



Issue 85

Friday 5th May 2023



From the Master, Commodore Patrick Tyrrell OBE Royal Navy



As I write this it is the very end of April and we are looking forward to May Day and a Bank Holiday. May Day is the direct descendent of the celebrations held to mark Spring and the end of Winter. Our stone-age forebears must have longed for the return of spring and summer after a long, cold winter and to have greeted the profusion of flowers and new growth with relief. The Romans held Floralia, the festival of Flora, the Roman goddess of flowers at the beginning of May and the Celts celebrated Beltane as the start of the 'light' half of the year. Indeed, in Padstow, in the depths of Cornwall, the 'obby 'orse celebrations take place on 1 May between the dark 'orse and the light 'orse. In Zurich, where we Pattenmakers go every other year, they celebrate Sechselauten and the burning of the Boog. This is a large, Guy Fawkes-esque mannequin on the top of a bonfire and the length of time from lighting the fire until the hat

comes off the head is supposedly indicative of how much rain will come over the forthcoming weeks. I hate to report that in 2023 the hat stayed on for the longest period of time experienced in the last fifty years – 55 minutes. You have been warned of excessive rainfall in Zurich!

The Pattenmakers have been busy over the last month; we enjoyed a dinner in the Fusiliers' Mess at HM Tower of London before witnessing the age-old Ceremony of the Keys, where the Tower is locked up for the night with the guard's cry "Who goes there?" and the response, "The Keys". "Whose Keys?", "King Charles the Third's Keys", "Pass King Charles' Keys."



We were very privileged to have the Deputy Governor of the Tower as our guest speaker. The very first woman to hold such a prestigious office, Debra Whittingham was a career Royal Navy officer who applied for a post normally filled by a male Army officer! Her tenure has been an extremely busy one with the Pandemic, the Platinum Jubilee, the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the accession of King Charles and, now, the coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla. Look out for her leading a troop of Beefeaters in front of the Gold State Coach, resplendent in her Swan feathered hat. The Company is proud to have contributed towards cost of the Anointing Screen to be used in the Coronation Service, and this is featured in the Newsletter. The Ceremony of Anointing and its meaning in the Coronation Service also features in a Gresham College Lecture Recording – the details and link are also in the City section. Where will you be celebrating the

Coronation? Please send photos for our Coronation Issue to the Editor, Ian Balcombe: ianbalc@gmail.com

We had a strong team running in the Marathon including three members running as a crown. How they fared is covered later in the Newsletter but please consider donating to the Pattenmaker Charity in their name!

Our Livery church held a lovely reception and organ recital to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the death of Sir Christopher Wren, the architect of the church after the destruction of the previous building in the Great Fire of London in 1666. The organ recital marked the successful refurbishment of this magnificent instrument through contributions from both the Pattenmakers and our sister livery, the Basketmakers. We were privileged to be able to listen to Sir Andrew Parmley, a former Lord Mayor of London, play. It was an exquisite performance.

May is traditionally a busy month in the Livery calendar and we are looking forward to the Footwear Dinner on the 18 May and, earlier that day, the Ascension Day service at our Church, St Margaret Patten. I hope to see many of you at one or other event.

Finally our History section features a previous Royal Naval Pattenmaker and a benevolent King.

Enjoy Spring and the Coronation.

City of London Corporation



April Livery Committee Newsletter

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

Can also be found on their website: www.liverycommittee.org

Dates for your diary

Common Hall (Election of Sheriffs) 26th June

Common Hall (Election of Lord Mayor) 29th September 2023



List of Lectures:

Rory Stewart's June lecture at Gresham, [Populism, Aristotle and Hope](#), is now open for booking.

[British Coronations: A History](#) by Dr Alice Hunt

Why do we Crown Kings and Queens? And why has this ancient ritual survived in Britain, uniquely among European countries? What purpose can pomp and pageantry serve in a modern constitutional monarchy? This talk introduces the history of the British coronation, from its 10th - century origins to the present day, and explores how its meaning has changed over time. It will focus on moments when this religious ceremony came under intense scrutiny, such as during the

Reformation, or when the first ever queen regnant, Mary I, was crowned.

[Cybersecurity for Humans](#) by Professor Victoria Baines on Tuesday, 9 May 2023, 6pm, Gresham College or Online/ Watch Later. Ticketed, free.

Faceless hackers in hoodies, intergalactic warriors, and technology out of human control: are these representations of cyber threats accurate? How might we empower people to protect themselves and help address human issues in the IT sector by thinking differently about how we portray security threats and operations.

[Dementia: A Cultural History](#) by Professor Joanna Bourke on Thursday, 11 May 2023, 6pm, Gresham College, or Online/ Watch Later. Ticketed, free.

Dementia is often designated the “plague” of the twenty-first century. What does a cultural history of dementia reveal about commonly circulating ideas relating to the brain, personhood, embodiment, and normal/abnormal?

[AI in Business](#) by Professor Raghavendra Rau on Monday 22 May 2023, 6pm, Gresham College, pr Online/ Watch Later. Ticketed, free.

This lecture discusses how AI systems are used in business and their limitations. One big problem with AI systems is that they lack context. An AI system is a pattern recognition machine devoid of any understanding of how the world works.

[How the World Agreed on Net Zero](#) by Professor Myles Allen on Tuesday 23 May 2023, 6pm, Gresham College, or Online/ Watch Later. Ticketed, free.

The climate had a bad year in 2009. Talks collapsed. Emails were hacked. And several papers found even 50-80% reductions weren't enough: we had to get to net zero. Yet six years later, negotiators from 190 countries acknowledged the need for net zero in the Paris Agreement, even resolving to try to limit warming to 1.5 °C, which means net zero global emissions around 2050. Can it be done? It certainly can. Will it be done? That's up to all of us.

You can find all Gresham College's May lectures at a glance [here](#).



THE
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The Anointing Screen



The Anointing Screen has been designed and produced for use at the most sacred moment of the Coronation, the Anointing of His Majesty The King. The screen combines traditional and contemporary sustainable embroidery practices to produce a design which speaks to His Majesty The King's deep affection for the Commonwealth. The screen has been gifted for the occasion by the City of London Corporation and City Livery Companies.

The Anointing takes place before the investiture and crowning of His Majesty. The Dean of Westminster pours holy oil from the Ampulla into the Coronation Spoon, and the Archbishop of Canterbury anoints the Sovereign on the hands, chest and head. It has historically been regarded as a moment between the Sovereign and God, with a screen or canopy in place given the sanctity of the Anointing.

The Anointing Screen was designed by iconographer Aidan Hart and brought to life through both hand and digital embroidery, managed by the Royal School of Needlework. The central design takes the form of a tree which includes 56 representing the 56 member countries of the Commonwealth. The King's cypher is positioned at the base of the tree, representing the Sovereign as servant of their people. The design has been selected personally by The King and is inspired by the stained-glass Sanctuary Window in the Chapel Royal at St James's Palace, which was gifted by the Livery Companies to mark the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II in 2002.

The Anointing Screen is supported by a wooden pole framework, designed and created by Nick Gutfreund of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters. The oak wooden poles are made from a windblown tree from the Windsor Estate, which was originally planted by The Duke of Northumberland in 1765. The wooden poles have been limed and waxed, combining traditional craft

skills with a contemporary finish.

At the top of the wooden poles are mounted two eagles, cast in bronze and gilded in gold leaf, giving the screens a total height of 2.6 meters and width of 2.2 meters. The form of an eagle has longstanding associations with Coronations. Eagles have appeared on previous Coronation Canopies, including the canopy used by Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. Equally, the Ampulla, which carries the Chrism oil used for anointing, is cast in the shape of an eagle.

The screen is three-sided, with the open side to face the High Altar in Westminster Abbey. The two sides of the screen feature a much simpler design with maroon fabric and a gold, blue and red cross inspired by the colours and patterning of the Cosmati Pavement at Westminster Abbey where the Anointing will take place. The crosses were also embroidered by the Royal School of Needlework's studio team.

At the Coronation Service, the Anointing Screen will be held by service personnel from Regiments of the Household Division holding the Freedom of the City of London. The three sides of the screen will be borne by a Trooper and Guardsman from each of The Life Guards, Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards, Scots Guards, Irish Guards, and Welsh Guards.

Design process

The screen has been gifted for the Coronation by the City of London Corporation and participating Livery Companies, the City's ancient and modern trade guilds. His Majesty The King is a keen advocate and supporter of the preservation of heritage craft skills, and the Anointing Screen project has been a collaboration of these specialists in traditional crafts, from those early in their careers to artisans with many years of experience.

The individual leaves have been embroidered by staff and students from the Royal School of Needlework, as well as members of the Worshipful Company of Broderers, Drapers and Weavers. As well as heritage craft, contemporary skills and techniques have formed part of this unique collaboration. The outline of the tree has been created using digital machine embroidery by Digitek Embroidery. This machine embroidery was completed with sustainable thread, Madeira Sensa, made from 100% lyocell fibres.

The threads used by the Royal School of Needlework are from their famous 'Wall of Wool' and existing supplies that have been collated over the years through past projects and donations. The materials used to create the Anointing Screen have also been sourced sustainably from across the UK and other Commonwealth nations. The cloth is made of wool from Australia and New Zealand, woven and finished in UK mills.

The script used for the names of each Commonwealth country has been designed as modern and classical, inspired by both the Roman Trojan column letters and the work of Welsh calligrapher David Jones.

Also forming part of the Commonwealth tree are The King's Cypher, decorative roses, angels and a scroll, which features the quote from Julian of Norwich (c. 1343-1416): *'All shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well'*. This design has again been inspired by the Sanctuary Window in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, created for Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee in 2002. At the top of the screen is the sun, representing God, and birds including the dove of peace, which have all been hand embroidered by the Royal School of Needlework.

The dedication and blessing of the Anointing Screen took place at the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, where it was officially received and blessed by the Sub-Dean and Domestic Chaplain to The King, Paul Wright, on behalf of The Royal Household.

Regarding the gift of the Anointing Screen, Lord Mayor of the City of London Nicholas Lyons said: *"While many things have changed since the last Coronation, one thing that remains the same is the City's unstinting loyalty to and support for the Monarchy. The City Corporation and Livery Companies are proud to contribute to the most sacred part of the Coronation ceremony."*



The Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards

Playing Cards fit for a King are being produced by the Company, which are available to purchase in advance. Details from the website www.makersofplayingcards.org where all the information can be found.

Our Charitable Fund

St Margaret Pattens - Ascension Day Service 18th May



Please find [attached here](#) the invitation letter to the Annual Ascension Day Church Service on 18th May 2023. Please note the earlier time. Please also advise if you are attending - for catering purposes.



Liveryman Richard Clay reports on Simon Oakley (featured last month).

You can donate by clicking on this link.

Simon completed the run in 2 hrs 59 mins which gives him the right to an entry next year if he wants to do it. He is keen to do the Boston Marathon and his time gives him the right to apply for that event. Our daughter Juliet married to Simon has completed the Marathon in years gone by and their eldest daughter is Hampshire Cross Country champion in her age group. Simon's fund raising target was reached.

Alison Rostron who was also featured last month celebrated her birthday by completing her 8th marathon.

Three Men in a Crown - pictures showing left Paul Bennett, middle Justin Corrie, right Anton Ambrose



There was excellent coverage for the Pattenmaker runners attempting to break the Marathon record for a Three Person Costume in the Hampshire Chronicle see [here](#), as well as on BBC Radio Solent in which also mentions the Pattenmakers. Freeman Paul Bennett already holds the record for the Fastest Marathon in Ski Boots as well as Large Shoes.

Friends' marathon run is crowning glory

By Chris Atkinson

A TRIO of Winchester men completed the London Marathon while dressed as a giant crown.

Shoemaker and designer Paul Bennett, 46, banker Justin Corrie, 51, and architect Anton Ambrose, 48, made their world record running attempt on Saturday, April 28.

The three men hoped to break the Guinness world record for "fastest marathon in a three-person costume".

The team was led by Paul, who already holds the world record for the fastest marathon in ski boots and the fastest marathon in large shoes.

He designed the costume with aid from Justin and Anton, as well as selecting the group's charity of choice the Worshipful Company of Patten Makers.

One of London's livery companies, it has a key focus on its charitable work, particularly its focus on supporting the military, as well as having affiliations with all the services. The Pattenmakers specialises in supporting injured veterans by supplying them with



Paul Bennett, Justin Corrie and Anton Ambrose Image: Claire Corrie

bespoke orthopaedic footwear to increase their quality of life.

Paul said: "We ran the entire 26.2-mile marathon course in our

'Crown' costume not only in memory of our beloved Queen but also in excitement for the forthcoming King's Coronation this year."

The gold crown costume, measuring 2m wide, proved cumbersome and challenging to carry and run with. Despite this, the trio completed the marathon, and while they didn't break the Guinness World record, they have raised more than £7,000 for the chosen charity, with the page still open for donations.

Justin said: "Running a marathon as a trio carrying the golden crown was an incredible experience. On reflection, it was a crazy idea and I found it extremely tough going, it became about survival. I turned to Paul and Anton after 16 miles and said 'I need to walk, is that ok?' to which they replied "No", so we just carried on! I really had to dig in, it was about survival. The crowd was amazing, I'll never forget it.

"Thank you to everyone who has sponsored and supported us."

Justin, Paul and Anton are currently recovering from their attempt and are looking forward to the upcoming coronation celebrations.

For more information or to donate to their fundraising page, visit 2023tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/paul-bennett.



The Charity for the Footwear Trade

Footwear Industry Trust – Court Assistant Annette Cove

Footwear Friends have rebranded as the **Footwear Industry Trust** and have launched a new website. www.footwearindustrytrust.org

As a company we make an annual grant of £1500 to this worthy charity.

Several trustees of the charity are company members including:

Assistant, Mark Jeffrey

Liveryman Dan Gyves, Justin Morgan, Lucy Reece-Raybould, Mike Watson Smith, Susan O'Hare

Freeman David Lockyer (Chairman), Harvey Jacobson, Sharon Reason

www.footwearindustrytrust.org/about-us/



21st Annual Footwear Dinner at the Girdlers' Hall

Only six spaces remaining. Do not miss out on a rare opportunity to dine in the Girdlers' Hall. Booking form can be found here: [Annual Footwear Booking Form](#)

Members' News

Livery Companies in the City, Podcast

For Members' who enjoy listening to Podcasts. Recently listened to by Past Master Nick Andrews, this one comes from a series of podcasts called Rabbit Hole Detectives and talks about Livery Companies in the City, where the Pattenmakers and St Margaret's Pattens are mentioned. To listen, click here: [The Rabbit Hole Detectives](#)



King Charles III's Coronation

Where will you be for the King's Coronation? Please send us photos of your celebrations for our Coronation Issue to the Editor Ian Balcombe ianbalc@gmail.com

Our History

Lieutenant (later Captain) John Servante RN, Admitted 9th April 1799, and with address shown as Barnstaple, Devon. Here is an extract from the "*Letters and Papers of Admiral of the Fleet Sir Thomas Byam Martin GCB*" that I found. The piece comes from the period when HMS Juno of 1780, a 32-gun Amazon class fifth rate warship, was on Channel patrol during the French Revolutionary Wars sometime after 1793 (?) I think. The Admiral was in a much more junior rank at the time. John Servante had been in the Navy since 26th February 1782, and had originally joined the Juno as a Second Lieutenant on 3rd September 1791.

*“On one occasion, about six weeks after leaving Weymouth, an accident occurred on board the Juno which gave the good King (George III) an opportunity to show, in a very striking manner, his benevolent and kind feeling towards those so lately in attendance upon him. On a passage from the Start to Portland orders had been left to wear the ship round on the other tack at noon, without any further directions from the captain, who had laid himself down to sleep, as was usual with him by day when the weather was such as to make him wish to be up all night. **Lieutenant Servante** had the forenoon watch, and being my senior, and both watches on deck at the relief of the watches, he ought in propriety to have performed this manoeuvre ; but he was a lazy, nervous sort of person, and was too happy to delay a moment until I, as the third lieutenant, came up to relieve him. I laughed at him for his indolence, and taking the speaking-trumpet prepared to perform this evolution. Strange to say that, with the spray of the sea flying over the ship, he did not go below in the customary way by the quarter-deck ladder, but, for the purpose probably of peeping into the galley to see how the cooking was going on in such weather, he went forward along the weather gangway, so as to go down by the fore-castle ladder; and at the very instant that he was straddling across the weather main-sheet, which was slack along the gangway, the strap of the tack block gave way, there being at the moment a heavy gust of wind, and **Servante** was thrown up to an immense height, certainly more than half the height of the main top, and fell with his thighs across the gunnel of the launch ; and when I jumped on the booms to his assistance and saw his limbs quite doubled up under him, the first feeling in my mind was that it would have been fortunate for him, poor fellow ! if he had been thrown overboard. He was, however, speedily removed into the gun-room, and, the table being cleared away, he was stretched out in that clear space and under the skylight to have his limbs set, which was done with such wonderful skill by the surgeon, Mr. Clifford, that when I went to **Servante**’s cabin-door to ask after him at four o’clock, when I was relieved from my watch on deck, I found him really quite easy, as he said, and comfortable. The right thigh was broken very near up to the hip, and again about six inches below it, so that the operation of setting must have been very difficult. The left thigh was also broken opposite the lower fracture of the other.*

*Under such circumstances Captain Hood very properly bore up for Portsmouth and sent the poor sufferer to the hospital ; and the accident being stated in the papers, and by that means known to the King, a special messenger belonging to the Household was sent off to Portsmouth with a most kind letter of condolence from Lord Chesterfield, written by his Majesty’s command, and under the same authority he gave this unfortunate officer a most cheering assurance that his Majesty would take care he should be provided for, and desiring to know what he himself would desire. **Servante**, who was a man of no ambition, and of a mean mind, never for an instant thought of advancement in his profession, but replied that the command of a packet would compass his highest ambition, and to a packet he was accordingly appointed, having also a pension settled upon him of 80/. a year. **Servante** had been taken from the situation of Mayor of Barnstaple to join the Juno, much to his discontent, and undoubtedly he was fit for anything rather than a sea life.”*

The good Admiral does not appear to be much of a fan then!

Whatever Navy nickname Servante had, I’m guessing it was probably not “Lucky.”

After appointment to the Falmouth Packet Sailings of post to the Leeward Islands, he was made Captain of the “Roebuck” with the first recorded listed sailing from Falmouth on March 13th, 1795. However, his ship was then captured by the French privateer L’Adelaide on a subsequent journey, during the passage home from the Windward Islands on March 20th, 1798, but re-taken on April 1st by the Nimrod and Lurcher cutters. Historical records seem to differ on the details (and which French ship was involved) but in the book “History of the Post-Office Packet Ships” of 1895 this incident (page 74) seems to be the one referred to:

*“...the captured officers told a remarkable story of the elfish mischievousness of the visitors, who seem to have behaved more like riotous schoolboys than seamen. “on the enemy taking possession of the Packet, “ says **Captain Servante**, “they plundered her of every cabin and ship-store; and what they did take with them, they wilfully destroyed or threw overboard. Several new sails they cut to pieces and divided among them; and a suit of sails that were bent to the yards, little the worse for wear, they suffered to blow to pieces, there not being a seaman among them who would venture aloft to take them in.”*

Servante was then given another packet ship, the “Duke of York” to command but this was captured by another French privateer, La Conflance, on 21st July 1798, when only five days out from

Falmouth. No-one came to the rescue this time, and it was not until the following year of 1799 that he was released in a prisoner exchange. This was the same year that he joined the Pattenmakers. Subsequently, he was then appointed to a new packet ship being built in Plymouth and with the same name, which then went to Falmouth in early 1800. Sadly, the newspaper obituary of 21 September 1801 (Salisbury and Winchester Journal) states Captain Servante died of yellow fever on board the new Duke of York packet on 14th July 1801 whilst en route from Jamaica to Falmouth. Two crew members and two passengers also died, and the ship was put in quarantine on arrival at its home port. The newspaper report concludes:

“Captain Servante had all the qualities of a British naval officer – brave, generous, and open as the day; beloved, admired, and lamented by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance...”

History does not record whether Admiral Byam Martin had mellowed over time and concurred with that assessment...

The Master comments

The history of the Packet Ships is quite amazing and was one of the driving forces for the building of the railway into Devon and Cornwall. Unfortunately, by the time the railway made it to Falmouth (last broad gauge station in England) the Packet Service had moved up to Southampton!



General Post Office

A Packet Ship Pistol, issued in pairs to the crew of Royal Mail Packet ships. This very rare pistol is the first pattern c.1790 made by Henry Nock

From the Clerk's collection

Events

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

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

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