



The Pattenmaker

NEWS FROM AROUND THE LIVERY

Issue 102

Friday 7th March 2025

From the Master, Deputy Keith Bottomley



It has been a huge honour, privilege and pleasure to serve as your Master.

My theme of Sustainability and Involvement has guided our achievements which have been many. We joined the livery climate action group and published our first climate action plan in March of last year.

Our Mansion House banquet at the end of January was the best attended since the pandemic and it was a great pleasure to hear from follow Pattenmaker Lord Timpson.

We have given opportunity to young people through training, education and apprenticeships in footwear and facilities management. I was delighted to present awards at the Banquet.



The winner of the future leader Facilities Management Award 2025 - Abigail Richards of SBFM Ltd.



Abigail stood out for her passion, engagement and enthusiasm running the Pure Gym account, where she has demonstrated innovative practices and managerial skills to a high standard, also encouraging ex-offenders to work as cleaners on the account, something that will resonate with our Lord Timpson!

The winner of the future leader Footwear Award for 2025 - Florence Kelly.



Florence has been an outstanding member of the Gardiner Brothers team since joining 5 years ago, quickly embracing the Hush Puppies brand with swift promotion to Brand Manager.

Florence impressed the award judges with her remarkable commitment, enthusiasm, a deep curiosity for the footwear industry, and a strong ambition to reach director level in the future. Her mature approach, pride in her work, and unwavering dedication set her apart.

Winners of the Pattenmakers' Scarr-Hall awards



Sadiq Mohammad, Sky Wicks and Jamie O'Grady – received the Pattenmakers' Scarr-Hall awards for students from De Montford University studying footwear who have overcome personal challenges throughout their studies.

We have provided bespoke orthopaedic shoes to members of the armed services through our very special relationship with the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre.

Supported charities through our charitable foundation with £80,000 of grants including a £12,000 grant to I Choose Freedom for their work against domestic abuse, raising a record sum at the London Marathon.

Held two very successful trade dinners reinforcing the important relationship that we have with our trades.

Visited Zurich for Sechseläuten, the colourful festival to celebrate spring. It was a great pleasure to have our friends from The Tanners' and Shoemakers' at Mansion House.



Many congratulations to Zunftmeisters Thomas and Felix on receiving the Freedom of the City of London.

A letter of thanks has been received [found here](#). I was also delighted to present the Freedom of the Company to Alt Zunftmeisters Marc and Alex at a very special fellowship lunch at Guildhall the day after the banquet.

The Friends of our wonderful Guild church are thriving under the leadership of chair Past Master Jennifer Bryant-Pearson.

Published the 100th edition of our newsletter – The Pattenmaker.

20 new members have joined the Pattenmakers and we have held three most enjoyable company ceremonies for 13 Pattenmakers to receive the Freedom of the City. And we have continued to play a very active part in the Livery of this great and ancient City. Enjoying fellowship, supporting charity and promoting trade and commerce.

Of course, I could not have served without the love of my life the ‘Mistress Pattenmaker’ the man I’m so proud to call my husband. Kevin. Mr Pilates.

I know how much he has enjoyed the year. Thank you, Kevin.

As we look forward, Kevin and I hope to have the opportunity to serve this great and ancient City later this year as Sheriff and ‘Sheriffina’, based at the Old Bailey!

If elected, only the 9th Pattenmaker Sheriff in the history of the Company. Three most recent former Pattenmaker Sheriffs are Past Master Anthony Eskenzi CBE 1981, Past Master Chris Hayward 2019-21 and Liveryman Wendy Mead 2011.

Thank you to the Court and to the Company for all your fantastic support in that ambition.

Many congratulations to Master Elect David Miller who I hand over to on 13th March. David, we all wish you a very happy and successful year in office.

Consort's Corner - Kevin Bradford



The Master and I were invited to Saddlers' Hall to attend the "Made in Britain Saddlery Showcase" a captivating event that showcased the finest British equestrian leatherwork. We were delighted to find fellow consorts from the Stationers, Turners, and Furniture Makers in attendance.

The last event on my schedule was an invitation from the Furniture Makers to visit the Hypnos factory in Princes Risborough. We met with the CEO, James Keen, and the group MD, David Baldry. Hypnos not only supply beds and mattresses to the general public but also to luxury hotels worldwide. If you've stayed at The Corinthia, The Ned, Rocco Forte Hotels, or Jumeirah Hotels, you've likely slept on a Hypnos mattress. Each mattress is handcrafted using the finest British materials to ensure the best night's sleep. We had an informative and enjoyable day, which concluded with a hilarious group task: constructing our own mattress. Surprisingly, I didn't receive a job offer after my efforts!



I've had an incredibly fulfilling time in my role as Mistress Pattenmaker. I've had the privilege of meeting some truly fascinating and inspiring individuals, attended some extraordinary places and events, and most importantly, I've supported the Master and promoted the Pattenmakers whenever possible. Among the most valuable experiences of my year was the opportunity to meet with the charities supported by the Pattenmakers. I had the privilege of meeting with the Defence Medical Rehabilitation Centre and I Choose Freedom, listening to their stories of how these charities make a positive impact on people's lives. It was also heartwarming to learn how crucial the support from the Pattenmakers truly is.



Members' News



The Master is a candidate for the office of Non Aldermanic Sheriff. If you have not already done so please visit his website as above to register your support.

Master Pattenmaker Award

This award is given to a Pattenmaker who has provided outstanding support or made an impact and driven the company forward positively.



The Master was delighted to present this year's award to member Liveryman Sarah Hodge for all her work on sustainability and the formation of our sustainability committee and climate action plan.

Freedom of the City of London

Pattenmakers Michael Dalton, Lorraine Howard, Maria McLean, Payson Muller and Richard Wilson received the freedom of the City of London. This was the third company ceremony that has been held during the Master's year. He was very keen to bring these back as he feels that they are a lovely way to welcome new freemen.



Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners



As the immediate past Chairman of the City Corporation Port Health & Environmental Services Committee, the Master was made an Honorary Freeman of The Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners. He received the award from the Master Environmental Cleaner Lorraine Larman.

Bereavements



Further to a previous notice we are saddened at the passing of Past Master Robert (Bob) Edwards on 18th December 2024, aged 87.

Past Master Mike Kemsley attended the funeral on behalf of the Company and his tribute can be [found here](#)

We are saddened to report the passing of David Beattie the husband of Past Master Dame Heather Steel who passed away suddenly on Friday 21st February 2025 aged 90.

Pattenmakers' Events

Footwear Dinner - Thursday 8th May 2025

The Annual Footwear Dinner will be taking place on Thursday 8th May 2025, proudly sponsored by SATRA.

Invitations will be emailed to you in March. In the meantime, please [click here](#) for additional information,

Key Events to note in your Diary

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
MARCH		
13/03/2025	Dinner and Court meeting	Tallow Chandlers' Hall
17/03/2025	Marathon Runners Reception	St Margaret Pattens
27/03/2025	LM Meet the Masters Banquet	Mansion House
28/03/2025	United Guilds Service & Lunch	St Pauls & Stationers' Hall
APRIL		
06/04/2025	Landmarks Half Marathon	Downing Street, London
10/04/2025	Big Curry Lunch	Guildhall
24/04/2025	Charity gig - Omar Hayes Quintet	St Margaret Pattens
TBC	Master's Dinner	TBC
MAY		
08/05/2025	Footwear Dinner	Painters' Hall
09/05/2025	Master & Clerk – York Weekend	York
29/05/2025	City Freedom Ceremony (2.30pm)	Guildhall
29/05/2025	Ascension Day Service 5pm	St Margaret Pattens
29/05/2025	Ascension Day Reception	TBC
31/05/2025	Master's Weekend	Henley
JUNE		
06/06/2025	Lord Mayor's Masters' Weekend	Aberdeen
11/06/2025	F&GPC	StMP or City Livery Club
24/06/2025	Common Hall - election of Sheriffs	Guildhall (TBC)
JULY		
10/07/2025	Court & dinner	Innholders
17/07/2025	St Margaret Pattens Patronal celebration	SMP
SEPTEMBER		
11/09/2025	City Freedom Ceremony (11.30am)	Guildhall
11/09/2025	F&GPC	StMP or City Livery Club
11/09/2025	Common Meal	Dr Butler's Head
22/09/2025	FMBE Dinner	TBC
TBC	City Giving Day	St Margaret Pattens
26/09/2025	Admission of Sheriffs (lunch)	Guildhall (TBC)
28/09/2025	Sheep Drive	TBC
29/09/2025	Election of Lord Mayor (lunch)	Guildhall (TBC)
OCTOBER		
23/10/2025	October Dinner and Court	Cutlers' Hall
NOVEMBER		
03/11/2025	Garden of Remembrance & Lunch	St Pauls & TBC
07/11/2025	Admission of Lord Mayor	Guildhall
10/11/2025	Master & Clerks	TBC
DECEMBER		
18/12/2025	F&GPC	TBC
18/12/2025	Carol Service	St Margaret Pattens
18/12/2025	Festive Dinner with Basketmakers	TBC

City of London Corporation



The Lord Mayor, Alderman Alastair King, has sent his thanks for our donation to his appeal. Letter can be [found here](#)

Freedom of the City - Sir Lenny Henry



The Master attended the Freedom Ceremony for one of the UK's most popular entertainers, in recognition of his significant contribution to the entertainment industry and charitable fundraising during his 50-year career

Pancake Date - The Master

Racers dressed as a skyscraper, beekeeper and a chest of drawers were among dozens of runners in zany costumes zipping around a central London square with a frying pan in hand to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, or "Pancake Day." Hundreds of people packed into Guildhall Yard, cheering as participants in the annual Inter-Livery Pancake Race ran around the square while tossing pancakes in their frying pans.



Worshipful Company of Saddlers



The Master attended a most excellent Saddlery Showcase at Saddlers' Hall. He met with Glen Farnell a Master Saddler from Ryder Saddles in Walsall who export 90% of their output and so is a great British export success story.

United Guilds' Service: St Paul's Cathedral on Friday 28th March

The lunch is fully booked but we still have a few tickets available for the service should you wish to attend. Please contact the Assistant Clerk direct for tickets.



Launch of Research and New Social Mobility in the City Network - 25th March, 8:30 - 11:00am

The City of London Corporation is pleased to be supporting Accenture and Progress Together to present the findings of a ground-breaking research project 'Rising with AI: Advancing Socio-Economic Diversity in Financial Services'. This event will also mark the launch of the newest [City Belonging Network](#) and Social Mobility in the City.

This research initiative explores how artificial intelligence can create transformational opportunities to advance socio-economic diversity within the sector, with tangible actions that leaders can implement in their organisation.

Please note that places at this event are limited. If you are a senior leader or responsible for social mobility initiatives at your workplace, please register your interest by signing up via [Eventbrite](#). If you would like to receive updates about future events from Social Mobility in the City, [you can sign up here](#).

Help to Save Lives on London's Bridges, Livery Hall, Guildhall - 24th March, 3:30pm - 7:30pm

Bridge Watch, an initiative of Ascension Trust, is a vital service dedicated to preventing loss of life on London's bridges. Since its launch, Bridge Watch volunteers have patrolled over 1,000 hours, making 61 life-saving interventions for individuals in crisis.

They are hosting a special reception at Guildhall to educate the community about this important work. This event will share powerful stories, and explore how, with your support, they can train more volunteers and expand their reach.

If you would like to attend this event, please email Bridgwatch@ascensiontrust.org.uk directly before 10th March.

Reminder: Faith in the Square Mile Survey

The City of London Corporation has launched [Faith in the City](#) - a landmark research and engagement programme to understand the faith and belief needs of the Square Mile and put forward ideas for the future. If you're a City worker, resident or visitor, we want to hear from you [via our survey](#). Please share widely in your networks, we want to hear from individuals of faith and those in senior leadership, HR, EDI and other roles with responsibility for staff welfare.

If you would like to be added to our distribution list to hear about upcoming events, please sign up for updates at www.belongingproject.city/.



Members of your Company are warmly invited to our 370th Festival, on Tuesday 13th May 2025, 5pm.

One of the oldest choral music events in the world, the Festival Service brings together three exceptional [cathedral choirs](#) in the magnificent setting of St Paul's Cathedral. This year, The Lord Bishop of Chelmsford, [The Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani](#) will preach.

This is followed by our Festival Dinner at Plaisterers' Hall, an evening of friend-making and fellowship. We'll be fundraising to support the thousands of clergy who rely on our grants and services to get by; last year, we walked alongside almost 2,800 households.

You can book your tickets using form [found here](#). In this same form, you'll be asked whether - as Master of your Company - you wish to join our opening procession.

year, we are blessed by the number of Livery members who wish to attend. If other members of your Company would like to join our historic Festival, please ask them to visit www.clergysupport.org.uk/festival

As we receive more applications than ever before, your support has never been more vital. Find out more about our relationship with the City of London's [Livery Companies](#).

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

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