



The Pattenmaker

NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

Issue 95

Friday 3rd May 2024

From the Master, Deputy Keith Bottomley



I am pleased to say that some £7,115 has been donated by members of the company as a retirement gift for our former Clerk of 25 years Col Robert Murfin TD DL which I have passed on to Robert with our very best wishes together with £7,885 from the Company.

Many congratulations to Jamie Ingham Clark who has been made a Knight of the Order of St John in recognition of his long service and contribution. You can read more about the background later in our newsletter this month.

There were four particular highlights from the past month – our audience with our Royal Patron HRH The Duke of Gloucester, our biennial trip to Zurich for [Sechseläuten](#), the London Marathon and my visit with Mike Watson Smith to Northampton.

The Immediate Past Master Pat Tyrrell, the Clerk and I were invited to Kensington Palace on 9th April for an audience with The Duke of Gloucester. The Duke has been our Royal Patron since 1981 and takes a great interest in the work of the Company. We had a very wide-ranging discussion at one point about the new company tie which the Duke remarked he did not have. That situation has now been corrected and his Private Secretary Alastair Todd wrote a very kind note to say that the Duke is very pleased with his new Pattenmaker tie!

Court & Social



Court Circular

Today's birthdays

Forthcoming marriage

Clergy news

Bridge news

KENSINGTON PALACE

April 9th

The Duke of Gloucester, Royal Patron, Peace and Prosperity Trust, this morning received Mr Rajai Khouri (Chairman).

His Royal Highness, Patron, the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers, this afternoon received Mr Patrick Tyrrell upon relinquishing his appointment as Master and Mr Keith Bottomley upon assuming the appointment.

Ms Claire Hobson (Clerk) was present.



A party of 9 Pattenmakers travelled to Zurich for 5 days for [Sechseläuten 2024](#) which took place between from the 12th to the 16th April. It is a 125 year old festival to mark the end of winter and the advent of the warmer weather.



We were hosts of the Shoemakers and Tanners of Zurich which trace their origins back as far as the Pattenmakers.

It was a great pleasure to represent our Company with Immediate Past Master Pat Tyrrell. We were joined by Past Pattenmaker Mistress Debbie Tyrrell, Past Master Chris Hayward, Upper Warden David Miller, Past Master Jennifer Bryant-Pearson, Past Pattenmaker Consort Leslie Perrin, Liveryman Tricia Roeser and our Clerk Claire Hobson.

I presented Masters Felix Huber and Thomas Huggler with their Honorary Freedom certificates at the formal dinner on the Monday evening. They were delighted. We also presented Felix, Thomas and Past Master Peter Zwicky with engraved drinking glasses which were very well received. Peter later sent a photo of his glass together with the decanter previously presented.

The welcome was as warm as I had been told it has always been over the 25 years since the relationship was instigated by PM Scarr-Hall in 1999.

Monday saw the big parade which we all marched in being presented with flowers as we went. A very colourful and wonderful experience.



Our amazing 8 Pattenmaker marathon runners took to the streets of the capital on Sunday 21st April.

You can read more about their exploits in a special update shortly, but I want to say a huge thank you and congratulations on the tremendous sum raised for our charitable foundation of around £20,000. Fantastic.



On St George's Day I spent the day in Northampton with our Trade Warden Mike Watson Smith. Mike organised a highly educational and enjoyable day visiting Church's, Jeffrey West and Dr Martens.

Three very different footwear manufacturers who all have particular market positions and know their customers very well.

I have been wearing Jeffrey West shoes for 25 years so it was a special pleasure to meet with Court Asst Mark Jeffrey at his HQ.

A strong theme from the visit was the importance of attracting young talent into the industry and to see first hand how successful Dr Marten's apprenticeship scheme set up by Mike has been.

It was great to hear that Church's are now to reintroduce their apprenticeship scheme with 8 new apprentices this year and a flexible distance learning offering incorporated.

I also saw a pair of Church's shoes made for Tom Cruise in Mission Impossible and some for Pierce Brosnan and Daniel Craig as 007.



I was pleased to represent our Company at the Feltmakers' , Environmental Cleaners' and Scriveners' dinners in April with our Clerk Claire and to attend the Past Master's meeting and dinner on 10th April.

In the month ahead I'm very much looking forward to our very special Ascension Day service on the 9th May at St Margaret Pattens, please come if you can and to the reception afterwards at Guildhall, and the annual Footwear Dinner at Saddlers' Hall on 16th May.

On 5th June we have our first 'Meet the ...' event with some of the charities that we support through our charitable foundation. It will be a hybrid event so you can join remotely and take part. There will also be a podcast afterwards. I do hope you can join us. Details in the events section.

There are some great opportunities to get involved with the work of the Company on our committees. Please do have a look at the opportunities in this newsletter and contact the committee chair or me.

Consort's Column

From the Consort - Kevin Bradford

The Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipemakers and Tobacco Blenders held a consorts event at the London Coliseum. We enjoyed a guided tour of the theatre whilst the company prepared for the brand new production of "Spirited Away".



Lunch was in the Sky Bar and we were joined by Jenny Mollica the CEO of the ENO & Coliseum. Jenny spoke not only about the English National Opera, but also about the huge amount of support they have received from different liveries in the city. The event also raised funds for The Bobath Centre. A charity with a dedicated team empowering individuals of all ages living with cerebral palsy.



I spent a fascinating day with the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers at the Dutch Church. Prime Warden Lady Lauriston welcomed the consorts and left us in the very safe hands of Yeoman Member John Page & Trade Advisor Ellie Morgan. They demonstrated different weaving techniques and also guided the consorts throughout the day. We had a very special appearance from the Master Pattenmaker at the event, who gave some very encouraging words to all the participants. Not only did we all leave with our completed baskets, but also raised funds for the Basketmakers' charitable trust.

The Basketmakers also have a strong connection to the Pattenmakers as we share the same church.



With the Prime Warden Basketmaker

Members News

Sechseläuten 2024 - Trip to Another Time! - Immediate Past Master Pat Tyrrell, Commodore Patrick Tyrrell OBE Royal Navy

As a London based Livery Company, we are very used to being part of history: we are familiar with the way in which the City of London works, we are an integral part of how our Lord Mayor and our Sheriffs are elected and the unique manner in which the Livery weaves its way into the fabric of our City. It is not often, however, that we are afforded a glimpse of another City, another set of ancient institutions and be able to play a small part in their rituals. This is what was on offer when a small party of Pattenmakers set off to join the worthy burghers of Zurich in their annual festival of Sechseläuten. We are truly privileged to be able to join our good friends, the Shoemaker and Tanner Guild of Zurich their annual festival.

As I am sure all our readers will be well aware, the ceremony is to help determine how long winter is going to last! The key parameter is how long the hat will stay on the Boog once the bonfire has been lit at exactly 6pm! The longer the wait for the hat to come off, the longer the wait for summer. Normally, the prudent Swiss will pack the body of the Boog with enough fireworks to facilitate a rapid disintegration; unfortunately, the wind, on Monday, 15th April, was blowing Gale Force 8 gusting to Force 9 and the City authorities wisely decided that lighting a bonfire would be somewhat dangerous. This marked the very first time that the Boog has not been burnt! I am not sure what it means for the advent of summer!



Like their London equivalents, the Zurich Guilds are proud of their history and were the basis for the government of their cities and cantons. The Guilds take great pride in the families that have been members for generations and members' wives and families dress up in their respective costumes especially for the Kinder Parade on the Sunday before Sechseläuten. It is an excuse for great celebration; for music and singing, toasts and long speeches, and for renewing old friendships and forging new ones!





One of their ancient customs is that of challenging other Guilds and, following the parade and an excellent dinner, elements of each Guild are sent out to other Guild houses to deliver a challenge – which typically involves delivering some well-chosen insults followed by drinking toasts to each other's health. The parties of these Guilds can be seen criss-crossing the streets of Zurich late into the night led by the Guild band, flags and lanterns, many of which are hundreds of years old!

The Pattenmakers are invited every other year and we will be returning in 2026 – make a note in your diary now!

Liveryman Jamie Ingham Clark, KStJ, FCA

Jamie first got involved with the ceremonial staff in 1980 at the age of 20, having been appointed as an esquire to his father who had been made a Knight of Justice of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem, to give it its full title, earlier that year. At that time Knights were allowed to appoint a personal esquire, which was a way of bringing St John to a wider audience, but the practice has now been discontinued.



The ceremonial staff are responsible for the 'theatre' of an occasion and along with his service in the Honourable Artillery Company, he learned this aspect during his time at St John. The main duties included ensuring people in processions end up in the right seats or carrying the banners belonging to the senior members of the order. In 1986 he was promoted to Officer within the Order and in 2002 to Commander.

Jamie continued with his ceremonial work which covered an annual service in St Paul's and a service in another cathedral called a provincial visit and a number of investitures each year. Every 3rd year of thereabouts there also a reception of Knights and Dames. The St Paul's service was preceded by an AGM at Mansion House. Though these events he was able to have visited many of the cathedrals in the country as well as started early on understanding some of the way the City of London works. He also got to understand the layout within St James's Palace.

In 2012 he visited the Eye Hospital of the Order in Jerusalem with the ceremonial staff to help run an investiture there. This was a pivotable moment because in 2014 he was asked at a Livery function whether he would join the Finance Committee of the Hospital Board, a role that resulted in him joining the Board in 2017.

Since then, he has served on a number of committees and Chairs both the Investment and Guild Liaison Committees as well as two working parties. He brings his years of corporate governance experience from both the Insurance industry as well as 9 years on the Court of Common Council to those roles and not surprisingly is called on for any ceremonial aspects of the Hospital's work.

The Order of St John is an Order of Chivalry of the British Crown and not as other orders of the British State. It therefore has a unique position within our honours system as whilst honours are subject to the approval of our Sovereign Head, King Charles III they do not have to go through the political oversight of Downing Street. Therefore, the Knighthood does not bring a title of Sir, but it does confer the other (mainly heraldic) privileges. Also by tradition we do not include the honorific post nominals in daily life but wear our insignia with pride whenever decorations are the order of dress.

The new members' area and membership system - Court Assistant David Emanuel Webmaster, Chair of the Membership Committee

As we installed our new Master and Clerk in March into the livery, we also installed the new members area and membership system too. The Membership system is now live and it's the vital new tool that we've needed for quite some time to ensure that the livery functions and can operate as a modern livery company. We've invested a lot of resources into this, to improve your membership experience to enable you to book dinners and events in the easiest way possible using the system and a new GoCardless Direct Debit. It will also assist us in making the livery operate in the most efficient and cost effective way too and to be able to use the added resources to keep you informed with the latest news and helpful information.

Moreover, this is the year of sustainability and the new system has a paperless application process to make the entire process of new members that bit easier for everyone concerned, for them and us and we look forward to welcoming many new Freeman to the Pattenmakers using this new system – if you know of anyone that would like to join us, the link to the new application form is here: <https://members.pattenmakers.co.uk/application> and of course do direct them to the new video on the home page of the website or indeed the introduction booklet to learn more about us. It's not all about systems and technology, the Master, Clerk and all of the Court Assistants are here to help, and I'd especially be delighted to talk to anyone about the benefits of becoming a Freeman.

I'm pleased to report that over a third of the members have already created a new password and logged into the new membership system, where, you'll find past copies of the newsletter, up to date news and information and when you've been to an event, you'll find helpful links to the Photographers website to be able to download photos of yourselves. So if you haven't done so already, please log in today and do so. **Please [click here](#) to steps for setting up** – if you have any issues whatsoever, please do get in contact with me or the Clerk – we'd both be pleased to assist you.

From the Clerk - Get involved!

Being an active member of a committee is a great way to learn more about the activities of the Pattenmakers Company and contribute to the work we do for our members and charitable causes.

The **Communications Committee** is seeking a Young Pattenmaker to assist with developing and delivering the Company's communications and branding strategy. If you have knowledge of, or an interest in, communications and publicity then this is the committee for you.

The success of the **Young Pattenmakers Committee** is dependent on the hard work of its members and for this network to flourish we need more volunteers to get involved. The role of the committee is to support the Membership and Events Committees in recruiting and retaining Young Pattenmakers, which includes organising events, and to represent younger members within the Company.

The quality and number of events delivered by the **Events Committee** is only limited by the number of volunteers available to organise them. Events, including visits and informal socials, bring Pattenmakers together and, with the support of the Master and Clerk, can be really fun to devise and deliver.

The **Military Affiliations Committee** oversees the Company's relationships with military organisations including cadets. This is a recently reformed committee and would suit people who either have served in the armed forces (regular or reserve) or who have the skills to build relationships with commanding officers.

The **Fundraising Committee** is looking for one or two more members. Ideally someone with fundraising experience but energy and imagination are just as important to drive activity.

Other opportunities exist to support the **Charity Committee** and the **Sustainability Working Group**.

If you would like to join or support any of these committees, or have any questions, please contact the Clerk, Claire Hobson: clerk@pattenmakers.co.uk / 07432 611362

Pattenmakers Events

The 695th Lord Mayor's Lecture Series: Are we asking the Right Questions about Profit?
- Liveryman Paul Vick

How We Hold The Keys To Innovation And Resolving The Climate Challenges Through Architecture

Pattenmaker and founder of Paul Vick architects, Paul Vick is lecturing on the above topic at Gresham College in the City of London with examples from his work. It forms part of the City of London Lord Mayor's working theme 'Connect to Prosper- The Knowledge Miles In The World's Coffeehouse': to celebrate the many Knowledge Miles of The Square Mile. The 695th Lord Mayor's Lecture Series is an online webinar series that explores the connections of the Square Mile and its roles as "The World's Coffeehouse" addressing diverse global challenges and utilising the intellectual opportunities of the City.' Sponsored by the Pattenmakers. Convenor: Mark Huxley, Huxley Advisory.

When: Thursday 23rd May 2024

Time: 15:00 - 15:45

Where: On Line. Approx 20 minute talk plus Q&A

Free to register: [Book Here](#)

Save the date – key events to note in your diary

8th May - YP Virtual Quiz (contact sophia.lee@datore.co)

9th May - Ascension Day St MP Church followed by reception at Guildhall (Book online)

16th May - Footwear Dinner

5th June - Meet the Charities followed by reception at Guildhall

13th June - Master's Dinner Temple Bar

24th June - Election of Sheriff followed by lunch at Guildhall

17th July - Summer party at Stationers' Hall

16th September - FM Dinner

29th September - Sheep Drive

Our Charitable Fund



DMRC Dinner at Prestwold Hall - Friday 11th October 2024

Enjoy a sparkling Reception, a lavish military themed dining experience and the chance to celebrate the brilliant, vitally important work of the Benevolent Fund.

Further details and booking from can be [found here](#)

City of London Corporation



The Pattenmakers were well represented at the event that raises benevolent funds for those who have served in His Majesty the King's Armed Forces.



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

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