small pebbles to aid digestion but cannot distinguish between pebbles and lead pellets. Cyprus is a key stop on the migration path for many types of birds flying from Africa to Europe. Larnaca Salt Lake, a wetlands network of four lakes, typically welcomes as many as 15,000 flamingos from colder climes. They stay through the winter and leave in March. Hunting is banned around most of the salt lake, but hunters are still allowed to shoot ducks around the southern tip. The government's game and fauna service said that in the first two months of 2020, 96 flamingos were found dead in the Larnaca Salt Lake wetlands as a

result of lead poisoning. This high number of deaths is mainly attributed to heavy winter rain two years ago that stirred up the lake sediment and dislodged embedded lead shot. A sport shooting range near the lake's northern tip closed nearly 18 years ago and authorities organised a clean up of lead pellets in the lake bed there. A European Union funded study is underway to identify where significant amounts of lead pellets remain so they can be removed. Preliminary results of the study showed very high lead levels in the wetlands' southern tip, and continued duck hunting there could compound the problem. A ban on the use of lead pellets near wetlands has been in force in Cyprus for several years. A similar, EU wide ban took effect a few months back but conservationists believe the laws are not being enforced properly.

#### **Voluntary move away from lead ammunition shows little progress**

New research has revealed that, a year after the announcement of a voluntary shift away from lead shot to non-lead alternatives by British shooting organisations, some 99% of shot pheasants still contain lead. A joint statement issued by nine UK shooting and rural organisations on 24 February 2020 sought to encourage a voluntary transition to non-lead shotgun ammunition within five years in consideration of wildlife, the environment and to ensure a market for the healthiest game products. Exposure to spent lead ammunition has been shown to have significant negative impacts on both wildlife and human health. One year on and new research published in the journal *Conservation Evidence* suggests that the move away from lead ammunition has got off to a very slow start. Carcasses of wild shot pheasants sold or offered for human consumption in Britain in the shooting season (1 October 2020 and 1 February 2021) were dissected in order to recover any shotgun pellets present. The composition of the shotgun pellets recovered was then identified using emission spectrometry. The results showed that 99% of the 180 pheasants from which shotgun pellets were recovered had been killed using lead shotgun ammunition, compared with 100% in a much smaller study conducted during the 2008-09 shooting season. It is fantastic that UK shooting organisations have taken the decision to stop the

use of lead ammunition within the next five years. Independently verifying progress towards this goal is vital to understanding the effectiveness of their publicity campaign. Maybe it is not too surprising that there has been little uptake of alternative shot during the first winter, given the complexities of running shoots under the Covid 19 restrictions, but hopefully we will see a much greater uptake next winter. Given the benefits to both human health and the environment it is vital that those who shoot follow the lead of the shooting organisations so that the public can eat game knowing that it is not contaminated with lead and, at the same time, help reduce the effect of lead in the environment.

Happy birding!

## Events

### **Pattenmakers' Events**

A full list of all planned future events appears at the end of the newsletter.

**April 14<sup>th</sup> 3.30pm – 5.30pm – Virtual Tour of Hotter Footwear** with our own Young Pattenmakers and CEO Ian Watson.



Please refer to the attached flyer for full details: [Virtual Trade Outing](#) and if you wish to attend please send an email to the trade warden [martin@denton-house.com](mailto:martin@denton-house.com) and further details will be sent back to you nearer the time – This is a Free trade outing event.

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**April 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.30pm – 9.00pm –**  
**Pattenmakers Charity Comedy Night**  
with 3 top comedians – free charity comedy event



This event has a **Maximum attendees of 500** households but will be opened up to our industries and to family and friends after a 1 week pre-release which is open to Pattenmakers only.

Please see here [Comedy Night Flyer](#) for more information.

Please register as soon as possible within the next week, once we reach the attendee limit we won't be able to register any further attendees.

[Charity Comedy Registration](#)

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## Worshipful Company of Gardeners



The City of London Green City Briefings is a series of 8 one-hour webinars that present compelling evidence and examples of the power of 'living green' in delivering

multiple solutions to city challenges.

Link to further details: [City of London Green City Briefings](#)

## Cultural Calendar

Presented by Liveryman Zoë Chowney

After Easter and Holy week, Christians are now taking a breather! This week it is the turn of many of the other great religions of the world to have festivities and celebrations.

**13<sup>th</sup> April – Ugadi / Gudi Padwa / Telugu New Year (Hindu):**



Ugadi (Ugādi, Samvatsarādi, Yugadi) is the New Year's Day for the States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka in India. It is festively observed in these regions on the first day of the Hindu lunisolar calendar month of Chaitra.

The day is observed by drawing colourful patterns on the floor called Muggulu, mango leaf decorations on doors called torana, buying and giving gifts such as new clothes, giving charity to the poor, special bathing followed by oil treatment, preparing and sharing a special food called pachadi, and visiting Hindu temples.

The pachadi is a notable festive food that combines all flavours – sweet, sour, salty, bitter, astringent and piquant (spicy hot). In Telugu and Kannada Hindu traditions, it is a symbolic reminder that one must expect all flavours of experiences in the coming new year and make the most of them.

Ugadi has been an important and historic festival of the Hindus, with medieval texts and inscriptions recording major charitable donations to Hindu temples and community centres on this day.

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The same day is observed as a New Year by Hindus in many other parts of India. For example, it is called Gudi Padwa in Maharashtra, but sometimes observed a Gregorian day earlier because the lunar day starts and ends in Hindu calendar according to the position of the moon.

**13<sup>th</sup> April to 11<sup>th</sup> May – Ramadan (Islam):**



Ramadan lasts for 30 days and is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. The exact dates of Ramadan change every year, because Islam uses a calendar based on the cycles of the Moon.

Ramadan remembers the month the Qur'an was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. The actual night that the Qur'an was revealed is a night known as Lailut ul-Qadr ('The Night of Power').

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims won't eat or drink during the hours of daylight. Fasting allows Muslims to devote themselves to their faith. It is thought to teach self-discipline and reminds them of the suffering of the poor. However, children, pregnant women, elderly people and those who are ill or travelling don't have to fast. In some Muslim countries, it is a crime to eat and drink in public during the day in the month of Ramadan, even if you're not Muslim.

Sawm (the Arabic word for 'fasting') is one of the Five Pillars of Islam, which form the basis of how Muslims live their lives. The other pillars are faith, prayer, charity and making the pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca.

During Ramadan, it is common to have one meal (known as the suhoor), just before sunrise and another (known as the iftar), directly after sunset.

Ramadan is also a time for spiritual reflection, prayer, doing good deeds and spending time with family and friends. Normally, people will make a special effort to connect with their communities and reach out to people who need help.

Many Muslims will attempt to read the whole of the Qur'an at least once during Ramadan. They will also attend special services in Mosques during which the Qur'an is read.

The end of Ramadan is marked by a big celebration called 'Eid ul-Fitr' (the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast)...but I'll write more about that nearer the time!

**13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> April – Yom HaZikaron (Judaism):**



Yom HaZikaron is the day of national remembrance in Israel to commemorate all the soldiers and people who lost their lives during the struggle to defend the State of Israel. On this day, fallen soldiers and all lives lost by terror are mourned.

Yom HaZikaron, which goes by the Jewish calendar, begins with a siren at 8:00 in the evening. As soon as the siren is heard, Israeli citizens stop whatever they're doing, wherever they are, and stand firm to honour those they've lost. People driving on highways stop their cars in the middle of the road to get out and stand in remembrance. A whole office will stop working and a family having dinner will stop eating in order to spend a minute in respectful silence.

After the first siren, the State Memorial Ceremony begins at the Western Wall in the Old City of Jerusalem. The Prime Minister, the Minister of Defense, the Chief of the General Staff of the IDF, and the President take part in this ceremony. The

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next day, there's another two-minute siren at 11:00 in the morning. This siren marks the beginning of private memorial ceremonies that take place in cemeteries or schools.

At night, the final ceremony is held at Mount Herzl National Cemetery. This ceremony ends Yom HaZikaron and marks the beginning of Israel's Independence Day.

Generally, outside Israel, the Remembrance Day (Yom HaZikaron) of fallen soldiers and the Independence Day occur in two separate days of the year. In Israel, it was decided in accordance with the law that the Independence Day needs to begin the moment that Remembrance Day ends. This is because the State of Israel wouldn't be able to celebrate its existence if it weren't for those who gave their lives for it. They wouldn't be able to have one of those days without the other one.

#### 14-15<sup>th</sup> April – Yom HaAtzma'ut (Judaism):



A few minutes after sundown on 14<sup>th</sup> April, with a ceremony on Mount Herzl in Jerusalem in which the flag is raised from half staff (due to Memorial Day) to the top of the pole, the official "switch" from Yom HaZikaron to Yom HaAtzma'ut takes place.

On Yom HaAtzma'ut, Jewish people in the UK and worldwide celebrate Israel's national day. It commemorates the Israeli Declaration of Independence in 1948.

The president of Israel delivers a speech of congratulations, and soldiers representing the Army, Navy, and Air Force parade with their flags. In recent decades this small-scale parade has replaced the large-scale daytime parade, which was the main event during the 1950s and '60s. The evening parade is followed by a torch

lighting (hadlakat masuot) ceremony, which marks the country's achievements in all spheres of life.

The religious character of Yom HaAtzma'ut is still in the process of formation, and is still subject to debate. The Chief Rabbinate of the State (which consists of Orthodox rabbis) has decided that this day should be marked with the recitation of Hallel (psalms of praise), similar to other joyous holidays, and with the reading of a special haftarah (prophetic portion). Most ultra-Orthodox Jews, in Israel and abroad, have not accepted this ruling, and some Orthodox Jews chant the Hallel psalms without the blessing which precedes it.

#### 14<sup>th</sup> April – Vaisakhi (Hindu, Sikh):



Vaisakhi has been a harvest festival in Punjab in northern India for a long time, even before it became so important to Sikhs.

In 1699, Guru Gobind Singh chose the festival as the moment to establish the Khalsa - that's the collective name given to Sikhs who've been baptised. The story goes that at the festival, he came out of a tent carrying a sword and said that any Sikh prepared to give his life for his faith should come into the tent.

Five men disappeared into the tent, and the Guru came out - alone - with blood on his sword. This worried the crowds. That is until the five men then came out from the tent unharmed and wearing turbans.

They became known as Panj Piare or the 'Beloved Five' - and they were to be the first members of the Khalsa. They were baptised by the Guru who sprinkled them with Amrit, which is the Sikh word for holy water. He also said prayers. This ritual became the basis of the Sikh baptism ceremony.

To celebrate Vaisakhi, Sikhs will visit places of worship called Gudwaras. These will also be especially decorated for the occasion.

Many people enjoy parades and special processions through the streets called nagar kirtans. 'Nagar' means town and 'kirtan' means the singing of hymns from the Guru Grath Sahib, which is the Sikh holy book. The book is carried in the processions in a place of honour.

Celebrations always include singing and music, as well as reading aloud scriptures and chanting hymns.

Many Sikhs also choose Vaisakhi as the day to be baptised in to the Khalsa brotherhood.

Big celebrations take place in the city of Anandpur Sahib in Punjab, which is where Guru Gobind Singh established the Khalsa.

Farmers in the Punjab will also use Vaisakhi as an opportunity to give thanks for a plentiful harvest and pray for a good one in the year to come.

### 14<sup>th</sup> April – Tamil New Year (Hindu):



Puthandu or Tamil New Year's Day is celebrated on the first day of the Tamil month of Chitterai. There are an estimated 4.5 million Tamilians in India and the globally strewn diaspora. Also on this day falls other regional New Years such as Vishu in Kerala, Poila Boishak in Bengal, and Baisakhi in Punjab.

The Tamil calendar follows a 60-year cycle. The first month of every Tamil year is called Chittirai and it commences on 14 April of the Gregorian calendar. As per that system, we are in the current 60-year-cycle that began in 1987 and will end in 2047.

Every year within each 60 year cycle is given a specific name. 2021-22 will be called Pilava (2020-21 was called Shaarvari).

Tamilians prepare for the New Year by washing the house the night before. They believe that for a new beginning, the old negativity must be thrown out first. The festival morning begins with a ritual called 'Kanni' i.e. 'auspicious sight'. The Pooja (or prayer) Room is decorated with a huge mirror and before it is placed abundant signs of prosperity such as trays laden with fruits, flowers, jewellery, currency notes and coins; basically all things that show the grace and blessings of Goddess Laxmi the giver of wealth and prosperity.

What is called 'rangoli' (art form in which patterns are created on the floor or a tabletop using materials such as powdered lime stone, coloured sand, quartz powder, and coloured rocks) in the rest of India, is called 'kollam' or 'kolam' in Tamil Nadu. But instead of ground rock powder, Tamilians use rice powder to etch beautiful patterns in the courtyard or before their house's main entrance. The idea is to have ants and insects get drawn to it and gain subsistence. The ancient tradition reflects Indians' or the Hindus' belief that man cannot live alone, he needs to live in harmony with the world's creatures.

Vegetarian food is cooked on this day, and people either pray at home or visit temples to offer worship. Priests or family astrologers open the Panchangam (calender or almanac) and refer to horoscopes as they make predictions for the year to come.

### 14<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> April – Bohag Bihu (Hindu):



Bohag Bihu is a regional public holiday celebrated in the north-eastern Indian state of Assam. Several days of public holidays may be declared depending on what day of the week it falls on and it is also sometimes a public holiday in the neighbouring state of Arunachal Pradesh.

Also known as Rongali Bihu, this is the national festival of Assam, one of the most beautiful states of India, famed for its tea gardens, green forests and the Brahmaputra river.

The Assamese celebrate three festivals called Bihu during the year; the other two being Kati Bihu or Kongaali Bihu (October) and Magh Bihu or Bhogaali Bihu (January or February). Each marks a distinct phase of the farming calendar.

Bohag Bihu marks the advent of the seeding time, the Kati Bihu marks the completion of sowing and transplantation of the saplings ('Kothia') and finally, Magh Bihu marks the culmination of the harvesting period.

Bohag Bihu is the most important Bihu of the three. It is celebrated in the month of Bohaag (middle of April), the first month of the Assamese calendar and thus marks the advent of the Assamese New Year. This Bihu is also known as Rongaali ('Rong' means joy in Assamese) Bihu to reflect the optimism and festive atmosphere that marks these celebrations at the start of spring.

Bohag Bihu begins on 14<sup>th</sup> April and is celebrated for seven days.

The first day of the Bihu is called 'Garu Bihu'. On this day the household cattle are taken to the river and bathed and people pray for the wellbeing and safety of their livestock.

On the second day of Bihu called 'Manuh Bihu' people take a bath with a paste of turmeric. Various pithas or rice cakes and larus or laddus are eaten by families. Bihu functions are held at different localities and people visit neighbours and relatives to greet each other and pay their respect to the elders in the family by presenting them with a new 'Gamosa' (a traditional Assamese hand-woven cotton towel with red designs with a white background).

The next day of Bihu is the 'Guxai bihu' or bihu of the household deities.

The fourth day is 'Taator bihu' or bihu for the handlooms.

Next comes the 'Nangolor bihu' for the farming equipment.

The sixth day 'Gharosia Jibar bihu' is meant for the domestic animals.

The seventh and last day is called 'Chera bihu'. Dance and Songs are the main features of this Bihu. The folk songs associated with Bohag Bihu are known as 'Bihu Geet', a symbolic communication of love and romance among the village youth. The dances are accompanied by traditional Assamese instruments.

The origin of the word 'Bihu' is said to be from the Sanskrit word 'Vishu' and this is the name of a festival that takes place at the same time in the southern Indian state of Kerala.

## Letters to the Editor

**From Past Mistress Pattenmaker Zoë Verney**

*I think it might be helpful if I provided some background information to the Master's Event, which was later sometimes a Master's Weekend.*

*A Master's Event was started by my late husband Sir Lawrence Verney.*

*At the time he was Master, the Court did not know each other very well & certainly their wives did not know the members of the Court.*

*He felt it would help both the Company & the individuals if they met informally. We gave a dinner party where people moved around during dinner so they mixed as much as possible.*

*He was very concerned when it developed into a week-end event as he felt the cost might prevent some members being prepared to go forward to be Master. He always stressed that there should not be any competition or wish to do better than a Past Master, & it should simply be what the Master wanted to do. Some Past Masters can confirm this.*

*Unfortunately our dinner party was high-jacked by a Past Master who assumed that it was to celebrate some occasion for him, which we did not know about. He told everyone it was in his honour! He was a very difficult man & easily upset. He told Lawrence that he was very rich so Lawrence always hoped he would leave money to the Pattenmakers, & we did not want to upset him. I do not know if he did leave anything to the Pattenmakers.*

*Incidentally Lawrence was due to become a warden en route to being Master in late 1970. He decided that he could not afford to be Master & resigned from the Court. The Company was shaken by his decision & made some changes. He was eventually persuaded to return to the Court in late 1980 & became Master in 1988. He was always very concerned that wealth or lack of it, should not prevent someone from being fully involved in the Pattenmakers.*

*Tony Miller may have done the first Master's weekend but it was not what the Event originated as.*

Please see next page for this week's Quiz.

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

## Quiz

The answers to last week's [The Wet One](#) quiz were:

1. How much water should you drink in a day?  
[6-8 Cups](#)
2. What percentage of your body is water? [60%](#)
3. What does H<sub>2</sub>O stand for? [Water Chemical symbol](#)
4. How much of the world's surface is covered in water? [About 70%](#)
5. How many sharks (roughly) are killed by humans each year? [About 100 Million](#)
6. How many humans are killed by sharks each year? [6](#)
7. What is the deepest point in the world's oceans? [Mariana Trench](#)
8. What is the longest river in the world? [The Nile](#)
9. In the film Castaway, what was Wilson? [A Basketball](#)
10. What did Bob the Robin drink last week? [His bath water \( I have spoken with him\)](#)

Well done everyone who entered!

## The Quiz – Week 52

One year on and 52 quizzes later, so, to mark the anniversary, I have selected 12 of my favourite questions from previous quizzes, all the answers are in the newsletters in the members' area of the website so no excuses! Good Luck and enjoy the birthday quiz!

1. What wood was forbidden by King Henry V in 1416 to be used for making pattens?
2. Witches in Lancashire were around which famous landmark?



3. How tall is the monument to the Great Fire?
4. Who is Jay Silverheels best remembered as?
5. What is the furthest south a Pattenmakers' place mat has been photographed?



6. Who is this?
7. Who invented "Cats Eyes" (on the road)?
8. "Remember, Remember the Fifth of November" What is the next line?
9. What is the collective noun for Starlings?

10. What is the name of this Country?



11. Which Roman Road is now the A2?
12. Which Club is Bertie Wooster a member of?

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

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## Pattenmakers' Company Events Calendar Jan – Dec 2021

Pattenmaker Events = Black - Contact: [Graham.Perry@datore.co](mailto:Graham.Perry@datore.co)

Civic Events = Red – Contact: [Clerk@pattenmakers.co.uk](mailto:Clerk@pattenmakers.co.uk)

Young Pattenmaker Events = Blue – Contact: [Sophia.lee@datore.co](mailto:Sophia.lee@datore.co)

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
8 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Japanese Whisky Tasting	Virtual Event
14 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Trade Outing	Virtual Tour of Hotter Shoes
22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	Joint YP/Pattenmaker Comedy Night	Virtual Event
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Footwear Event	Virtual Event
7 <sup>th</sup> May	Murder Mystery	YP Virtual Event
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Ascension Day	St Margaret Pattens Church
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	YP Event TBC	YP Virtual Event
17 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Trade Outing	Royal Parks
23 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	Inter-Livery Shoot	Holland & Holland Grounds
24 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Common Hall	Election of Lord Mayor
29 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Summer Dinner	Merchant Taylor's Hall
30 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Afternoon Tea Fundraiser	Fortnum & Mason
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Drinks in the City	Live Event
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Tour of Masons' Hall	Grand Lodge, London. TBC
5 <sup>th</sup> Aug	YP Event	Live Event
19 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Champagne Tasting	TBC
16 <sup>th</sup> Sept	New Freeman Event	St Margaret & Guild Hall
16 <sup>th</sup> Sept	YP - Drinks in the City	Live Event – Venue TBD
17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Sheriff's Ball	Guild Hall
21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	351 <sup>st</sup> Banquet	Guildhall
26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Sheep Drive	Southwark Bridge
29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Common Hall	Election of Lord Mayor
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Escape Café Fundraiser	The Reform Club
14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	YP Event	Virtual/Live Event
28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	FM Dinner	Ironmongers' Hall
13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Lord Mayor's Show	Lunch after @ Apothecaries' Hall
26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	YP Dinner	Barber-Surgeons (or Glaziers)
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	YP – Christmas Drinks	London City Live Event
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Liveryman Dinner	House of Commons
16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Carol Service	St Margaret Pattens Church
TBC Jan	Lord Mayors Banquet	Mansion House
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Speaker Dinner	House of Lords