



## Vereinigte Zünfte zur Gerwe und zur Schuhmachern Zürich

**To the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers**

Master Keith Bottomley  
Deputy of the City of London

**sent by email**

Zurich, early February 2025

### **THANK YOU VERY MUCH !**

Master Pattenmaker,  
Dear Keith,

after an unexpectedly hectic last week, I can – also in the name of my wife Antoinette and of our Active Master Thomas and our Past Masters Marc and Alex and their consorts – express our big thanks to you, to the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers and to the City of London for the most wonderful time we were invited to spend with you. Every moment of these days in your lovely City and in the circle of your Company and their Members was so precious and unforgettable - thank you so very much !

The Ceremony for our Freedom of the City of London was very impressive, also with the solemn Service in your old Church, and we were thrilled and honored that so many Members of your Company and you as our Master could make this date and have joined us and shared our proud of this historic event. We were well aware that you have so many responsibilities and certainly would have had a lot of work on that very morning. The same applies to Chairman Chris Hayward who most thankfully joined, as well. The endorsed photograph is the very proof of evidence for history.

Thereafter, your Annual Banquet in Mansion House was once more historic and wonderful, again innovatively slightly adapted in terms of the Loving Cup with (Swiss) chocolate and regarding the sequence of the speeches and toasts. We felt very honoured to have been seated so prominently at the head's table, so that we could witness every of the wonderful traditions that happened. We enjoyed this evening indeed very much - thank you for this lived hospitality and your most generous invitation as your guests !

The Fellowship Luncheon on Friday was again wonderful, and we had the particular honour to be seated opposite you. Indeed, we enjoyed the conversations, and once more felt the

common values you are caring of, and we can carry together on into the future, thanks to our close relations between your Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers and our United Guilds of the Tanners and Shoemakers, this although we live in different countries, even separated by the Channel ... we will be delighted to welcome your Delegation again to the Zurich Sechselaeuten on 20th April 2026 (starting on Friday, 17th April 2026, with the Guest Canton Graubunden – the Grisons in the Swiss Alps, with lots of cows and bells !).

All these signs of friendship and long-lasting relations with our common and vividly shared interests in the wonderful traditions are very precious - thank you so much again !

With our very best wishes and  
mit zünftigen Grüssen

Felix Huber

Felix M. Huber, resting Master



Photo by Jennifer Bryant-Pearson