The Pattenmaker

NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

Issue 101 20th December 2024

From the Master, Deputy Keith Bottomley

Welcome to the December edition of our newsletter.

It's been another busy month when the Mistress Pattenmaker and I have thoroughly enjoyed representing the company in a variety of settings.

A highlight was the Annual Carol Service at our much loved Guild Church of St Margaret Pattens with our great friends the Basketmakers, when 110 people attended the service which we think might be a record, with 80 then going for a joint festive dinner at Waterman's Hall. Thanks to the Basketmakers for organising the dinner. A great success. It will be our turn next year

With the Basketmaker Prime Warden Julian Adams at the Carol Service

Earlier, on the same day 4 members of the company received the Freedom of the City of London at Guildhall. Many congratulations to Gerald Forbes, Rachel Furn Davies, Iain Hambleton and Lewis Stock. It was a very happy occasion. Lewis is a third generation Pattenmaker and was joined by his father Liveryman Dr Richard Stock and grandfather Past Master and Past Sheriff Anthony Eskenzi for the ceremony.

I was very pleased to be able to say hello to fellow Pattenmaker Sir Philip May when he attended a Marketors' dinner at Guildhall with his famous wife Baroness Theresa May. The former Prime Minister has been a Marketor for 25 years.

With fellow Pattenmaker Sir Philip May

Many congratulations to James Talbot on his installation as the 11th Master Entrepreneur. The Entrepreneurs celebrated their 10th birthday in style at Ironmongers' Hall, the location of their first meeting in 2014 to which I was delighted to be invited.

Congratulations also to the new Wardens The Rt Hon. the Lord Mayor Alderman Alastair King DL, Jat Wasu and Rita Bologna.

The 10th Master Mark Huxley has had an outstanding year. Hats off to Mark and his consort Jo.

Also a great pleasure to meet Lord (Julian) Fellowes at the event who has made a significant mark in the world of entertainment, not only as an actor but also as a screenwriter and director. As the creator of Downtown Abbey and an Academy Award-winning writer, his career has been filled with incredible successes.

Huge thanks to 160 wonderful supporters of my shrieval campaign who came along to Cutlers' Hall on 28th November.

Thank you to my amazing campaign chair Victoria Russell for words of welcome and thanking everyone as well as putting the challenge out there to please sign up more supporters.

I am taking nothing for granted. If you have not yet signed up it would be great to have more Pattenmaker support. https://keithbottomley.city/support-keith/

My website has information about what I want to bring to the role of Sheriff, my credentials and the team.

A great pleasure to host City Minister Tulip Siddiq MP at the Financial Services Dinner at Mansion House which showed huge amounts of positivity across the sector.

The Lord Mayor of the City of London Corporation, Alastair King spoke alongside the Chancellor Rachel Reeves and the Governor of the Bank of England Andrew Bailey.

The City of London Corporation is an impartial and honest broker between industry and government, and we will leave no stone unturned in our quest to unlock investment and unleash growth – as partner, broker, and solution-finder.

The annual Lord Mayor's address to the Livery saw publication of the findings of The 2024 Survey of Philanthropic Giving by the Livery.

The strength and quantum of the Livery movement's philanthropic and volunteering effort is extraordinary. Aggregate giving in 2024 of £80m with support for education and young people increased again to £33.9m in 2024 from £30.2m in 2022. The average amount donated per member of the Livery has increased from £128 pa in 2022 to £221 pa in 2024. Charity lies at the heart of the Livery movement.

We will be publishing a full impact report in early 2025.

The Lord Mayor's banquet was a few weeks later than usual this year on 2nd December to fit in with the PM's diary. It was a glittering occasion and one that the Kevin and I much enjoyed attending. The Lord Mayor's speech can be **found here**

I also attend the state dinner at Mansion house for the Amir of the state of Qatar on 4th December as part of his state visit to the UK. The Lord Mayor's Speech can be **found here**

The Trustees of the Friends of St Margaret Pattens met for a business meeting and lunch at Guildhall. I'm a proud Trustee and the board is chaired by Past Master Jennifer Bryant-Pearson.

If you are not yet a friend please sign up here. **Friends of St Margaret Pattens**

Congratulations to our Senior Past Master Chris Hayward who has become a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths.

Many congratulations to the new Master Glass Seller James Armitage who kindly invited me to be his guest speaker at Grocers' Hall and I was joined by the Mistress Pattenmaker. James asked me to talk about my story as an elected member of City of London Corporation. Also great to meet and chat to Immediate Past Master Maria Chanmugam. Both shown in the pictures below.

I also attended the Broad Street Ward Club Civic Lunch, Cooks' dinner, Joiners and Ceilers', Engineers', Guild of Freemen Annual Banquet and Candlewick Ward Club Christmas Breakfast.

Season's greetings from Kevin and I, and a very Happy New Year.

Consort's Corner - Keith Bradford

There is nothing quite like the Lord Mayor's show. It's a spectacular event that has been celebrated since 1215. Our Master was participating in the show alongside the show's very own Pageantmaster. I was able to enjoy a splendid view of the parade from the portico at Mansion House. Particular highlights include the incredible military bands, dancing pandas and an open top bus full of cold but ecstatic flag waving consorts.

The Livery Pictures Committee organised afternoon tea at Guildhall with the new Lady Mayoress. An opportunity to meet Florence & Corinne, hear more about them, along with their plans and events for their forthcoming year. Florence is an active reservist in the British army and will also be running in the 2025 London Marathon supporting the British Liver Trust.
Lord Mayor's Banquet was a glorious example of pomp and ceremony. Which was made extra special with the state trumpeters in the Great Hall of Guildhall. A wonderful evening with conversation involving Pattenmakers, Pilates and Paris.

The United Wards Club held a Carol service at St Olave's Church. It was a very special service as the choir was from The City of London Junior school. Christmas lunch was held at Bakers' Hall

I was invited along to the City Livery Club History & Antiques Section Christmas lunch at the Concert Artistes Association in Covent Garden. A very festive event with a Yuletide speech from City Livery Club President Alderman Professor Emma Edhem.

It was so nice to be back at Grocers' Hall for the installation of the new Master Glass Seller. During the banquet I was sat between the new Master and Mistress, James and Marian Armitage. I know they will have a very special year. There was also a very good speech from our very own Master.

The choir at St Margret Pattens have such a captivating tone and quality, hearing them sing Christmas carols in the church is always a real treat. The church was full with Basketmakers and Pattenmakers. Along with the carols we enjoyed readings throughout the service. We then joined the Master Basketmaker at their annual Christmas dinner at Watermans' Hall.

Events on the horizon - Royal Society of St George Christmas Banquet and the Pattenmakers Annual Banquet.

Members' News

Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths - Senior Past Master Chris Hayward

Chris comments 'I am deeply honoured to have been made a Freeman of The Goldsmiths' Company. This remarkable institution does so much good – supporting jewellers and silversmiths, protecting consumers, and championing education, culture, and charity. Their work is truly inspiring, and I'm proud to now be part of such an esteemed group.'

Our Charitable Fund

The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers Paice Memorial DMU Bespoke Orthopaedic Footwear Design Award 2025 - Liveryman Annette Cove reports

On Tuesday 12th November 2024 De Montfort University hosted their annual Bespoke, Orthopaedic and Biomechanics Awards Presentations. The BA Footwear Designer level 5 students (second year students) presented their work including prototype samples to a panel of external judges who were impressed with the quality of work displayed, and even more impressed that everything had been completed in six teaching weeks.

The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers Paice Memorial DMU Bespoke Orthopaedic Footwear Design Award 2025 winner is Utreia Prior who presented her conceptually unique black apron shoe with hand painted detailing on the upper. This was based on a client with hammer toes, a bunion and a flat foot.

The judges were extremely impressed with the thought and attention to detail that had gone into the shoe, and also the project work, for this award.

Utreia will receive from the Master her award certificate and £500 award prize at the Annual Footwear Dinner on Thursday 8th May 2025 at the Painters Hall London.

Utreia Prior and her winning style with judge Warden to the Trade Mike Watson Smith

Judging panel

(L-R: Steve Weston, Mike Watson-Smith, Kevin Guildford, Polly Lythall & Tim King)

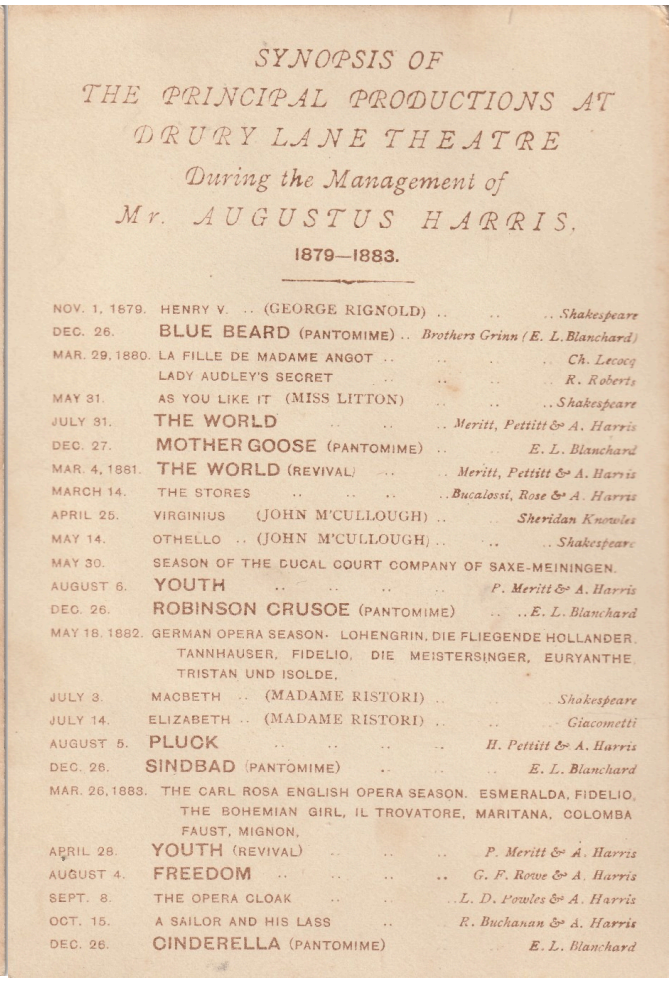
- **Mike Watson-Smith** (Trade Warden for The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers)
- **Polly Lythall** (Business Development Manager at the British Footwear Association)
- **Tim King** (Consultant Biomechanist at Cione Wellness Centre)
- **Kevin Guildford** (former DMU Footwear Course on behalf of The Worshipful Company of Cordwainers)
- **Steve Weston** (former VP at Reebok, Nine West and Sears)

Our History

Our Panto PM is back (but not behind you!) once again – Court Assistant Steve Huxham

The festive end to 2024 is now nearly upon us, and with it also the traditional Pantomime season. This is always therefore a great time to remember our Past Master Sir Augustus Henry Glossop Harris (Master 1892 and 1893,) or just Gus as he was more usually known, and the “Father of the Modern Pantomime” as described by Punch magazine at the time. Gus’ story and his wide theatrical influence is of course covered in our History Book (pages 81-82.)

As a matter of our good practice in matters relating to our history, most Pattenmakers will be aware that we try to keep as wide a tracking as is possible of auctions and sales of items relevant to Company history, even though and sadly we do not currently have any allocated budget to add to the Collection. In the case of Gus Harris, and probably due to the sheer volume of his work in his lifetime, items relating to him regularly appear on the well-known online auction platforms. In the main part, they fall into the category of either telling us what we already know, or being something we already have, but I was struck recently by what was described as an “antique Victorian cabinet card photo Augustus Harris actor Cinderella pantomime.” In fact this Victorian cabinet card is a rather nice little item, and a deal was struck!



SYNOPSIS OF
THE PRINCIPAL PRODUCTIONS AT
DRURY LANE THEATRE
During the Management of
Mr. AUGUSTUS HARRIS,
1879—1883.

NOV. 1, 1879.	HENRY V. .. (GEORGE RIGNOLD)	Shakespeare
DEC. 26.	BLUE BEARD (PANTOMIME) ..	Brothers Grinn (E. L. Blanchard)
MAR. 29, 1880.	LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT	Ch. Lecocq
	LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET	R. Roberts
MAY 31.	AS YOU LIKE IT (MISS LITTON)	Shakespeare
JULY 31.	THE WORLD	Meritt, Pettitt & A. Harris
DEC. 27.	MOTHER GOOSE (PANTOMIME)	E. L. Blanchard
MAR. 4, 1881.	THE WORLD (REVIVAL)	Meritt, Pettitt & A. Harris
MARCH 14.	THE STORES	Bucalossi, Rose & A. Harris
APRIL 25.	VIRGINIUS (JOHN M'CULLOUGH)	Sheridan Knowles
MAY 14.	OTHELLO .. (JOHN M'CULLOUGH)	Shakespeare
MAY 30.	SEASON OF THE DUCAL COURT COMPANY OF SAXE-MEININGEN.	
AUGUST 6.	YOUTH	P. Meritt & A. Harris
DEC. 26.	ROBINSON CRUSOE (PANTOMIME)	E. L. Blanchard
MAY 18, 1882.	GERMAN OPERA SEASON. LOHENGRIN, DIE FLIEGENDE HOLLANDER, TANNHAUSER, FIDELIO, DIE MEISTERSINGER, EURYANTHE, TRISTAN UND ISOLDE,	
JULY 3.	MACBETH .. (MADAME RISTORI)	Shakespeare
JULY 14.	ELIZABETH .. (MADAME RISTORI)	Giacometti
AUGUST 5.	PLUCK	H. Pettitt & A. Harris
DEC. 26.	SINDBAD (PANTOMIME)	E. L. Blanchard
MAR. 26, 1883.	THE CARL ROSA ENGLISH OPERA SEASON. ESMERALDA, FIDELIO, THE BOHEMIAN GIRL, IL TROVATORE, MARITANA, COLOMBA FAUST, MIGNON,	
APRIL 28.	YOUTH (REVIVAL)	P. Meritt & A. Harris
AUGUST 4.	FREEDOM	G. F. Rowe & A. Harris
SEPT. 8.	THE OPERA CLOAK	L. D. Powles & A. Harris
OCT. 15.	A SAILOR AND HIS LASS	R. Buchanan & A. Harris
DEC. 26.	CINDERELLA (PANTOMIME) ..	E. L. Blanchard

*(Acquired via eBay 24/10/24. Priced at £25.00, offered and accepted at £15.00 plus p&p, total £17.90. Donated to the Collection by Court Assistant Huxham.)*Dated to February 29th, 1884 (a Leap Year then!) the card celebrates the 100th performance of Cinderella at Drury Lane Theatre, and indicates just how successful these shows were, as the run for Cinderella started on Boxing Day of the preceding year.

As depicted in the photograph attached to the card, Gus would have been thirty-two in that year of 1884, and it was the same year that he was Admitted to our Company (2nd December.)

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Our Affiliations

University of London Air Squadron (ULAS) - from Squadron Lead Ed Berwick

In honour of the affiliation between Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers and the University of London Air Squadron (ULAS), please see here an annual report detailing the achievements of the Squadron over the past year.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas.

City of London Corporation

Christmas Greetings from the Rt Hon Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress

CITY OF LONDON

With every good wish for Christmas and the New Year From
the Rt Hon the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress

Alastair King DL
The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor

Florence King
The Lady Mayoress

Artwork by
Adam Dant

Livery Briefing Newsletter

Please **find here** the December version of the Livery Briefing newsletter, which will also shortly be available on the Livery Committee website at www.liverycommittee.org

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2025 Intolerence, Trails & Error Show

To be performed in the historic Court No.1, Old Bailey on Monday ~Thursday 17 ~ 20 March 2025. There is also an Open Dress performance Sunday afternoon 16 March (no reception).

See the Flyer for details: Intolerance, Trials and Error 2025

Please note the dates in your diaries, the booking form will be sent to all those receiving this message around 20th January. Only guests newly interested in the Show need register.

2025 Dates for the Diary

DAY	DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
JANUARY			
Thursday	30/01/2025	Annual Banquet	Mansion House
FEBRUARY			
Thursday	13/02/2025	Trade Outing	Northampton Shoe Museum
MARCH			
Thursday	13/03/2025	Dinner and Court (new Master admitted)	Tallow Chandlers' Hall
Week beg	17/03/2025	Marathon Runners Reception	TBC
Friday	28/03/2025	United Guilds Service & Lunch	St Pauls & Stationers' Hall
APRIL			
Thursday	10/04/2025	Big Curry Lunch	Guildhall
		EASTER SUNDAY is 20th APRIL	
MAY			
Thursday	08/05/2025	Footwear Dinner	Painters' Hall
Thursday	29/05/2025	Ascension Day Service	St Margaret Pattens Church
Thursday	29/05/2025	Ascension Day Reception	TBC
JUNE			
Tuesday	24/06/2025	Common Hall - election of Sheriffs (lunch)	Guildhall (TBC)
JULY			
Week beg	16/07/2025	Summer evening event	TBC
SEPTEMBER			
Thursday	11/09/2025	Common Meal (Company AGM)	Dr Butler's Head
Week beg	22/09/2025	FMBE Dinner	TBC
Tuesday	23/09/2025	City Giving Day	St Margaret Pattens Church
Friday	26/09/2025	Admission of Sheriffs (lunch)	Guildhall (TBC)
Sunday	28/09/2025	Sheep Drive	TBC
Monday	29/09/2025	Election of LM (lunch)	Guildhall (TBC)
OCTOBER			
Thursday	16/10/2025	October Dinner and Court	TBC
NOVEMBER			
Friday	07/11/2025	Admission of LM	Guildhall
Week beg	10/11/2025	Master & Clerks Luncheon	TBC
DECEMBER			
Thursday	18/12/2025	Carol Service	St Margaret Pattens Church
Thursday	18/12/2025	Festive Dinner with Basketmakers	TBC

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

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