



Worshipful Company of  
**Tylers and  
Bricklayers**  
Chartered in 1568

# Newsletter

ISSUE 32 | OCTOBER 2021



**Regaining freedom in the City**  
Installation of the new Master

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“It is a great honour and privilege to be installed as the 440th Master of the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers.

I am very aware of the long history of the Company and hope that I can match the high standards and achievements of my predecessors, leading the Company in an interesting, successful and enjoyable year.”

The Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers  
[www.tylersandbricklayers.co.uk](http://www.tylersandbricklayers.co.uk)

Front cover:  
The Master, Mr Simon Martin with the Bishop of London,  
the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally DBE PC

## Master Piece

# Embracing the new normal

**I must start by paying tribute to Past Master Michel Saminaden. Michel has served as Master with fortitude, good grace and unbounded optimism over the last two years against the awful backdrop of the Coronavirus pandemic, the resulting lockdowns, and other Government restrictions. None of us could have imagined what lay in store when Michel was installed as Master back in October 2019. I know how much time and energy Michel and Maureen devoted to planning his year and how frustrating and disappointing it was for both of them to have had to postpone or eventually cancel so many of his long-anticipated events and trips. I feel sure that there must be room in a future year for a Past Master's trip to St Kitts.**

I became a member of the Company in 2002. I was introduced by my uncle, John Martin, who served as Master in 2002-03. Sadly John died in 2010 but John's widow, Frances, is a Companion of the Company and my cousin, Nicola, is a liveryman. John is very much in my thoughts as I succeed him as Master.

The theme for my year will be 'Past, Present, Future'. I believe that this phrase brings together the three essential elements of the Company.

The **past** recognises the traditions and long history of the Company, as we trace our origins back to the granting of our Royal Charter by Elizabeth I in 1586 and beyond that to the first recorded Master more than 600 years ago. It also acknowledges the generosity of past benefactors. And, most importantly, it recognises the skills of many generations of bricklayers, roofers and ceramic tilers. They have built, decorated and restored the glorious array of houses, churches, civic and military buildings in the City of London and across the country that form the essential fabric of our communities and places of work. Some of the events in

my year as Master will celebrate this legacy and our rich heritage of old buildings.

We are, of course, the **present** members of the Company and the guardians of its traditions. We should value and enjoy our time as members and I hope that there will be many opportunities for fun, friendships and good fellowship in the next 12 months. But there also falls on us the responsibility to support and nurture the present generation of bricklayers, roofers and ceramic tilers. We can do this by awarding prizes to the best apprentices at Skill Build and to young sappers from the Royal Engineers at the Craft Awards Lunch, by recognising Master Craftsmen from our three crafts, and by promoting the highest standards of craftsmanship through our Triennial Awards. We will continue to do this over the next year – and some of us who don't know one end of a trowel from the other will have an opportunity to learn new skills.

We also have an obligation to **future** generations. There is a Greek proverb – "A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they know that they will never sit." It falls to us to ensure that we pass on the Company in better shape, stronger financially, and confident in its relevance and purpose in the 21st century. This means that we must continue to encourage those with a background or interest in the three crafts into the Tylers and Bricklayers as members or guests, admitting and welcoming new freemen and liverymen who understand the Company's traditions and share our aims and aspirations. We will continue to recognise the hard work and skills of the next generation of young apprentices working in our three crafts and award prizes to sappers and RE cadets. And I was delighted to be able to announce at the Installation Lunch an appeal to raise £36,000 to fund the next Tylers

and Bricklayers' presentee at Christ's Hospital School (see page 33 for further details). I can think of no better way to demonstrate our commitment to the future than by collectively funding a potentially life changing education for a child.

I am pleased that there is no test of bricklaying or tiling prowess required for future Wardens or Masters or I would not be Master of the Tylers and Bricklayers for the 2021-22 year! I worked for over 30 years as a corporate lawyer at a firm in the City of London, including a spell as Managing Partner. I retired from the practice in 2015 and started a second career working for a number of charities in various capacities. I am a trustee of ABF The Soldiers' Charity which the Company has generously supported for many years. I look forward to leading a party to the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch, a fund raising event for the charity, in April next year. I am also a Protector (similar to a trustee) for two National Lottery funded charitable trusts, one focusing on the transition of former service men and women and their families to a successful and sustainable civilian life, and the other addressing the many challenges that we face with an ageing population in the UK (employment in later life, health, housing and connected communities). I am also a school governor.

Beyond work, I enjoy spending time with my wife, Jenny, and my three daughters, Rachael, Kate and Milly. I play golf regularly and enjoy skiing. I am passionate about old buildings and the countryside and have completed a number of long-distance walks in the UK.

I look forward to seeing you all at Company events and visits over the next 12 months.

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Simon Martin  
Master 2021-22



# Installation and Annual Service

**Our friend the Revd Jeremy Crossley, Rector of St Margaret Lothbury, perhaps summed it up best when, in welcoming the new Master and Wardens together with members of the Company and guests, he said how good it was to see us back in his church.**

Jeremy pointed out that, whilst it had been two years since our last Annual Service, it was three years since he had been able to welcome us in person. In 2019 he had been in attendance on the Lord Mayor at the time of our service.

But how good to be back in 'our' beautiful church with its stained-glass window depicting our coat of arms and the wonderful singing provided by the Lothbury Singers choir, directed by our very own Honorary Freeman, Richard Townend.

And this year our service was graced not only by Jeremy and our Honorary Chaplain, the Revd John Cook, but by the Right Revd and Right Hon Dame Sarah Mullally DBE, the Bishop of London.

But, as always, Installation Day started earlier at Carpenters' Hall with a meeting of the Court that, although the shortest in our Company year, is also the most significant. For it is at this meeting that the Court formally confirms the new Master and Wardens for the 'ensuing' year and installs new members of the Court. So, on the last Thursday of September 2021 (a week earlier than

usual) Simon Martin was announced as the new Master, John Schofield the new Upper Warden and Christopher Causer the new Renter Warden.

The Court also welcomed and installed Liveryman David Williams as a Court Assistant and Liveryman Diana Melzer as a Steward. A very happy 'first' for the Company was the admittance of our first presentee to Christ's Hospital School, Onyinye Udokporo, as a Freeman of the Company following her 'release' from Apprentice Indenture.

During the Court Meeting the Master's Consort was joined for refreshments by the Master Elect's wife Jenny Martin and wives/partners of Court Members and the Consort's badge was handed over to Jenny by Maureen Saminaden.

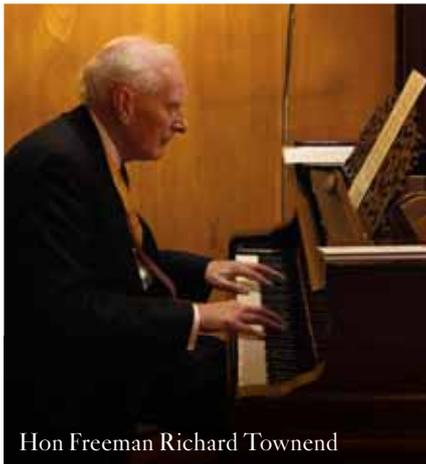
As the traditional procession to the church formed up many umbrellas were being held, evidence of the unsettled nature of the weather. But they were happily not needed either during the formal walk to St Margaret Lothbury or on the less formal stroll back.

Moving the installation ceremony from a meeting of the Court, open only to members of the Company, to the church only happened in 2012. Over the several years since then the ceremony has been refined and improved and Simon Martin's initiative this year to provide everyone with a booklet setting out the ceremony including the oaths of office is to be applauded. That and his

other initiative for the incoming Master and Renter Warden to read their own oaths of office raised the event to a whole new level. The new Master is to be congratulated for this.

The opening chords of 'Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven' and the singing of the choir announced the start of the Annual Service. This follows a familiar pattern each year varied mainly by the incoming Master's choice of hymns and, with the help of Richard Townend, the choral music. Always superb, this year's choice and rendition of introit and anthems matched the best. One of the anthems was so musically difficult that Richard had to conduct the Lothbury Singers, leaving the organ accompaniment to be played by his friend John Keys from Nottingham University.

The highlight of the service was the address by the Bishop of London. Drawing on Psalm 127, the lesson read by the Master, and the words of William Dunbar and William Blake in their poems about London, the Bishop drew a parallel between London's 1665 Plague outbreak and the Coronavirus pandemic. Both had an effect on the City and its people, particularly the less fortunate and those caring for others. With life beginning to return to normal the Bishop challenged us to consider what lessons we have learned and what kind of city we are going to build back.



Hon Freeman Richard Townend

The playing of the Tylers and Bricklayers' Company March with the Clergy leading the Master and Wardens from the Church marked the end of the Annual Service and the return to Carpenters' Hall.

For me one of the best moments of Installation Day is greeting the new incumbent for the first time as Master. At the top of the stairs at the front of the reception line came this opportunity. The good fellowship of the new Master, his Wardens and their partners was immediately obvious from their welcome to everyone.

And so, after a champagne reception, to a luncheon with excellent food and good wine - all in the best traditions of the fellowship and hospitality of the Tylers and Bricklayers.

The singing of Grace at the end of the service of food may be something of a challenge to those unaccustomed with this tradition but with Richard Townend's accompaniment on the piano members and guests alike performed it well, if not with great distinction!

Following the loyal toast and those to the Royal Family and the Lord Mayor, Court Assistant and Renter Warden-in-Nomination Jenny Rolls elegantly proposed the Toast to the Guests.

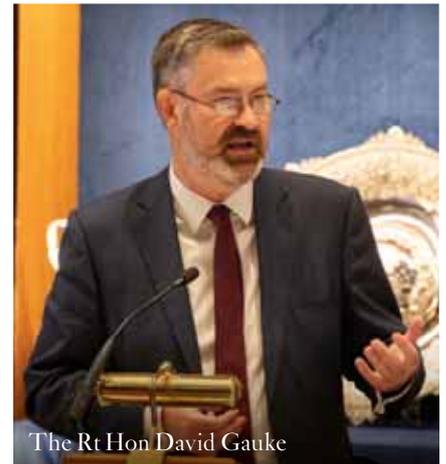
Jenny highlighted Dame Sarah Mullally's career in nursing, including as England's Chief Nursing Officer before entering



RWIN Jenny Rolls

the church. She also welcomed our Principal Guest Rt Hon David Gauke, a former member of the Cabinet who had served in the Treasury under David Cameron and as Lord Chancellor under Theresa May. Before entering Parliament in 2005 he had been a colleague of the Master at Macfarlanes, returning to the firm after leaving Parliament in 2019.

David delivered an amusing anecdotal response to the toast that showed, perhaps, how informed, interesting and entertaining politicians and former politicians can be when free of the constraints of office and defending political positions and policies.



The Rt Hon David Gauke

The Junior Liveryman, Martin Reading, excellently proposed the toast to the Company including the all-important final words 'and Good Health to the Master'. In response the Master talked of his plans for the year ahead including, most topically, the Christ's Hospital Appeal to fund the Company to support a new presentee at the School. Onyinye's successes both at Christ's Hospital and since leaving the school demonstrated what a difference the Company can make to the life of a young person. Over the coming twelve months the Company will continue to support its crafts including through our annual awards. The Master paid tribute to his predecessor Michel Saminaden who,



Upper Warden John Schofield, the Master Simon Martin, Renter Warden Christopher Causer

with his partner Maureen, had suffered many disappointments and cancelled events due to the on-going pandemic. Serving two years in office, Michel had nevertheless provided the Company great leadership through difficult times.

The traditional slow handclap accompanying the procession of the Master, Wardens and principal guests out of the dining hall marked the end the celebrations. After the pandemic caused hiatus we had been able to get back to the customary way of doing things whilst, with the installation of a new Master and Wardens, we could look forward to the future.

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Philip Parris  
**Past Master (2005-06)**



Carpenters' Hall

## Election of the Sheriffs and Lord Mayor for 2021-22



**The Sheriffs are traditionally elected on Midsummers Day 24 June, a quarter-day. This year the election was arranged to be uncontested and Alderman Alison Gowman and Alderman Nicholas Lyons were duly elected. They took office on Tuesday 28 September 2021, thus were fully in post for the Mayoral election on the following day.**

We return to having an election in 2022 for the non-Aldermanic Shrieval role and following this year's Sheriffs taking office we normally hear quickly of potential candidates from the Livery signalling their intention to stand next year and wishing to garner early support. It remains to be seen whether there will be a hotly contested election or whether one favoured candidate for the non-aldermanic role will emerge.

The Lord Mayor is traditionally elected three months after the Sheriffs at a second Common Hall in Guildhall to which all eligible liverymen of the City of London are summoned to attend. This took place on the Michaelmas quarter-day, Wednesday 29 September, albeit with some necessary Covid precautions still in place.

Like our own Master, Lord Mayor Alderman William Russell has unusually served in office for two years. A major part of his mayoralty has been

occupied with keeping the City of London functioning during the Covid-19 pandemic. Not easy when the City has been depleted of daily commuters and when many retail businesses relying on this influx have suffered badly with some inevitable closures. The normal business and social activities undertaken by the Lord Mayor in the City were severely curtailed as the Livery also went through its prolonged period of lock-down.

Alderman Vincent Keaveny was elected the 693rd Lord Mayor for 2021-22 and despite the continuing high incidence of Covid and flu infection expected as we enter the autumn, it is anticipated that City and Livery life will return to some semblance of normality. His mayoralty will commence on Friday 12 November after being sworn into office at the Silent Ceremony. The Lord Mayor's Show once again follows on the next day after last year's cancellation.

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**Editor**

# Reflection – Michel Saminaden

**I am humbled and truly grateful to my fellow Court Assistants for having given me the honour and distinction of being Master of this wonderful Company for a second year running. I acknowledge that very few Masters have enjoyed such a privilege over the past 600 years, which makes it all the more special.**

The circumstances that led to this are well known to us all, we have all lived through the Covid-19 pandemic and enough has been said about it. However, it is important to acknowledge that we, as a Company, have managed to keep moving forward positively, finding new ways to 'get together' and carrying out the business of the Company very effectively, despite the considerable challenges we have faced. We have even managed to recruit a new Clerk and some additional members to the Company! We did not let the pandemic get in our way, or indeed hold us back. A quote by a wonderful author, Vivian Greene depicts precisely how we achieved all of this:

“Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning how to dance in the rain”.

I feel that this sums up beautifully our journey over the past 18 months.



Maureen and Michel Saminaden



My second Installation was carried out via the medium of Zoom in October 2020 and we all had high hopes that things would improve very soon; alas this did not prove to be the case for a further eight months. Nevertheless, we did manage to raise a glass of champagne together, albeit from the comfort of our own homes. This was to be our modus operandi for many months to come.

One of the highlights of our Zoom events must be the wonderful Annual Christmas Carol Service which was so professionally put together and which took us to places we do not usually see from our pews in the Church. Truly beautiful. Also, the excellent cheese tasting, and the amazing magic show stand out as very special events.



In January, it became clear that things were not going to improve any time soon, so I decided to use some of my time to help out with the pandemic in any way possible. I therefore volunteered with St John Ambulance to become a vaccinator and ambulance driver and undertook a course of fairly intensive training with the organisation. I came out of it, qualified to both drive the St John Ambulances, which had been extensively refitted and equipped with vaccination paraphernalia, and to vaccinate all over 18s with the various Covid vaccines. And I have been happily doing this, working as a St John Ambulance volunteer with the NHS outreach teams, going to 'hard to reach' communities and energetically vaccinating as many people as come forward to us. I find this work extremely rewarding and the added bonus is that I have made many new friends in the NHS.

And so, as the year continued its progress, we were all eagerly awaiting the promised 'opening up' of society on 21 June, but sadly this was postponed by the Prime Minister for a further four weeks. Despite this major setback, I was determined to hold our first face to face event in June, so we went ahead with the planned luncheon at

Trinity House. And what a wonderful event it was! Despite having to sit at tables of 6 and with some social distancing still in place, we nevertheless managed to have a fabulous time, with plenty of champagne, good food and great fellowship. Everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy this first foray into the world of 'normality', and I received great feedback from many people.

Finally, on 19 July, the long-awaited end to lockdown became a reality and the City began reopening with a vengeance. At last I found my diary full again. Suffice it to say that my feet, as well as those of Maureen, have not touched the ground since the ending of lockdown, brilliant!

I was delighted to be able to hold several live events in the last couple of months of my time as Master. My Annual Dinner at Barber-Surgeons' Hall and the Triennial Awards held at Apothecaries' Hall stand out as amazing highlights for me – everything was just perfect. I also managed to hold a joint Charter Day and Consort's event at Copped Hall, courtesy of Liveryman Dick Speller, which was a fascinating tour.

And my final trip was a fantastic Craft visit to Rowlands Roofing, courtesy of Liveryman Andy Rowlands, followed by the amazing feast laid on for us so generously by Liveryman Brenda Upton Kemp at her lovely home in Gnosall. It was a delightful way to end two wonderful years.

I end by giving thanks to everyone who has been so supportive of me for the past two years. Special thanks must go to my wonderful Wardens, Simon and John, and our super Clerk, Heather, who have been there to support and guide me throughout this somewhat difficult and very different journey. Maureen and I feel incredibly privileged and honoured to have been given this wonderful opportunity to serve as Master and Consort of our fantastic Company for the past couple of years and we wish Simon and Jenny a wonderful year ahead.

I truly feel that we have learned to "dance in the rain".

Michel Saminaden  
Master 2019-2021



Copped Hall



# Court and Livery Lunch

**Finally, after more than 15 months of lockdowns and restrictions, zoom calls and virtual events, we were able to meet again for lunch at Trinity House on Tuesday 22 June 2021. What a happy and memorable gathering!**

The event had been planned as the Masters & Clerks Lunch at which we traditionally entertain the Masters and Clerks from the other Companies in the Construction Group of Livery Companies and others to whom we owe hospitality. However, the Government announcement on 14 June 2021 that the remaining social distancing restrictions would be extended for a further four weeks until mid July meant that the capacity in the Library at Trinity House was reduced to just 65 people, seated at tables of six. The Master, Wardens and Clerk decided that the lunch should therefore be limited to members of the

Company and their personal guests.

Social distancing restrictions meant no receiving line or reception and we went straight to our appointed tables where masks were removed and champagne was served. The volume of conversation rose as old friends were warmly greeted and lockdown stories were shared. Some guests wandered from table to table, usually pursued by a member of the excellent Trinity House team who had the unenviable task of trying to get everyone to stay at the designated table or to wear masks when standing or moving around.

The Master and consort Maureen, Upper Warden, Father of the Company and Clerk processed into the Library and grace was said by the Honorary Chaplain. An excellent lunch was served, accompanied by some splendid wines

selected by the Wine Committee from the Company's wine reserves.

The toast to the Master was given by the Junior Liveryman, John Gorman. The Master replied welcoming all present to the first face to face event held in more than 15 months. The Master thanked the Company for giving him the opportunity to serve a second year as Master and explained that this meant that he would be a member of two Past Masters Associations, both of which had chosen dubious names reflecting the circumstances of the last two years: the Zoomers and the Unmutables. The Master also noted that this was the first event organised by our new Clerk, Heather Smith, who had provided huge support since taking up her post in January. The Master finished by thanking his personal guests for their friendship and support during lockdown.

Past Master David Szymanski replied on behalf of the guests. He noted that putting on a suit and tie for the first time in 12 months had been a novel experience. David commended the Master for his unfailing optimism and calm leadership of the Company through the challenges of the past year and, breaking with tradition, he asked all present to join him in again toasting the Master, which we gladly did.

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Simon Martin  
Master



# T&B Merchandise

The Company holds in stock a number of T&B branded items which we encourage members to purchase and wear to indicate their membership of the Company.

## COMPANY TIES £30 EACH

### Formal Tie

Motif showing the crest of our Armorial Bearings – an arm and gloved right hand holding a brickaxe. On dark blue background.



### SOCIAL TIES

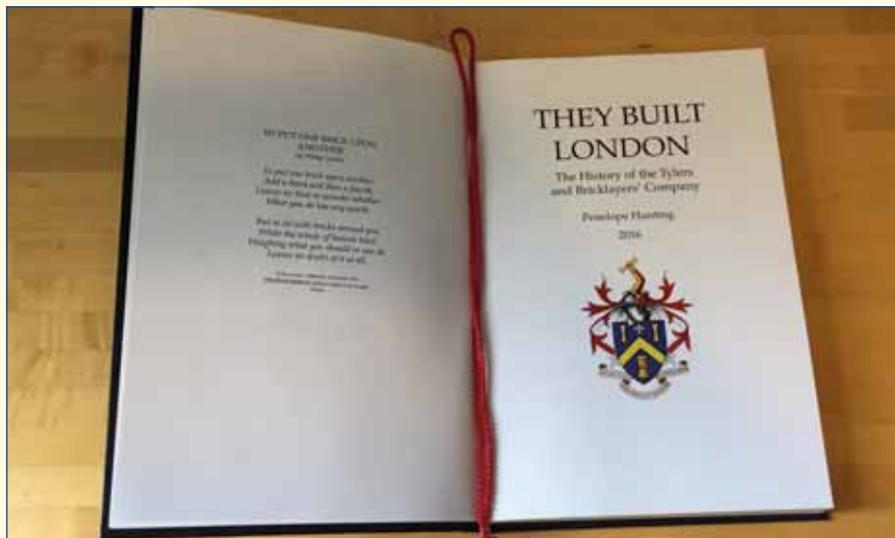
#### Red background

Motif depicting our Armorial Bearings and date of receiving our Royal charter. On red background with blue and gold stripes



#### Blue background

As above with blue background with red and gold stripes



## THEY BUILT LONDON

£50

The History of the Tylers and Bricklayers Company was published to mark the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Company's first Master. This handsome volume runs to some 270 pages and contains over 100 illustrations.

Here are the stories of those who literally did build London (particularly after the Great Fire), of liverymen who

served as Lord Mayor, of noteworthy architects, city planners and builders who contributed to the built environment of the City and Greater London.

This splendid book contains a mass of information about our Company and its people, and will appeal to all who have interest in the City and its social history at various periods in the past.

## ENAMEL LAPEL PIN

£25

Bearing the Company's Coat of Arms



## SILVER GILT CUFFLINKS

£65

Bearing the Company's Coat of Arms



## REPLACEMENT COLLARETTE (MEDAL RIBBON)

£12.50

All items are available to members only from our Learned Clerk Heather Smith:

The Clerk  
The Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers  
25 Glenferrie Road  
St Albans  
AL1 4JT

Email:  
[clerk@tylersandbricklayers.co.uk](mailto:clerk@tylersandbricklayers.co.uk)

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# A Service of Reflection and Hope

**On 22 June 2021, I represented the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers at the Lord Mayor's Service of Reflection and Hope at St Paul's Cathedral.**

Along with other representatives from City livery companies the service was attended by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, City officials, members of the NHS, first responders, armed forces and volunteers who had helped during the Coronavirus pandemic. The Service was led by the Dean of St Paul's, Dr David Ison, and the Bishop of London, the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally. There was also participation from the Jewish and Muslim communities.

In his opening welcome the Dean asked us to remember those who had lost their lives as a result of the pandemic, to give thanks for the sacrificial efforts of those who had risen to meet the needs of the many throughout the year, and to look forward in hope to the future.

After his words there was a moment of silence to remember those who had died. Then followed an African-American Spiritual, **Deep river, my home is over Jordan** sung by the choir. Never have I heard music sung with such feeling by what sounded like the voices of angels, and which brought tears to the eyes of many in the congregation, including myself.

A testimony was then given by Dr Will Ricketts, a chest consultant from Barts Hospital. He talked about how he and his colleagues at Barts had coped with the pandemic saying that experts from many other aspects of health care who gave up their specialities to help in the crisis. He was sad to say that on many days when he began his shift, some of his patients were no longer there to care for as they had passed away. He thanked all those who had helped, by taking food to the hospital for the staff to eat during their long shifts, or by showing them simple acts of kindness, or the Clapping for the NHS on Thursday evenings.

The address was given by Bishop Sarah. She reminded us of the long history of our City insofar as we had overcome plagues in the past and grown stronger as a result. She hoped that the City of London would come back to a full life again very soon.

I knew the service was going to be very much about expressing sorrow for all those died and thanks to all those who had served on the front line during the pandemic. But what I took most from it was the hope that we can get through the pandemic and look forward a future together.

It was a service that I will remember for the rest of my life.

Lesley Day  
**Deputy Master**



Masters of over 40 livery companies gather in the Courtyard of Apothecaries' Hall before processing to St Paul's Cathedral for the service



# Annual Dinner

The Great Hall at Barber-Surgeons

**After many months of delay and at the fourth attempt, the annual dinner was brought to life on Thursday 5 August like a phoenix from the ashes of lockdown. It was a long-anticipated return to normality, and it almost felt as though the last year and a half had passed in a dream.**

Nearly a hundred members and guests attended the reception and dinner in the livery hall of the Barber-Surgeons in Monkwell Square, nestling between the Barbican and London Wall. As far as we can tell, this was the first time the Company had dined at this hall in living memory.

The Worshipful Company of Barbers have had a hall in this location since 1440. In 1636, they added an anatomy theatre designed by Inigo Jones, based on the famous anatomy theatre in Padua. This was the only part of the Barbers buildings to survive the great fire in 1666, but it was demolished in 1784 to make way for housing. The second Barber-Surgeons' hall was almost completely destroyed by an incendiary bomb in December 1940, and the third hall was opened in 1969, 30 feet further

east at the request of the City of London Corporation who were developing the area.

This latest Barber-Surgeons' hall proved a wonderful venue for our event. The reception was highly animated as many people had not seen each other in person for a long time. The arrival of the Sheriff, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli and his consort Elisabeth sent a buzz around the room, and he was greeted by the Master, Dr Michel Saminaden, the mistress Maureen Saminaden, and other members and guests. All too soon we were ushered into the Great Hall, which is dominated by a huge Hans Holbein painting of Henry VIII uniting the Barbers' and Surgeons' Companies.

Grace was given by Liveryman Colin Menzies, and conversation flowed freely around an elongated horseshoe shaped table – no longer any separate tables of six, and what a relief! The meal was surely one of the best we have experienced anywhere – king scallop soufflé and shellfish chowder, poached fillet of Hereford beef with beef cheek tortellini and basil salsa, and a very rich chocolate pot with blackcurrant sorbet

and granulated white chocolate “soil”. As usual, the wine committee pulled out all the stops, with Louis Boyier champagne at the reception, a fine Macon Villages Domaine Chene 2020, our much admired Chateau Beaumont 2014, and a fine madeira to finish.

The Master proposed toasts to the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duchess of Cornwall and the other members of the Royal family, the Lord Mayor, the City of London Corporation and of course the Sheriffs. On this occasion, probably for the first time for years, there was no loving cup, but we enjoyed the sung grace *Laudi Spirituali*.

The welcome to our guests was given by Court Assistant David White. As well as the Sheriff and his consort, these



The fine frontage to Barber-Surgeons' Hall



The Master with Sheriff, Alderman Michael Mainelli

included Mr Stelio Stefanou OBE DL, founder of the Stefanou Foundation, his wife Mrs Suzie Stefanou, Mr James de Sausmarez, Common Council member and Master Joiner and Ceiler, Mr William Makower, Upper Bailiff of the Weavers'

Company, and Mr Freddie Eggleton and Ms Cecily Foster of the Royal Engineers.

The response was given by the principal guest, Alderman and Sheriff Professor Michael Mainelli, who gave an excellent

and amusing speech focusing on aspects of the City during lockdown and the Lord Mayor's activities and aspirations. The Sheriff reported that he and his wife Elisabeth who live at the Old Bailey had been very busy as trials continued "face to face" in lockdown with increased activity due to better utilisation of courtroom space. He noted the long history and tradition of tiling and bricklaying in London, and praised the activities of the Company for over 450 years including its many charitable works, support for the City and the Lord Mayor, its apprentices and its military affiliations. He highlighted the Company's triennial awards fostering excellence in tiling and bricklaying within the M25. Finally, he proposed a toast to the Company, "May it flourish root and branch forever, and good health to the Master".

The Master gave a response to the toast on behalf of the Company, thanking the Sheriff for his kind words, and for agreeing to attend the dinner in his



Sheriff Alderman Michael Mainelli addressing the Company

hectic schedule, with so many other events taking place in a short period due to lockdown. The Master then introduced Julian Cable who provided a musical interlude, playing a range of fine numbers on the Barber-Surgeons' piano including the rather appropriate Gershwin's *Summertime*.

The Master highlighted the extraordinary contribution of Deputy Master Lesley Day, in supporting the Company as acting Clerk for almost a year during the illness of our former Clerk, John Brooks. John has now retired and we are delighted that following hospital treatment he is much improved in health. The Master presented Lesley with a wooden cased mantel clock, hand-made in Scotland, with an engraved plaque expressing the Company's gratitude.

Closing the evening, the Master paid tribute to Party Ingredients, the excellent catering team at the Hall, thanked Julian Cable for his wonderful piano playing, and thanked all members and guests for attending this magnificent event. Not least, he acknowledged the hard work and planning by our learned Clerk, Heather Smith, whose first annual dinner had been a great success, and our long serving Beadle, David Wylie.

Finally, the Master read the words of *The Watchman's Song*. Recently discovered, this apparently used to be sung regularly at the end of Tylers' and Bricklayers' dinners but has not been heard for many generations. (See article in this issue *T&B in Full Voice* p21)

"List! Good people all. Past ten o'clock, the hour I call! Now say your prayers and take your rest, with conscience clear and sins confessed. I bid you all Good Night".

It is an evening which everyone who attended will remember with fondness, our first T&B dinner after 'the great lockdown'.

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Prof John Schofield  
**Upper Warden**



The Master and Mistress and their guests



The famous Hans Holbein painting



Julian Cable provides entertainment



# Summer Outing to Copped Hall

**In rare sunshine, on 10 August Michel and Maureen Saminaden provided members of the Company with a fascinating Charter Day and Consort's visit to Copped Hall near Epping.**

Copped Hall has a long history dating right back to the 12th century when Henry II allocated two acres of Epping Forest for the establishment of a hunting lodge. By 1303 the Copped Hall Estate had already grown to 180 acres of parkland. In 1564 Elizabeth granted Copped Hall to her close friend Sir Thomas Heneage and he set about extensively rebuilding the existing mansion. This was completed by 1568 when Elizabeth I came to stay, but by 1748 after some years of neglect the Elizabethan Copped Hall was demolished. This was superseded with the construction of a new Georgian mansion on a slightly different site and life at Copped Hall thereby continued until 1917 when the central block of the mansion was largely burnt out in a devastating fire. The owner, a Mr Wythes, never rebuilt Copped Hall and the main building remained as a

shell until the estate was sold in 1952 following the deaths of Wythes and his wife. Expecting demolition, the house and garden were unceremoniously stripped of anything remaining considered of value.

Aggressively targetted by developers, Copped Hall has only been saved by a small but vocal number of people determined to maintain the historic building at all costs. The mansion shell had remained in good condition although in need of some stabilisation and the surroundings were still an attractive feature despite some intrusion by the M25. The parkland was eventually saved by the Corporation of London who purchased it in 1992 and the now much vandalised mansion, stables and garden were rescued by a specially formed Copped Hall Trust three years later.

Since then, with a strong team of volunteers, the Trust has been intent on restoring the building and its gardens close to its original 1750's state. It has also established educational, cultural and community uses for the building

alongside the extensive work still going on inside. In 1999 the Trust managed to also acquire the completely derelict walled kitchen garden.

Our visit was led by architect Alan Cox, the enthusiastic and visionary Chair of the Trustees. We were able to see the reinstated floors and roof and the work slowly progressing around the many rooms of the building as funds permit. Seeing much bare original brickwork, the tour provided a rare glimpse into how such large country houses were originally constructed. Clearly it is a long term project of restoration.

Our extensive tour of the mansion was followed by a buffet lunch in the Racquets Court before a further tour led by Alan around the gardens, including the beautifully restored walled garden.

The visit was kindly facilitated by Liveryman Richard (Dick) Speller, one of the Trustees.

David Williams  
Editor



# The Charitable and Craft Trusts

## Charitable giving in a time of Covid-19



**Charities have not been immune to the consequences of the pandemic. Larger charities have certainly suffered a financial hit in the last year. However, a combination of reserves; agile management and creative deployment of resources; regular direct-debited donations; experienced fundraising teams and the benefits of the furlough scheme have mitigated some of the worst effects.**

For many smaller, local charities such as those supported by the Tylers and Bricklayers, the past year has been extremely difficult. Charities providing face-to-face support and services, clinical and palliative care, child and family services and residential care in their local community have been severely affected by Covid-19, especially those unable to hold their regular fundraising events. Many of the charities supported by the Tylers and Bricklayers Charitable Trust and the Craft Trust have reported either financial or operational difficulties. However, thanks to members of the Company who donated to the Trusts, there were sufficient funds available to allow the Trustees to respond to additional urgent requests such as the Livery Kitchens Initiative, feeding 2,100 NHS staff a week in three east London hospitals and providing 2,000 meals a week to thirteen east London community groups. The Craft Trust responded very positively to a request for emergency funding from the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust (Jackfield Tile Museum) following local

flooding. A total of 34 charities were given grants by the Charitable Trust and a further 12 received grants from the Craft Trust.

### CHARITY OF THE YEAR 2019-2020 YOUTHBUILD UK

Due to travel restrictions, social distancing and the closure of most venues, the Master was unable to make the formal presentation of a cheque to YOUTHBUILD UK which would have taken place at the Installation Luncheon. Nonetheless, the charity was delighted to receive a donation of £3,500 and expressed its sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone who supported the appeal.

### CHARITY OF THE YEAR 2020-2021 THE ST EDMUNDS SOCIETY

Based in Norwich, St-Eds supports young people, many of whom have been excluded from full-time education, by way of a range of vocational courses. The construction course includes bricklaying and wall and floor tiling. I am pleased to report that the Company is well on its way to meeting its Charity of the Year target, thanks to the generosity of members supporting the Master's recent appeal.

In late July, Deputy Master Jeff Fuller, a Trustee of the Craft Trust, attended St Edmunds Society's annual Prize Giving at their training centre in Norwich. Liveryman George Clark, impressed by the young talent at St-Eds, had asked Jeff Fuller to present a prize to the trainee

“making best progress in bricklaying”. The winner of the George Clark Award for Bricklaying was Dovydas Markevicius. Dovydas successfully completed his first year bricklaying course and returned in September to complete his diploma in bricklaying. As his prize, he received a copy of George's book *Completing a Cathedral* and a £50 B&Q tool voucher. The CEO of St-Eds was especially pleased when George advised her that he would make this a regular annual prize. Jeff Fuller later commented,

*“I was delighted to attend the St-Eds prizegiving yesterday and present the George Clark bricklaying award on his behalf. It was also fantastic to see so many young people being rewarded particularly those who are not used to achieving let alone being complimented and rewarded for their efforts. Also the [St Edmunds] Trustees and the other award presenters said how good it was to have interest from a London livery company. The parent of one winner expressed amazement that anyone in London would be interested in the work of St-Eds!”*

(Photo) Past Master Jeff Fuller presents the George Clark prize to Dovydas Markevicius, the Trainee “Making the Best Progress in Bricklaying”.

### LEGACIES AND BEQUESTS

Last year I was pleased to report a very generous legacy from Past Master Jeremy Stokes who bequeathed £10,000 to the Charitable Trust and a further £10,000 to the Craft Trust Stokes Royal Engineers Craft Awards for Brickwork prize fund. I have recently been notified that Companion Mrs Jean Margaret Stokes made similar generous bequests. Jean was the widow of Past Master Christopher Stokes (1984) and her obituary appeared in the 2020 newsletter. She leaves £10,000 to the Charitable Trust and £20,000 to the Stokes Royal Engineers Craft Awards for Brickwork prize fund. The Master, Wardens and Trustees are extremely grateful for such bequests and the

long-term benefits that accrue to the Charitable Trusts and their beneficiaries. More information about legacies and how to make a bequest can be found at the back of the White Book.

## GRANTS AND DONATIONS – WHERE THE MONEY GOES!

The three charities and the prize funds under their trust have, in the last year, supported numerous worthwhile projects with grants and donations. Many of these are recurring annual grants, while others are for a maximum of three years. A small number are one-off donations. Thanks to the generosity of freemen and liverymen of the Company, the Trustees have been able to support a range of charities and causes. While single donations, especially to our Charity of the Year, are gratefully received, it is your regular donations by standing order that allow the trustees to efficiently plan their giving, to budget for any emergency and to allow for contingencies.

## THE CHARITABLE TRUST

The Trustees recommended the following grants and continued their practice of choosing a small number of new charities to support for each of the next three consecutive years.

### RECURRING GRANTS:

- The Lord Mayor's Appeal
- The Master's Nomination
- St Paul's Cathedral Foundation
- The Brunswick Youth Club Trust
- The Church of St Margaret Lothbury
- The Guildhall School of Music and Drama
- The Clergy Support Trust (formerly Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy)
- City of London School for Girls – Noreen Dickins prizes

- City of London School for Boys – Noreen Dickins prizes
- City of London Freeman's School – Noreen Dickins prizes
- City of London Police Widows and Orphans Fund
- St Paul's Cathedral School
- St Paul's Cathedral School – Martin Fund prizes
- Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch (ABF The Soldiers' Charity)
- London Air Ambulance
- Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund
- City of London (Guildhall Library & London Metropolitan Archive)
- Royal Engineers – Royal School of Mechanical Engineering Cadets' Open Day

### THREE-YEAR GRANTS:

- Clapton Common Boys Club
- Breast Cancer Haven
- Cure Parkinson's
- Hot Lines Meals Service
- Tower Hamlets Friends & Neighbours
- Newham All Stars Sports
- The Salvation Army
- The Bletchley Park Trust
- The Medway Queen Preservation Society
- KidzAware

Four new charities were selected to receive a three-year grant from October 2020:

- The Creative Dimension Trust
- Cavell Nurses Trust
- The Stuart Low Trust
- Toynbee Hall

The Trustees approved a one-off donation of £500 to the Livery Kitchens Initiative.

## THE CRAFT TRUST

The Trustees of the Craft Trust agreed the following grants be awarded:

### RECURRING ANNUAL GRANTS:

- Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust (Jackfield Tile Museum)
- The Prince's Foundation
- Weald and Downland Open Air Museum
- Bursledon Brickworks Museum
- Building Crafts College – Bricklaying prize

### ONE-OFF GRANTS:

- St Edmunds Society
- Build Up Foundation
- CRASH – The Construction Industry Charity
- Rainy Day Trust
- WorldSkills UK
- St Mungo's
- YouthBuild UK (COY)

In closing, the Trustees extend their thanks on behalf of all the beneficiaries to all freemen and liverymen who have supported the Charitable Trusts. THANK YOU.

Alan Dodd

Court Assistant

For more information about any aspect of charitable giving or if you have any questions, please contact Court Assistant Alan Dodd, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer to the Charitable Trusts.

[charities@tylersandbricklayers.co.uk](mailto:charities@tylersandbricklayers.co.uk)

# Stepping into the Clerk's shoes



Discussing the menu at Craft Awards Lunch 2020

**Having completed my year as Master, Malcolm and I were looking forward to several holidays and time catching up on all those things that hadn't been done during the year. However, as we all now know, life was about to change!**

It was early in 2020 that it became apparent that our Learned Clerk, John

Brooks, was very unwell and likely to be away from his office for some time. Having spent over 20 years in the trade association world (think modern day version of a livery company) I offered to help out on a voluntary basis never realising that the task would continue for almost a year.

With the 2020 Craft Awards and a Court meeting just weeks away it was a very steep and quick learning curve in how events were organised by John Brooks, and I am relieved to report that the Craft Awards and Court meetings went very well. That, of course, was to be the last face to face experience for any of us for over 15 months.

In the first few weeks of lockdown, I spent several hours a day teaching myself how John had operated; thankfully he was very organised and I soon picked up his way of working. Before lockdown I had never heard of video conferencing software programs but needs must, so the Company allowed me to sign up for Zoom Pro and we were able to operate with weekly online sessions with the Master and Wardens, online committee and Court meetings. The 2020 Strategic Review went ahead and was completed on time.

Daily life became a routine of working on livery matters, at the same time ensuring that Malcolm and I got some exercise either in the garden or walking around our area, and queuing at our local supermarket to buy food and essential supplies. I always tried (more often than not, unsuccessfully) to finish work at 4pm so that I could relax for an hour or so before cooking supper.

When it became apparent that normal life was not going to resume for quite some time the Master offered to write monthly letters to the Company and we researched online social events, the first of which was a wine tasting in October 2020, followed by a Magic Show, Carol Service at Christmas, and Cheese Tasting in January 2021.

Sadly, John Brooks submitted his resignation from the Company, and his replacement, Heather Smith, took up her position in January 2021. Once the handover was complete, I was able to resume the activities and hobbies that had been put on hold for the previous two years.

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Lesley Day  
Deputy Master

## Members' News

Liveryman **Michael Ash**: celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, with a Spitfire flight from Biggin Hill, Kent, a gift from his wife Jackie. Michael reports: "There aren't words sufficient to describe how I felt, even AWESOME doesn't do it justice. We flew out over Beachy Head to the English Channel where we did a double victory roll and I was able to take the controls for 15 minutes. Luckily we did not encounter any Messerschmitts!" Michael's grandson, Alex Smith, married Cosette Leese, at St Nicholas Church Southfleet, Kent, on 2 July 2021 followed by a reception at Nurstead Court, Meopham, Kent.

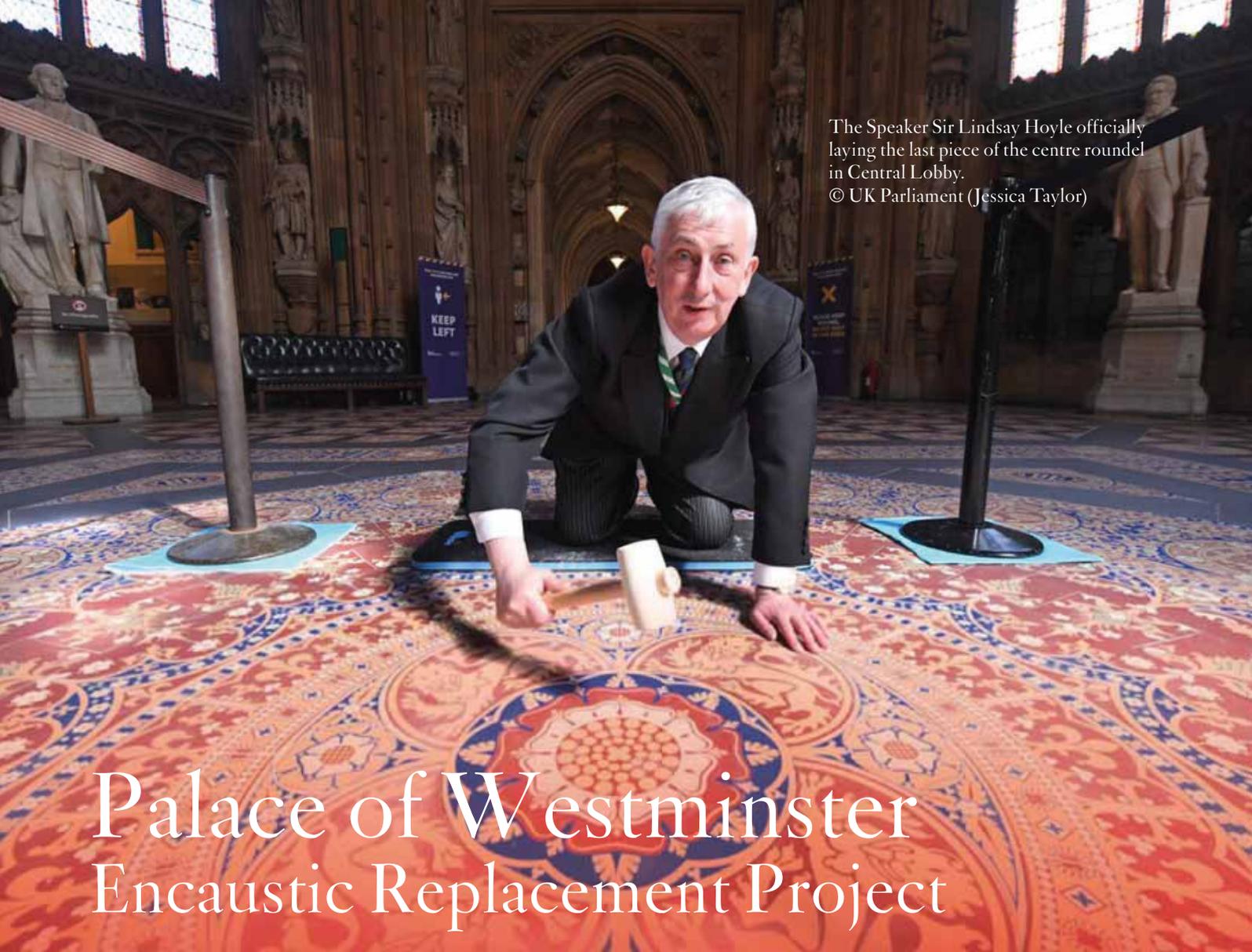
Court Assistant **Alex Maclean Bather**: has been appointed as Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Fuellers.

The Master **Simon Martin**: Simon's daughter, Rachael, married Jonathan Postlethwaite in Stratford-upon-Avon on 7 August 2021, with a reception afterwards at the Fish Hotel in the Cotswolds.

Liveryman **Gordon Penrose**: was awarded an MBE in the New Year Honours 2021 for services to the Roof Tiling and Slating industry.

Gordon is the managing director of Penrose Roofing in Northern Ireland and has played key roles in various roofing associations over the last 60 years. He has been the president of both the National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC) and the International Federation for the Roofing Trade (IFD).

Freeman **Charlotte Pienaar**: and her husband, Andre, had a baby girl on the 8 June 2021 – Annabelle Alice Wilson Pienaar. Annabelle is the first grandchild of Liveryman **Ian Wilson**.



The Speaker Sir Lindsay Hoyle officially laying the last piece of the centre roundel in Central Lobby.  
© UK Parliament (Jessica Taylor)

# Palace of Westminster Encaustic Replacement Project

**The beautiful, Augustus Pugin designed, and Minton manufactured, encaustic pavements were an integral part of Sir Charles Barry's redesign of the Palace of Westminster and showcase Pugin's Gothic Revival style.**

Years of heavy foot fall took its toll on the original floor tiles and in 2008 Craven Dunnill Jackfield were appointed to assist in the ambitious project of restoring the floors to their former glory. Thousands of original worn tiles have been carefully lifted by DBR London and now replaced with exact replicas, or where possible, original salvageable tiles, bringing the floors back to their former vibrant splendour.

A full year of research and development was undertaken by Liveryman Chris Cox of CDJ to create a clay and a suite of corresponding inlay slips that would be both a perfect match to the original tiles. They also had to be fit for purpose, being highly durable and resistant to continual

daily use. A trial panel was laid in St Stephen's Hall in 2010 for assessment and approval before full production could begin. Over the course of the next eleven years work continued throughout the Palace in Members' Entrance, Public Corridor, Lower Waiting Hall, Commons Corridor, Peers' Corridor, Map Corridor, Peers' Lobby and Central Lobby all of which were lifted in their entirety and re-laid with new tiles. Only Royal Gallery and St Stephen's Hall retained a small portion of original material which was deemed to be in good enough condition to be salvaged and reused.

Hundreds of plaster moulds were painstakingly hand-carved to replicate the original designs and from these, 37,500 encaustic tiles were individually pressed, filled, fettled, fired, and cut to exact sizes. In excess of 250 tons of bespoke clay and almost 7,500 litres of inlay slips in various colours were created at Jackfield before the final tile, the centre roundel in Central Lobby was

laid in the spring of 2021 marking the culmination of this impressive project.

The floors throughout the Palace of Westminster once again celebrate the talents of Barry, Pugin, Minton and all those who had a skilled hand in the production of one of the finest examples of encaustic pavement to be seen.

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Adrian Blundell  
Liveryman  
Craven Dunnill Group

*Editor's Note: Members of the Tylers and Bricklayers had the great privilege of viewing progress on the Central Lobby roundel at Jackfield during our Craft Visit in 2018, a giant jigsaw puzzle with many replacement pieces still awaiting manufacture. In last year's Newsletter we reported the successful firing of the final encaustic centrepiece floor tile fresh out of the kiln. We have watched this prestigious project progress to completion with great interest.*

# Natural Rock or Pulhamite?



**Visit a surprisingly large number of municipal parks or private gardens around the country and you might well run into rock formations or other 'ancient' stone relics in totally unnatural places.**

Rock gardens were a Victorian fad which continued well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. But don't be taken in by some of the most skillful simulation or fakery found in the construction industry. What you might think on casual glance is rock is more than likely to be man-made, perhaps 'Pulhamite'. This was a patented

anthropic cement mixture, which takes on the natural gritty finish of sandstone or granite. Under a skilful and artistically applied coating of this may lie used bricks, clinker, discarded china, pottery, ash or any other hardcore found about.

Making artificial rockwork look like naturally occurring formation is perhaps one of the most fascinating and esoteric areas of building. For while most application of cement render involves achieving perfect flatness, the opposite is true when it comes to simulating the

broken randomness, strata, fissures, cracks and flaws of nature. Indeed Pulhamite has been so realistic in its use in making stone features as to fool geologists.

It got its name from James Pulham 1820-98, who in joining the family business, by the age of 25 had become an acknowledged expert on the various type and uses of the cements then on the market. In London particularly, this was the age of stucco, the simulation of expensive carved stone in the construction of new buildings. It was also a good external cover-all to use on inferior bricks and perhaps inferior standards of bricklaying.

The Pulham family also manufactured ornamental plaster work (known then in the trade as plastic compo) which at the time was fast taking the place of more expensive wood carving. Thus they became experts in fakery, finding much cheaper ways to create a traditional desirable effect. However, James Pulham increasingly specialised in garden ornamentation and particularly the process of crafting artificial rock. Developing the product Pulhamite, he opened a factory to produce the finishing material in Broxbourne, Hertfordshire. He also used it to create decorative garden 'stone work', and kept the recipe secret to the end of its production.

Pulhamite was used from the middle of the 19th century, right through to the Second World War. My personal interest was stimulated by its extensive use close to home in Kent – both Ramsgate and Folkestone boast fascinating Pulhamite sculpted structures along their harbours and coastline. From zig zag rock walkways created on a white chalk cliff, to waterfalls, rock tunnels and gardens – sometimes even integrated with superb brickwork. Only the astute would realise that granite or sandstone are not part of the natural geology of these seaside towns – they sit on chalk – but one



Photo: Helmut Zozmann



# T&B in Full Voice



suspects that the execution is too clever by half. Most visitors probably never appreciate what they see for what it actually is – a fabrication.

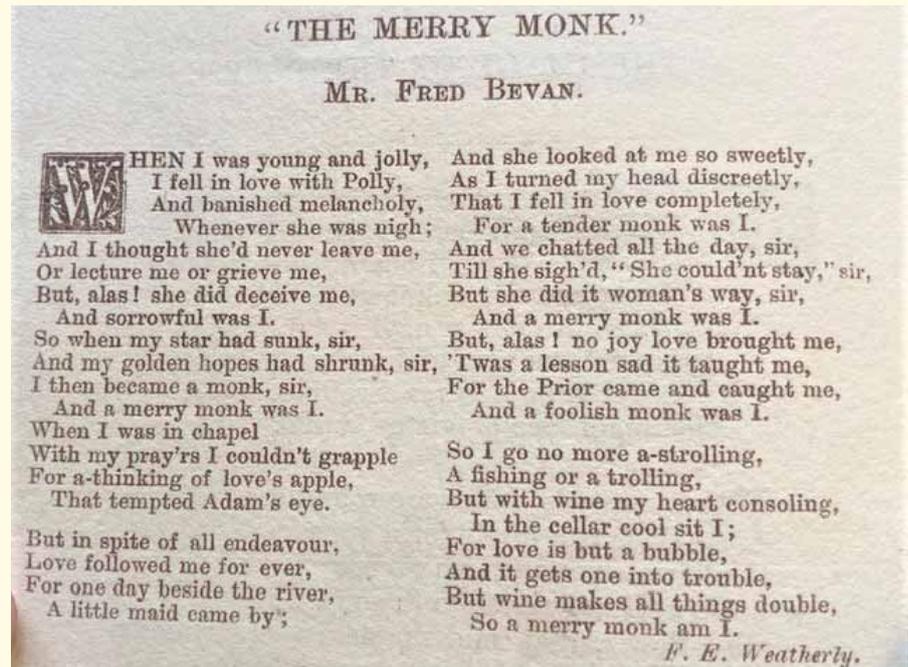
For a time Pulhamite was the “must have” decorative addition to any self-respecting garden design, zoo or municipal park. It featured many times at the Chelsea flower show and its popularity lasted for nearly 80 years. However, changing fashions and the attrition to skilled tradesmen in two world wars finally put paid to the extensive creation of artificial rock.

Our forbears have bequeathed a rich legacy of very well constructed gardens as the photos bear witness. Pulham’s ‘rockwork’ is surprisingly long lasting and has become well weathered, moss and lichen encrusted. Sometimes only later impact damage to the surface may reveal that the ‘natural’ boulder you think you are looking at is merely a covering of usually less than an inch thick.

To preserve this unique heritage, a series of training courses have been established so that the correct methods of care and repair are used to preserve these landscape features. Hopefully the creation and preservation of artificial rock will not become a lost art.

Do look out for rock creations in strange places and, where you find it, admire the amazing artistry and ingenuity of this little recognised craft.

David Williams  
Editor



**As described in last year’s newsletter (*Tylers and Bricklayers, Then and Now*), the Company has long had a strong choral (and dining) tradition. Earlier this year, a leather bound collection of programmes for Tylers and Bricklayers musical evenings held between 1878 and 1893 came to light. This was acquired by the Master who has very generously given it to the Company.**

The collection bears the name on the first page in copperplate handwriting of JWH Lugg of St James’s Road, Bermondsey. Our Company History *They Built London* by Penelope Hunting records that John Lugg was a Bricklayer and Master in 1878-9; this bound collection appears to be his personal memento of fondly remembered Company events.

With a handwritten index of some 280 songs, many used on several occasions, the collection shows that the Company was very active with no fewer than 48 choral evenings (with substantial accompanying dinners) over the six years, presumably in addition to the more formal dinners and lunches that have long populated the Company year. The majority of events were held at the Albion Tavern on Aldersgate, with the occasional soirée in the summer months at the Mitre Hotel at Hampton Court.

The majority of the songs recorded might be described as typical of the age – romantic, and to our taste, perhaps rather saccharine. One exception was *The Merry Monk*, whose travails are fairly long but the illustrated extracts provide a flavour –

While this might hardly be counted as serious, there are several references in the songbook to “A Humorous song” for which (uniquely) no text is provided, so one wonders about those lyrics not considered suitable for printing!

Proceedings commenced with the Company sung grace *Laudi Spirituali* in all years but one (1883). In that year, sung grace at the May gathering was most unusually *Non Nobis Domini* by William Byrd (1590). The Master that year was Stanley Bird – was this departure from tradition a coincidence?

The Company is most grateful to Michel Saminaden for this generous addition to our archives, which reveals a little more about our collective past.

Tom Christopherson  
Court Assistant

# David Wylie – our Beadle

**I left school at the age of 15 and started working for Molins Machine Company in Deptford as an apprentice engineer, attending South East London Technical College on day release three times a week. I was in the Design and Development Department of new cigarette making machines, then finally the Assembly Department.**

I met my wife Gill in May 1969 and we were married in September 1972. My son Martin was born on 5 May 1976 and my daughter Claire on 25 August 1979.

In 1978, I gained employment at the Daily Telegraph in Fleet Street. I was promoted to Engineering Overseer prior to moving to Westferry Printers on the Isle of Dogs in 1986. There I was made Project Manager responsible for the installation of six new printing presses, then moving on to become Engineering Manager for the Press Hall.

In 1986, I joined Kent Special Constabulary and in 1989 was promoted to Section Officer at Swanley Police Station. Promotion to Area Officer at Gravesend Police Station followed in 1991 and I now even had my own office! I was responsible for the interviewing, training and welfare of 60 Special Constables.

My Chief Inspector twisted my arm to join the Kent Police Male Voice Choir; I really enjoyed my time with the Choir and was Concert Manager for three years prior to leaving.

In 2005, I trained as a Professional Toastmaster in Norwich and after a residential course passed my exams and was awarded my Certificate. I became Beadle to the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects in 2007. This is where I first met David Cole-Adams who was the Clerk at that time.

In 2008, I took voluntary redundancy and the following year trained as a wedding/funeral celebrant.

It was around this time that I was interviewed for the position of Beadle

to the Tylers and Bricklayers. A big thank to Ian Mitchell Grimshaw for approaching me.

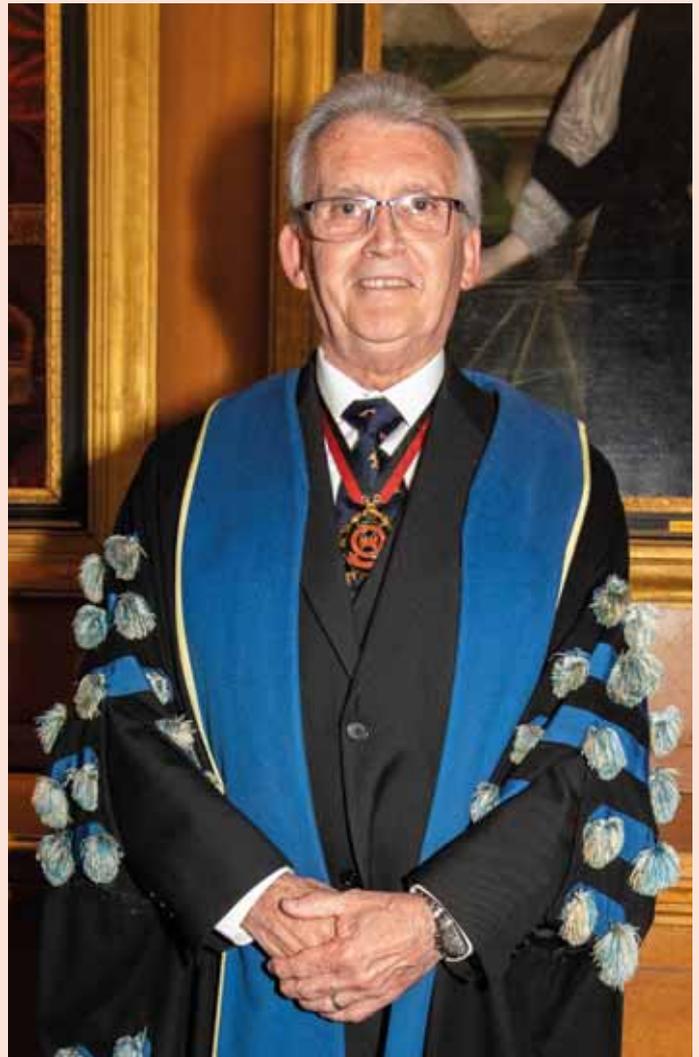
2012 saw yet another move and training as I was ordained a Spiritualist minister.

In October 2019, I was elected and given the privilege of becoming the Chairman of the City of London Beadles Guild with an Election Dinner at Carpenters' Hall, supported by a number of liverymen from the Tylers and Bricklayers and Chartered Architects.

In 2020, I was elected the Beadle for the Worshipful Company of Loriners due to the ill health of a very good friend of mine and fellow Beadle Ian Low. Many of you met him when he stood in for me on occasion. Unfortunately, Ian passed away in August 2020. This left a big hole in my life as we were so close. He was like a brother I never had.

As Beadle, sometimes you have to improvise to keep to the timings. This is one of my stories.

I had a Master who on a number of occasions would go over the allotted time given for his speech. I suggested that I have a bottle of water behind me and that I would touch his shoulder and pour a glass of water to let him know that he only had two minutes. He agreed.



This I did on the first occasion when time was running short only for him to say out loud "The Beadle has poured me a glass of water so I have two minutes to finish and sit down". One of life's funny moments.

I must say it was good to be back with the family of Tylers and Bricklayers on Tuesday 22 June after such a long break due to the COVID-19 restrictions and we have had several functions since.

It is a privilege to be Beadle, especially to the Tylers and Bricklayers.

I wish the new Master all the very best for his delayed year. To the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers, may it flourish, root and branch forever and, of course, Good Health to the Master!

# Upper Warden

## John Schofield

**I joined the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers at the invitation of Dr George Bird, becoming a liveryman in 2008 and joining the Court in 2015.**

I am a medical doctor by profession having qualified at St George's, University of London in 1981. For the last 30 years I have been a Consultant Histopathologist, diagnosing malignant disease by microscopic and molecular analysis of tissue samples. My particular medical diagnostic and research interests are the pathology of lymphoma, leukaemia and colon cancer. In 2014 I became visiting Professor of Pathology at the University of Kent. I am active in teaching the next generation of our doctors, encouraging research and innovation in pathology, and for the last seven years have been a trustee

of the charity Bowel Cancer UK raising awareness of this common but dangerous disease.

I am married to Helen, a pharmaceutical physician and virologist with expertise in drug development, with two daughters – Emma, a recently qualified dentist and Lucy, a civil servant, all now living in South London. My hobbies include the study of art, architecture and antiques. Together, Helen and I enjoy travelling in the UK and abroad, and visiting the Pembrokeshire coast which provides a safe haven away from the bustle of the City.

In the Company, I have chaired the Communications committee and a subgroup of the Strategic Review 2020. I currently serve on the Finance, Craft, Communications, Treasures and



Nominations committees, and organised the stocktake of the Company's treasures in April 2021. After nearly two years of Company life seriously affected by Covid 19, I am looking forward to an exciting year where (we hope!) normal service will resume.

# Renter Warden

## Christopher Causer

**Previous profiles written for the Newsletter have contained information about my career and introduction to the Company, so this time I thought I would just say something about how I spent my time as Renter Warden in Nomination (RWIN).**

The RWIN has two main responsibilities. First, I needed to take the minutes of Court meetings. This required the usual tact and diplomacy of the minute taker, since those who make oral contributions generally like their contribution to be noted, and the version in print needs to read better than a literal transcript would. The past year was challenging because taking notes of Zoom meetings is more difficult than minuting a live meeting. Checking who was present took longer too. Once drafted, the minutes are approved or edited by the Master. I am happy to report that last year's

Master did not choose to rewrite the minutes extensively!

The second responsibility is revising the Company's constitutional documents as required from time to time. Following our Strategic Review, a substantial revision was needed and we took the opportunity to streamline the collection of documents and produce a more user friendly set of papers. There is now a proper Contents page, a uniform numbering system and a logical flow within the documents. Much duplication or triplication was edited out. Terms of reference were drafted for missing committees and Court appointees. All in all, the sort of thing that pleases a lawyer and which should make life easier for future Court members and the Clerk.

Finally, I sat on the Craft and Finance Committees, and I was much involved in



planning for the 2021 Triennial Awards, delayed from 2020.

I am delighted to report that my successor as RWIN is Jenny Rolls, who is serving her second term on the Court and chairs the new Membership Committee.

## New Court Assistants

# Frank Clarke

**I have been involved in the roofing and construction industry from a very early age. In fact I was working with my late father at the age of eight years, sorting and stacking roof tiles for the tilers to nod up, in an era when we used to carry tiles balanced on our heads on top of a soft ring.**

At the age of 16 I started working full time and enjoyed learning the trade skills required, with a particular passion for working on churches, oast houses and heritage buildings. This is still very much something I enjoy. When my father retired, both my brother and I decided to form our own company which was, and still is, very successful.

My brother took early retirement and I decided I needed help and two employees became directors. Now both my sons have learnt the trade and are directors for the third generation.

The company has since grown in every direction to now include construction, restoration and all roofing disciplines.

I joined the National Federation of Roofing Contractors and have served on the slate and tiling and heritage committee. For many years I have also been serving on the London and southern counties committee including periods as vice chair or chairman.

I enjoy seeing young people train and achieve their tiling and slating skills and have watched as many have picked up national awards.

Currently I really enjoy serving on the Craft Committee as this backs up my enthusiasm for training.

Outside of work I enjoy all sports including skiing, sailing, trekking and golf. I have been a long serving supporter



and season ticket holder of Brighton and Hove Albion football club where we attend home matches with my wife, children, and now our grandson. Travel is my greatest passion and I am often found researching trips. I love meeting new people from different cultures and learning about their lives.

# David Williams



**I have enjoyed some variety through my working life, with time spent in HM Forces before working in marketing, management and construction. I have an Honours Degree in Mathematics and I am a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Marketing.**

From school I went to Britannia Royal Naval College Dartmouth with the

intention of joining the Fleet Air Arm and then served as a junior officer on a number of ships, specialising in communications. As well as learning to fly in Tigermoths and Cessnas, and qualifying as a Scuba diver, I saw the world, experiencing early live action in the Far East with the Borneo conflict of 1965. Denis Healey's rapid downsizing of the Navy's carrier fleet in the late 1960's effectively put paid to a flying career!

After leaving the Navy I spent ten years marketing photographic processing, then a boom consumer industry, eventually becoming Managing Director of the market leader running four laboratories.

With an interest in building, in the 1980's I turned my hand to property development, employing a team of mixed trades. By 1985 we were heavily engaged in building contracting as well as exhibition design and construction.

In 1996 my wife and I made the joint decision to fully transfer our family home to Singapore for an indeterminate period. It was not quite the mid-career rest in the sun anticipated! On arrival I secured local employment as Executive Director of the British Chamber of Commerce, helping arrivals from UK to set up business, organising the event programme and publishing a quarterly business magazine for British expats. On return to UK some four years later I recommenced improving property, including one I had just inherited in Jersey.

Our son lives in Australia, and we have two daughters here, plus five grandchildren. I was a keen skier and scuba diver but have felt it prudent to give up both on entering my seventies.

In the T&B I have served as Deputy Chair of the Craft Committee, also as a Steward, and as Editor I have assisted the production of our annual Upper Warden's Newsletter for many years.

# New Freeman

## Rosie Bird



**The Tylers and Bricklayers have had an ever-warming presence in my life for as long as I can remember. As a child, my grandparents would recount the Company's events, the companionship it offered and the charity with infectious enthusiasm. My father Past Master Dr George Bird echoes the same strong sense of purpose and belonging and being lucky enough to join the Company through patrimony, I hope to follow in this well-trodden path.**

I was born in Glasgow so have some claim to Scottish roots but grew up and was schooled in Kent. I went on to study Neuroscience at the University of Edinburgh specialising in my final year on Neurodegeneration and Immunological response in Alzheimer's Disease. From there, I went on to do a research fellowship at King's College London before joining the graduate programme at GlaxoSmithKline. I was fortunate to gain a wide range of experience starting out in the discovery division of Research & Development, moving on to large scale manufacturing and finally, I went to the Lake District in 2020 to support a primary antibiotics manufacturing site. On finishing the programme, I moved back down South and currently work as an Industrial Hygienist at GSK in the development and introduction of new products preparing for early phase clinical trials which I enjoy immensely.

In my free time I'm a keen runner, beekeeper and have aspiration to start water skiing. I also cannot resist Baroque music and am thrilled live concerts and masterclasses are back up and running. Looking forward to many years of T&B to come.

## Charlotte Pienaar

**I grew up in a village close to Cambridge, attending St Mary's School and later university in Newcastle. Taking business studies I went on to start my own cleaning company back in Cambridgeshire, at the weekends and in the evenings helping my father (Ian Wilson) to do admin roles in our family business Anglian Brickwork Ltd.**



After recovering from a health scare my father told me it was time to "come into the fold". I agreed and the construction family business expanded by a generation. I have the role of Finance Director and my mother and father are Company Secretary and Managing Director.

My passion at Anglian Brickwork Ltd is to aid the next generation of bricklayers. The skills of artisans are easily lost and we try to give the newly trained bricklayers professional development and the chance to work using the traditional materials such as lime mortar. We initially used the local colleges for all our training but more recently have started doing it "in house" – from level 1 NVQ in trowel occupations through to levels 2 and

3. It is fantastic that apprenticeships and encouraging the next generation is mirrored by the Tylers and Bricklayers.

I was admitted to the company during the pandemic via zoom. My father is proud and pleased that I have joined, as Ian is a freeman of the City of London and a liveryman of the Company. The companionship and fellowship have been shown to me by my father and I am looking forward to attending events as a member of the T&B.

I am married to Andre, a management-chartered accountant, and we have a four month old baby Annabelle. Outside of work I play golf, run and enjoy gardening.

## Dan Clarkson

**I am joint Managing Director at Lee Marley Brickwork (LMB), the largest brickwork and scaffolding business in the UK with offices in London, Reading, Glasgow and Leeds.**

Educated at Bedford School, University College London and City University. I have been fortunate to have a varied career mostly working for myself spanning recycling, building conservation, and now construction. In 2011 I had the opportunity to invest in an old friend's business, LMB, to help grow the scaffolding business and take advantage of the London construction market's move to ever taller brickwork tower blocks. Lee Marley and I have together grown the business from £17m in 2011 to a predicted £55m in 2021.



We have continually developed our training offering to become the largest employer of apprentice bricklayers in the UK, also developing our own graduate programme.

# What I did in lockdown

In March 2021 the UK was in the middle of the third national lockdown. There were many newspaper and online articles with advice on how to make the most of the time spent not commuting, seeing family and friends, going on holiday, travelling or participating in sport and other group activities.

The Upper Warden wondered how members of the T&B were spending the long months and asked for “lockdown stories”. Here are some responses received to the investigation “What I did in lockdown”.

## PAST MASTER DAVID SZYMANSKI

“Lockdown has been extremely tough for everyone but living in the North Somerset countryside has ‘softened the blow’. Whilst we all do our best to follow the rules, there is an obvious nervousness as Covid is an awful disease. However, it is important that we keep mind and body in good shape, and we have endeavoured to do that. Although I have been cycling regularly for the last 9 years, since the first lockdown I have committed to 100 miles per week, which I have missed only four times. Consequently, I feel extremely fit and have lost over a stone in weight. During the winter months it could be bitterly cold but lots of layers of clothing solved the problem. Summer is a pure joy when the sun is shining! Fingers crossed we will all be back to a joyful normality by the end of the Summer”.

## PAST MASTER DAVID COLE-ADAMS

“The Covid year began with the lockdown following our return from a holiday in Sri Lanka, progressed through discovering the joy of walking in the medieval woodland that is our extended rear garden and gave me the impetus to sharpen the pencil, dust off the records and research and complete a history of the Chartered Architects’ Company and see it published.

The year has been the acquisition of skills related to participation in a range of electronic livery and City meetings and with our families abroad. Sadly we have said goodbye to some old friends.

It has been wonderful to see how the officers and staff of the Company have coped with all the new challenges thrown at them by current circumstances.”



## LIVERYMAN CHRIS COX

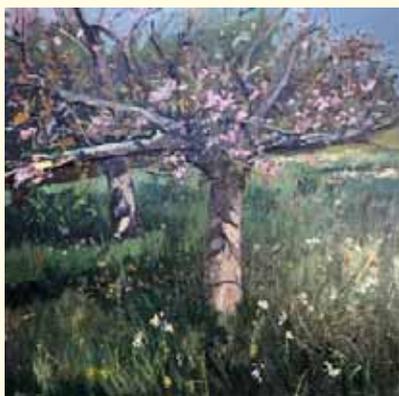
“Despite working full time throughout 2020 manufacturing traditional encaustic floor tiles at Craven Dunnill Jackfield Ltd, I managed to find time in the evenings to produce a set of buildings for my exhibition model railway layout. The model is based on Bricklayers Arms, Bermondsey and is set in 1845. Such an early date requires me to build from scratch everything associated with it from the locomotives

and rolling stock to all the buildings, some of which are illustrated here. The scale is 4mm to the foot (or 00 gauge as it is more commonly known). The buildings are made from brick embossed styrene sheet which has to be accurately measured, cut, pieced together and painted, working from old photographs and my own extensive research.”

### PAST MASTER NICK CARTER

“The first lockdown was a rather surreal event in that we live in London. The streets and parks emptied of people, there was no traffic, no aeroplanes coming into land at Heathrow and it was all very quiet. In order to keep my sanity, I needed a project and fortunately one was at hand.

For the past 25 years, Fiona and I have travelled extensively and each major trip was faithfully recorded by a daily entry into a journal. There are 20 journals and my lockdown project was to type these up so that they could be read as the originals were in my longhand which for many could be a bit challenging. This operation took several hours a day and took the whole of lockdown. I typed some 160,000 words.”



### LIVERYMAN KARL TERRY

“I’m embarrassed to admit that I really enjoyed lockdown. A shortage in materials meant that I had to furlough my team and used the seven weeks off to engage in my passion for plein air painting. I live near Rye in East Sussex and my local farmer gave me a copy of his land maps and permission to paint anywhere I liked within his 6,000 acres of land. I had a field day exploring his woods which were full of wildlife and bluebells and spent every day painting from dawn to dusk. At the end of the period I had a haul of 70 paintings many of which have already found nice homes!”

### COURT ASSISTANT RICHARD UZUPRIS

“Lockdown 2 affected Janet and me more than the first, mainly because of the weather, which put an end to much outdoor activity. I was unable to go to the gym or play bowls and I am a fair weather cyclist at best. I researched my father’s war record and using Dr Google, and the stories he had told me I put his story, from Dunkirk to Italy via North Africa, on a Word document which I sent to other members of the family.

I am brushing up my limited Greek in the hope that our holiday in Limnos, scheduled to begin 24 June 2021 will go ahead. We both had more time for crosswords but I am still useless at cryptic clues and Sudoku. Many books have been read and I discovered Barry Eisler and Ben MacIntyre and reread Philip Kerr, Stuart MacBride, Ian Rankin and Mark Billingham. I also found time to reorganise my limited wine stock and sock drawer.”

### FREEMAN CHARLOTTE PIENAAR

“I have spent the lockdown working and running a construction business through Covid 19. This has meant every day has been different and the lockdown has definitely brought extra challenges.

At the weekends a weekly bake off and cocktails with my best friend from school who lives in Australia. We have regained our close friendship after years of it being the ‘wrong time to chat’ until now. We all have more time in the lockdown.

It has been such a horrible time for many but I feel blessed to have my friend back in my life.”

### LIVERYMAN DOUGLAS WASS

“I am a solicitor, specialising in construction disputes. The papers in cases often fill dozens of lever arch files. The key work is usually undertaken in numerous meetings with architects, structural engineers and quantity surveyors, who carefully guide the lawyers through the papers and ensure they understand the technical issues. Pre-Covid, a suggestion that we prepare such complex cases without ever meeting in person and then present them to a court by video conference would have been dismissed as impossible. It is amazing to think that, over a relatively short period of time, what was considered impossible is now routine.”

### PAST MASTER ROGER WESTBROOK

“Since I retired from the Diplomatic Service at the end of the last century (millennium if you like), my life has been regulated by the Diary. The now 20 identical black leather-bound volumes fill half a shelf in my bookcase. With the advent of Covid, the Diary has quite disappeared. Its place has been taken by the little blue book, which rules my life even more rigorously than the little red book dominated Chairman Mao’s China. The little blue book is the Whitstable Harbour and District Tide Table. Forty minutes before the time given for High Tide, I don my bathing shorts (now a very faded red with blue lobsters), my jelly shoes, grab my towel and a battered Panama and sally forth for a swim, the only fixed point in the day. I wonder if the 2021 diary will come back into play?”

## COURT ASSISTANT ALAN DODD

“Almost a month before the first lockdown I found myself having to react to Covid-19. On 27 February 2020, I was on my way to a meeting in Bishop Auckland. Already on the motorway and an hour into my journey, I received a call from my daughter. A parent at our granddaughter’s school had returned from a ski-ing holiday in Italy and had tested positive for coronavirus.

The school, once notified, had closed immediately. We had spent the weekend before at our daughter’s home, playing with our two grandchildren. I cancelled my meeting, turned round and went home. One month later, the lockdown began!”

## COURT ASSISTANT CHARLES COLLINS

“One lockdown project: getting the car into the garage. First thing, improve the lighting from 40W bulbs to LED striplights, if electrical factors ever re-open. Then, can I hang the bike on the ceiling? Do I really need my old model railway, puppets and puppet theatre? Will my son ever notice if I quietly dump boxes of old toys and his possible first edition Harry Potter novels? What about my grandfather’s 1918 ration book, or will we be needing that again during the lockdown? Will I need to set up a temporary field kitchen once the builders barricade themselves in half the house and strip out our actual kitchen for 5 weeks... perhaps the car is really much happier outside, I’ll curate the family photos and rebuild the woodshed instead”.

## LIVERYMAN PAUL CANO-LOPEZ

“I used to say “Stop the world I want to get off”.

I decided to do what I enjoy as I could now control what I wanted to do.

I opted for teaching 17–18-year-olds Construction on a BTEC Course one day a week. I was then offered a second day at a different College. Research I was working on gained funding. Doing a few management NVQs as well. Work is a pleasure.

The problem now is that the crazy world is starting up again – can I stay in control? Time will tell.”

## FREEMAN ROGER BOOTH

“I self-published a historical novel *Promised Land* begun in 2006.

Marijke worked on multi-colour linocut design and a series of landscape paintings to record last year’s months of freedom.

Together we WhatsApped our friends and family and became online concert and lecture fiends. We walked and cycled in the parks and suburban streets. Absent which, we devoted ourselves to 1,000 piece jigsaws of artworks by Brueghel, Vermeer, Turner, Klimt and more, each a month’s labour of love.

All good. But we are not sad to be moving on.”

## LIVERYMAN MARTIN READING

To be honest I never really gave pandemics much thought, in fact I didn’t really know what they meant or what their consequences might be, but why would I?

Like most Britons I thought they always happened somewhere else in the world and would never make their way to our shores but how wrong and arrogant could I be.

I suppose the true reality of what was happening really hit home on returning from my trip to Australia in March 2020. When I left the UK in late January of that year there was only a silly YouTube video of someone eating a bat coupled with a suspected virus dangerous to humans identified in a fish market in Wuhan, China and I didn’t really take much notice.

Within 6 weeks of my trip the whole world had been turned upside down and this situation affected me personally as I needed to get home. Now I had to take notice.

I was unable to contact the airline

by phone or email, I only had the instructions that were sent to me. I didn’t really know if my flights or connections were leaving at the specified times or at all, which I have to say was a touch scary. I managed to get my internal flight but on arriving at the international airport it was totally deserted. I felt like I was appearing in an episode of the 60’s social science fiction serial ‘The Prisoner’.

Thankfully I did manage to return safely to the UK and quarantined for 14 days then somehow a year passed and we are at this place – civil liberties challenged, mask wearing, several lockdowns, countless rule changes. I suppose I have adapted like many others to what is considered ‘The new normal’ which I am sure will be our reality for the foreseeable future.

In this modern and ever-changing world of technologies I have been comparing the situation to the new iPhone 12, Dyson 11, PlayStation 5 now we have Covid 19. Let’s hope we will never see the new 20 version!”

## LIVERYMAN JOHNNY SZYMANSKI

“Lockdown was a game changer for me. After quite a long time trying to find the job that I wanted, I decided that I would create that job for myself. During the first lockdown I taught myself to sew and to make bags. I practiced and practiced until they became good enough to sell...and they did sell. At the same time, I started to design a small menswear collection that I would launch online ([www.johnnyszymanski.com](http://www.johnnyszymanski.com)). As things developed, I took on a small shop in my local town (Frome) and now the business is doing well and I'm on to the next collection.”

## LIVERYMAN IAN HARMOND

“Like youngsters of my generation asking their father what they did in the war, perhaps we will be asked by our grandchildren what we did in the time of Covid. The answer for Sue and me would be very straight forward, which is not unlike what we did before it. Yes, London was out and luckily my godson is living in the house and has kept the lights on, so our efforts were concentrated on Wales and rebuilding boundary fences knocked down by the River Usk (an annual event), and working with the chainsaw in the wood getting logs to keep us warm next winter.”

## FREEMAN ANDY MATHER

“Overnight, like so many others, my working life went from sharing an office and in-person meetings, to solo home working with endless Zoom videocalls. Luckily, the spare bedroom of our London flat became an office and I learnt to live without printing! Our daily exercise was walking or running the streets around our home, discovering old buildings and quiet corners we never knew existed. At times, the streets of central London have seemed eerie, and I will always remember the feeling of crossing an empty Waterloo Bridge as though on a film set. More positively, our first child Evelyn (Evie) was born on 23 August at a petite 6lb 2oz. Melissa and Evie are both doing well although we're struggling a bit with sleep deprivation!”



## LIVERYMAN MIKE GEE

“I have been retired for 19 years and for most of that time have wanted to create a more ‘alfresco’ feel to our rear garden. Unfortunately, golf in the summer and extended winter sunshine breaks have pushed the project to the back burner. Lockdown has provided the perfect opportunity.

A year ago, I got some quotes from local landscaping companies and quickly decided that with my modest

construction skills and the help of YouTube videos I could do the decking myself. My neighbourhood builders merchant were extremely helpful.

Once the decking was complete, we bought a Summerhouse and I insulated and lined it so it really is an extra garden room.

Now to enjoy the garden, but guess what, the golf course is open again!”

## LIVERYMAN GERALD CLASSEY

““What do you know about paint mixing?” he asked.

“Not a lot” I said.

“You'll soon pick it up” he said.

“OK, now what?” I said.

...and that's how ‘retired’ person moves to ‘semi-retired’ and becomes a key member of the Valspar paint mixing desk at B&Q Sutton!

But jesting aside, while others were having to lead very ‘sheltered’ lives, from the very start of lockdown I was able to work under full Covid-19 protection 4 x 5 hour shifts a week in a large B&Q Warehouse outlet that was deemed ‘essential’ and was first hand witness to the explosion of ‘home improvements’ that lockdown brought about!

I decided to put my ‘wages’ towards the wine and holiday fund but as ‘holidays’ still seem a way off my wine rack now overfloweth! Every cloud...”



# A Day in Ely Cathedral

**Shortly after Lockdown earlier this year, Marijke and I spent a liberating fortnight on the North Norfolk coast. One day, though, it turned wet and blustery and we drove down to seek sanctuary in Ely Cathedral. First, an interesting tour of the Stained Glass Museum housed on the first floor then back down to the nave, where we admired the majestic octagonal tower before passing through the North transept and on into the Lady Chapel, the largest of its kind in England. We looked up at the translucent windows and this is what we saw:**

I had only joined the Company the previous year and, as you can imagine,

Marijke and I were both passing surprised. But to begin at the beginning...

The Lady Chapel dates from the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and featured, besides painted statues inside and out, a series of carvings. These are thought to have depicted miracles ascribed to the Virgin during her life, drawn from non-canonical gospels. A high expression of medieval faith, the Chapel was anathema to the Puritans. Perhaps 65 statues, the stained glass and the many carvings were all destroyed, the task made easier by the softness of the carved stone.

Ely had been a monastic establishment but for a Protestant cathedral the

Chapel was redundant and it must soldier on as a parish church. Its condition went from bad to worse and in the gloom of green Victorian windows is said to have moved a visiting Augustus Pugin to tears. From 1936 it fell into disuse.

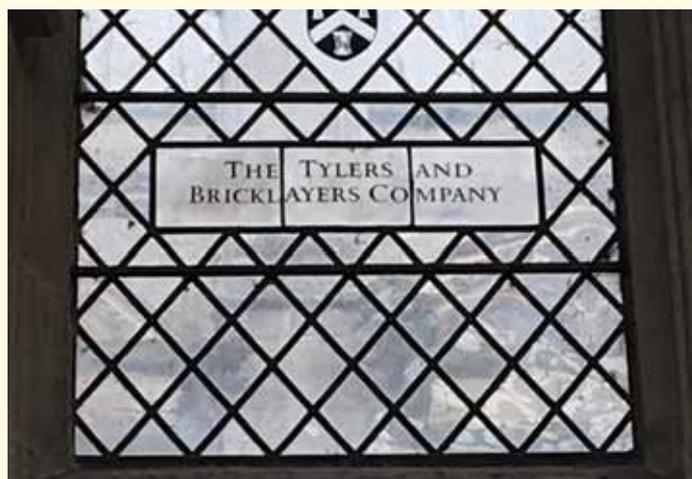
By 1980 the overall condition of the Cathedral itself had deteriorated alarmingly. Root and branch restoration got underway which was to last some two decades. An early beneficiary of this effort was the Lady Chapel which the Cathedral was now able, once more, to reclaim as its own. Between 1980 and 1986 the Chapel underwent a thorough overhaul including its windows. Sponsors of the new windows included major companies with operations in Ely, local families, and ... the Tylers and Bricklayers.

Quite how we became involved with the Chapel is still unclear. Any members who have a recollection could usefully get in touch. But, if we include the design and construction skills of three former members of the Company deployed in Liverpool, Bradford, Guildford and Southwark, it brings the number of English cathedrals to which we have some connection to five.

All in all, a good return on a rainy day!

**Roger Booth**  
**Liveryman**

*Grateful thanks are due to David Bruce, Cellarer at Ely Cathedral, for his kind help in researching this article, any errors being my own.*



# Tracking down Armorial Bearings

**Penelope Hunting in her History of the Tylers and Bricklayers Company *The Built London*, mentions being notified by David Fuller of a “T&B Coat of Arms” existing in Norwich dating from the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century. There was no indication given in the history about the size, origin, nature or current whereabouts of this item.**

Interest was kindled after I noticed on ebay the offer for sale of a 1968 photograph of the said “Tylers and Bricklayers Coat of Arms”. Shown leaning against a wall it was plainly very large and of substantial weight. It appeared to comprise a fine 3D wood carving of some antiquity and amusingly incorporates at the bottom a foliate face – perhaps that of a green man.

It is known that a number of provincial guilds (and indeed many Bricklayers Arms pubs) adopted the Armorial Bearings (Coat of Arms) of the Tylers and Bricklayers of the City of London.



The surprising fact about this wooden Coat of Arms was that there is no record of the Tylers and Bricklayers in Norwich ever possessing their own hall for which to commission such a large and costly object. Historical records would indicate that the Guild in Norwich only generally numbered between 20 and 30 members.

Thoughts naturally turned initially to whether this particular Coat of Arms had ever been in London – perhaps having been requisitioned from Tylers and Bricklayers Hall in Leadenhall Street where we know Coat of Arms would certainly have once existed and have been later removed?

However, with the information on the back of the photograph, I traced the Coat of Arms to the Museum of Norwich. Making enquiries with them, it was established that the Arms had once hung in St Andrew’s Hall in Norwich, the City’s civic hall. Moreover, I was to find its current location – the Tide and Time Museum in Great Yarmouth, now forming part of their Bridewell Collection. Furthermore it was also available to view!

Past Master Jeff Fuller, living locally, offered to pay a visit and was



able to ascertain that the Coat of Arms was indeed firmly linked in their museum records to the Tylers and Bricklayers Guild in Norwich. He further found that the museum also possessed a large pewter flagon dating to 1761 bearing the Tylers and Bricklayers Coat of Arms and the names of members of the Norwich Guild.

This Coat of Arms was apparently one of a set of four, although the location of the others remains unknown. Presumably they represented other local guilds sharing use of St Andrew’s Hall. At one time, the ancient city of Norwich was second only to London in size and in trade and clearly the local guilds were active.

Alas, being relatively fragile, the blades of the brickhammer proudly held aloft by the dexter hand in the crest had clearly not survived the various relocations of this heavy object over the years and it would perhaps be good to sometime see them reinstated. It was gratifying to note the survival of these provincial T&B artifacts.

David Williams  
Editor



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# Christ's Hospital School Appeal

**In 2007 the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers, at the instigation of Past Master Tom Hoffman, launched an appeal to raise funds to educate a child from a disadvantaged background at Christ's Hospital School in Horsham. The appeal was so successful that the Company has been able to cover the costs of educating two children (known as presentees). Our first presentee was Onyinye Udokporo, who was at school from 2009 until 2016 and the second is Kiyan Rahmann.**

After completing seven years at Christ's Hospital Onyinye went on to King's College London and now, at the age of 23, runs her own successful online tutoring educational platform with lessons taught by qualified tutors. Onyinye became an Apprentice of the Company in 2016 and was admitted as a Freeman in September 2021. She has been a wonderful ambassador for the Company, both in the Livery movement and in the City, where she has become widely known (she made a speech at Common Hall in June 2019 at the invitation of the current Lord Mayor), and also in her wider activities. Kiyan has just begun his third year and is doing very well at the school.

The time has now come for the Company to plan ahead and raise funds to support a third presentee at the School. I therefore announced at the Installation Lunch an Appeal to raise £36,600 to cover the cost of educating another child at Christ's Hospital School. The Court has agreed that the Company will match fund donations from members to a value of £18,000. I hope that every member of the Company will make a donation, large or small, to support the appeal. Members of the Court have already pledged over £8000 in support

of the appeal so we are well on our way to achieving the target.

Why do this? Our support for Onyinye and the opportunity which a Christ's Hospital School education has given her has been genuinely life changing. We have similar hopes for Kiyan. Collectively we have done something which would be beyond most of us individually. It is a great example of one of our core objectives – to help others through charitable giving. Quite simply, it is the

Tylers and Bricklayers at our best. We can and should be proud of our support for Onyinye and what she has achieved.

Deputy Master Lesley Day has kindly agreed to lead an Appeal Committee. Lesley and I will be writing to you shortly to explain how you can make a donation in support of the Appeal.

---

Simon Martin  
Master



## Freeman Onyinye Udokporo writes:

“My parents were keen for me to attend Christ's Hospital after attending an open day and seeing the vast amount of opportunity on offer for me in a boarding school environment. I was able to focus on academia as well as embrace the sporting and extra-curricular activities on offer. Going to a boarding school in West Sussex gave me the chance to broaden my horizons and exposed me to a level of aspiration that was not available to me in my hometown of Edmonton, North London.

The education at Christ's Hospital is first class and not only did I excel in my academic subjects, but I was also formally diagnosed with dyslexia whilst I was there. This made a

world of difference to my academic performance and to everyone's surprise, English Literature ended up being my best and favourite subject. I went on to complete a BA(Hons) in Religion, Politics and Society and a Masters in Education, Policy and Society by the age of 22 at King's College London where I was also the first-ever Student of the Year.

I am very grateful to the Company for funding my place at Christ's Hospital. Going to CH was truly a life changing opportunity that has enabled me to have a successful career at a young age. I credit a lot of my success to the formative years spent in a boarding environment.”

# Zoom For Beginners

**In those far-off days before Covid, this techno-virgin associated the word zoom with nothing except possibly a command from Dan Dare in the Eagle comic strip**

Then in March last year we were suddenly confined to barracks but needed to maintain contact in order to ensure that our Company was kept running smoothly and efficiently. Suddenly Zoom had a new meaning. However unskilled I may have felt in participating in my first Zoom meeting, I soon came to appreciate what it could do – even if nothing could quite make up for the lack of real human interaction.

I soon learned that Zoom, and other systems such as YouTube, had many other applications. Our Carol Service in December 2020 (the best of several that I watched at home) was viewed by more people than could have been accommodated in St Margaret Lothbury. It was even possible to use Zoom for tutored wine tastings and cheese tastings: the organiser ensured that Deliveroo (now there's a name that not even Dan Dare would recognise!) brought the required mini-bottles or samples of cheese to the homes of those

who had booked for the event and the tasting went ahead as normal, except without those vaguely inane comments from those around you at a real tasting (I've always failed to detect the "notes of gooseberry mixed with rhubarb" that others find in some wines).

Thanks also to Zoom, we had a magic show that was most entertaining although it failed to reveal the methods used by some in their business dealings. We had a lecture on the brick industry: for me, a considerable improvement on sitting in an uncomfortable room straining to see the magic-lantern illustrations. We had a tour of some of the secret gardens of the City, largely inaccessible in normal circumstances to the public and then only in tiny organised groups. Common Hall was conducted on Zoom, the participation being rather larger than we have had in recent years: this has given us the idea of experimenting this coming spring by again holding Common Hall by Zoom, with the informal livery-only dinner (usually a most enjoyable occasion) held on another evening.

Court and committee meetings have also been held on Zoom for the past 16



months. It turns out that such meetings can often conduct business quicker on-line than in person (lack of irrelevant banter is the main reason, I suspect). Sitting in one's study (or archiepiscopal kitchen) saves on travelling time (and expenses), a considerable boon particularly for self-employed members. The future includes a 'virtual' tour (of Smithfield and Clerkenwell) and the annual craft lecture given on-line.

I'm relieved to be less of an apprehensive beginner in these 'virtual' worlds: they have a great deal to offer and I doubt if they will disappear altogether. Nonetheless my feeling of joyous relief at the Trinity House lunch on 22 June was clearly shared by everyone present: we were once again among our 'real' friends, so important a part of the Livery.

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Colin Menzies  
Liveryman and Steward

## More Members' News

Past Master **David Cole-Adams**: has completed a history of the Company of Chartered Architects of which he is a Past Master. The history was published under the title **Firmness, Commodity and Delight** and draws on David's detailed knowledge of the Company. David comments that he was at the first meeting that led to its formation 30 years ago, has been on the Court ever since and, as its clerk for 13 years, "knew where the bodies were hidden".

Past Master **Piers Nicholson**: reports that work on his Fleet Street sundial artwork project is well under way. The

site is a large blank wall at the entrance to Bouverie Street. Scaffolding went up in August and the work is expected to have been now completed. The sundial incorporates the mastheads of five of the newspapers that used to be published on the site – **The Republican**, the **Pall Mall Gazette**, the **Morning Post**, the **News Chronicle** and the **Daily Herald**.

Court Assistant **David Williams**: David and Sally's son Jonathan became a father to a baby boy in Sydney, in April 2021. Grandparents are eagerly awaiting seeing the arrival "in the flesh" next year rather than on Zoom.

Past Master **David Szymanski**: has taken over as Chairman of his village shop and cafe committee – a 'community run' enterprise.

Liveryman **Piers Wigan**: Piers' eldest son, Tom, married his long-term girlfriend, Julia (she is Spanish so the 'J' sounds like an 'H'!) at St Menefreda, St Minver, Cornwall on Saturday 3 July 2021 with a reception afterwards at the Point. Piers reports "only a year's postponement but still under COVID restrictions. A good time was had by all."



# Triennial Awards 2021

**The Company's prestigious Triennial Awards were presented in the magnificent surroundings of Apothecaries' Hall on Thursday 2 September 2021 by the Master, in company with Ms Victoria Russell, Chairman of the Livery Committee.**

The Triennial Awards recognise excellence in the Company's three crafts of Roof Slating and Tiling, Bricklaying and Wall and Floor Tiling. Traditionally, construction schemes for consideration must be completed in the preceding three-year period and lie within the catchment area prescribed by the M25 motorway. These Triennial Awards were originally scheduled to be held in 2020, but had to be postponed following the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 global pandemic.

The gradual lifting of restrictions during the first half of 2021 meant that the Awards became a distinct possibility for us in 2021 and plans were subsequently made to hold the event in September. It was decided that with the delay entries would be accepted, exceptionally, across

a four-year period. What then followed was a major exercise in logistics and organisation with all members of the Craft Committee pulling together at short notice to assess entries, collate shortlists and attend restricted viewings of the various projects. Modern technologies such as Zoom, and FaceTime were used to make the process as fair and inclusive as possible.

The Brickwork Award was won by Lead Craftsman Bob Addison on behalf of Irvine-Whitlock Limited for The Interlock, Riding House Street. The project was conceived by Architects Bureau de Change who modelled the façade using 3D technology before engaging with Wienerberger to produce over 40 bespoke brick moulds. Irvine-Whitlock then used detailed paper 'maps' of the façade to accurately lay the bricks to form the intricate 'cog-like' appearance.

Battersea Arts Centre received the Roof Slating and Tiling Award with George Richardson collecting the award on behalf of former winners in 2014, Richardson Roofing Limited.

Lead Craftsman Lawrence Hatley collected his winner's medal. The full re-roof became necessary following a catastrophic fire at the Grade II listed building in 2015 that only left the masonry walls standing. Modern construction standards had to be reverse engineered into the new roof to replicate



Chairman of the Craft Committee, Court Assistant David White



precisely the form and features of the original roof.

The Wall and Floor Tiling Award went to The Mosaic Restoration Company Ltd for their outstanding restoration of the frieze at The Royal Albert Hall. Initial surveys to support the restoration were made in 2017, although earlier surveys and minor holding repairs had taken place in 1999 and 2007. The objective was to retain the existing mosaic, conserving where necessary to ensure the longevity of the works. The successful completion of the project

was achieved, not only because of the complicated, skilful, hard work carried out by the Mosaic Restoration team both on and off site, but also due to the support of Liveryman Adrian Blundell of Craven Dunnill Jackfield Ltd.

Richard Lavington, the Chairman of the final judging panel, could not make the luncheon but had commended the excellent quality and diversity of all the schemes entered for these awards. “The level of craftsmanship, and the knowledge shown by the tradesmen’s concepts through to the completed

works across all disciplines, perfectly translated the designers’ aspirations”.

The standard was sufficiently high for the judging panel to nominate two schemes for special commendation which may well have won in other years.

In the brickwork category, Architects Maccreevor Lavington’s major redevelopment at Blackfriars Circus won commendation from the entire judging panel for its use of a multiplicity of different bricks, the overall quality of the workmanship and the skills of the bricklayers.





The Royal Albert Hall

In the Wall and Floor Tiling category, a quite unique project designed by the world-renowned artist Brian Clarke received much praise for its use of a large number of unique 3D glazed ceramic blocks and tiles, including hand crafted ceramic handrails and glazed skirtings in the refurbishment of a private Arts and Crafts house in West London.

After the presentation of the awards, The Master, Wardens, Mrs Russell and other guests then moved to the Courtyard where drinks were served, taking advantage of some rare sunshine. Luncheon was served in the elegant Great Hall with excellent wines.

After the toasts there followed a short speech by our Guest of Honour, Victoria Russell, who went on to say,

“I enjoyed the day enormously and thought the Awards Ceremony was a truly memorable occasion, it was an honour to be included”.

The Master then closed proceedings by thanking everyone for their attendance at this prestigious event. He paid special thanks to all the entrants and to Chairman of the Craft Committee, Court Assistant David White and his dedicated team who put so much hard work into the event, ensuring that the Triennial Awards delayed by exceptional circumstances were, once again, a great success.

The Company’s gratitude is expressed to all those who assisted with the arrangements, assessment, and presentation of the Awards.

The final assessments were carried out by Richard Lavington (Chairman), Michel Saminaden (The Master) and David White with assistance from Bob Howard MBE.

The Company is extremely grateful for the generosity of our sponsors; The Brick Development Association, The National Federation of Roofing Contractors, The Tile Association, The Association of Brickwork Contractors, Forterra Building Products Limited, Wienerberger Limited, York Handmade, Welsh Slate, Craven Dunnill Jackfield Limited, Fuller Builders Limited, Wyvern Properties Limited, and Whitehouse Contracts Limited.

**David White**  
**Court Assistant**  
**Chairman of the Craft Committee**



Riverside Cottage



Blackfriars Circus



Victoria Russell

# Corps of Royal Engineers Affiliation

**This short article highlights the friendship, collaboration and joint activities that have taken place between the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers and the Corps of Royal Engineers over the past 20 years.**

The early fostering of the relationship was sponsored by Past Master Sir Idris Pearce (1999-2000) and was formalised on 28 June 2000 at a Tylers and Bricklayers' Summer Reception at the Royal Hospital Chelsea, when the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers and the Corps of Royal Engineers were formally affiliated. The ceremony took place within the grounds and included a Beating Retreat by the Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers and an exchange of adoption scrolls. The adoption recognised the mutual skills, shared values and long histories of both organisations.

Two significant events between the Company and the Royal Engineers had preceded the adoption. Firstly, the setting up of the 'Stokes Awards' – an annual award to the best bricklayer students at the Royal School of Military Engineering at Chatham at NVQ Level 2 and 3. These awards are presented annually at the Company's Craft Awards and generously funded through a trust set up by the Stokes family.

Secondly, a joint endeavour was launched to present a polar sundial to the City of London in the Millennium year. The concept for the Sundial was developed by Past Master Piers Nicholson (2011-12) and consisted of

2000 bricks provided by Ibstock, a stainless steel dial plate and gnomon with the structure engineered, fabricated, constructed and project managed by the Royal Engineers, led by the then Chief Instructor at the Royal School of Military Engineering, Court Assistant Colonel Ian Ogden. Three Sundials were constructed, presented and located; one at the Royal Engineers Museum at Chatham, one adjacent to the Millennium Dome Ecology Park on the southbank of the River Thames and the primary sundial on the northbank of the River Thames adjacent to the Millennium Bridge. Each contains a time capsule enclosing the Company and Royal Engineers Lists.

Over the last 20 years, since the formal affiliation, the relationship between the Company and the Corps has continued to develop and strengthen.

The Master over the years has played a key role in the furtherment of the affiliation by representing the Company at annual Royal Engineer Dinner Nights at the Chatham Headquarter Mess.

This has been reciprocated with the attendance of the Chief Royal Engineer at the Company's Annual Dinner. In more recent years the Master has also attended the annual Royal School of Military Engineering Beating Retreat at Chatham, along with the Royal Engineers Excellence Awards at the Institution of Civil Engineers.

The Chief Royal Engineer, whose tenure is for five years, is now by



tradition invited to become an Honorary Liveryman of the Company. Lieutenant General Sir Mark Mans on completion of his tenure went on to join the Tylers and Bricklayers in 2018.

Conscious of the need to affiliate at all levels and for the Corps to understand the virtues and purpose of the Company, since 2014 the T&B has invited two young officers from the Royal Engineers Troop Commanders Course to the Annual Dinner. The individuals attending have excelled during the construction phase of their training and by their attendance the Livery is exposed to the full course of young officers.

Since the commencement of the affiliation the Company has had a number of opportunities to go to Chatham for craft visits, to tour the Royal Engineers Museum and the Headquarter Mess, and view the many historic artefacts and to gain an understanding of the Corps' rich heritage. But the primary aim of the visits has been to give livery members the opportunity to practise the art of bricklaying in the Royal School of Military Engineering training workshops.





These visits have always proved popular and are now an established feature of the craft calendar every three years.

In 2008 the Lord Mayor invited livery companies to support youth organisations. The then Master Ian Grimshaw (2007-08) seized the opportunity to adopt Royal Engineer Cadet Detachments in the Greater London Region, further strengthening the relationship and ties between the Company and the Corps. There are four Cadet Sectors within Greater London of which three have a Royal Engineer Combined Cadet Force (CCF) detachment.

This support has since grown to include the Royal Engineer affiliated Army Cadet Force (ACF) detachments that now number four. Attendance at the cadet two week annual summer camp open days has been well supported by the Company, and more recently attendance at the Annual Cadet and

Reserve Awards within London has been attended on behalf of the Master by members of the Royal Engineers Liaison Group headed up by Ian Ogden.

Over the last three years, the Company, since inception, has attended the Royal Engineer Cadet open day at Chatham. The Company also now sponsors and awards the prize to the best cadet team in the bricklaying competition held during the Open Day. The trophy is a model replica of the Crimea Memorial Arch at Chatham and a silver bricklaying trowel.

In addition, the Company presents awards annually at the Craft Awards Luncheon to the best Royal Engineer Cadet and Cadet Instructor within the Greater London Region. These awards promote and support the Company's commitment to youth and give acknowledgement to the cadet instructor volunteers who give freely of

their time to mentor, train and support the cadets.

Within the Tylers and Bricklayers ten year strategic review (SR20) new opportunities have been identified to foster further the affiliation between the Company and at all levels of the Corps, from Chief Royal Engineer to Sapper and Cadet. Initiatives to strengthen links with the Royal School of Military Engineering, to provide new opportunities for the London based Royal Engineer cadet detachments and to promote the Company within the wider Corps are all being explored. The last 20 years have seen strong **foundations** established to the formal affiliation and together through the deep friendship that now exists the **bond** will no doubt continue to strengthen in the coming years.

Colonel Ian Ogden  
Court Assistant



## Bookshelf

# The Pattern of Traditional Roofing

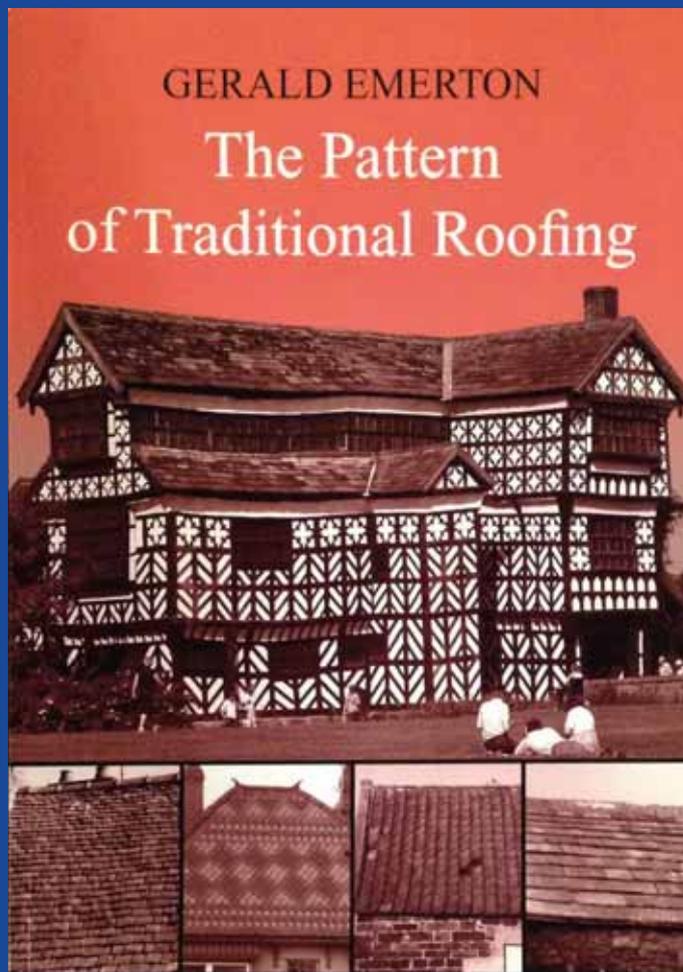
Liveryman Gerald Emerton, privately printed, 2018

Gerald Emerton is a long-standing member of the Company and a fourth generation slater and tiler. Downstream, as it were, his grandsons were prizewinners at SkillBuild in 2016! In a long life Gerald has run a roofing company in the north west, worked hands on as a craftsman, and given over fifty public lectures.

This book was clearly provoked or inspired by the author's perception that writers on architecture and buildings stop concentrating at the gutter line; for every article or comment on roofing there are dozens on brickwork or stonework. Most descriptions of buildings fail to mention the roof. Reading this book should inspire members of the Company to become 'roof-spotters' as they travel around England and Wales (Gerald is also the author of *The Pattern of Scottish Roofing* for those who travel north). Like bird watchers, roof spotters need a good field guide and this book will enable you to tell the difference between a Cotswold random and a Welsh tally.

The structure of the book is based on the material used for the roof covering, and within each material the information is analysed geographically. The reader will learn much about geology, history and economics and acquire a smattering of new terms along the way – for example, slate quarries are known as 'delphs' and you 'delve' to find the slate. Trade used to be based on the 'two towns' rule, since slates are heavy to transport so two towns' distance from the delph is as far as they went. This meant that each locality had its local slate supplier and the slater commissioned the right number of slates (randoms) and their desired sizes (Farwells, Wivetts and Batchlers included – see the wonderful description of slate sizes on page 66) after carefully measuring the roof he was working on.

This system was overtaken once the large slate quarries in North Wales developed



the capacity to supply regularly sized and shaped slates (tally slates) in large quantities and send them around the UK first by sea and the canal system, and later by rail. Welsh tally slates were used in most slum clearance and new towns building work in the 1920s and 1930s.

Slates were then replaced, for volume work, by clay tiles and concrete tiles. The final part of the book deals with clay tiles such as Bridgewater and Broseley.

Although the book is not an instruction manual for tilers, it does contain technical drawings and guidance on how to lay out a roof in the first place (number of laths, spacing or gauge, different sizes of slate or tile required, overlap at top, bottom and sides, torching inside the roof space, fixing

problem areas such as valleys and hips) which this reviewer found fascinating.

In conclusion, a visit to any hamlet or town in the country will be enhanced by referring to this guide and trying to spot the origin of the slates and tiles: the book contains numerous photographs of roofscapes and in some cases you can see three adjoining cottages with random slates, tally slates and modern clay tiles.

**Christopher Causer**  
**Renter Warden**

*The Pattern of Traditional Roofing* may be obtained direct from the author at a cost of £52.50 including P&P: Gerald Emerton, Glebe House, Acton, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 8LE

# Obituary

## Liveryman Christopher Coulson Bull:

16 May 1922 – 16 May 2021

**My father Christopher Coulson Bull died peacefully on his 99th Birthday.**

Christy and his twin brother Stephen were born on 16 May 1922, the sons of Arthur and Hilda Bull (nee Bird). Hilda's father Stephen was a Past Master (1913-14) and a member of the rather large Bird family prevalent in the Tylers and Bricklayers.

He and his brother were educated at Radley, contemporaries of Michael Parry-Crooke, who remembers him as 'not the sporty twin', probably very true. However, Christy did enjoy rowing, an interest which he carried on to his university days, rowing at Guy's Hospital, and took a great interest in his grandsons' progress later in his life.

After school, he attended Guy's taking a dental degree and was evacuated to Tunbridge Wells during the war to complete his training. This was followed by a spell in the Navy where he became a 'fang farrier'. He particularly enjoyed this time and was delighted when one of his



Christopher Bull with Jenny and Edward Rolls

grandsons decided to join the Navy. Like his grandfather, and now grandson, he decided to continue his studies by taking a medical degree, after which he went into practice in Harley Street in London.

In 1954 he married Beth, a Great Ormond Street nurse, meeting on a blind date set up by his brother and her sister. It obviously worked extremely well as they were married very happily for nearly 67 years. Children followed, Michael and I both born in London, after which Beth and Christy took the decision to move to Grimsby to be closer to Beth's family. Andrew and Matthew were born there, and they remained in the family home until his death.

Christy was interested in many things and quickly joined the Rotary club, where he eventually became President. He was also very involved in the church, being a churchwarden at Grimsby Minster for 25 years and always casting a wise and benevolent eye on church matters.

He had many hobbies, the main one being silversmithing. He had a workshop at his home where he spent hours making jewellery. He had his own hallmark and was very proud to have

made all his children and grandchildren's wedding rings – very special. Christy also loved to cook and it has been said that he thought there was no recipe or design that he couldn't improve upon – something that was not necessarily borne out by the results. He enjoyed pottering in his garden, spending the last forty years trying to perfect a water system to his pond. He was disappointed, but not thwarted by the fact that it never worked. In fact, Beth would find him in the garden with implements and jolly good ideas right up to his final illness.

He so enjoyed being a Tyler and Bricklayer, being admitted in 1988, and was a very supportive member, continuing to come to events well into his nineties. He was very proud of the fact that both myself and Edward in turn joined him in the Company.

Christy was a wonderful and much loved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather and will be very much missed by all who knew him.

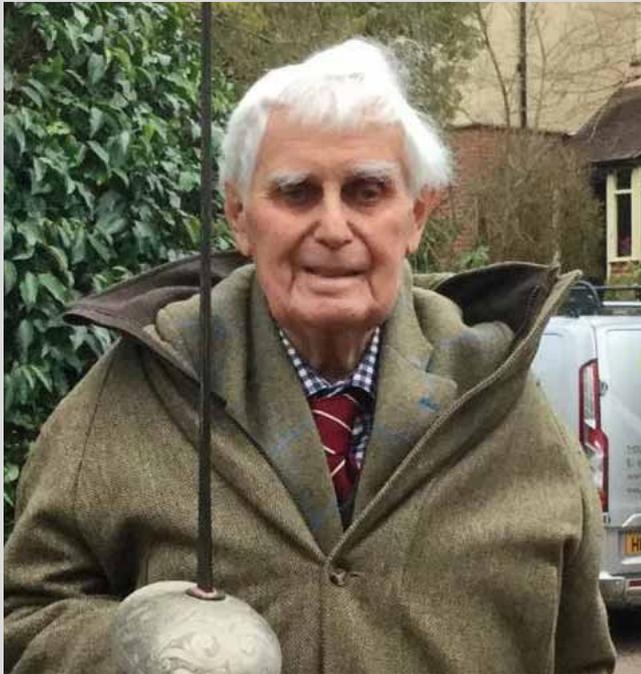
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Jenny Rolls  
**Court Assistant**  
**Renter Warden in Nomination**

# Obituary

## Past Master Major George Gordon Brown:

17 February 1925 – 28 October 2020



**George Brown was born in Leatherhead, the eldest son of Arthur and Eveline. He attended Eastbourne College from 1938 to 1943 and upon leaving school joined the 27<sup>th</sup> Lancers. He was selected to attend a six-month course at Oxford University before officer training at Sandhurst, subsequently commissioned into the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars. By the autumn of 1945, George was training to invade Japan. He was to be in command of a lightly armoured amphibious tank and one of the first onto any beach. In later years he would recall that when news of the war's end came, his youthful enthusiasm for action was tempered by some relief!**

George remained in the army until 1964, achieving the rank of Major in the 9th/12th Lancers. During that time, in addition to being stationed in Austria and Germany, he saw service in Malaya, Aden and the Trucial Oman. His accounts of the jungle and the desert were filled with humour and drama, as well as compassion and fondness for those he served with and met. He

spoke very fondly of his time shortly after the war when he was ADC to General McCreery, in charge of the army on the Rhine. The General was a skilled horseman and was told by the regimental Colonel that George was likewise. This came as a surprise to George who had never ridden – however he rose to the challenge and in later years reached such heights as winning the “Trucial Oman Grand

National”. George modestly recalled that this was achieved by grimly clinging on to his skilled and experienced horse!

After leaving the army, George was called to the Bar, becoming a tenant at 2 King's Bench Walk, practicing on the Western Circuit. As well as having a busy court practice, George wrote several textbooks and journals, also becoming a media commentator on the impact of legislative changes in the family law jurisdiction and divorce generally. He always spoke warmly of his time at the Bar, stimulated not just by the work but by the people he met and the long-lasting friends he made.

George married Wendy in 1968 and after a short period in London set up home in Winchester. Melanie was born in 1969 and Richard in 1973. George had five grandchildren: Ben, Hamish, Emily, Lorna and Douglas.

George's father Arthur had been Master of the Tylers and Bricklayers in 1934-35, as had his grandfather

George in 1921-22. George himself had been admitted to the Livery through patrimony in 1946 on coming of age and progressed to the Court in 1967, becoming Master in 1973-74. Having thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie at both the army and the Bar, George was deeply appreciative of the friendships he made in the Company, speaking fondly of not just its formal and social events but also the times he stayed with other members when returning on leave. The Company was an important part of his life and he was proud of all that it did. George's son Richard was admitted as a liveryman in 1994.

George enjoyed sport, playing a wide variety throughout his life. He captained his school fencing team and loved skiing. His great passion though was cricket. He captained his school team, played for his regiment, resurrected the team in the large village he was stationed at in Malaya, and was a proud member of the Stragglers of Asia, playing his last game for them in his 60s. In later years he spent many enjoyable hours watching the sport with his friends and family in whose company he was most happy.

George retired in 1997 and he and Wendy continued to live in their family home in Winchester until just a few months before his death. He took up fishing, continued to play golf, swam into his 90s and went on long and blustery walks with Wendy on regular holidays to Exmoor.

George had many talents and qualities but above all else he was motivated by a desire to do the right thing and to “play the game with a straight bat”. He will be remembered for this, his kindness, and his deep, infectious, and warming smile.

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Richard Brown  
**Liveryman**

# Obituary

## Past Master Anthony Peter Wallis



Sylvia and Peter Wallis

**The danger in publishing obituaries is that they can become reduced to a mere factual record of the individual's involvement in the Company as that is how members know and remember the individual. The move by the Tylers and Bricklayers in asking members to keep the Company informed of their activities and changes and the 'Speaker's Evenings' where members talk about their work and life outside the Livery all help the Company to be aware of its membership and strength and makes writing obituaries easier!**

So it is with Peter Wallis, as most members would only know him as having been clothed in the livery in 1977, as an officer of the Company and serving as its Master in 2001-02.

Peter had been a Lloyds Insurance Broker working in the City with Lamberts, Price Forbes and Sedgwick's where he had chaired the Sedgwick Scandinavian Companies. In doing so he had developed a close affection for Scandinavia and Sweden in particular. He had spent some time there and enjoyed and embraced their way of life.

Peter completed his National Service in the RAF and then joined the Emergency Reserve in active involvement in the 21st Special Air Service Regiment (The Artist Rifles) which was the reserve force to the SAS with the rank of Sergeant. He was subsequently commissioned in the Royal Engineers and served with 490 (Sussex) Field Squadron. For many it was difficult to understand the

change of character that was needed to move from the cautionary advice of a City Insurance Broker to the active sometimes aggressive involvement in the SAS reserves. From planned caution to jumping out of aircraft. It was quite a contrast and Peter managed that well and showed his strength of character. He was a genial, courteous and cautious individual with a sense of humour.

Peter became Master in 2001-02 when SR20 (A review of the Structure and Organisation of the Company) was being debated. This review was the first of its kind in the long history of the Company and that led to a lively and vigorous exchange of views, sometimes acrimonious, on the future of the Company as it moved towards reform. It became a contentious time for any Master to manage and one that served to affect Peter's health during his year of office. Resolution was obtained through Peter chairing an extraordinary meeting of the Company in Pewterers' Hall in February 2002. It was the first time such a meeting had been called and in the debate that ensued, differences were aired and divisions were healed. The SR20 reforms were agreed and implemented by his successor as Master, John Martin (2002-03). The success of those reforms can be seen in the strength of the Company today. Fortunately, Peter regained his health too.

Peter had the great honour to represent the Tylers and Bricklayers at a small private ceremony at Buckingham Palace when Masters of a very small number of livery companies that were associated with the Royal Hospital Chelsea were invited by H M The Queen to attend the parade of all her Bodyguards: the Military Knights of Windsor, the Royal Company of Archers, the Gentlemen at Arms, the Yeoman of the Guard, when the Queen presented a gold mace to the Royal Hospital Chelsea, whose Pensioners were of course also on parade. An impressive ceremony personal to the Queen.

Peter and his wife Sylvia lived in East Sussex where they were both heavily involved in local affairs. Peter as a Councillor of Seaford Urban District Council and then as a County Councillor, whilst Sylvia was a member of the Eastbourne Health Authority and a member of its Mental Health Board. To all this was added work with and for local Charities. Peter's father had been a "Dr Barnado's Boy" and had also taken interest in Children's Charities.

Peter was involved in politics early on becoming Chairman of Sussex Young Conservatives, and later City of London Young Conservatives, then Chairman of his Constituency Conservative Party. At the General Election of 1966 he stood as his party's candidate in Abertillery, a Welsh mining seat. His comment on his election campaign was "they counted my votes and weighed my opponent's". Peter did not win the seat!!

Despite his busy working and local political life Peter found time for his family where he is succeeded by two sons Richard and Matthew, and also found time for his garden. Peter loved his vegetable garden and developed an obsession which became a family joke over "my tomatoes and beans".

Peter died some months after Sylvia and, at a simple non religious cremation ceremony as he had asked for, there was a reminder of his active life and his Reserve Army involvement. The simple coffin was carried in to *Wings* – the quick March of the Royal Engineers and the family left to the quick March of the SAS *Marche des Parachutists Belges*.

Peter led a life of service mostly unknown by the Company but one of which we can be proud, as well as in his involvement in the debates which ensured the future of the Tylers and Bricklayers and its present strength.

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Sir Idris Pearce  
CBE TD DL

**Past Master 1999-2000**

# Obituary

## Past Master Michael Parry-Crooke:

16 Nov 1924 – 30 July 2021

**Of his 96 years Michael lived all but a handful of them in Suffolk. It is impossible to overstate how important the county was to him. Its unshowy character and landscape perhaps matched his own understated and phlegmatic personality.**

Sport played a big part in his life. At Radley, the school he went to in 1938, he was in the first-eleven cricket. He was something of an all-round college star. However it was while at school that he received an injury which left him almost blind in his left eye. Instead of joining up when he left Radley he continued recuperating and in 1944 went on to Cambridge. It's all the more startling that once at university this effectively one-eyed sportsman continued to flourish on the games field. By his own account he spent much of his time organising and playing cricket. He also played a lot of hockey, was in the university side and got a Blue. (His Hawks Club tie was about the only one he wore thereafter, when the occasion demanded.) When he wasn't playing sport, he studied modern languages, focusing on French. And from spending a year as a teacher at a school in Limoges he developed a lasting love of France.

Taking up a job teaching at Eton in the late 1940s, Michael subsequently decided to become a fruit farmer instead and spent a year or so learning the rudiments at a farm in Essex. Then in 1954 he moved with his new wife Gillian to a small fruit farm at Brundish in north Suffolk. It was here that he worked for the next 30 plus years, and where their two sons were born. The house was classic old Suffolk, but largely un-modernised: there was no mains water for another twenty years.

Michael really set about it, planting apples, pears and blackcurrants. The orchards were always spick and span.

In the '60s he built what at the time must have been quite a gamble, a very large reservoir for irrigation, which doubled up as a giant swimming pool. Whatever its previous benefits it paid for itself in one year, the 1976 drought. He was always one to do his bit. On the farm he did his fair share of the most gruelling job – the months of winter apple tree pruning.

His standards were high. As one person wrote to the family, he was “a person of absolute integrity, unshakeable in his values”. He was also, in the view of his sons, supremely modest, kind, courteous, hard-working, considerate, and thoughtful. He was also a stickler about the use of language and pronunciation.

Michael took up golf early in his life and went on to play well into his seventies. A few months ago he remarked that on nights when he could not sleep he entertained himself instead by re-living the three “holes-in-one” of his career.

He was capable of great generosity and was a persistent charity giver. He also played his part with the NFU, both nationally and locally. He was proud of the fact that in his last harvest at



Brundish he won the award for the most productive farm from the cooperative where he had served for years on the board.

Over the course of very many years he was an unlikely, but dedicated, participant in the Tylers and Bricklayers. He and his elder brother David had been strongly urged to join by the family solicitor Arthur John Bird (Clerk 1940-71) shortly after the War when the Company was very short of new members. Michael became a frequent attendee at meetings and events and from that seemingly reluctant beginning David went on to become Master in 1976-77 with Michael serving as his Renter Warden. After David's Upper Warden declined to take office as Master due to business difficulties, Michael

was faced with the unwanted prospect of directly succeeding his brother, becoming Master a year earlier than he had prepared businesswise in his fruit farming. Fortunately, John Dove who had joined the Company at the same time as Michael agreed to jump in as Master for 1977-78 and Michael was able to duly follow on as originally planned in 1978-79.

Michael's first marriage did not last, though true to form the parting from Gillian was entirely amicable and they stayed forever on good terms. He continued to devote himself to the farm and to his family and friends. In 1979 he

married a fellow fruit farmer, Marie, and moved south in Suffolk; they operated both farms and he commuted several days a week to the north of the county. When the time came to retire, they moved into the village of Boxford and a whole new lease of life.

After Marie's death he had time to pause and reflect. His neighbours were wonderful and he already had plenty of experience at looking after himself. Then after a few years he said he'd had enough of – in his words – “soldiering on”. He organised to go into the RABI's Manson House in Bury St Edmunds, with which he had been involved over the years. In

later life one of his greatest pleasures was his grand-children and step grand-children.

When one of his friends at Manson passed her 100th birthday this year Michael did suggest to one of the grand-children that perhaps he should try to go for the century.

On reflection, he obviously thought better of it – good for him, wise to the last.

*Editor's Note: The Company thanks Simon and Piers Parry-Crooke for their great assistance in preparing this obituary reflecting their father's long life.*

# Obituary

## Honorary Freeman Noreen Patricia Dickins



**Noreen died on 18 June 2021, aged 92.**

She was a remarkable lady in many ways. In 1958 she married John Gibson Kerr, a successful solicitor and businessman. At the time he was rumoured to be the most eligible bachelor in Edinburgh. John laid the foundation of his fortune during the war by buying property aggressively in Edinburgh when Britain was facing its darkest hour and Hitler was knocking on the door.

John died in 1989 and Noreen inherited the benefit of a considerable fortune.

She was a very private person, albeit with a mischievous sense of humour. Notwithstanding, Noreen showed great kindness and generosity to those she considered to be her friends. She liked going out and about and in this regard accompanied me to a number of T&B

events. Noreen enjoyed these and liked the friendship she received. She was impressed by the Company's activities in the furtherance of the crafts and its charitable work; so much so that she wanted to do something tangible for the Tylers and Bricklayers, hence the establishment of the prize fund which bears her name.

She felt proud and deeply honoured when she was invited by the Company in 1997 to be an honorary freeman of the Company. Noreen remained a generous and enthusiastic supporter of the T&B ever since.

She had the happy knack of consoling the unhappy and comforting the lonely. May her immortal soul rest in peace.

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Peter Dickins  
**Past Master 1994-5**

# Obituary

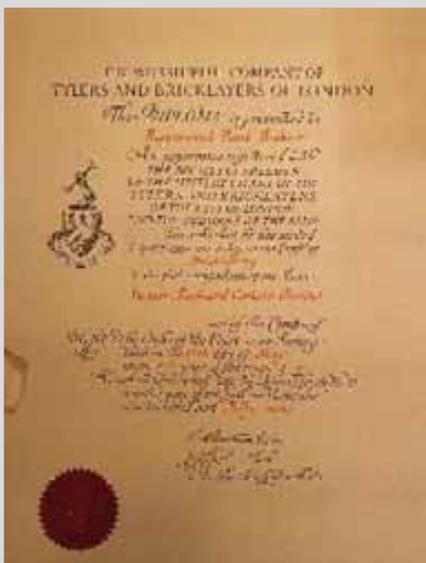
## Liveryman Raymond Paul Baker



**Born 15 February 1939 in Marylebone London, Ray was the first of three children born to Albert Edward and Winifred Joyce Baker.**

Born just before the outbreak of war it was some months before the start of hostilities and Ray's father was posted to Ireland with the Army, luckily able to move the family there and where they spent the majority of the conflict.

On return to London after the war, Ray's school days were never outstanding but he managed to see his way through



to obtaining a scholarship, followed by an apprenticeship with Costain's as a Bricklayer, registered through the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers.

He was also, as were a lot of boys after the war, a keen Scout. I will always remember one account of his scouting activities that stood out from most. "I was stuck selling Coronation programmes in the soaking rain on Regent Street with no overcoat and the only protection was a wide brimmed scout hat. I was dripping when I got back home and had a bad cold for a week after. Mum was less than pleased".

The family grew with additions of his two sisters Beverly and Linda and the whole family moved to a council property in South Lambeth Road in Stockwell.

After completing his apprenticeship, Ray stayed with Costain's for a while. One notable project undertaken was the building of the modern fountain at Marble Arch. He became one of the last to be drafted into National Service where he was placed into the Medical Corps.

His father was a bit of a wheeler dealer in the property market and made some astute purchases in and around London, so after demobbing Ray was kept fairly busy doing maintenance on the new acquisitions. Eventually he went out on his own and was busy up and down the country building some true craftsman projects.

Ray met his first wife, Loraine, in 1959. In 1961 Ray and Loraine had their first son Edward and in 1964, just before the birth of his second son Richard, the family moved into one of his father's properties in Herne Hill.

In the mid to late 60s Ray was a prominent member and long-term treasurer of the Guild of Bricklayers supporting all national and local events up and down the country. In 1970 he

joined the Territorials as a medic in the RAMC and spent many a weekend putting to use everything he had learnt in National Service. Also, in the 70s & 80s Ray was teaching Brickwork classes to students at Brixton and Tooting as well as working the other six days a week.

Ray was divorced in 1998 and continued working but decided to stop teaching. In 1999 he was invited to a T&B dinner and became a freeman, then liveryman, in 2000. His charm, professionalism and friendliness were very evident and he fitted in well and went on to make many friends in the Company.

In 2002 Ray learnt of Lazi Lu from China via a work colleague who happened to be married to Lazi's sister.

They started communicating via the internet and Ray went out to China to meet her in 2003.

They hit it off and he flew out again in 2004 when they were married. Lazi and her daughter came to live in the UK in 2005, moving into the Herne Hill property. In 2006 they all moved in with Ray's elderly parents in East Dulwich in order to care for them in their later years. Sadly, this was only to last a short while as Albert and Winifred died within a year of each other in 2008.

Ray was diagnosed with late onset Parkinson's in 2014. His condition was slight at first and progressed quite slowly.

Ray and Lazi were divorced in that year. His Parkinson's developed quite quickly after that, losing his fight with the disease in May 2021.

My father Ray will be sorely missed by family, friends and acquaintances due to his happy demeanour and willingness to help one and all.

---

Edward Baker  
**Liveryman**

# Photographic Competition

**When out and about we often come across some interesting executions of our crafts. From the number of previous entries to our annual competition, we know eye-catching examples of tiling, roof tiling or slating, or brickwork abound – good, bad, picturesque or unusual.**

With a worldwide remit, the Company encourages you to take photographs of whatever catches your eye or imagination. It must fit into one of our three crafts and the image you capture with your phone or digital camera will

be judged both on the quality of the photograph taken and the interest found in the subject matter itself.

It is worth bearing in mind that several factors can affect the quality of your photograph: light, composition, focus, resolution, reflection, camera shake etc. We will be looking for photographs that will reproduce well in print.

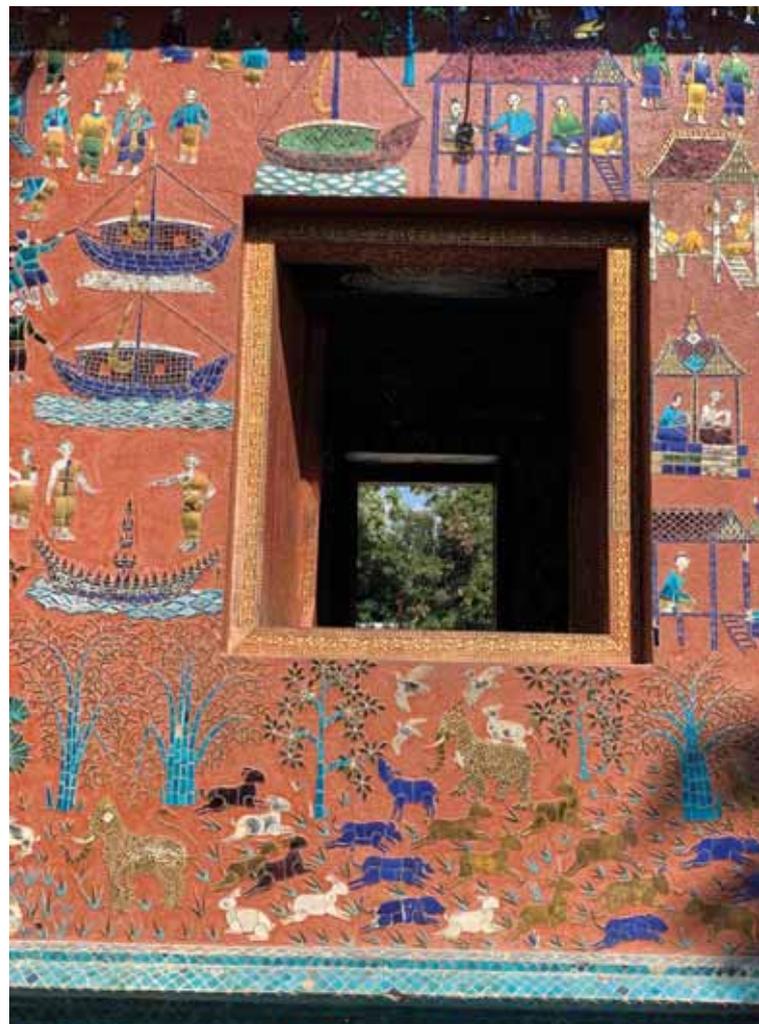
There are chances to win a bottle of champagne for photographs related to each of our three trades. The winning photographs will be published in the

newsletter in October 2022. All entries, as many as you wish, should be sent as images by 31 December 2021 to the Chairman of the Craft Committee, Court Assistant David White with details of the subject matter taken. (eg: date and place).

Last year's submissions were again of a high standard and the winners were announced at the virtual Common Hall in February 2021, with bottles of Champagne having to wait for award at the Triennial Luncheon. The 2020 winning photographs are shown here:



Roofing: Liveryman Ian Harmond  
Welsh Slating



Ceramic Tiling: Past Master Jeff Fuller  
Glazed mosaic tiling at Wat Xiengthong temple,  
Luang Prabang, Laos

Brickwork: Deputy Master Lesley Day  
Summer House on the Wey Canal

# Diary Dates

## 2021

Wednesday 3 November	Visit to British Library. Lunch at Caravan King's Cross
Thursday 25 November	Virtual Tour of Smithfield
Thursday 16 December	Court Meeting and Carol Service Supper at Guildhall Club

## 2022

TBA January	Zoom Craft Event Dr Gerard Lynch and John Gorman
Thursday 27 January	Common Hall – Zoom event Followed by drinks in breakout rooms
Thursday 3 February	Court and Livery Dinner Cutlers' Hall
Monday 7 March	Court Meeting and Craft Awards Lunch Trinity House
TBA March	Private View of the Wapping Group of Artists exhibition. Mall Galleries Supper at the Athenaeum
Friday 1 April	United Guilds Service Luncheon – venue tbc
Thursday 7 April	Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch, Guildhall
EASTER: Fri 15 April to Monday 18 April	
Tuesday 10 May	Festival Service of the Clergy Support Trust St Paul's Cathedral

## 2022

Thursday 12 May	Annual Livery Dinner Haberdashers' Hall
Double Bank holiday on Thursday 2 and Friday 3 June	70 <sup>th</sup> PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS of Queen Elizabeth II.
Thursday 9 June	Masters and Clerks Luncheon Armourers' Hall
Friday 24 June	Election of Sheriffs at Common Hall
Monday 27 to Wednesday 29 June	Master's visit to Northern Ireland
Saturday 30 July	Charter Day visit to St Albans Cathedral Private Tour and lunch at Lussmans
Thursday 1 September	Court Meeting and luncheon Watermen's Hall
TBC September	Golf Day Burnham Beeches GC
Tuesday 20 September	Craft Visit to Craven Dunnill (150 <sup>th</sup> anniversary year)
Thursday 29 September	Election of the Lord Mayor at Common Hall
Thursday 6 October	Court Meeting Carpenters' Hall Installation Service St Margaret Lothbury Luncheon Carpenters' Hall

This list gives the basic details of functions currently planned for the coming year – please note the dates. Full information on these and any further events will be sent by the Clerk in good time to allow for bookings to be made.

### Master Tyler and Bricklayer:

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### Upper Warden:

Professor John Schofield  
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Christopher Causer  
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### Deputy Master (Immediate Past Master):

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### Deputy Master:

Lesley Day  
E: [lesleyjday@outlook.com](mailto:lesleyjday@outlook.com)

### Clerk:

Heather Smith  
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 Follow us @Ts\_and\_Bs

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