

different but important needs. Very proud of the whole team.

I always like to find a positive in life and one of the positives I have taken during this time are that Friendship and Love most definitely get stronger in times of adversity. I know that everyone will have a personal story to tell once we get through this unprecedented period and I hope we can all get together soon. I for one am in need of a haircut/Strim, (see Pic) before we do!

Fiona and I wish you and your loved ones a safe and happy year.

New Freeman Christopher West



I became a 'Shoeman' by default. Having studied Journalism I had hoped to join the BBC. Having missed the March intake I was asked to re-submit my application the following September. In the meantime, I needed to be gainfully employed and

approached the largest employer in my area, C & J Clark, in Street, Somerset, to fill the gap. So began my journey through footwear manufacturing, sales services, marketing, retail and for 12 months 'Mr Clark' in Sweden.

I took early retirement when my wife became terminally ill and we made our move from London back to the West Country 37 years later.

My affection for Clarks continues to this day, the respect and values instilled into me are at the core.

My good friend, ex-colleague and Liveryman Jeremy Hewitt introduced me to The Pattenmakers when he invited me to attend a Court and Livery Dinner. It was love at first sight. To me that introduction felt that I had come back home and was amongst friends. The magnificence of the occasion, the reigniting of old friendships and meeting new, likeminded people,

was cathartic. It has been said, on more than one occasion, that The Pattenmakers are the Party Livery. I endorse that wholeheartedly, the sense of belonging and friendship is immeasurable.

New Freeman David Waterhouse.

I am a town planner who has worked most recently on both planning reform and infrastructure investment as a Civil Servant. I've



had a wide-ranging career in local government, the third and private sectors, as well as central government. I enjoy developing policies and programmes and finding solutions to support places to grow and prosper. I currently work in the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) which is the Government department responsible for local government, regeneration, housing, planning and economic growth. I've always had a passion for towns and cities, the architecture and people that make places work, and how they change and adapt over time.

Planning, at a strategic level helps shape how towns work and function, and affect all aspects of our lives. I currently head the local economies team in the Cities Unit in MHCLG, which means supporting places as they respond to economic shocks including Covid -19, as well as preparing local economies for the implications and opportunities as we leave the EU at the end of 2020.

Outside work, I'm a keen gardener and allotment holder, as well as an avid traveller, though I doubt I will be doing too much of that for the foreseeable future!

Liveryman Frank Chow – Lace Work

My first experience of lace work was when I visited a Chateau in France and watched nuns making lace outside. I was fascinated by the beautiful work they were doing with these sticks with threads dangling from them. (Of course, I

later learned that these sticks were called bobbins.) When I went to Hungary a few years later, I was introduced to Ilonka, mother of an Hungarian friend, and she was making lace table cloths, mats, and you name it. She insisted I had a go, telling me to “left over right, right over left” and so on. I had not a clue, but followed her instructions, and made a few stitches. (Whether she had to undo what I did, I never found out). I was hooked, and decided I must learn the craft properly. In early 1990, I enrolled onto a lace course and my teacher was the most wonderful lady. She was knowledgeable, and encouraging and taught me from the most basic level. All beginners start with Torchon lace, and there’s where I began. However, I found Torchon too geometric and went on to learn to make Bucks point, Bedfordshire, and Milanese lace, mainly from books. Bucks point is nicknamed the “Queen of Lace”. I designed mine on a 60 degree grid (but any angle is acceptable). I could put in flowers, leaves, etc to the final design. I made many framed pieces. The patterns are still a bit “rigid”, being prescribed by an f grid. Then I went on to designing Bedfordshire lace, which is completely “freehand”. One can put in all kinds of leaves, flowers, plaits, within any outline structure. At that time I was holidaying in Thailand and found plenty of inspiration from their local flora. Now I do most of my designs in Milanese lace. This is totally free hand, and consists of decorative braids that can take any direction and shape. I have designed “lilies”, “Chinese masks”, “Kissing Phoenix”, “Humpty Dumpty” etc etc. Some of you will have seen my gift to the Pattenmakers.



Gift to the Pattenmakers

This framed piece is now housed in The Guild Church of St Margaret Pattens. Up my stairs to the first floor, I now have a gallery of Buck's Point pieces. In my dining area, there is a display of Milanese, and in the sitting room, Bedfordshire. I

am running out of wall space, and yet I still have new pieces on the go the whole time. I'm not a lace historian by any means. I just love designing and making it. I have so many design patters that I really think that I should publish my designs before they get forgotten and lost. I will be grateful for any advice on publishing.



Making lace



Bedfordshire Lace



Thailand Inspired Lace



Milanese Lace

Events

Monday 6th July - Rescheduled Webinar- “The City after Covid-19”

We have now acquired a “Pattenmakers” Zoom account and the first meeting has been set up. Rather than lots of emails from the Clerk, the simpler process is that we will send out a registration page link for the Sheriff’s event on Monday at 6:00pm:

Register in advance for this meeting: [Webinar Registration](#)