



# The Pattenmaker

NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

Issue 79

Wednesday 5th October 2022

## From the Master, Sarah Leijten



Fellow Pattenmakers,

This is the first newsletter since the sad passing of HM The Queen and the first of the new Carolean age – and what a coming together we have seen of the country. The sense of community, friendship and patriotism has been extraordinary and so wonderful to see and experience. I am sure that many of you, like me, marked her passing in some small way. Having signed the book of condolences at the Guildhall I then went to Green Park to join thousands laying flowers – and what a sight to behold. It was very moving.

Even more moving was the funeral itself. For a long time to come we will all remember exactly what we were doing the day the Queen died – I for one was toasting her for the final time at a Leather Livery Lunch at the Girdlers Hall – where the mood turned rather sombre having heard of the seriousness of her condition.

As you will know we are intending to publish a memorial edition to HM so please do keep sending in your memories to the editor, Ian Balcombe.





We now have a new King, Charles III – long may he reign. The Proclamation held on the steps of the Royal Exchange was a sight to see in the City. We have already had the chance to toast him for the first time at the recent Common Meal held at the City Livery Club where we had a very convivial dinner at the club with some 30 Pattenmakers present. For the first time that I can remember, there really was a lively discussion on issues raised by those present. The Common Meal is a chance for the membership to ask questions of the officers of the Company on any issue they wish – and ask away they certainly did, which was great to see

Following the period of mourning the City has been getting back to normal with its events, one of which was the fantastic Sheriffs' Ball at the Guildhall last Friday. This was held in support of a number of charities which we heard from during the evening and the Pattenmakers took 2 full tables



which included a number of our YP's joining in. Our IPM was on the organising committee and a superb job they did too with the theme being around flowers – which were just beautiful and guests were able to take them home with a donation to the charity. So far the final number raised for the Lord Mayor's charities from the event stands at £95,000!

This is a packed newsletter so I do hope that you will be able to click through and read those items that are of interest. We have an update on our Chorister at St Paul's who has now moved to a new school; and I am very pleased to say that we will be continuing our connection with the school by supporting a new pupil. We continue with our fundraising activities which have included the bike ride, PM Kottler's Crazy Triathlon and now the Marathon and I want to thank very much all of you who have so generously donated to any of those activities. We have our runners taking part this past Sunday 2nd October, in the marathon and if you still wish to donate any contribution, no matter how big or small, will be gratefully received by the charity. You can find the link to our JustGiving page here: [www.justgiving.com/pattenmakerscharity](http://www.justgiving.com/pattenmakerscharity).

We have our Livery October dinner coming up on 6th October at the Cutlers Hall at which I look forward to seeing as many of you as are able to make it. We also have the FM Trade Dinner at the Apothecaries' Hall on the 18th October for which tickets are selling out fast. On Thursday 29th September Common Hall took place at the Guildhall – the election of the Lord Mayor. Some 11 Pattenmakers joined this occasion, and we witnessed Alderman Sheriff Nicholas Lyons be elected as the next Lord Mayor of the City of London. We wish him all the best in his coming year



It remains for me to wish you all a very good October, and as we move into the Autumn I am looking forward to catching up with as many of you as possible.

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## City of London Corporation

### Queen Elizabeth II

**Collective Letter of Condolence** - The Master Mercer wrote a letter of condolence to the King on behalf of those Companies that wish to be represented by the letter. [A copy of the letter is here](#)

**Pattenmaker Memorial Wreath** was delivered to the Superintendent of Windsor Castle



*As Representative Deputy Lieutenant for the London Borough of Bromley, the Clerk signed a book of Condolence*



## The Proclamation

### **The Proclamation in the City – Liveryman Wendy Mead OBE CC**

The right of proclaiming the new Sovereign to the citizens of The City of London is an ancient privilege signifying the importance of The City to the nation since medieval times. It is the first to take place following the signing of the Act of Succession by the Sovereign and the Royal Proclamation at St. James's Palace. The Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs and City Officers were fortunate to be invited to attend this historic event.

At the Royal Exchange, a large crowd had gathered to witness this rare event in the City. The whole Court of Common Council: Aldermen, Common Councillors and High Officers all in ceremonial robes and in order of seniority, processed to the Royal Exchange, from Mansion House. There we formed up along the steps to await the Mayoral party arriving from St. James's. First on the scene were Privy Councillors, State Trumpeters, and various military representatives. All providing much colourful pageantry.

After some 20 minutes the Mayoral Party including a member of the Royal Family attended by the Lord Mayor's bodyguard, The Honorable Artillery Company, arrived at the steps for the Proclamation to be read, accompanied by splendid fanfares from the State Trumpeters.

Straight after, the cry "God save the King" went up, followed by three loud cheers, enthusiastically endorsed by the patient crowds.

Then in reverse order, The Court members processed back into Mansion House for a welcome glass!

I feel so privileged to have had the opportunity to be part of a simple but intensely moving, historic ceremony, the first time for seventy years.



**Presentation of the Shrieval Chain**

Pattenmakers were well represented when Sheriff-Elect Andrew Marsden was presented with his Shrieval Chain.

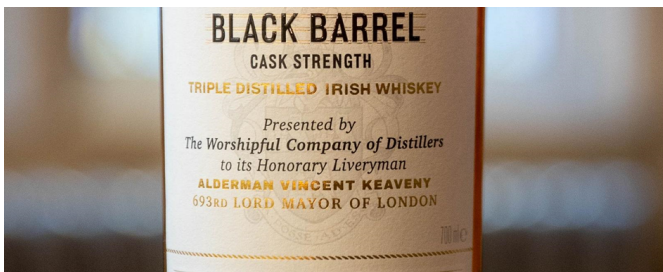


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**From the Lord Mayor**

Thank you for your continued support!

Launching in October our Power of Inclusion series focuses on social mobility. Read more here: [The Power of Inclusion Event](#)



Limited edition Lord Mayor's Whiskey now available: [Lord Mayor's Whiskey](#).

Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress mount up to take part in Ride around the City: [Ride around the City](#).



## Our Charitable Fund

### The Pattenmakers' Company's Chorister Support - Sarah Beddows City and Music Giving Manager Development St Paul's Cathedral

In the 2021/22 academic year, the Company kindly provided a grant of £7,000 via St Paul's Cathedral Chorister Trust towards a Chorister boarding bursary. This support is associated with a particular named Chorister – Charley Woodhead who wears the Pattenmakers' Company's Chorister medal to indicate the connection.



As one of our Year 8 students, Charley's time at the Cathedral School and the Choir has now come to an end this July. He has made a superb contribution to the Choir and over the past year has excelled in his role as Head Chorister and further enhanced his musical skills, achieving Grade 6 in the ABRSM exam in French Horn. His achievements were recognised at Speech Day when he was awarded the Goss Cup for Solo Singing, the St Paul's Head Chorister Key and Head Chorister Cup and the Archer Composer Cup. As well as these musical awards he also won the Senior Latin Prize and the Large Cricket Bat for best senior player.

He has been a wonderful ambassador for the Choir and was interviewed by the BBC (wearing his Pattenmakers' medal) ahead of HM The Queen's Jubilee Service, in which he shared details of the Choristers' preparation and expressed their excitement about taking part in the Service.

Charley now moves on to Kings School Canterbury, to continue his education, where he has secured a Music Scholarship.

We sincerely appreciate the partnership that the Company has shown us in supporting our Choristerships over many years.

### Kottler Crazy Triathlon – Past Master Richard Kottler

So the Kottler Crazy Triathlon has been completed and the final event, the one mile open water Swim, has been done - but not as originally planned. The Swim the Serpentine event due to be held on September 17 was cancelled a few days beforehand due to the preparations for the funeral of Queen Elizabeth. So instead I went to Shepperton Lakes where I had done my training, and completed the one mile course there



The time was 50 minutes which some would describe as stately, some as unhurried, some as consistent with that of an old man about to hit 79 who had never done the front crawl or swum in open water before!

More importantly, I am delighted to tell you that together we have raised circa £5,000 which will benefit many children in many schools in deprived areas of London. So my deep gratitude to all of you who contributed so generously to this not entirely incident-free challenge - remember my gears falling off on the Cycle Ride, the drama of the Wing Walk and now late changes in the venue for the Swim. This sum is considerably more than I had hoped for and everyone really has been so incredibly supportive and I appreciate all your donations and friendship. A special mention to Sonja who has tolerated yet another batch of stupid behaviour and been a tower of strength in getting me through it all.

Thank you so much on behalf of the Pattenmakers Charitable Foundation and myself

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### **The Pattenmakers' Certificate in Bespoke and Orthopaedic Footwear – Past Master Richard Kottler**

This groundbreaking course conceived and managed by Liveryman Bill Bird is completing its first 2 year unit. 6 participants drawn from 3 shoemaking companies have been involved with weekly on-line teaching from Bill and a term of specialist orthopaedic specialists from the UK and abroad. Each "student" has on-line and actual copies of the course papers and material.

As the picture below shows, Bill invited the 6 individuals to a pre-assessment weekend at his Gloucestershire workshop where they practiced their final course presentations that they will make

to a panel of industry experts in the next few weeks. On graduation, they will receive an illuminated scroll at a forthcoming Livery event.



*They are :*

*Charlotte Duff, Matt Bleasdale, George Paish, Emily Dee, Rebecca-Jayne Thorne, Christopher Thorn*

The next course starts in October and will have 9 attendees including our current 3 Apprentices and there is every indication that the course will become the gold standard for people entering the bespoke orthopaedic trade. The Pattenmakers are very proud to be associated with this programme made possible by the extraordinary generosity of Honorary Freeman John Foxon and we congratulate the first tranche of successful participants on it.

We also want to thank Bill Bird for the mountain of work he has compiled for the course, the immense amount of time he has devoted to it and his constant drive to improve the standards of training in this sector.

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## Our Affiliations

### **Cdr Chris Jones RN Commanding Officer 824 Naval Air Squadron**

It is a tremendous privilege to have assumed Command of 824 NAS and the previous CO, James Taylor, was quick to highlight the proud affiliation we have with the Pattenmakers. I thought it would be helpful for me to introduce myself and to give you an update on what your Squadron has been up to!



I joined the Royal Navy in 2005 straight after A levels and flew Sea Kings, as an Observer (navigator/systems operator), on Operations from Afghanistan to Libya and a multitude of exercises in between. In staff roles I've worked as the military assistant to the head of operational planning in the Joint Headquarters and also at Navy Command, supporting new aircraft programmes and in-service capabilities. I started flying Merlin helicopters 4 years ago and was delighted to be appointed

CO of 824 Sqn, which as you know, is the training Sqn for our Merlin Mk2 (Submarine hunters and airborne surveillance roles).

I took over a Sqn in great shape. Its large by Fleet Air Arm standards (approx. 310 uniformed personnel assigned as of last week), and it covers two substantial pieces of real estate in Culdrose; the flight line where we operate the helicopters and the Merlin Training Facility that houses our simulators and engineering training rigs. I am also supported by a number of civilian and contractor staff, including former Royal Navy personnel who now teach in our simulators. The turnover of personnel is rapid – 40 joiners and leavers every month – this is down to the fact that every person who serves in the Merlin Mk2 Force will come through 824 Sqn at one time or another to be trained. This makes for a few challenges on the unit but it's a fantastic responsibility and one that my team and I relish.



We train engineers and aircrew for the front line and one of the most satisfying parts of the job is seeing people take the skills we teach them and put them into practice. Back in January, one of our aircraft was flying a routine training mission when they detected a kayaker in distress in coastal waters. They quickly realised that without intervention, the kayaker (who was now in the water) would be in real danger. In consultation with HM Coastguard, they reconfigured, repositioned and quickly extracted the person from the water and took him to safety. The best part for me was that once they had done that, the aircraft returned to training missions – all in a day's work!

It won't surprise you to hear that we are watching global events, not least the conflict in Ukraine and tensions in the South China Sea, very closely. While it might be easy to assume that as the training Sqn we are a step removed from these types of challenges, the reality is that our people are always at a degree of readiness to support the front line Sqns, in whatever tasking they receive. I am fortunate that my instructor cadre, both the aircrew and engineers, have generally "seen it all before". This is a source of great confidence for me because I know they will mentor our junior sailors and aircrew to be ready for whatever is asked of them in their careers.

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## Members News

### Climate Action Group – Young Freeman Astrid Vikström

We have been tasked by the Court to start estimating our Livery's baseline environmental footprint and come up with suggestions and recommendations of how the Pattenmakers might improve it; this follows the [Climate Action Livery Goals](#) that were committed to earlier this year.

The objective of the Pattenmakers Climate Action group is to develop recommendations to the Court, drive awareness of Climate Issues among the membership, and contribute to inter-Livery dialogue and sharing of best practices. This survey is our invitation for you to offer your insights and inputs on further recommendations that you would like the Court to consider for the Pattenmakers Livery to improve their environmental footprint.

The Survey can be found here: [Sustainability Survey](#).

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## Events

**James Bond** themed ball on board the pride of the Royal Navy, HMS Queen Elizabeth

The *Her Majesty's Wave Ball* will take place in Portsmouth on Friday, 9th December 2022

Guests will be immersed in our own 007 story in a world where black is white, down is up and you can't tell the good guys from the bad.

[Click here](#) For more information on this exciting evening of intrigue



**Livery Shoot save the date**

29TH INTER LIVERY SHOOT 18TH May 2023

*NEW* venue for 2023 at The West London Shooting School.

Please see the new web page [www.interliveryshoot.com](http://www.interliveryshoot.com) which has all the details



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## Pattenmaker Calendar

Please [click here](#) for the Pattenmakers' Calendar

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

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