



Issue 84

Friday 7th April 2023

From the Master, Commodore Patrick Tyrrell OBE Royal Navy



This is a very exciting moment for me, writing my first Newsletter introduction as your new Master. It is excitement tempered by a degree of anxiety, knowing the illustrious precedents set by my predecessors!

It has been a somewhat hectic introduction to being Master with such a beautiful setting as Drapers' Hall for the ceremony and the dinner. This fabulous event was rapidly followed by a white tie banquet at Mansion House for all the Liveries hosted by the Lord Mayor and the stunning United Guild Service at St Pauls.

Our guest speaker at the Drapers' Hall dinner, Professor Andrew Lambert, professor in the history of war at King's College, London, explained why the Livery Companies and the City of London have such a close, almost symbiotic, relationship with the military and with the Royal Navy in particular.

The City of London was able to develop international trading links based upon the Royal Navy's protection of Great Britain's growing maritime power and, as the Navy's influence spread further afield, so to the City of London's commercial influence was felt. As he spoke, we looked up and observed the large portrait of Admiral Lord Nelson, a former member of the Drapers! It is, therefore, highly appropriate that our Livery Companies provide support to so many military affiliates building upon the requirements for our mediaeval forebears to provide militias to maintain the peace within the City.



The Livery banquet at Mansion House is where the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress welcome the Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiffs of the City Liveries and demonstrates the connectivity across and between the City of London government and the people working within the City walls. It was City pomp at its finest!

The following day we all met up for the most solemn of occasions within the City: the United Guild Service at St Pauls Cathedral. The colours and extravagance of the robes is the first thing that strikes you as you enter the Cathedral. The Lord Mayor, preceded by his Mace and Sword bearer, processed into the church with the Bishop of London; the choir sang beautifully and the

Pattenmakers were well represented! After the service some of us repaired to the Stationers' Hall while others went to the Farmers' and Fletchers'. Whichever hall we went to, we lunched well!

As we look to the future, we have several key events in April. The first is the Livery Dinner at HM Tower of London on 18th April (details are in the Newsletter). On the 23rd April the London Marathon is being held and there are several runners running on behalf of our Company. There will be a full report in next month's newsletter and we wait to see if a new Guinness Record can be set by three of our runners who intend to run under a crown! It is, apparently, a very large crown and is a commemoration of the Coronation early next month. I gather that there are some serious logistical issues in moving the structure from where it is being constructed in Winchester to the start of the race in Greenwich! All our runners are raising money for Pattenmaker charities, and I know that all of you wish them well in their efforts. Please read my note on the Marathon and, if you are motivated, please donate through the link provided.

On 27th April, our Guild church, St Margaret Pattens, will be celebrating the 300th anniversary of the death of Sir Christopher Wren, the architect of the current building when it was rebuilt in 1687 after being destroyed by the Great Fire of London in 1666. The opportunity is being taken to celebrate the refurbishment of the church's organ with a recital by Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley. As ever the application form is in the Newsletter.

A momentous event will be happening this year: we will be saying farewell to our Gallant Clerk after some 25 years' service. An advertisement for the post is going out now and if any Company member knows someone who might be interested, please pass them a copy of the Candidate Pack which can be [downloaded from here](#).

Looking further ahead, we have the excitement of the Coronation to which the Pattenmakers will be contributing towards, and we hope to be able to bring you full details after the event in our next Newsletter.

There is also an opportunity for Freemen and Liverymen of the Company to exercise one of their ancient rights (and I'm not talking about the right to be hanged with a silken rope!) The right we will be able to exercise is that of driving sheep across London Bridge. It will be held on the 24th September and it is right and proper that as many Pattenmakers as possible are there to partake of this ancient ritual. There is a link in the Newsletter. If there is a good response, we will see about organising a lunch afterwards.

On a sadder note, we must say farewell to our former Clerk, Squadron Leader Christopher Ledger, who died last month. Our thoughts are with his wife Pamela.

Meanwhile, may I wish you all a very Happy Easter and good wishes to those celebrating Passover and Ramadan.

City of London Corporation

Chamberlain's Court - Freedom Fine increase

The Freedom Fine has increased in line with inflation on 1st April. As the Court of Common Council has agreed that RPI should be used as the rate for this increase, the fee has risen by 13%, from £150 to £170. on that date.

The new updated form [can be found here](#)



*The Honourable
Company of*
Master Mariners



Leaving HMQ Wellington - Scott Scanlon, Clerk

Many of you have asked me regarding stories that have been floating around the City, but, here is the truth and the reasoning why after 75 years, HCMM are leaving the good ship Wellington. It's been an emotionally long journey and my deepest thanks for those who have shown such kindness and friendship.

Please [click here](#) for full article.



The Worshipful Company of Woolmen

Sheep Drive & Livery Fair - Sunday 24th September 2023

Please [find attached here](#) an invitation from The Master of The Worshipful Company of Woolmen to the annual Sheep Drive & Livery Fair on Sunday 24th September 2023. We would very much appreciate it if you could pass on to your members.

The Sheep Drive will be taking place this year on Southwark Bridge and the Livery Fair will be located on Queens Street Place at the primary entrance to the Sheep Drive.



This year's celebrity guest is to be announced and we already have a great selection of stalls signed up so far for the fair.

To book places at the Sheep Drive, please contact sheepdriveteamenquiries@woolmen.com

Please let Graham Perry know if you wish to attend, so that he can coordinate:
graham.perry@datore.co

The London Symphony Orchestra: Inspiring hearts and minds through world-leading music-making - Barbican Hall, London, Thursday, 20th April Talk - 6 for 6.15pm, Concert 7-9pm.



We are most fortunate to have Becky Lees - Head of LSO Live - and Andra East - Head of Discovery - from the London Symphony Orchestra, hosting a talk in the Stalls Lounge (a private room near the Barbican concert hall). They will be sharing an overview of the LSO educational activity.

Following that, guests are invited to attend a sell-out concert in Barbican Hall conducted by world famous Simon Rattle – featuring Adams *Harmonielehre*, Debussy *La Mer* and Ravel *Daphnis and Chloe* Suite No.2

There are a limited number of places available.

Ticket prices: Circle: £35 Front area: £49 or £65

If you would like to attend this exciting event - please email clerk@co-educators.com ASAP, and detail your ticket preference.

LSO

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 8 October 2023 7pm

We are delighted to announce the date of the

Annual City Livery Concert

with the **London Symphony Orchestra** at the Barbican Centre, for a programme including **Ravel** and **Rachmaninoff**, conducted by **Sir Antonio Pappano**.

Please save the date, or for further details, please contact Katie Clifton - katie.clifton@lso.co.uk

London Symphony Orchestra

Our Charitable Fund

Blesma, The Limbless Charity - Past Master Jennifer Bryant-Pearson

I have been talking to Blesma and they have shared this link from their newsletter of an interview with Michelle for whom we provided boots produced by Liveryman Bill Bird.

[Blesma Magazine/Michelle Murphy](#)

Church Warden Report St Margaret Pattens - Liveryman Sarah Hodge

Numbers remain stable with steady numbers both in Church and on Line.

We are interviewing for a new Quinquennial Architect and have met with two candidates both having put forward proposals which are in the process of being reviewed.

There is a Planning application for a late License from a neighbouring building the Fit kitchen, this is a difficult and emotive process with a split decision from Wardens. The public hearing being held.



The Church Administrator is leaving his post after many devoted years. We seek a replacement and the advertisement has been issued.

I attended the City Historic buildings climate crisis event and we are looking to get involved in that and look to Link with the Pattenmakers climate group to form a small working party to get more involved in this vital work – [Presentation found here](#)

The next GCC meeting is on the 23rd March – where we will sing off the annual report and accounts. These will be agreed at the AGM to be held on the 27th April in Church.

Friends of St Margaret Pattens– Wren Party 27th April 2023

Wren party, with celebration on the Organ refurbishment and discussion on Climate Crisis. A wonderful evening is planned it would be great if as many Pattenmakers were there as possible. We will invite businesses from around the Church to join us for this special evening.



Dear *Fellow Patten maker,*

2023 is a very special year for our Guild church, St Margaret Pattens as we celebrate the 300th anniversary of Sir Christopher Wren, who was the architect of the current St Margaret Pattens building when it was rebuilt in 1687 after being destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666

We are honoured to take our place alongside other such important Wren designs as St Paul's Cathedral, and we plan to celebrate this in style on 27th April with a party in the church at 6pm to which you are all cordially invited. We are delighted that Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley has agreed to give an organ recital on the newly refurbished organ to mark the occasion.

The Pattenmakers and Basketmakers are rightly proud of their shared church and regularly use it for Livery occasions as well as individually for baptisms, weddings and funeral / memorial services. We would encourage you to join us on the 27th April and discover anew this superb Wren Church, learn more about its history, as well as enjoying the organ recital by Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley.

If you would like to attend at 6pm on Thursday 27th April please RSVP to events@pattenmakers.co.uk

You might also like to join the "Friends of St Margaret Pattens" and get more involved in the support of our historical church - details on how to join are attached.

Master Pattenmaker

Prime Warden Basketmaker

More information [found here](#)

Please [click here](#) to become a Friend of St Margaret Pattens

From The Master – Supporting our Charities

Our Company is amazing: we are renowned for being extremely welcoming and sociable and we undoubtedly punch above our weight within the City of London. This is in no small part to the numerous hard-working and dedicated volunteers who work to keep our Company functioning and, in particular, ensure that we can fulfil our charitable ambitions. One of our major fundraising events takes place on Sunday, 23rd April when we will have a record-breaking line-up of amazing runners for our biggest fund-raiser of the year – the London Marathon, with each runner committed to raising a minimum of £2,000 for our Livery Charities. This is back in its usual slot in the calendar after the Covid years.

Tradition relates that Pheidippides, a Greek soldier, ran from the battlefields of Marathon to the City of Athens to report a great Athenian victory over the Persians and then promptly expired on the

spot. The distance is approximately 26 miles and the question as to whether his death was a result of the run or wounds sustained in the battle beforehand will never be known. His feat, however, is immortalised in the modern Marathon and we hope that all our runners survive the experience!



Our Pattenmaker runners are very representative of our Company; with a wide age range and very definitely varying in running ability. For example, Paul Bennet is going to attempt a world record for the fastest Marathon in a 3-person costume and is seeking to beat his own record set on an earlier occasion! We have a mother-son duo (Alison and Paul Royston).

You can donate by clicking on this link.

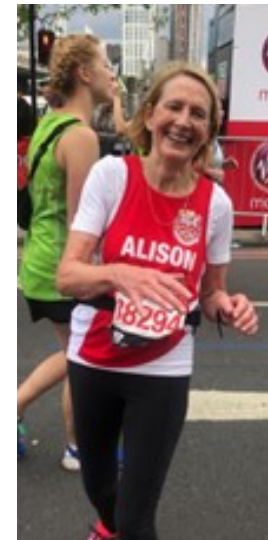
I ran my first London Marathon in 1993 and have completed another six since then, the last two in 2019 and 2021 after a break of 18 years, when my son, Paul Bennett, persuaded me to come out of Marathon retirement and run as part of the Pattenmakers Team. Although I had continued to run over the years, entering the occasional 10k and half-marathon races, it was very hard to find the time (and energy!) to up the distance, particularly since I was still continuing to work as a Lymphoedema Practitioner.

I run a clinic treating patients whose limbs have swollen, often as a result of cancer treatment or physical trauma, and encourage them to exercise and maintain their mobility, since this plays a huge part in helping to reduce the swelling, particularly when I explain that all the evidence in cancer recovery shows that there is a marked reduction in recurrence if exercise becomes part of their daily life. A number of my patients have taken up running and entered various races from 5k upwards for cancer charities.

My training this year has been fairly relaxed. Currently I run three or four times a week, increasing my distances gradually, and I am also using a cross-trainer to build up muscle strength. This will be my fifth London Marathon running with Paul and yet again he has inspired me to participate for such a worthwhile cause.

No one said it would be easy but what a challenge!

Alison Rostron



Simon Oakley



I live in Hampshire near Portsmouth with my wife and two daughters. I came to running quite late in life, but it has become an obsession over the last 10 years or so. London was my first marathon in 2015 and since then I have run several other marathons and ultramarathons, completing my first 100-mile event in 2022. I especially love running and racing on the trails and exploring new places, but I also still enjoy trying to get faster – which is becoming increasingly difficult these days!

My mother and father-in-law are members of the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers, which is how I have come to be part of the 2023 team. The London Marathon is a very special race with an incredible atmosphere and I am excited to go back several years after my marathon running journey began.

**The Third
Annual**

23rd and 24th June 2023

Pattenmakers Pilgrims Charity Bike Ride



TWO DAY RETURN RIDE WELWYN GARDEN CITY TO NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Challenge yourself and enjoy fellowship as you take on this year's 'pilgrimage' from Welwyn Garden City to the shoe-making capital of the World - Northamptonshire. This beautifully scenic and supported ride is c.70 miles each day and includes an overnight stay in Kettering.

Register your interest by emailing pattenmakerspilgrims@gmail.com



Another huge contributor to our charities comes from the Pattenmakers' Pilgrims annual bike ride. This year, it will be a 2-day ride with an overnight stay in Kettering – and where we will be hosted by SATRA. So far, we have a group of 11 cyclists. If anyone is interested in joining, and all good cyclists are welcome, then please use the link below. Likewise, if anyone would like to consider being a sponsor on the cycling jerseys, please contact Liveryman Joseph Robertson on pattenmakerspilgrims@gmail.com

The Pattenmakers' Charities incorporate a number of different recipients including local schools, support to footwear training, support for young managers' awards, support to the Defence Military Rehabilitation Centre and to our own Livery Church, St Margaret Patten. Our total contribution exceeds £65,000 per annum. We are very keen to build upon our success over many years every £1 that is donated goes straight to our charities.

Donations, however modest, can be made by making a BACS transfer to the Charitable Foundation: Sort Code: 40-04-09, Account number: 31826166, by using our Just Giving website: <https://www.justgiving.com/pattenmakerscharity> or by writing a good, old-fashioned cheque to the Pattenmakers Charitable Foundation.

On behalf of all our charities, thank you!

Our History

Renter Warden Deputy Keith Bottomley

I spent a fascinating couple of hours recently to complete the audit of our treasurers. Principally the company silver and our extensive collection of pattens.

It is the responsibility of the Renter Warden to complete this audit annually for insurance purposes and for the company's asset register.

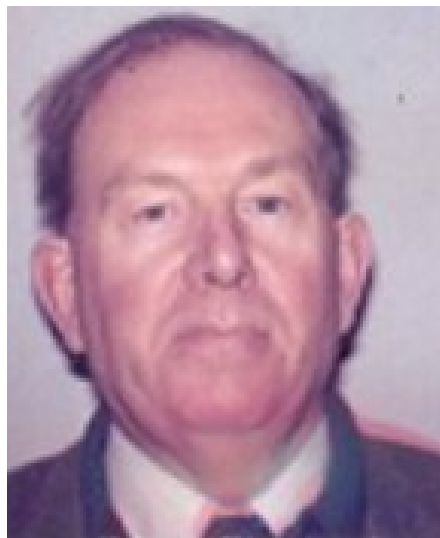
Here are some photos of the magnificent silver treasures. The mace, Company staff and silver pattens are seen regularly at our formal dinners. The other items are seen less often.

The collection overall is unique and very special.



Members' News

Sad news of the Passing of Squadron Leader Christopher Ledger, who served as Clerk from 1995 to 1999



Passed away peacefully at home with his family. Beloved husband of Pamela, father of Roland and Mark, father in law to Steph and grandfather to Martha. As was his wish, a private, immediate family only, attended cremation service is to take place. Family flowers only. Donations if so desired to Help for Heroes, Macmillan nurses, NSPCC and St Luke's Hospice to be care of, Kingsbridge Funeral Directors, Devon Square View, Lower Union Road, Kingsbridge, TQ7 1EF

New Liverymen



Victoria Leijten



Simon Hudson



Cathy Hayward

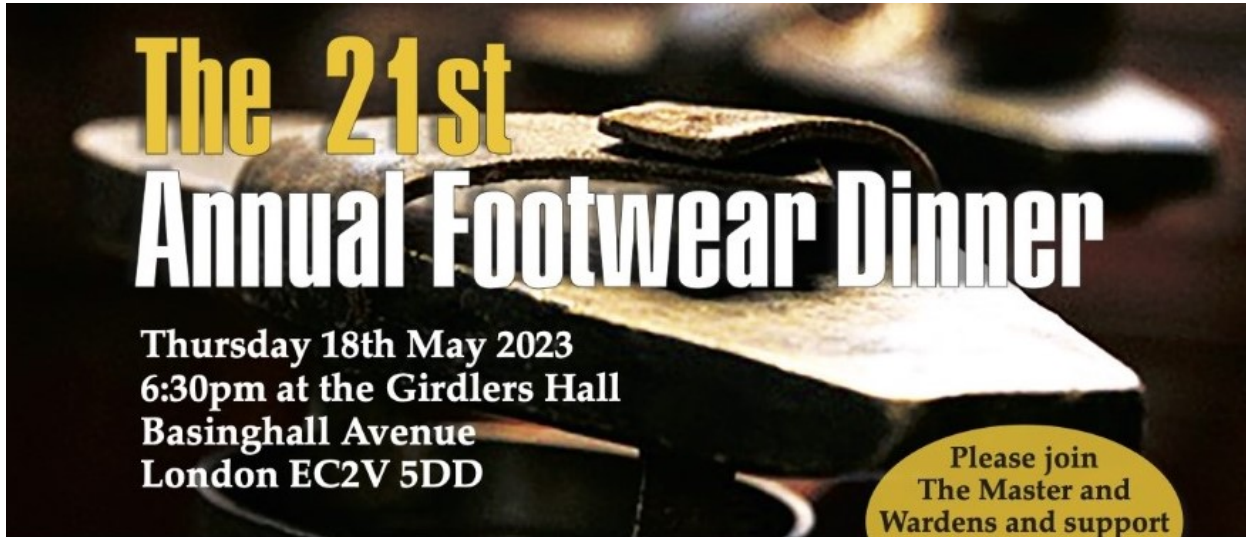
Events

Dinner at HM Tower of London - Tuesday 18th April 2023

Please join us and our guest speaker, Deputy Governor of HM Tower of London, Commander Debra Whittingham at the stunning Tower of London.

Booking form [attached here](#)





The 21st Annual Footwear Dinner

Thursday 18th May 2023
6:30pm at the Girdlers Hall
Basinghall Avenue
London EC2V 5DD

Please join The Master and Wardens and support our unique Livery Company.



Guest Speaker:
Darren Mckoy
Creative Director, Dr Martens

Freeman Darren Mckoy, Young Manager Award Winner (Paice Memorial Bursary 2017) has enjoyed a very successful career in recent years. Having previously worked for Adidas, The North Face and Asics, Darren joined Dr. Martens in 2015 where he has developed and acted on the philosophy: "Make good stuff, evoke an emotional response and respect brand heritage."



Girdlers Hall is one of only 38 livery company halls left in the City. Although there has been a building on this site since 1431, the original was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666. A new building was erected in 1681 but this was also damaged in 1940 and the present neo-Georgian hall was completed in 1961.

This event is sponsored by:



www.satra.com

Please [click here](#) for Annual Dinner booking form

BFA Sustainability - Court Assistant Annette Cove

Assistant Jane Wilson and Liveryman Lucy Reece-Raybould and Vanessa Podmore and I are organising the British Footwear Association Sustainability Summit on behalf of the footwear industry.



Speaker Spotlight

Galahad Clark

Hear from Galahad a 7th-generation shoemaker, at the BFA Sustainability Summit.

Galahad launched Vivobarefoot as a standalone brand in 2012 with his cousin Asher. The London-based business has grown into a globally recognised footwear brand that caters for everything from outdoor, to lifestyle to kids' footwear.



Founder. Vivobarefoot.



Global Head of Sustainability & Trustee of Dr Martens Foundation.

Tuze Mekik

Hear from Tuze, who has 20 years of experience in the fashion industry, working with companies like Gap, Burberry, and Dr Martens, playing a key role in creating and delivering social and environmental sustainability strategies.

At the summit, Tuze will share valuable insights on ESG and the importance of sustainability to the footwear industry.

www.britishfootwearassociation.co.uk



BFA Sustainability Summit

Whether you are starting the conversation within your organisation or have already achieved B-Corp status, we aim to provide insightful and engaging presentations and discussions about the challenges many brands and businesses face and offer best practice advice for our amazing sector.

- Ensure your business is at the forefront of discussions
- Contribute to the biggest conversation in the footwear sector
- Share your ideas and opinions for a more sustainable future
- Network with your peers in the footwear sector
- Be an early supporter of a new and innovative meeting of minds

Join us today in building a sustainable and profitable future for our industry. Let's collaborate together, make a positive impact and support the growth of our sector.

BOOK TODAY!



St George's Day Banquet - The Royal Society of Saint George

The City of London Branch is delighted to have the opportunity to return to the Great Hall of London's Guildhall on Friday 21st April, with their annual banquet to celebrate St George's Day and invite you to join them and their guest, Sheriff Andrew Marsden.

Tickets: £159.00 per person. Booking form can be [found here](#)

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

Letters to the Editor

Spring in Regent's Park - From Liveryman Ian Balcombe



All contributions are welcome – please send to the Editor Ian Balcombe ianbalc@gmail.com

Copyright © 2020 Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

3 The High Street | Sutton Valence | Kent | ME17 3AG

www.pattenmakers.co.uk

IMPORTANT CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

The information contained in this e-mail is confidential and is intended solely for the addressee. Access to this e-mail by anyone else is unauthorised. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or any action to be taken in reliance on it is prohibited and may be unlawful. Please also contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage subscription](#)

Add your postal address here!

MailPoet