



The Worshipful Company of Plaisterers

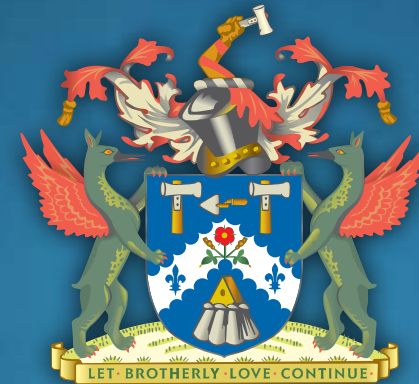
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YEARBOOK 2019-2020



Masters since 1570

1570-1571	Simon Bedaugh	1630-1631	John Allen	1698-1699	Henry Cromwell	1761-1762	John Pratt
1571-1572	Cornelys Hand	1631-1632	William Wichnore	1699-1700	Edward Martin	1762-1763	John Meelery
1572-1573	Raffe Bettes	1632-1633	Edmond Lake	1700-1701	Henry Doegood	1763-1764	John Laban
1573-1574	Thomas Kelley	1633-1634	Edmond Waite	1701-1702	John Combes	1764-1765	James North
1574-1575	Cornelys Hand	1634-1635	Martyn Eastbrand	1702-1704	John Tooley	1765-1766	(James Wise
1575-1576	Raffe Bettes	1635-1636	William Whiting	1704-1705	John Edmondson		(Jabez Reed
1576-1577	Thomas Kelley	1636-1637	Edmond Lake	1705-1706	Thomas Walker	1766-1767	Walter Scott
1577-1578	(John Bettes	1637-1638	Williant Walters	1706-1707	Robert Powell	1767-1768	William Willat
	(Raffe Bettes	1638-1639	George Eatchell	1707-1708	James Tucker	1768-1769	Thomas Palmer
1578-1579	Simon Bedaugh	1639-1640	John Taylor	1708-1709	Richard Flye	1769-1770	John Baker
1579-1580	Thomas Kelley	1640-1641	William Willingham	1709-1710	Francis Handley	1770-1771	George Wellings
1580-1581	Cornelys Hand	1641-1642	Robert Langley	1710-1711	Robert Shann	1771-1772	James Palmer
1581-1582	Thomas Warbishe	1642-1643	Edward Lucas	1711-1712	John Cordey	1772-1773	Humphrey Wilmott
1582-1583	Raffe Bettes	1643-1644	William Betaugh	1712-1713	Nicholas Roberts	1773-1774	Thomas Brooks
1583-1584	Thomas Warbishe	1644-1645	John Hubberd	1713-1714	John Grinsell	1774-1775	Euclid Harrison
1584-1585	Simon Bedaugh	1645-1646	John Walters	1714-1715	William Hayes	1775-1776	Joseph Rose
1585-1586	John Laycock	1646-1647	George Ubancke	1715-1716	John Crouch	1776-1777	Joseph Cooper
1586-1587	Raffe Bettes	1647-1648	William Shute	1716-1717	Robert Mabbs	1777-1778	John Cloudes
1587-1588	Thomas Kelley	1648-1649	John Smith	1717-1718	Henry Beale	1778-1779	John Cheek
1588-1589	Thomas Warbishe	1649-1650	Bartholomew Clarke	1718-1719	John Bunce	1779-1780	Francis Edwin
1589-1590	Richard Barfeild	1650-1651	Edmund Perwich	1719-1720	Thomas Combes	1780-1781	Euclid Harrison,Jnr
1590-1591	Raffe Bettes	1651-1652	Martyn Eastborne	1720-1721	William Pope	1781-1782	John Davis
1591-1592	William Bottom	1652-1653	Henry Chippine	1721-1722	John Winterburne	1782-1783	Thomas Cogan
1592-1593	Edmund Essex	1653-1654	Charles Daves	1722-1723	Robert Greene	1783-1784	William Wamsley
1593-1594	Robert Burton	1654-1655	Miles Steede	1723-1724	Chrisostome Wilkins	1784-1785	John Simmons
1594-1595	Henry Willis	1655-1656	Joseph Kinsman	1724-1725	(John Silver	1785-1786	William Green
1595-1596	Richard Barfeild	1656-1657	Edward Goodenough		(Nathaniell Hunton	1786-1787	William Sydenham
1596-1597	John Jackson	1657-1659	Abraham Stanyon	1725-1726	Richard Peak	1787-1788	Edward Stroud
1597-1598	John Jackson	1659-1660	Thomas Lycense	1726-1727	James Ellis	1788-1789	Thomas Cope
1598-1599	Robert Button	1660-1661	William Hollins	1727-1728	Richard West	1789-1790	William Roberts
1599-1600	Henry Willis	1661-1662	Edmund Perwich	1728-1729	Randal Stanley	1790-1791	Joseph Pope
1600-1601	Hugh Cappe	1662-1663	Arthure Toogood	1729-1730	Richard Burgiss	1791-1792	John Brown
1601-1602	Richard Dongan	1663-1664	William Musgrove	1730-1731	William Clarke	1792-1793	Thomas Clarke
1602-1603	Jackson Guest	1664-1665	John Smith	1731-1732	John Gregory	1793-1794	Richard Delannoy
1603-1604	Hugh Cappe	1665-1666	Robert Doegood	1732-1733	John Withers	1794-1795	(John Vincy
1604-1605	Richard Dongan	1666-1667	Daniell Morris	1733-1734	William Tooley		(James Palmer
1605-1606	Edward Essex	1667-1668	John Martyn	1734-1735	William Lord	1795-1796	John Wilmot
1606-1607	Richard Dongan	1668-1670	Henry Strode	1735-1736	Thomas Wise	1796-1797	Thomas Willats
1607-1608	Richard Ratcliffe	1670-1671	John Blunt	1736-1737	William Smith	1797-1798	Edward Rogers
1608-1609	Richard Browne	1671-1672	Richard Watle	1737-1738	Joseph Turner	1798-1799	William Dyer
1609-1610	Raphe Guest	1672-1673	Stephen Clay	1738-1739	William Bayly	1799-1800	John Jackson
1610-1611	Henry Standly	1673-1674		1739-1740	John Simons	1800-1801	John Dawson
1611-1612	Hugh Cappe	1674-1675	Daniel Morris	1740-1741	Thomas Bridge	1801-1802	Thomas Palmer
1612-1613	Richard Browne	1675-1676	Thomas Griffith	1741-1742	Thomas Baker	1802-1803	John George
1613-1614	(Raphe Guest	1676-1677	John Stevenson	1742-1743	William Willats	1803-1804	William Bickerton
	(Richard Ratcliffe	1677-1678	Edward Langley	1743-1744	Richard Scarr	1804-1805	William Bates
1614-1615	Henry Stanley	1678-1679	William Floyd	1744-1745	Andrew Eales	1805-1806	Samuel Bostock
1615-1616	Richard Terrey	1679-1680	Stephen Clay	1745-1746	Edward Holloway	1806-1807	William Roberts,Jnr
1616-1617	Randall Clarkson	1680-1681	Henry Gardiner	1746-1747	Edward Jones	1807-1808	Edward Halsey
1617-1618	Ellis Pigginn	1681-1682	Henry Hodsdon	1747-1748	Joseph Lister		Bockett
1618-1619	John Longforth	1682-1683	John Dolphen	1748-1749	Thomas Meekes	1808-1809	Ralph Hall
1619-1620	John Allen	1683-1684	Christopher Tompson	1749-1750	Henry Gartrup	1809-1810	Thomas Creser
1620-1621	Henrie Briggs	1684-1685	Samuel Smith	1750-1751	(Edward Everard	1810-1811	John Brotherton
1621-1622	Thomas Atkinson	1685-1686	Thomas Townerow		(William Harrison	1811-1812	Henry Flower
1622-1623	Richard Browne	1686-1687	John Combes	1751-1752	Benjamin Glanvill	1812-1813	John Wyatt
1623-1624	John Allen	1687-1688	Andrew Hatt	1752-1753	Thomas Cogan	1813-1814	James Mayor
1624-1625	Richard Fisher	1688-1689	John Stevenson	1753-1754	Arthur Stanley	1814-1815	Richard Delannoy,Jnr
1625-1626	Thomas Widmore	1689-1690	Thomas Newburn	1754-1755	Thomas Fletcher	1815-1816	Thomas Jackson
1626-1627	Robert Whiting	1690-1691	Stephen Cowford	1755-1756	Thomas Seagood	1816-1817	George Dowse
1627-1628	Edward White	1691-1694	Andrew Hatt	1756-1757	William Cutter	1817-1818	John Watts
1628-1629	Thomas Atkinson	1694-1695	Henry Gardiner	1757-1758	Charles Rogers	1818-1819	(John Bell
1629-1630	Richard Rawldge	1695-1696	(Edward Hollingshead	1758-1759	Richard Wingfield		(Francis Bernascom
			(Thomas Buttler	1759-1760	(Thomas Wise	1819-1820	James Johnson
			John Willeye		(Thomas Chooke	1820-1821	Samuel Hough
			Abraham Crisp	1760-1761	George Fewkes	1821-1822	Thomas Daplyn



YEARBOOK 2019-2020



The Changing of the Guard....

...and a New Normal



TWO CLERKS! NIGEL BAMPING (WITH ANGELA) AND GARTH MANGER (WITH RACHEL)

A year of two halves – 'Normal' and then unfortunately 'The New Normal'.

The year started bright with the procession of Livery and City events as we continued to meet in our Hall, conducting functions, meeting with and supporting our Affiliates, and raising funds for charity in the Plaisterers' way. Linkages with the City was the message from the Master and we enjoyed raising funds for her charity, the Museum of London...

No one would have believed in the last months of 2019 (with deference to HG Wells) the world would change so dramatically. As Plaisterers busied themselves about our various concerns, the first whispers of the new word "Pandemic" started to infiltrate our lexicon. In March, the beginning of the new normal arrived and we shut ourselves away and apart from our friends and families.

It was gratifying to see, as I joined as your new Clerk, that the Plaisterers rose to this challenge and adapted to working from home and 'zooming'. I hope that some of the new practices, particularly the community spirit so widespread in the country, will remain. I am confident that my welcome to the Company is a visible sign of this spirit alive and well amongst the Plaisterers, as you already knew and I suspected.

While I understand that we will continue to 'meet' apart for a time yet, I look forward to actually meeting you back at Plaisterers' Hall. Rest assured that I am working closely with the new Master to achieve this just as soon as we can.

Garth Manger
Clerk



THE MASTER AND THE PRIME WARDEN GOLDSMITH, DR TIMOTHY SCHRODER

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The Master's Year

Alison Gowman 2019-2020

I would like to review my year from the start with all the optimism and hope that my intentions and aims could be achieved and not to look back at it from the end when it was clearly compromised by the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown.

Theme and plan

My theme and business plan for the year was "Linking the Plasterers' Livery with the City." It followed from the monthly articles that I have been writing about the City – as a current serving Alderman of the City of London it was an obvious choice of topic.

Those 70 plus articles became the basis of the book that I published to coincide with the start of my year and was the second element of my plan.

"The City of London: Who, What, Why?" was a ready vehicle to disseminate some interesting information and, at the same time, raise funds for my Master's charity, The Museum of London.

During the year my monthly article would record events happening around the Square Mile. Keeping Plasterers up-to-date under the title "What's happening in the City?" morphed into what was "not" happening by March 2020.

The third element of the plan was to appoint a new Clerk. A small group undertook a thorough review of the role and job description and then set about the search. Many applications were received and a final long and short list were interviewed. In January 2020 the Court approved the appointment of Colonel Garth Manger RM OBE.

Enhancing communications

As the former chair of what is now the Marketing and Communications Committee, I had been keen to ensure that the improved version of the website was working so that an enhanced programme of communications could blossom.

More news items have appeared on the website, generating interest and information for members and the general public. I kept up my role of running the Plasterers' Twitter account but by the

end of the year we now also have an active Instagram and LinkedIn account. I would urge you all to explore these avenues.

Championing plastering

As a non-plastering Master trying to represent the trade and profession, I worked hard to upskill myself. Attending the World Skills Competition, I planned to cheer on the UK team of some 37 young people in a range of skills, including Curtis Johnston, an apprentice plasterer from Northern Ireland and our competitor. The event was in Kazan, Tatarstan. I travelled with the World Skills team and so found myself well entrenched with the business end of the competition.

I took part in the "Seeing is believing" seminars that led to an influential report on training published by NOCN. It was a fabulous experience and helped me



PROMOTING THE MASTER'S BOOK



ABOVE AND RIGHT: THE MASTER ATTENDS WORLD SKILLS, KAZAN (WITH CURTIS JOHNSTON)





understand the complicated training regime. I invited the World Skills staff to the Training Awards lunch so that they could see how the Plaisterers are also supporting this vital part of our industry. The trade link is so critical that I was keen to rekindle the links with FIS, the Finishes and Interiors Sector. The Prime Minister has called for an infrastructure boom that will mean more and better training and a resurgence of jobs – we should be there to play our part.

It was also a particular delight to be able to be present when the Lord Mayor awarded the Master Plasterer Certificates to five worthy winners at Mansion House. The Livery should continue to seek out and reward those who have served a lifetime in the world of plastering.

Connecting with the City

The City holds many events each year and another aim was to get the Plaisterers to take part. The Sheep Drive held every September proved a popular ticket and ten Liveryman together drove their sheep across London Bridge – in time honoured fashion exercising their rights as freemen of the City of London.

At the same time the Plaisterers (ably led by PMs Terry Wright and De Bradshaw) set up a plastering tent to show and tell the visitors to the street fair about our work. It was well supported by the Lord Mayor. In November a group visited the popular Red Cross Christmas Market in Guildhall and shopped with great glee.

As an Alderman I spend a lot of time in committee meetings for the City Corporation and I invited the Livery to attend a meeting of the Court of Common Council in January. I was pleased that the agenda did not disappoint with a lively debate about

zero emissions roads. Livery members enjoyed the cut and thrust and saw how seriously and detailed is the oversight and scrutiny by the elected members. I could tick off City engagement!

Charity support

Our charitable giving is very close to my heart and I had aimed to review our charitable giving – both donations by the Livery to the fund and our external grant giving. This is a sensitive topic and I think that the Charity Trustees are now pursuing this with new vigour. I am delighted at the generous donations towards my charity, The Museum of London. Thank you.

Linking with the Military

Our links with the Military are very strong and I was able to engage with the Marines, HMS Dragon, SRR and 282 Air Cadets. Each link is different and the possible engagements vary.

I visited the Marines in Devon on three occasions – including on Election Day in December. I was able to enjoy dining with the other military affiliates and so learn more about their way of life and our ability to assist them. I was pleased to be dined by 282 at the RAF Club and to visit them in East Ham and help present two brand new saxophones to their band – a generous gift by Liveryman Heather Dix.

Our last Livery event

My consort, Glenn Hurstfield, organised a visit to the Heathrow Animal Reception Centre for the lady liverymen and consorts. We were treated to a personal visit and got up close and cosy with many creatures and were even allowed to hold the turtles. Little did we know how PPE was to become a prominent part of our lives only a week later.



TOP: SUPPORT FOR OUR AIR CADETS (REGALIA AND SAXOPHONES)
CENTRE: THE PLAISTERERS' TEAM AT THE INTER-LIVERY PANCAKE RACES
BOTTOM: VISIT TO THE HEATHROW ANIMAL RECEPTION CENTRE



A new way of life

The last/lost third of the year was a very different experience and I am determined that it does not define or qualify in any way what was for me an enjoyable experience as Master. Our Past Masters' group has called itself The Zoomers and that does sum up how life turned out. Working from home has meant a lot of time sitting at a computer and then long walks at the end of the day without the sustenance of a three or four course meal prepared by expert chefs at a Livery Hall. The work of the Livery has kept going. Although the April Court meeting was determined by email, Zoom committee meetings have been successful as well as the July Court meetings, Common Hall and Robing.

Keeping in touch

I was keen to keep in touch with the membership and instituted the Plaisterers' Mates – a telephone contact with our older Livery members. What has been delightful is the benefit that those doing the phoning have gained from that older generation. Whilst some sad news has filtered back in this way, for most they are coping and resilient.



Virtual events

To reach a wider audience I also arranged some social Zoom meetings called the Gypsars and Daubers online. Five interesting speakers have proved a hit with some members joining who have not been able to get to the Hall for some time. Particularly memorable was the talk by Helen Tapper, President of FIS and a chance for the Livery to understand the impact of the pandemic on the trade and business we support.



The outcome

I had hoped that an outcome of my business plan would be that more Livery members would be able to be ambassadors for the Livery and City. Only you can decide if this has been achieved. Along the way I have certainly enjoyed getting better acquainted with the Livery, the trade links and our affiliates – flying the flag for the Plaisterers with many dinners, lectures and other events hosted by the other Livery Companies.

It is sad to end the year and even more so for our Learned Clerk of ten years, Nigel Bamping. Many thanks and every good wish to him, Angela and his family.

Also thanks to Ali Mackey for the continuity that she will provide to Colonel Garth Manger our new Clerk – I wish him and Margaret Coates and all the Livery a successful year ahead.



MASTER 2019



What's not happening in the City

Alderman Alison Gowman

During my year as Master I aimed to inform the Livery with a monthly article of current news in the City. This morphed into what is not happening in the City as the Covid-19 lockdown was declared in mid-March 2020.

This article summarises those comments with all the emotion of the time and shows how the life of the City unfolded in a different way until a gentle easing allowed a slow, steady stream of people back into the City.



Early days

As a resident of the City of London it is a very eerie feeling for me to have the usually busy Cityscape at such a standstill. No planes overhead (except the London Air Ambulance red helicopter flying to and from the Royal London) and a sporadic stream of cars and vans and rather too many noisy blue light flashing ambulances. The bright red buses had a reduced timetable but still enlivened the scene albeit with very few occupants. The many public green spaces and pocket parks were blooming with spring flowers and blossom with only the birds and bees to enjoy their shade and nectar. The numerous building sites in the City were rather still with cranes at rest position.

Only 2% of business premises in the City were still occupied (in early April) and then only with a skeleton staff – the food shops were still open. The City Corporation was largely working from home but vital services such as social care and waste collection were still operating. St Bartholomew Hospital founded in 1123 had seen this all before (Black Death, Great Fire and the Blitz) but was now changing to meet this new need. Whilst not a full service hospital – it was now reconfiguring to treat all heart emergency surgery across London (thus relieving other hospitals in this regard). It also transformed what was a 6th floor with 16 intensive care beds into a ward with 70 such beds in order to provide world class care for those with Covid-19.

The City Police were still present and keeping a watchful eye. The criminal fraternity may not be self isolating. They reported an immediate drastic drop in the daily crime rate but still warned that

counter-terrorism was a viable threat. With so many empty premises unguarded there had been a number of burglaries and it was the case that many shops were boarded up against such intrusions. There were some random assaults and occasional urban explorers who sought to scale the tall buildings for fun.

The apparent drop in crime had allowed them to cover the situation in the short term. Whilst there was reduced traffic this can be deceptive and the police were still picking up traffic offences. By early July the City Police, the National Lead Force for Economic Crime, highlighted a real cost to the nation and stated that nearly £17m had been lost to online fraud over the Covid-19 lockdown period with younger shoppers most affected.

The City Bridge Trust (CBT) was a founder partner in the London Communities Response Fund, administered and convened by London Funders. CBT donated £1m (as at July this had increased initially to £11 million) to the fund together with a further £1m (increased to £5 million) from the Greater London Authority. This gave immediate help to charities across London.

Funding sources such as charity shops and donations had dropped by an average of 50% whereas the work that they were doing with the most vulnerable in our society needed to continue even more so. This Fund continues to help bridge that gap.

After the first 40 days

By May the City of London was adjusting to a new normal of fewer cars and lorries and certainly a lot less foot traffic. The air was clearer and the birdsong ringing out clearly; clashing only with the occasional



siren and church bells. However the City was on board and not at sea, and businesses were actively working from home – just not in their usual workplaces.

Whilst the City Corporation works hard to keep services operating, I noticed a bit more rubbish on the streets and a creeping (small) amount of graffiti. The road works on Cheapside and at Bank Junction were still there. It had not been possible within the social distancing rules for them to be continued and completed at this time. They will be familiar sites when you return.

Co-ordinating London

Greater London has long made preparations for the impacts of a pandemic under the auspices of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. When any emergency situation arises, a Strategic Co-ordination Group (SCG) is formed with the job of co-ordinating and mobilising the efforts of the many organisations involved.

This SCG was led by the City's Town Clerk and Chief Executive, John Barradell (guest speaker at our October dinner), working with other London Borough Chief Executives and the Mayor of London's office. They co-ordinated thinking and actions; anticipating and mitigating problems. This included liaison with all the blue light services and bringing together the third sector of charities and faith groups.

The City saw the need for continuity in the leadership and the current Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell, and Sheriffs Alderman Michael Mainelli and Chris Hayward were asked to stay in post for another year. The Museum

of London appealed to the public to help it build up a Covid-19 collection – made up of objects and first-hand experiences to reflect Londoners' lives during the pandemic. These will be vital as London seeks to understand what has changed and what is the same and how it compares to previous outbreaks and disasters that have hit the City.

It seems a good time for us all to marshal our thoughts and consider what we want to collect, what get rid of (sustainably) and how things will be different hereafter. A challenge for us individually and collectively as, for certain, things will not be the same. Our task is to make them better.

Lockdown saw, happily, the City's Planning and Transportation Committee on 23rd June approve the plans for a new Museum of London which will create a new, world-class cultural destination within a series of historic buildings in West Smithfield. The project will redefine what a museum can be in the 21st century. Much of the historic fabric of the buildings will be preserved to create



THE MASTER WITH JOHN BARRADELL,
TOWN CLERK

cavernous and atmospheric spaces both above and below ground, capable of hosting a broader range of displays, exhibitions, learning activity and events.

Everything became virtual

For the City of London Corporation virtual meetings were a legal impossibility. For voting and a quorum to count then you had to be physically present in the room. The Coronavirus Act changed this overnight so that the Corporation committees could operate remotely.

As part of most meetings is open to the public then this element had to be made possible with live streaming on YouTube. The City held its main meeting, the Court of Common Council, online on 21st May. I used the chance to ask a formal question about the use of e-scooters in the City (currently illegal). This was answered that they were being piloted by the Department for Transport ahead of a public consultation and the City was reviewing the position at the next Planning Committee. I was glad to raise the point (prompted by one of my voters) but am conscious that any



THE COURT OF COMMON
COUNCIL MEETING

introduction must be balanced with health and safety considerations and space for their proper use.

Whilst not strictly a local authority meeting, the Court of Aldermen also met in a virtual way on May 12th. This was an auspicious day as it was the International Day of the Nurse. The Guild of Nurses formed only four years ago was approved to move forward to become a Company without Livery on that date – Florence Nightingale's 200th birthday.

Preparing for the return to work – Tu-be or not Tu-be?

Transport for London needed to make preparations for the return to work and surveyed businesses regularly as to their intentions. Local intelligence suggested that the return will be phased with some 20-40% of staff returning on a staggered basis – but not just yet (I wrote in early June). Plans were authorised to allow pavements to be widened to allow social distancing and more space created for a likely influx of cyclists. An indicative 15mph speed limit should be observed. Businesses prepared with markings delineating two metre spaces as well as testing for those arriving at work.

The question on everyone's lips was what will the "new normal" look like?

How will the small coffee and sandwich shops break even if there are reduced numbers in the City? Anyway, will there be time to queue up for a Pret cappuccino if only six people are allowed in the shop at any one time?

Supporting businesses in the immediate crisis; Sustaining the economy through it and Speeding the recovery were the Corporation's watchwords. Its website signposts businesses and residents to



the help and various schemes aimed at assistance. The Lord Mayor and the Chair of Policy and Resources worked closely with businesses and trade groups to listen to the concerns and present these to Government. The City has bounced back from terrible situations before and its exceptional resilience and its ingenuity was needed above all now.

Travelling back into the City would be a big issue for everyone – worker, resident or tourist. Tube trains and buses had been running on a skeleton timetable but that was now changing (early June) with a return to near normal service but also with exhortations to keep your distance. By June 15th I could write that things were beginning to change visibly around the City.

There were a few more people on the streets, much more noisy construction work, vehicular traffic has increased and more shops are open and trading. I have

lived in the City for 24 years and when I first came here the weekends were empty. It feels a bit like that now – not entirely dead but just reviving. That is clearly what the economy needs and the City Corporation and businesses are focussed on facilitating a safe working environment.

Black Lives Matter

The public killing of George Floyd by a police officer in Minneapolis was abhorrent with repercussions across the world. The City of London Corporation issued a statement which included the words that they are *"... committed to equality, inclusivity and diversity ... We understand it is not enough to say we are against racism but we have to work to eradicate all forms of racism in all that we do."*

Many City businesses have made public statements and committed to action to eradicate racism, prejudice and

inequality. Some focus has been on the visible signs of historic inequality and profit from the slave trade. Outside the Museum of London Docklands the statue of slave owner Robert Milligan was removed peaceably with the full support of the Museum and Tower Hamlets.

Arts and culture

It seems that the excitement of the new Museum site might mask the underlying issues around the Arts in general. The City of London thrives as an international destination because of the richness of the cultural offering as well as the business cluster and liveability of the City. We would be a poorer and less dynamic place if these were not able to revive and flourish.

Sadly London's arts venues were in dire straits. Only so much can be performed online when, after all the thrill of the theatre, concerts, dance and opera is that they are live and you are present.

By mid-July some elements of the Barbican Centre were re-opening but live indoor performances are not yet in view.

Conclusion

I am sure that in retrospect our individual and collective actions will all seem to have been following an expected pattern. That is of compliance and stoicism through fear and fretting to frustration and wanting to break free. Across the City businesses activities are frustratingly partially open but not quite there and largely still without many walk-in customers. The City is keeping many activities alive online and with some limited physical presence.

It is still not clear what recovery will mean for all of us but let us hope for a respectful return to a vibrant and thriving City of London.

Alderman Alison Gowman
Master 2019-20



THE MASTER AND THE CLERK DESIGNATE

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Industry Committee

CHAIRMAN John Telling

It is fair to say that the construction industry has suffered from a series of adverse events over the past twelve months. Everything from Brexit to the General Election and the Covid-19 pandemic has adversely affected economic confidence which in turn has delayed and deferred investment decisions in commercial development, refurbishment and house building.

Unfortunately this has had a direct impact on plastering training this year with lower levels of training, apprenticeships, fewer plastering courses being offered by colleges and very few of those courses being able to complete. Indications of levels of training for the next year are also not encouraging with high levels of uncertainty among college lecturers and contracting organisations.

None of this should come as a surprise because the UK economy has effectively been crashed for three months and everything will take some time to get back to more normal conditions.

The Plasterers Livery however is able to take a different perspective. It has been in existence for over 500 years and during that time the UK has experienced many setbacks that seemed insurmountable but were eventually overcome. It is this long-term perspective that allows us to look forward with confidence because we know that at some point construction activity will recover and the industry will need a supply of professional, properly trained plasterers.

It is the role of your Industry Committee to support the long-term interests of the plastering trade by providing encouragement, support and developing relationships with the key bodies across the industry.

This is why, as I step down as the chair of the committee, it is appropriate that the reins are being taken up by Jon Riley, the Managing Director of Locker & Riley. Jon brings an extensive knowledge of the industry as it is today and a range of connections, most importantly, with the FIS, the industry's trade body. He is well placed to lead the future strategy of the Livery in its relationships with industry. I wish him well for the future.

Before lockdown the Industry Committee had a busy year with three principle programmes detailed on the following pages:

- Annual Training Awards
- Heritage Plastering Training
- Master Plasterer Scheme



2019-20 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JOHN TELLING



2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JON RILEY

Margaret Coates
Stephen Gilbert
Garth Manger
Ray Deeks
Bill Welch

Matthew Morgan
Elizabeth Kitson
Stuart Brown
Tony Mitchell
David Serra

Invited to attend
Tim Stokes
FIS Representative



2019 Annual Training Awards

The 21st Annual Plasterers' Training Awards were held at Plasterers' Hall in November 2019 attended by an audience representing a wide cross-section of the plastering and dry-lining trade, Training Colleges, Independent Training Providers, City Livery Companies with particular links to construction trades and other organisations actively involved in construction skills training.



The Master welcomed everyone attending the lunch and congratulating the winners said:

"By sponsoring these awards the Plaisters Livery enhances the reputation of the craft and we pledge our support through our charitable trust to training and education for future generations of plasterers."

The Awards were presented by The Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman William Russell who commented:

"You give a hopeful view of the future, perfectly outlining how the Livery should be aligned, as much as it can, to how its trade manifests in today's culture. It has been a privilege to meet all of those nominated and those who won awards this afternoon."

We are especially grateful for the continued support of our sponsors, British Gypsum, Saint-Gobain Formula and the Hadley Group who clearly demonstrate their support for training in the industry. We would also like to thank the Livery Company Charitable Trustees for their ongoing encouragement and contributions.

We must also thank Terry Wright, our chief judge, the other judges and Avril Blanchot, the manager of the awards programme, for their dedication and engagement.





Winners of the 2019 Awards



HARMER TROPHY

SIR JOHN PIRIE
CUP

COLLINO TROPHY



SNELLING CUP

BRITISH GYPSUM
TROPHYJOHN G. ROBINSON
TROPHYLIFETIME CONTRIBUTION
AWARDSIR THOMAS
KELLY CUP

COLLEGE AWARDS

Harmer Trophy

For larger colleges at academic level 3.

Winner:
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COLLEGE
Runner Up:
DEARN VALLEY COLLEGE

Sir Thomas Kelly Cup

For smaller colleges at academic level 3.

Winner: COLEG MENAI
Runner Up: GRIMSBY INSTITUTE

Collino Trophy

For larger colleges with students in NVQ, SVQ, ICA and Diploma level 2.

Winner: NPTC GROUP
Runner Up: CARLISLE COLLEGE

The John G Robinson Trophy

For the best overall performing plastering department from the regions.

Winner: NPTC GROUP

Sir John Pirie Cup

For smaller colleges with students in NVQ, SVQ, ICA and Diploma level 2.

Winner: COLEG SIR GÂR
Runner Up:
NORTHUMBERLAND COLLEGE

PLASTERING COMPETENCE AWARDS for Independent Training Providers

Formula Snelling Cup

For Fibrous and Heritage competence and training provision.

Winner:
SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COLLEGE

British Gypsum Trophy

For training of drylining.

Winner:
NOW GET QUALIFIED LTD



PRESENTING A DONATION TO THE LORD MAYOR'S APPEAL AND RECEIVING THE LORD MAYOR'S GIFT



LIFETIME CONTRIBUTION TO TRAINING AWARD



DAVID HARRISON CHAIRMAN OF HAYLES & HOWE

David has spent 41 years in the Industry, extolling the virtues of quality with an average of two apprentices each year.

This has not been restricted to his own company or just the UK, working internationally with students from Europe and in the USA, and giving experience to The Prince's Foundation placements as well as running CPD courses for architects in fibrous plaster and scagliola.

He has been a major contributor to NHTG, SPAB, ABTT and the Theatre Trust.

STUDENT OF THE YEAR



IAN CONDON BLUE GYP, MANCHESTER

Ian is an outstanding example of people training as plasterers and dryliners, showing the ideal combination of good attitude, commitment and ability. At 50 he was ready for a new challenge and discovered a natural aptitude for plastering and is already in full-time employment. His nominator, Mark Johnstone (The Growth Company) says: *"Ian's motivation, passion and commitment have shone through. He is an outstanding student whose resilience and courage have paid off."*

APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR



LUCAS WITHEY HAYLES & HOWE

Lucas started work at his current employers two years ago and has already completed NVQ Level 2 and a number of other key qualifications. He has shown a natural skill with fibrous plastering, is hard-working and a great team player.

His nominator, Niall Harris (Production Manager, Hayles & Howe) says: *"Lucas' skills are increasing daily; he is a valued member of the team. A real success story."*

Heritage Plastering Training

We are now in the second year of our support to The Prince's Foundation for a plastering apprentice on their building crafts programme.

Our student, Jue Sota, had a very good year covering a wide variety of heritage and conservation skills including decorative plasterwork with placements at Gaches Plastering and Locker & Riley.

She thoroughly enjoyed all of the aspects of the course and is looking forward to applying the skills that she has learned to her future career.

The opportunities that she had anticipated have been held up due to the pandemic but she is hopeful that everything will be back on track soon.

See more of Jue's work at:
www.juliannesota.com
Instagram: [jue_sota](https://www.instagram.com/jue_sota)





Master Plasterer scheme

At an impressive ceremony in March at the Mansion House, hosted by the Lord Mayor, we were delighted to see the five of our Master Plasterers receive their certificates which recognise long-term contributions to different areas of plastering.



2019 MASTER PLASTERERS



NIGEL DAVIES

Recognised for his skills in heritage plasterwork.

Nigel started his plastering career in 1979 and has worked for G Cook & Sons for 42 years. During his career he has worked on all manner of important buildings.

These include Cambridge colleges, churches and large country houses in and around the east of England, large private residences in west London, iconic churches including some designed by Christopher Wren and Nicholas Hawksmoor, large public buildings in London including Somerset House and also the restoration of the Rotunda of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.



BERNARD CUNNINGHAM

Recognised for his skills in heritage and ecclesiastical plasterwork.

Becoming an apprentice when he left school in Northern Ireland in 1987, Bernard then developed his career in heritage and fibrous plasterwork eventually setting up his own company and winning the Formula Snelling Cup.

He has worked in many notable ecclesiastical buildings, repairing and restoring centrepieces and other plasterwork. He is a member of the Ulster Architectural Heritage Group and the Irish Georgian Society.



MARTIN WARD

Recognised for his skills in heritage plasterwork.

Martin became a plastering apprentice with G Cook & Son in 1976.

He has had a career in plastering covering both modern and traditional methods both in a workshop and on site. Skills include fibrous, stucco, heritage and pargetting.

Projects of note include Somerset House and the Wren church, St Mary Le Hill and he has worked across the UK and in Japan. He has increased responsibilities through foreman to managing plastering departments and businesses.



GARY LEWIS

Recognised for his contribution to the maintenance of plastering skills through training.

Gary started his career as an apprentice plasterer in 1976 and has had a varied career in the plastering industry.

For the first 20 years he worked on a range of large and small plastering contracts in the UK, Germany, Spain and South Africa. He then moved into training as a college lecturer, established a private sector training centre in London and is currently working with British Gypsum as a plaster demonstrator.



PAUL MULINGANIE

Recognised for his contribution to the maintenance of plastering skills through training.

Paul left school in 1985 and started his plastering career as an improver learning from the craftsmen he worked with.

He has had a long career in the Midlands working on various commercial projects including the Rolls-Royce head office, art galleries and FIS gold award winning offices. He was given increasing supervisory responsibilities, including site management, and is currently a plaster demonstrator with British Gypsum.



Finance Committee

CHAIRMAN Gary Morley

The Finance Committee has the important job of assisting the Court and Clerk in managing the finances of the Livery. Covid-19 has made this job more important than ever.

The financial year more or less coincides with the Master's year. The dramatically reduced activities of the Company since March has resulted in substantial cost savings, and has also saved on the usual small loss we incur on our dinners.

We are therefore forecasting a larger operating surplus than that budgeted for the year, however the substantial investments held by the Livery have taken a hammering. As we go to print, we don't have the results for the year ending 31st July 2020 and the actual outcome will depend much on the performance of the stock exchange.

It is very difficult to budget for 2020/21 as much depends on how quickly we can get to the new normal and what that new normal looks like. On the advice of our investment manager, Rathbones, we have anticipated the dividend income we will receive to help cover our expenses is reduced from £75,000 to £55,000 per annum – a significant reduction.

Going forward, the financial assistance the Livery receives from Plaisterers Hall Limited may also reduce from next year. Fortunately, we still retain a strong balance sheet, but even that may come under strain within the next couple of years.

This year has been the fifth and last year of the Quarterage annual escalator. The fund, which currently stands at over £43,000, is "ring-fenced" in a separate reserve to help towards safeguarding the future of the Company. Currently it is too small to be a major help, but it is anticipated that the fund will grow by at least £13,000 p.a. On advice from the Finance Committee, the Court have confirmed that there will be no increase in Quarterage next year.

On the recommendation of the committee, the Court also agreed that the age limit for paying quarterage should be raised from 75 to 80 years and subject to 20 years membership.

This is my seventh and last year of Chairmanship. They have been interesting times – but much more interesting times lie ahead. I wish my successor, the very able Court Assistant Jon Randall, well, and a lot of luck.



GARY MORLEY



JON RANDALL

2019-20 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GARY MORLEY

DAVID JARMAN



RICHARD WALKER



2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JON RANDALL

Margaret Coates
Stephen Gilbert
Garth Manger

David Jarman
Richard Walker
Tim Fussell

Invited to attend
Tim Stokes



Marketing & Communications Committee

CHAIRMAN De Bradshaw/Tim Stokes

Strategy and objectives

To increase awareness of the Company and to enhance its reputation the Court, in writing its Strategic Plan for the period 2016-21, set the Marketing and Communications Committee (then the PR Committee), two prime objectives;

- that the website 'should become the main means of communication' by 2019 and
- that processes should be put in place to ensure that inter-committee collaboration was improved to ensure the work of the Livery was effectively communicated internally and externally.

The Committee has worked to further these objectives during the year – a year shaped by the Covid-19 pandemic which, whilst it saw many events usually managed or involving the Committee cancelled or postponed also saw the true spirit and resourcefulness of the Livery come to the fore as social media channels were increasingly used to communicate.

Pooled resources

Having established effective channels, during the year the Committee established formal links with all internal Committees and set up processes to capture the stories generated by the Livery, its charitable partners, industry sector and affiliates which help to bring to life our work and contribution to our wider society.

This pooling of resources has led to a healthy pipeline of future stories and

opportunities to communicate more 'instant' news through our developing social media.

External communications

In the first part of its calendar year Livery was proactive in its external communications including taking every opportunity to promote the Industry Training Awards in November 2019. With the 2020 Awards being cancelled due to the virus pandemic, the Committee will look to find ways to mark our support of training in the art of heritage plastering.

The Committee developed a detailed set of proposals and themes to enter a float into the November 2020 Lord Mayor's Show which were approved in principle by the Court. It was decided however, due to the uncertainty around the virus pandemic, to defer our entry into the Lord Mayor's Show with the Company entering the Show in 2021.

The Company online

The website was launched in the summer of 2019 and, constantly evolving, it has matured during the year to become the 'go to' source of information for members of the Livery and those seeking information about us.

All usage data has increased by a good percentage over the year showing that there are more visitors to the website and that they are viewing more content. In the last quarter of the Livery calendar year we saw an increase in visitors both directly (39%) and through social media (76%) which reflects the increased social media activity as well as online Clerk's newsletters.

The website will be continually developed as part of our digital strategy which has resulted in a growing number of followers during the year. Digital channels used include Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram (shown below).



ONLINE PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

WEBSITE

plaistererslivery.co.uk

- 39% increase in visitors directly
- 76% visitor increase from social media
- This reflects the increased social activity as well as online Clerk's newsletters

FACEBOOK

[@Plaisterers](https://www.facebook.com/Plaisterers)

- 277 Followers (increase of 118 over previous 12 months)
- Good interactions on the page and have made useful contacts through Facebook Messenger.

TWITTER

[@Plaisterers](https://twitter.com/Plaisterers)

- 1637 Followers (increase of 172 over previous 12 months)
- From May-July 2020 gained 30.7K impressions

LINKED IN

[The Worshipful Company of Plaisterers](https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-worshipful-company-of-plaisterers)

- 200 Followers (increase of 83 over previous 12 months)
- Good interactions on posts with 33% increase in page views

INSTAGRAM

[plaistererscompany](https://www.instagram.com/plaistererscompany)

- 154 Followers (since March)
- Good interactions on posts
- Wide ranging connections from the City and Livery to plastering



Member communications

With all external activities being cancelled or postponed from March 2020 due to the pandemic, including our social occasions, it was considered essential to increase communication with our members and to provide them with continued links to the Company and support if needed. The Master and the Clerk's office played a key role in this with 'Zoom' meetings replacing our usual interactions.

Social media saw increasing usage with communications from the Lord Mayor of the City of London, the Master and the Clerk through newsletters on the website providing regular updates to members. Members were provided with Quiz competitions, a virtual tour of the Painted Hall at Greenwich Old Royal Naval College (replacing the cancelled Master's visit), and excellent series of online briefings called 'Gypsars and Daubers' which attracted healthy support from members and their families.

Many of these virtual events were recorded and are available to watch online via our website:

www.plastererslivery.co.uk/gypsars-daubers-online/



New initiatives

With movement of members restricted during the enforced 'lockdown' there were concerns around the possible social isolation of elderly members. To address this a scheme called 'Plasterers' Mates' was initiated with a team of volunteers making regular telephone contact with this group with their calls being particularly well received.

At the suggestion of the Master Elect, the Committee commissioned a Livery scarf to be presented to female members on gaining the Freedom.



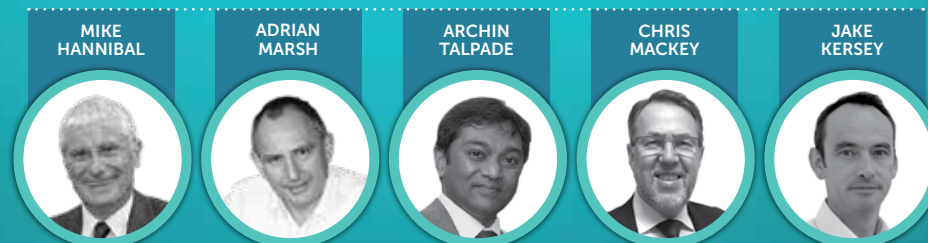
The silk scarf will be available to all lady Freemen at no charge.

Finally I should like to take this opportunity to thank all the Committee members for their contribution and efforts during the year. On behalf of the Committee I should like to thank our Master, Alison Gowman, our Clerk, Nigel Bamping and Assistant Clerk, Ali Mackey for their support and guidance without which we could not have made the progress we have.

The Committee now looks forward to working with our new Clerk and to developing together new communications objectives in support of the Livery and its work.



2019-20 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DE BRADSHAW/TIM STOKES



2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TIM STOKES

Margaret Coates
Stephen Gilbert
Garth Manger
Simon Hinks
Sue Spurling

Mike Hannibal
Adrian Marsh
Archin Talpade
Chris Mackey
Jake Kersey

HHJ Anthony Leonard
Adam Binns



Membership Committee

CHAIRMAN **Michael Jones**

Solid progress has been made for the Membership Committee and the Company during the year.

Increasing recruitment rate

We previously established our need to raise recruitment rate to meet our strategic objective of long term membership growth of 20% against a background of an ageing membership profile.

To achieve this we arrived at a target minimum of 15 new members each year. At the same time we recognised an aspiration to encourage a younger membership within a broader diversity.

To achieve this we have made it easier for liverymen to sponsor new members, whilst maintaining the touchstone criterion of maintaining quality, and simultaneously injecting increasing vigour into our recruitment activity.

Over the past two years we have recruited over 20 new members each year. Many of these new members are of a younger age profile and increasing diversity although, in common with other sectors of society, more remains to be done in this regard.

Increasing representation from affiliates and the plastering profession

Over the past two years we have experienced a much greater intake of both young freemen from 282 Air Cadets and from the plastering trade via the Industry Freeman initiative.

Recruitment evenings

Held twice a year in January and September, these have been well attended. However, we always have room for more guests. This is resulting in better informed new members and, judging from the conversion rate of well above 50% of attendees joining as new members, they are highly successful and well received.

Committee strengthened

As well as the ex officio members, the Committee has grown to seven with the addition of liverymen Heather Dix, Luke Sehmer, Megan Manzi and Ross Ashworth. Increasing input from younger liverymen with wider representation is clearly beneficial in terms of fresh thought and ideas generation.



MICHAEL JONES



PHILLIP FOSTER



DAVID HILL-KELLY



DAVID JARMAN

2019-20 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MICHAEL JONES



RICHARD GROVE



HEATHER DIX



ROSS ASHWORTH



LUKE SEHMER



MEGAN MANZI

2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TIM COOKE

Margaret Coates
Alison Gowman
Stephen Gilbert
Garth Manger
David Hill-Kelly

David Jarman
Richard Grove
Heather Dix
Ross Ashworth
Luke Sehmer

Megan Manzi
Jim Tapper

Invited to attend
Tim Stokes



Robing Ceremony

Even after over 500 years we're still achieving firsts. July 2020 saw our virtual Zoom Robing Ceremony where we welcomed our new Master and Wardens, Liverymen, Freemen and Apprentices.

NEW LIVERYMEN

Anita Barton
Alain Kerneis
Joshua Oates
Andrew Rainbow
Martin Royal
Julien Sampson
Daniel Sibert
Samuel Steinbock
Richard Tall
Arnold Wills
James York

NEW FREEMEN

Tom Barton
Charmaine Etienne
Philip Gaches
Stephen Gilkes
Gary Lewis
Winston Michael
Paul Mulingaine
Bruce Ruddock
Jue Sota
Martin Spurling

NEW FREEMEN FROM APPRENTICE

Casey Foster
Sung-Sung Morley
Thomas Saul



Our New Clerk

Garth Manger takes over the appointment of Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Plasterers having completed 35 years as a Royal Marine Officer.

His connections with the Company go back to his time as a Signals Officer in 1990 and latterly in 2013 when he was the Commanding Officer of 1 Assault Group Royal Marines.

He is married to Rachel and they have three children who are a student, a teacher and a Royal Marine Officer. They live in Somerset. His career in the Royal Marines saw him deploy across the world including tours in Northern Ireland, Iraq and many African Countries.

He completed his life as a Marine with a four year appointment in a NATO Headquarters in Portugal and finally as the Chief of Staff to the UK Defence Academy in Shrivenham.



Almoner 2019/20

RICHARD GROVE

The role of the Almoner is to communicate with Liverymen and Freemen and their wives, husbands, partners and families, plus Companions of the Company, when sickness, operations or other needs may arise.

3 The Limes, Oakley Road, Bromley, Kent BR2 8HH

Email richardgrove@btconnect.com

Telephone 020 8462 8810





Investment Committee

CHAIRMAN **James Minett**

The committee has met twice in the past Livery year. The first time was at the beginning of December, when there was great deal of uncertainty about the outcome of the imminent General Election and the consequences this could have on Brexit. Fast forward six months and those concerns seem but a distant memory.

The committee met at the beginning of June contemplating a world grappling with Coronavirus and the meeting was held by video link from the safety of the members own homes, to avoid cross infection and comply with the Government's lockdown restrictions.

As the calendar year started markets were performing reasonably robustly with the prospect of growing global growth and the hope that the removal of Brexit uncertainty would allow the UK economy to come out of its three-year slumber. But, by the end of February, it became apparent that the Coronavirus was spreading globally, and markets went into retreat.

During 2019 the committee had reviewed the strategies of the four portfolios (the Livery, PHL, and the two Charitable Fund portfolios) and had decided to reduce the strategic weighting to equities and have a better balance between UK and overseas equities and to invest on a total return basis.

Whilst the portfolios could not avoid some impact from this global pandemic these decisions have helped contain the falls, as UK equities fell by -17%

between the two meetings but overseas equities only fell by -3.0%. Also, the decision not to seek for all the annual drawdowns to be covered by income producing assets, but to look to invest for the best overall return, has been helpful. Income producing equities have been substantially under performing growth equities and UK dividends have fallen by around 50% so far this year. So, not seeking income unduly has helped performance.

The only significant change to strategy has been to agree to invest directly into overseas equities rather than through collective funds (like unit and investment trusts) as this will save the funds the additional costs of the management charges on these funds. The Charitable funds are also now being invested through Rathbones Investment Fund for Charities as this has the same investment strategy and will also enable them to save the VAT on Rathbones investment management charges.



**JAMES
MINETT**



**GARY
MORLEY**



**PETER
BAKER**

2019-20 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JAMES MINETT

**KEVIN
HOPWOOD**



**ROHIT
NATHANIEL**



**RICHARD
ATKINS**



**TIMOTHY
COOKE**



2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JAMES MINETT

**Margaret Coates
Stephen Gilbert
Garth Manger
Jon Randall**

**Peter Baker
Kevin Hopwood
Rohit Nathaniel
Richard Atkins**

**Ed Cowdery
Timothy Cooke
Invited to attend
Tim Stokes**



Master & Wardens' Committee

CHAIRMAN **Alison Gowman**

The Committee comprises the Master, Deputy Master, Upper Warden, Renter Warden and the Clerk. The Consorts of the Members of the Committee shall also be invited to attend (from time to time).

The Master and Wardens' Committee was reinvigorated at the start of the year with a revised terms of reference and renewed enthusiasm to create a collaborative working relationship between the Committee members.

The Committee's first meeting was in the week following the robing and installation. This set the tone for a creative engagement with event feedback and planning as well as oversight of the whole of the Livery's programme. It has met on seven occasions and this ensured that a regular communication has kept everyone updated and able to plan for the future.

This was particularly helpful as lockdown occurred and the business of the Livery moved into a very different mode of operation. The continuation of meetings online allowed the sharing of issues and plans. Out of this Committee, the Master proposed the Plaisterers' Mates contact scheme. This put a volunteer group of Livery members in contact with those over 70 so as to keep in touch with members who were potentially most vulnerable to the pandemic, offering friendship and help, if needed.

The Committee endorsed the idea of the series of five online meetings called 'Gypsars and Daubers Online' that the Master instituted during the time of no physical meetings.

The Master and Wardens' Committee also reviewed the work of the various committees, considering issues that needed follow up or endorsement and facilitating cross committee liaison. They also worked on the plans for the briefing of the new Clerk. Time was allocated for the Upper Warden and Renter Warden to share their respective plans for their future years in office and receive feedback and encouragement of these ideas. The Upper Warden's plans for a Young Livery Group were endorsed and aided by the Committee's enthusiasm.

The membership of the Committee changes annually with the rolling change of officers of the Livery and at the last meeting of the year the Master thanked the outgoing Deputy Master and outgoing Clerk for their help over the year.



**ALISON
GOWMAN**



**TIMOTHY
COOKE**

2019-20 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ALISON GOWMAN

**MARGARET
COATES**



**STEPHEN
GILBERT**



2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MARGARET COATES

**Alison Gowman
Stephen Gilbert**

**Tim Stokes
Garth Manger**

**Plus the Wives/Consorts of
the Master, Deputy Master,
Upper and Renter Wardens
by invitation**



Nominations Panel

CHAIRMAN Timothy Cooke

The Panel is chaired by the Deputy Master (Timothy Cooke) and comprises the Master (Alison Gowman) and Past Masters Robert Dalrymple, Peter Baker and Mike Jones together with the Learned Clerk (Nigel Bamping). It met regularly throughout the year.

After my year as Master it was a particular pleasure to be able to remain involved in an important component of the governance of our Company by chairing the Nominations Panel.

The Panel's responsibilities include identifying:

- Potential Officers (The Master & Wardens) for each of the three succeeding years and to plan for the Officers for the next five to seven years.
- Future Stewards and to recommend a Chief Steward when required.
- Liverymen with the aspiration and ability to progress to the Court, providing them with opportunities to join a committee.
- Matters relating to the effective governance of the Company which the Panel has identified or has been asked to consider by the Court.

The Panel does not have executive powers but makes recommendations to the Court where all decisions are taken. Its proposals for the Offices of Master, Upper Warden and Renter Warden for the next livery year are presented beforehand to the Past Masters' Committee for agreement and thence to the first Court meeting of the calendar year in January.

As a consequence of many conversations with Court members, the succession of Officers is now assured for the medium term. It has also been gratifying for the Panel to identify a number of liverymen with the appetite and commitment to progress within the Company and to be able to respond with invitations to join committees.

It's ironic that for a Panel tasked with ensuring succession across the key roles in the Company, it has experienced quite a lot of churn in its own membership. At the final meeting of the year we said farewell to PM Mike Jones on his departure from the Panel; Mike has brought assured judgment and precision of thought to our discussions and will be missed. We also acknowledged the significant contribution of Nigel as Clerk whose deep knowledge of the Company and its members has underpinned the important work of the panel over the last decade. For two other members of the Panel, the Master and me, the meeting was the last in our current roles albeit we both return phoenix-like with our new duties in the next livery year. I wish Alison well in her role as chairman of the Panel and also to Colonel Garth Manger as he steps into Nigel's role.



TIMOTHY
COOKE



ALISON
GOWMAN



NIGEL
BAMPING

2019-20 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TIMOTHY COOKE

MICHAEL
JONES



PETER
BAKER



ROBERT
DALRYMPLE



2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ALISON GOWMAN

Margaret Coates
Garth Manger

Timothy Cooke
Peter Baker

Robert Dalrymple



Charitable Trust

CHARITY STEWARD **Peter Baker**

The Managing Trustees continue to evolve and operate the Worshipful Company of Plasterers' Charitable Trust in accordance with the Trust Deed, dated 1 July 1980, and the Company's 5-year Strategic Plan for the period from 2016 to 2021, as approved by the Court of Assistants in October 2016.

They continuously monitor the Trust's Objects and modus operandi and review their strategy on an on-going basis at their quarterly meetings and have recently commenced a review of the current strategy in preparation for the Company's next 5-year Strategic Plan, which will cover the period from 2021 to 2026.

Financial Status

Like most similar charities, The Plasterers' Charity has been adversely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, both in terms of the decline in the value of its assets and its investment and other donation income. Between 31 December 2019 and 5 April 2020 (the end of the Charity's financial year), the total value of the Charity's designated, restricted and

unrestricted funds declined by 19.4%, but recovered 14.0% of this decline by 30 June 2020 when the assets amounted to approximately £2.088m (2019: £2.115M).

The Trustees hold biannual review meetings with, and take advice from, both the members of the Investment Committee and Rathbones Investment Managers, the latter from whom they receive regular investment reports.

On the basis of the advice received, the Trustees have taken appropriate, decisive action in order to limit the adverse effect of Covid-19 on the Charity's assets and investment income.

Direct charitable donations and grants again increased during the last financial year from £67,000 to over £81,000.

Donations and Grants

The Trustees endeavour to make best use of the available resources by focusing charitable giving and continuing to provide support for our traditional areas of:

- Choral bursaries for Peterborough (Henry Mott Fund) and St Paul's Cathedrals (500th Anniversary Fund) (39%)** and for education and training generally within schools in impoverished areas of London, particularly via music:
 - The VOCES8 Foundation (Harry Humber Fund)
 - The Royal College of Organists 'Inspiring Organists' scheme
 - St Paul's Cathedral OBE Outreach Fellow, Tom Daggett, via The Plasterers' Bursary for the after-school 'Choir Church' scheme at St Paul's Church of England Primary School in the Parish of St George-in-the East, Whitechapel, whose pupils are mainly from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds.

Education and training in the trade of plastering (33%)

including donations to individuals and bursaries to support heritage skills, particularly in conjunction with The Prince's Foundation.

The Lord Mayor's Appeal, (12%) a partnership with three charities

- The Place2Be
- Onside Youth Zones
- The Samaritans

The aim of the Appeal being to help one million people living and working in the City, to thrive and create 'A Better City for All'.

The Masters' charities (11%)

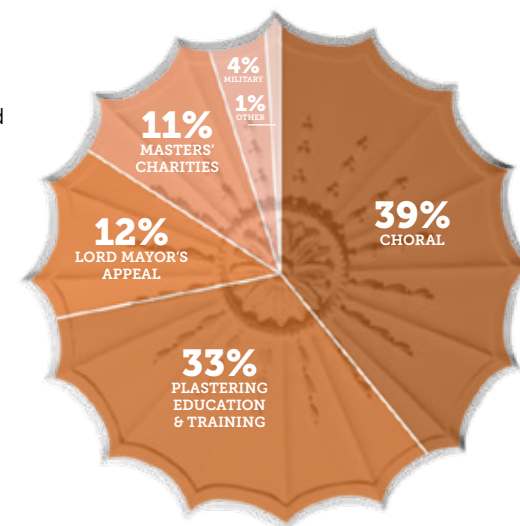
- Shaw Trust 2018-19
- The Museum of London's educational programme 2019-20

The charitable activities of our Military Affiliates (4%)

- HMS Dragon
- The Royal Marines, including the Royal Marines (City of London) Reserve
- 282 (East Ham) Squadron Royal Air Force Cadets
- Blind Veterans UK

Other worthy charitable causes both in the City and London generally (1%)

The new Master, Margaret Coates, has announced that the charity she has chosen to support for the forthcoming year is The Children's Society, an organisation who actively fight child neglect, and endeavour to help children to have a better chance in life.



SOME OF THE CHARITIES WE'VE SUPPORTED THIS YEAR



LORD
MAYOR'S
APPEAL
CHARITY



ST PAUL'S
CATHEDRAL



VOCES8





Conclusion

Despite a difficult year for charities in general, including The Plasterers' Charity, the action taken by the Managing Trustees will ensure that it is well positioned to recover and continue its charitable giving and support for its various beneficiaries during the forthcoming year.

Finally, I would particularly like to express my sincere thanks to my fellow elected and ex-officio Managing Trustees and Co-opted Member for their wise counsel, advice and interest in the Charity's affairs, and also to express my thanks to the Deputy Master, Tim Cooke who retires in accordance with the terms of the Trust Deed.

Most especially I should like to thank our Learned Clerk and Ex-officio Managing (Correspondent) Trustee, Nigel Bamping, who retires from office after some 10 years of sterling service to the Charity and at the same time welcome his successor, Colonel Garth Manger OBE, to that role.

Both Nigel and his wife Angela have actively promoted, supported and attended many events on behalf of the Charity organised by our Beneficiaries.

PM Peter Baker
Chairman and Charity Steward

5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY 2016 -2021

- **To increase the value of the Fund whilst at the same time increasing charitable giving**
- **To increase contributions by members of the Livery, including the provision of 'Time and Talents'**
- **To make best use of our available resources by focusing our charitable giving on the traditional areas of:**
 - Education and training in plastering (including donations and bursaries to support heritage skills);
 - Choral bursaries;
 - Support for our Military Affiliates;
 - Education and training, particularly via music in impoverished areas of London;
 - Support for the Lord Mayor's Appeal;
 - Support for the Master's charity of the year;
 - Support for any other worthy charitable cause;
- **To continuously monitor our objectives and modus operandi**
- **To monitor and review our strategy on an on-going basis.**



**PETER
BAKER**



**ALISON
GOWMAN**

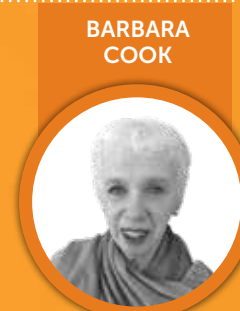


**TIMOTHY
COOKE**

2019-20 COMMITTEE CHARITY STEWARD PETER BAKER



**BILL
MAHONY**



**BARBARA
COOK**



**ADAM
EDWARDS**

2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN PETER BAKER

Margaret Coates
Alison Gowman
Garth Manger

Bill Mahony
Barbara Cook
Adam Edwards

Co-opted Member
Paul Infield



Master's Charity

2019/20 THE MUSEUM OF LONDON

REPORT BY SHARON AMENT, DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM OF LONDON

“The Museum of London is very grateful to be chosen as the Master’s Charity by your Master and one of our Governors (Board Member). Thank you.” SHARON AMENT

We have been keen to celebrate the generosity of your support as well as help your Livery members to get to know the Museum – we are close neighbours after all.

It was a great choice for you to support the work of our Schools Programme and concentrate on the project for our children with Special Educational Needs (SEND).

One of the Museum’s key aims is to Engage Every London Schoolchild. However for some children they need the Museum to come to them or need some additional assistance for their visit.

The Museum’s high quality programme provides bespoke workshops and learning experiences for groups from special schools or SEND units in mainstream schools from all over London and beyond. We share inspiring stories and images, and our multisensory sessions and projects are tailored to pupils’ individual needs and offer a truly enriching experience.

Each year 1,600 children receive this special opportunity – 50% in the Museum and the other half in their own schools.

Following a visit in January 2020 one of the teachers wrote:

“From the minute we arrived to the minute we left every aspect of our trip was nothing but positive. Avni and the staff running our session were so welcoming and accepting of the children, the session was fantastic, I am so glad that the museum has SEND tailored sessions as so many places do not offer this and it’s so difficult to find something suitable for our pupils.

All the staff I came across were as helpful and polite as they possibly could be throughout the whole museum...I am so overwhelmed and pleased at everything the Museum of London, and particularly the SEND team, do to make



PLASTERERS' VISIT THE MUSEUM OF LONDON IN DOCKLANDS



the museum as inclusive, accepting and accommodating for children with SEND.

Our pupils are often from difficult backgrounds and aren't provided with the opportunity from anywhere but school to go to places like museums and on trips, so the life experience they will have gained from our trip is something they may never have otherwise, so being able to give them a positive experience and widen their opportunities to museums like yours is wonderful.

It's so nice to find somewhere I know we will be able to return in the future and not have to worry about the children being made to feel like they are not welcome as you did the complete opposite."

As I said in my Zoom with you "Museums can change lives".

At the same time it was good to open up the Museum to the Livery members. We invited you to two private views of special exhibitions – Secret Rivers at the Museum of London Docklands and the Beasts of London at London Wall. We had hoped to give you a private view of the Museum on the same night that I

was to speak at your April Livery Dinner together with Governor Evan Davies. That was unfortunately not to be and a visit to the new Museum site at West Smithfield similarly bit the dust. However it was good that I was able to talk about the work of the programme to you at the special Zoom meeting on 4th June.

The Covid-19 pandemic severely affected the work of the Museum which had to close its physical doors in mid-March. However our digital reach has expanded to a much wider audience with participation up 510% to the schools online programme. At the same time it has been clear that there are many children unable to access any WIFI learning. In London this is estimated at about 7% of school children.

We have partnered with the Culture Mile to provide school projects in physical packs to help these disadvantaged young people. The packs are being distributed across London via food banks and doctors' surgeries to children who have no WIFI or computer and so are seriously disadvantaged by the lockdown lack of physical schooling. As they say, you should take advantage of every disaster

and the Museum has called out to all Londoners to contribute to the collection of the pandemic. Aiming to collect the physical and virtual, the sounds, smells and memories of this strange period of lockdown. It will make a great collection for us all to view at some future exhibition – echoing the runaway success of exhibitions such as Fire! Fire! about the Great Fire of London.

2020 is a momentous year for the Museum for another reason, as on 23 June the City of London Corporation granted planning permission for the New Museum site at West Smithfield. Whilst formal approval is also needed

from the Mayor of London (the Greater London Authority are joint sponsors of the Museum with the City Corporation), this is a great milestone. The preliminary work at the site is continuing but now permission is given there is a certain additional spring in our step.

The works can move forward to an opening in 2024. The new site is at the crossroads of London – which, if London is the Global City, makes it the Museum at the crossroads of the world. It will be a meeting place for London, a learning place for London, a Museum for London. We look forward to welcoming the Plaisterers there with open arms.



DOCKLANDS VISIT



NEW MUSEUM OF LONDON DEVELOPMENT



VOCES8 Foundation

What happens to singing when schools are closed during a pandemic?

ANN WRIGHT, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, VOCES8 FOUNDATION

The VOCES8 Foundation was delivering projects with schools in London, Cambridgeshire and France when the decision was made to close schools. Shortly after the UK went into lockdown we needed to think quickly and creatively about how to reach children, their families and their teachers.

Schools faced many challenges during the Summer Term. For the seven London schools the Foundation was working with these included reaching a considerable number of homes without internet access or without a computer, tablet or laptop. Lessons were filmed and posted in Google Classroom for those families that could access this. For those that could not, paper materials were sent by post. Class teachers phoned every family once a week. Teaching assistants called those families on the vulnerable list every day to speak to the child. One teacher described conversations with parents whose families had lost loved ones to Covid-19, and with parents working in the 'gig economy' who had lost their jobs.

Each of these schools was participating in Sing Every Day, a project supported by the Plaisterers. Children in year 1 (age 5) and their teachers took part in workshops with our singing leaders learning a variety of warm-ups activities and songs including songs linked to the curriculum. Teachers, all of whom are classroom teachers and not music teachers, learned to lead singing with their classes and

included 10 minutes of singing every day as part of their class routine.

Within days of finding ourselves at home the Foundation team began filming a weekly programme of activities. For children and families our education team produced A Cappella Lego, a 20 to 30 minute singing session including warm-ups and songs. The videos were released once a week via YouTube and Facebook and then remained available on YouTube for people to access at any time.

Hackney and Tower Hamlets Music Hubs shared A Cappella Lego with all their schools. I then contacted the teachers at the seven schools, sending them links to A Cappella Lego and asking if they would



like more recorded resources or even 'visits' by our team if they were reaching their classes live online.

Teachers encouraged parents to use A Cappella Lego. Their schools were also using it with children of key workers who were in school. Children at home were missing their teachers and friends. Singing helped. We therefore made some additional videos specifically for the classes where 50% or more of the children had internet access at home.

Next came opportunities to join teachers for online sessions. We were special guests dropping in to say hello, lead some warm-ups and teach a new song. Not only did we see the children we'd been working with, in a number of cases we also saw all their siblings joining in.

One family had four children ages 3 to 12 all somehow managing to use one device for our singing session.

Next term will bring new challenges as schools contend with guidelines for keeping children and teachers safe. Schools due a concert at the VOCES8 Centre will receive an interactive workshop and concert video in September featuring Apollo5. The remaining schools will receive visits from our team or, if visiting singing leaders are difficult to accommodate, we will lead these sessions online. One new school will join the programme in October and three to four more in January. Sing Every Day is making a positive difference.

As ever we are very grateful for the support of the Plaisterers.





Plaisterers' Hall Limited

CHAIRMAN Robert Dalrymple

This report is a snap shot in time of a most difficult period in PHL and the Livery's history, probably the most taxing in living memory. The situation at the time of writing this is fluid and is changing constantly, often on a day by day basis.

A positive start

The later part of 2019 started to show signs of a marked upturn in events being booked at Plaisterers' Hall. As the uncertainty of Brexit, which had marred the first three quarters of the year, causing, in particular, corporate events to be put on hold, started to reduce 2020 was beginning to look as if it would be a buoyant and profitable year.

The new three-year contract with Create, part of the CH&Co group of companies, had started on the 1st January 2019 with an option for a further two years to be reviewed at the end of 2021. PHL was enjoying its negotiated monthly rental and looking forward to an enhanced profit share commission at the end of 2020 and beyond. Bookings in both the corporate and private sectors were up and planned weddings were the highest yet achieved, as a result of heavy marketing and a full time in-house wedding team.

After the atrocities of the attack at Fishmongers' Hall, and as a part of our ongoing and continuous reviews, we upgraded the CCTV system in the venue, in conjunction with other measures, to enhance our security as we responded to the very real terrorist threat levels. This was our major concern at the beginning of the year.

But then everything changed

The impact of Covid-19 on the business of Plaisterers' Hall Limited was fast, dramatic and catastrophic. PHL is reliant, apart from its investment portfolio, on the contract with Create Food Limited to produce the required income stream to maintain and run the Hall and meet its commitment to the Livery.

In early March it was clear from discussions with the Create team at Plaisterers' Hall, and the CH&Co senior management, that events were being cancelled at an alarming rate and enquiry levels were drying up, solely due to the Coronavirus and Government legislation and advice. The Hall was "locked down" fully on 24th March 2020.

Responding to the Hall's closure, I discussed our contract and agreement with senior Create and CH&Co directors and obtained a verbal agreement from them on my proposed rental holiday, as opposed to their original proposal of a rent write-off for all the outstanding rental monies. Discussions on Create's rental liability from April 2020 onwards at the time of this report are ongoing but no rental payment has been received since March this year. The CH&Co Group, of which Create is a part, has, over the last couple of years, engaged in an aggressive acquisition and merger

policy. Growing the group entailed heavy borrowing, including utilising the funding services, in part, of a venture capital company, which has now become a shareholder.

As at July 2020 most of CH&Co's venues in their portfolio are shut. Government, NHS and schools projects are the only business they are able to maintain. All the Create staff at the Hall are furloughed and in the interim enquiries are being handled by a small central CH&Co team. This is not satisfactory for us as we need a dedicated team, in-house, with a full knowledge of the Hall and its potential clientele, but a necessity for them.

We are suffering from the fact that the events sector is likely to be one of the last to re-emerge from lockdown. Our Hall size allows for social distancing but clients to utilise it are thin on the ground and Government guidelines are still unclear on our ability to open up again. No weddings are permitted outside registry offices in venues in the City until August 2020 and then with a maximum of 30 people from only two separate households and receptions will, for the moment, not be allowed.

The Board of PHL meets virtually on Zoom each month and will continue to do so as the crisis continues. I have maintained regular contact with the Managing Director and Chief Operations Officer of CH&Co, including a face to face meeting, socially distanced, at the Hall at the beginning of July. The Clerk, Clerk Designate and I have maintained regular contact with, and had weekly reports, from their central office team. There are bookings and new enquiries coming through for September, October, November and into the New Year but it is

impossible to predict how many will be able to proceed or be turned into firm bookings.

The December Christmas party market, understandably, is not looking good. Wedding enquires for the New Year are healthy and CH&Co are aiming at September as a target to reopen for business at Plaisterers' Hall. Corporate bookings are difficult because, as a number of clients have reported, they are not proposing to return to the City with a full staff until at least the New Year. The size of our Hall lends itself to events enabling social distancing, and CH&Co has been encouraged to promote it as such. The caveat to all this is the cost effectiveness of small events.

In these most difficult of times my Fellow Directors and I consider that all necessary and sensible actions have been, and are being, taken to enable PHL to remain a going concern, protecting its assets, continuing to pay the bulk of the costs of running of the Clerk's Office and maintaining the interests of The Worshipful Company. We will consider all options as we move ahead in an uncertain business environment making the best decisions with the up-to-date facts and information at our disposal at any given time.

In a normal trading year the Company benefits from a rental stream that has been negotiated to meet the costs of maintaining the Hall to our own strict high standards, running the Clerk's office, employing the Clerk and Assistant Clerk, employing a facilities operations team to service the Hall and offices and allowing PHL to maintain the infrastructure of the same.



The Board believe that it is unlikely that the current situation will change until at least the end of the year and more likely through 2021. The Directors have consequently taken steps to attempt to further reduce costs, for example:

- *Deferring all ongoing contracts that are not absolutely necessary.*
- *Shutting down all non-essential plant and equipment. In effect putting the Hall to sleep.*
- *Furloughing PHL Facilities Operations staff in rotation.*

I was furloughed in May whilst Tim Stokes was thrown in at the deep end and acted as Chairman for which I thank him for his sterling and unplanned work.

We received communications from the CH&Co's CEO confirming that they have the support of their bankers and major investors. They have announced a refinancing deal with their lenders and in their words, "ensuring a strong and sustainable liquidity position to exit lockdown and rebuild the business in partnership with you". Their Chief Operating Officer subsequently advised us of their restructuring plans and that preparations are under way for the September reopening schedule.

Despite this, the Directors of PHL do not anticipate much activity in the Hall until the beginning of 2021, consequently there will be very little income in this financial year.

The Directors are considering every option about our events partnership, dependant on how different scenarios and circumstances transpire over the coming months. This will include

broadening our marketing, encouraging the appetite that will be there for events from itinerant Liveries and Past Masters Associations for example, a market we have always enjoyed and promoted strongly.

The Board would wish, if possible, to remain with CH&Co. We have a mutual interest to assist them with their recovery and seek to recover the lost rental revenue over an agreed period of time, continuing with the contract, and in time, benefiting from a regular income, as was.

Our meetings with CH&Co have been and do allow for open and frank discussion on how to achieve this. The discussions will continue as the events industry restarts, and the prospects for business become clearer.

The Board continues to keep the Court informed on these delicate discussions and negotiations.

I am concerned that, as the City reopens and rebuilds, our clients may not want to be seen in any celebratory or party type mode. Guests are likely to be reticent about attending large events in enclosed premises and about the use of public transport travelling to and from the Hall. The time long after lockdown is relaxed, will be a period of austerity and there will probably be a different and subdued market place for us to operate in for a lengthy period.

It has to be recognised that if the current situation persists, the medium term viability of the current Hall may be in jeopardy: this is not part of the current thinking of the Board but it is a risk the Board has to consider and a scenario the Livery needs to understand as it

would impact on PHL's ability to provide on-going support for a large part of the Livery costs, particularly salaries. Financial assistance to maintain the Livery may be needed.

So to the good news:

Despite the difficult trading environment PHL has a healthy but diminishing bank account, an investment portfolio and two City apartments. At our AGM in June the Board announced that it was committed to maintaining its current level of support to the Livery for the ensuing Livery financial year until July 2021.

I have been much cheered to date by the attitude and commitment of CH&Co along with their determination to rebuild their lost business in what they consider to be the best venue within their portfolio. Our new Clerk has offered his full support, help and co-operation to them throughout the process and into the future.

The senior executives have a strong appetite to maintain and preserve the business that we have built up together over many years. We must hope that our market gradually improves and that they can deliver on their words. I am pleased that at the end of June they paid the 2019 profit share along with the majority of other sundry invoices from the beginning of the year. The PHL Board has an equal determination to find solutions and move forward.

I am mindful of the fact I have not touched on other PHL related matters but the impact of Coronavirus has caused such an 'impact' on the wellbeing of PHL, and in turn the Livery, it needed to be fully explained. You need to know the actions PHL are taking to protect our

asset, our beautiful Hall and ways that we are planning to continue to support, operate and run the Clerk's office on behalf of the Livery.

Entrance Hall project

I do however need to update you on the entrance hall upgrade project enabled by the generosity of Liveryman, the late and much missed John Robinson and by fellow Liveryman Derek Stubbs. The works were scheduled to start on 27th July 2020 but, with the uncertainty of the future and difficulties of social distancing in the area, we have put the work on hold until a clear route map of how we are to operate the Hall, after this crisis is over, has been decided upon.

Thanks...

I would like to use this platform to express my thanks to the Master for the way she has handled the latter part of her year in office. In the same vein my fellow Board Members for their diligence and attentions in dealing with the major problems we are facing as a Company. Additionally my thanks go to PM Terry Wright for his continued work on the Entrance Hall project.

I would also like to express my gratitude and thanks to LM Archin Talpade and LM Adam Edwards, whose assistance and expertise 'behind the scenes' assisting me, for the benefit of PHL, and in turn the Livery, have been invaluable.

I had the pleasure for May, June and up until the Robing Ceremony in July of working with a brace of Clerks online, virtually and socially distanced in the offices. Colonel Garth Manger OBE was welcomed as the new Company Secretary to PHL at our Extraordinary Board Meeting on 3rd July 2020 and



I look forward to working with him in the future and hope he enjoys many years in the position.

I finally wish to record how very much I have enjoyed working with Nigel Bamping from the time I took over as Chairman of PHL. During his time as Company Secretary, and mine as Chairman, I grew to trust his sage and well considered advice along with his company and the Board Members and I wish him a long, happy and after lockdown is a thing of the past, well-travelled retirement.

As a Past Master, Court Member, Chairman of PHL and a proud Liveryman, I have a strong and steadfast resolve to see PHL through this troubled time, protect, as we have always done, the Worshipful Company and build back a business that has been so drastically decimated by this pandemic. We will find a way to return our Hall to its rightful position as the best, biggest and number one 'go to' Livery Events Venue in The City of London.

Robert Dalrymple
July 2020



**ROBERT
DALRYMPLE**



**TIM
STOKES**

PLASTERERS' HALL LIMITED

CHAIRMAN ROBERT DALRYMPLE

**TIMOTHY
COOKE**



**TERRY
WRIGHT**



DIRECTORS

Robert Dalrymple
(Chairman)
Terry Wright

Timothy Cooke
Tim Stokes

In attendance
Garth Manger
(Company Secretary)



The Court 2020-2021



MARGARET COATES



STEPHEN GILBERT



TIM STOKES



ALISON GOWMAN

The Court

Master

Margaret Coates

Deputy Master

Alderman Alison Gowman*

Upper Warden

Stephen Gilbert

Renter Warden

Tim Stokes

Clerk

Colonel Garth Manger OBE

Honorary Chaplain

The Very Revd
Charles Taylor

Assistant Clerk

Ali Mackey

Beadle

Jamie Wallis

Assistants

Robert Dalrymple*

J Hubert Lacey*

Peter Baker*

Gary Morley*

De Bradshaw*

Michael Jones*

Bill Mahony*

Terence Wright*

Richard Hanney*

Timothy Cooke OBE*

James Minett

John Telling

David Botley

Anthony Mitchell

David Hill-Kelly

Jon Randall

Rohit Nathaniel

Timothy Butcher

(Additional)

Jon Riley (Additional)

Past Masters Emeritus

Ronald Jordan*

Julian Dalrymple*

Hugh Kersey*

Ernest Pilgrim*

Bryan Lincoln*

Robert Faulkner*

Christopher Towlson*

Peter Cook*

Reginald Denby*

Alan Turner*

Robin Doran*

Michael Lepper*

Michael Hall*

*denotes Past Master

Assistants Emeritus

Graham Withers

John Mills

Christopher Money

Andrew Popat

Phillip Holliday

Clerks Emeritus

Hilary Machtus

Nigel Bamping

Chief Steward 2016-2019

Rohit Nathaniel

Stewards 2018-2021

Timothy Scott

Archin Talpade

Stewards 2019-2022

Richard Walker

Bill Welch

Andrew York

Stewards 2020-2023

Louise Laprun

Chris Mackey

Almoner

Richard Grove

Plasterers Hall Limited

Directors

Robert Dalrymple
(Chairman)

Tim Stokes

Timothy Cooke OBE

Terence Wright

Colonel Garth Manger

OBE (Secretary)

Royal Liveryman

HRH The Duchess
of Cornwall GCVO

Honorary Liverymen

Sir Francis McWilliams,
GBE

Former Alderman of the
Ward of Aldersgate,
Sheriff of London
1988-89, Lord Mayor
of London 1992-93

Nicholas Anstee

Alderman of the Ward
of Aldersgate, Sheriff of
London 2003-04, Lord
Mayor of London 2009-10



Military Affiliations

REPORT BY THE CLERK



RM LANDING CRAFT ON OPERATIONS



Royal Marines

Our links with the three Royal Marine Units, the Commando Training Centre Royal Marines (CTCRM) for the Signallers, 47 Commando (47 Cdo) for Landing Craftsmen, and the Royal Marines Reserve London are as strong as ever.

As with all we have done this year our ability to meet with them, and entertain them in the Hall, have been severely restricted. However before lockdown the Master managed to visit all three, presenting prizes at CTCRM and 47 Cdo RM and enjoyed seeing what they do and getting to know many of them; but thereafter our communication has been very much by email and phone.

Major General Matt Holmes CBE, DSO, the Commandant General, kindly wrote to Nigel Bamping wishing him well on his retirement, and we look forward to possibly hosting the annual Royal Marines Dinner in Plaisterers Hall in 2021.

47 Cdo RM courses continue apace and although we have not been able to attend a pass-out for a while the Commanding Officer, Colonel

Chris Haw MC presented Marine Kurt Smith with a tankard (pictured below) as top student on the LC3 course on the Master's behalf.

The Master was able to present the Plaisterers Bowl Prize when she visited CTCRM in December and we look forward to visiting again in December if able.

The Commanding Officer of RMR London, Lt Col Jason Durup, has now handed over command to Lt Col Olly Todd. Jason has moved into the Ministry of Defence working on the Counter Terrorism desk while Olly has arrived from the Ministry of Defence working in the European area. We wish Jason good luck and very much look forward to meeting and supporting Ollie in his new role as Commanding Officer.

The already strong links with the Royal Marines might even get stronger as you would expect with a Clerk who was both a Royal Marines Signals Officer and the CO of 1 Assault Group (the old 47 Cdo RM), and of course we remain very pleased to enable the use of our Hall for appropriate Corps events.



THE MASTER VISITS 47 CDO (LANDING CRAFT)



TOP STUDENT ON THE LC3 COURSE
MARINE KURT SMITH

HMS Dragon

HMS Dragon returned in December from a demanding and rewarding deployment supporting the Aircraft Carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth.

She was the first Type 45 to deploy with the new carrier and provided vital air defence across the Task Group. Following that deployment and after

a second short period at sea in the early part of 2020, HMS Dragon then went into a period of much needed maintenance.

By the time you read this the ship will have come out of maintenance and will be back at sea as an integral part of the Royal Navy's Littoral Strike group.





282 (East Ham) Air Cadets

The Squadron had a normal year but as with the rest of the UK, 282 had to adapt a great deal as we went into Lockdown.

The main task was to ensure all the cadets and staff were engaged throughout the pandemic. With all face-to-face activities banned until further notice, it wasn't going to be an easy task to ensure young people remained engaged and interested.

The Squadron set out to undertake online learning through Microsoft Teams, enabling cadets to complete various qualifications and gain new skills. For many of these courses, cadets would struggle for time to complete due to the wide variety of activities on offer, so the free time over lockdown permitted many more young people the opportunity to build their skill set.

There were many online talks from influential people providing good insights into various careers for the cadets to consider. This included Squadron Leader Foster (Liveryman) giving a 30 minute talk to the cadets about his fascinating role in the Royal Air Force.

The Squadron also undertook online music training with Liveryman Chris Mackey on a weekly basis from March onwards and this has seen its brass player numbers double with cadets working towards their music grading.

The Worshipful Company of Plaisterers Charity provided much needed financial support to assist the Squadron band members with their online tuition, with the purchase of instrument mutes to enable cadets to train at home and through the good work of Liveryman Chris Mackey who gave time and expert additional tuition. In addition, Liveryman Heather Dix donated two saxophones to the band - a much valued addition.

The Squadron's motto 'Que Je Surmonte' (That I Overcome) has truly been evident across the cadets and staff. Even though the summer activities were cancelled, cadets and staff have been busier than ever, working hard to ensure all members come out of the pandemic with many new skills and qualifications. It is hoped that the Squadron will resume parading at its home in East Ham during the month of August.

With a structured programme operated by the Squadron Training Officer, the cadets had the opportunity to complete the following courses:

- Elementary Learning Award (Foundation Health & Safety course)
- BTECs in Teamwork and Communications Skills
- Elements of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Method of Instruction course
- Basic Radio Operator
- Cyber Training
- Aeronautics classes (working towards their BTEC in Aviation Studies)
- iDEA awards (Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award)
- CV and interview workshops

TRAIN NAMING CEREMONY

'WW2 Heroes and Heroines to be honoured with GWR train names' was the headline noticed by the Clerk, in his early morning paper.

Amongst the names was one that leapt off the page, 'Odette Hallowes'. In addition to knowing something of her story as a SOE operator in France, he was aware that she had for many years been the President of 282 (East Ham) Air Cadet Squadron.

This observation and resultant communications led to 282's Band, and a good number of other cadets, participating in the train naming event on Friday 6th March 2020. In addition to a good attendance by Odette's family, HRH The Princess Royal attended to perform the ceremony alongside representatives from the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry (The Princess Royal's Volunteer Corps) known as FANY, both serving and former members, some of whom had served with Odette after the War.

Both the Princess Royal and Odette's granddaughter, Sophie Parker, spoke movingly of Odette's wartime exploits and her treatment at the hands of the Gestapo. Also present was Tania Szabo the daughter of Violette Szabo GC,

friend and compatriot of Odette, who died in Ravensbruck.

Odette was heavily engaged with the squadron and often attended Wing events to support not only 282 but other squadrons. She would always attend the annual awards ceremony and gave time to speak to the cadets. She was incredibly proud of her connections with the Royal Air Force Air Cadets and wanted to share her story with young people.

The current squadron crest (with the motto Que Je Surmonte – That I Overcome) was designed by a cadet in recognition of her heroism during WW2 and received Odette's seal of approval in 1969.

In 2019, the 'Odette Hallowes' Trophy was created and was awarded to the flight that scored the highest in the 'Odette Hallowes' competition. It was fitting to name the trophy after the past President as it demonstrates discipline, courage, and overcoming adversity all values that Odette cherished.

This competition also prepares cadets for London Wing's Inness Sword Competition, which is one of the most fought after trophies in London. It was a very special and memorable day for everyone who attended.





Jack Cornwell VC

'Jutland Jack' joined the Royal Navy aged just 15. By 1916, he was one of the most famous people in Britain and one of the youngest recipients of the Victoria Cross.

Jack Cornwell's story started in the East End of London more than a century ago. The son of a tram driver, he joined the Boy Scouts just as the organisation started to catch on. By 13, however, he'd already left school to make his own way in the world, becoming a delivery boy for a tea company.

With the arrival of the First World War Jack's father, an ex-soldier, left for the front with the British Army. Jack meanwhile tried to join the Royal Navy, his first attempts rebuffed as he was still too young.

In 1915 and without the permission of his parents he tried again, this time being accepted and sent to Plymouth to learn how to be a gunsight setter.

On 31st May 1916, aboard the light cruiser HMS Chester, he experienced the full horror of the Battle of Jutland. Critically wounded, he stayed with his gun awaiting orders, his crewmates lying dead around him.

Eventually taken ashore, he died in a Grimsby hospital just before his mother, travelling up by train from London, reached his bedside.

Jack was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross, the highest military honour, and became a national hero.

Jack Cornwell is also remembered by the Sea Cadet Corps, Army Cadet Force and Air Training Corps, who each have a unit based in the UK's first and only Tri-Service Cadet building, named The Cornwell VC Cadet Centre, on Vicarage Lane in East Ham. This is the location for 282 (East Ham) Air Cadets and they were recently able to support the commemoration of Jack Cornwell, both virtually and in person (socially distanced). Flt Lt Chris Booty (OC of 282 and Liveryman) represented the Squadron at this very special event, whilst the Master (Alderman Alison Gowman) and Clerk Designate (Colonel Garth Manger) were able to 'zoom' in and represent the Plaisterers' Company for the ceremony.





A Decade as Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Plaisterers

By Nigel Bamping

'Time like an ever rolling stream'. The challenge of writing a piece like this is trying to avoid both self-aggrandisement and what might look like an obituary! I hope that by the time you reach the end (if you do!) you will feel I have succeeded.

Where shall I begin?

Although I do not intend to provide a chronology of 10 years with the Plaisterers, there is something to be said for beginning at the beginning in the summer of 2010 when the cares of office transferred from Hilary Machtus to me.

The Company was enjoying the final months of the Shrievalty of Past Master Peter Cook and the Mayoralty of honorary Liveryman Nick Anstee,

our Ward Alderman. I had hoped to bookend my Clerkship with celebrating at Common Hall on mid-summer day in June 2020, the election of my last Master, Alderman Alison Gowman as Sheriff. Sadly Covid-19 intervened in this and so many other things. I do however wish Alison well for 2021 and I know the Plaisterers will give her every support, as they did Peter and Nick.

If there is one thing that has changed dramatically in my time as Clerk, it is the revolution in communication. For better or worse everything can be instantaneous. We are told what is happening on the other side of the world within minutes of it happening, whether or not we want to know. Who would have believed, even a year ago, that the word 'zooming' might mean something other than travelling very fast? Having said that, the desire to meet face to face, to enjoy physical contact by a handshake or through the warmth of an embrace, is a fundamental aspect of being human. The livery movement has 'fellowship' at its heart and we are all longing to be

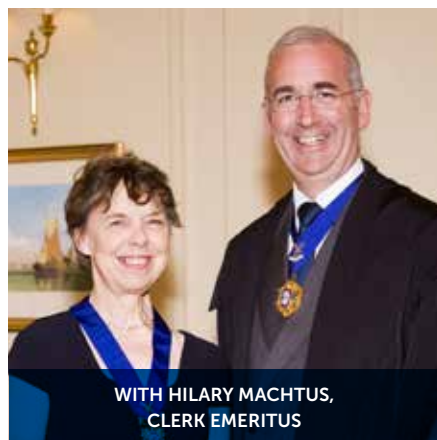
*"Will I miss it?
Of course.
Is it time to go?
Yes!"*



back to enjoy the splendour and elegant homeliness of Plaisterers' Hall.

The result of swifter communication provides us with the option to respond equally swiftly and that in turn increases the momentum for change. If we are honest, change is sometimes difficult. We like the change that we want, but like less the change that others want but we don't. If I have an overriding gratitude to the members of the Plaisterers' Company, it is that during my time as their Clerk, they have been willing to accept change. What is recorded here is our collective achievement.

A Clerk who tries to 'go it alone' is doomed to failure. The key relationship has to be between the Clerk and the Master and over the past 10 years the Court has gifted me with a wonderful variety of Masters to go out to play with. Each Master is unique but I have found with them all, a deep desire to serve the Company well and that they have done. Recently my first Master, PM Hubert Lacey, reminded me how much we 'learnt on the job' together but, as he said, we had planned well in the run-up and it paid dividends. That was the start of an increased focus within the Company on



WITH HILARY MACHTUS,
CLERK EMERITUS



282 CARPET GUARD AT THE ANNUAL BANQUET 2019



charitable giving with more concentrated support for projects over a longer period.

Affiliations

In 2010 we started the discussions which led, in PM Peter Baker's year, to commencing the affiliation with the Air Cadets in East Ham. That relationship has gone from strength to strength to our mutual benefit. Helping them start a band was one of the best things we could have done and I am grateful to Liveryman Chris Mackey for the time he has dedicated to its development, which has contributed to them being in regular demand to play for events.

We have been to their awards evenings, we have visited them at their centre, on camp and at competitions and they have been delighted to provide carpet guards for our events. What a treat it was to have them play at the Court dinner last year. I will never forget their unique contribution to the 'train naming ceremony' at Paddington in March 2020 (just before lockdown) to honour their former President, Odette Hallowes GC.

The Company now has former cadets joining as Freemen, which can only

be good news. The Squadron have had a tough time during the months of the epidemic, I am sure that the Company will want to continue to help the Squadron with its vital work for the young people of East Ham.

The Company's long association with the Royal Marines is as strong as ever with prizes now presented for all of the landing craft training courses at 1 Assault Group, recently renamed 47 Commando Raiding Group. Visits to Lympstone to support the signaller training are much appreciated by the students and it also gives each Master a better understanding of the unique training that takes place at the Commando Training Centre. We have also been able to strengthen the connection with the Royal Marine Reserve at Wandsworth.

As the Affiliated Livery Company we played a key role in the Commissioning of HMS DRAGON in 2012 and a number of us have been able to experience time on board. The annual award of the RN Cup is greatly appreciated.

Whilst it is the affiliation which we can talk about least, the connection with



HMS DRAGON'S COMMISSIONING



RN CUP WINNER 2019



HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE DUCHESS OF CORNWALL ON HER FIRST VISIT TO THE HALL

the Special Reconnaissance Regiment is one where we have been able, quietly but effectively, to increase the help we can give the Regiment and its charity. The annual visit by the Master to the Regiment provides a unique insight into the vital role the Regiment plays in the nation's security. They are very grateful for the support we give them.

Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Cornwall

There is no doubt that one of my 'unforgettable' moments was welcoming Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Cornwall to the Hall on her first visit, in May 2015, as our Royal Liveryman. This resulted in a great deal of envy in the wider Livery, but we can cope with that. Others including the Vintners have now followed our lead.

The Duchess maintains a genuine interest in what we do and she was pleased to visit the Hall again in PM Richard Hanney's year, marking the 25th Anniversary of the National Literacy Trust, of which she is the Patron. She has, of course, also provided the Forward for the Master's book (copies are still available!). Both of these contributions to the life of the Company high-light the steady development of the idea of 'The Master's Charity'. This has given us all an additional opportunity to widen our horizons, providing us with fresh charitable focus each year and even the opportunity for some fun!

The Plaisterers' Charity

That leads on appropriately to the issue of charity, an essential part of what the livery movement is about. A donation from the Livery Company to the Plaisterers' Charity, together with the



'WHERE'S WALLY' FUN RUN



ST PAUL'S CHOIR

regular donations from the membership, has enabled the capital of the fund to grow in the past 10 years from £760,000 to £1.8 million.

The Charity has consequently not only been able to continue support for the music at St Paul's and Peterborough Cathedrals but also to provide vital support to the Plaisterers' Training Awards and to embark on new relationships. For me the most exciting of these has been the support for the Heritage Skills Course run by The



CHORISTERS AT THE CAROL SERVICE

Prince's Foundation, which is about to start its third year.

The work of the Foundation in the whole area of Heritage Skills has the enthusiastic support of HRH, The Prince of Wales and he takes obvious pleasure in participating in the annual Graduation Ceremony at Dumfries House. This has not only produced two new Freemen in Esme Walker and Jue Sota but also given us new and strengthened relationships with key people and businesses in the trade, several of whom have now



WITH THE PRINCE'S FOUNDATION, DUMFRIES HOUSE

become members as they have seen that our desire to support trade education is more than just words.

The particular funding for the Heritage Skills Course was made possible by the generous donation from Liveryman Andrew Spurling and a legacy from PM Paddy Wettern. Legacies are a very good and tax efficient way to support the Plaisterers' Charity. The Charity Trustees are always looking for trade related projects to support and our strengthened relationship with the trade through FIS will hopefully help with this.

The Plaisterers' Charity has also been supporting the excellent educational work of VOCES8 Foundation and the work of Tom Daggett from St Paul's Cathedral with the choir from St Paul's Primary School in Whitechapel. I will never forget the impact the visits the choir made to King's Cambridge and Christ Church Oxford over the past two years. Many of them understood for the first time what opportunities might be available to them in the future. 'You mean I could come here?' That is the difference that is being made to young lives through the Plaisterers' Charity and I have every hope that this will continue and increase in the future.



CHOIR CHURCH VISIT OXFORD

Membership

Let me now turn to membership. I am pleased to say that the number of Liverymen has remained steady with a noticeable reduction in the average age and a modest improvement in diversity. The number of Freemen has increased from 31 to 75, many of them being younger or working in the trade.

These are the Liverymen of the future and need support and encouragement. We had a bumper crop of new Freemen and Liverymen in 2019 and despite the challenges, a good number of additions in 2020.

I was delighted when the Court agreed to reintroduce Apprenticeships for teenagers with connections to the Company. Today the number of Apprentices stands at 10, three having completed their Servitude, were able to take their Oaths as Freemen in July 2020. I am so pleased that this came to pass before my departure.

The future of the Company depends both on recruiting new members and full engagement by existing ones and I commend the new Master's initiatives, which will I am sure be very worthwhile in a new and changed environment.



THE FIRST COMPANY APPRENTICES



History

We must look forward but it is also good to look back to acknowledge the contribution of our forebears to the Company over the past 500 years and more. I have enjoyed digging in to the Company's history and contribution to these Yearbook on topics such as the Ulster Plantation, William Shakespeare, the Slave Trade, famous Past Masters, and the Battle of Waterloo.

The Company's contribution in supporting 'Waterloo 200', so successfully co-chaired by PM Tim Cooke OBE, led to another 'unforgettable', being present in St Paul's Cathedral for the Bi-centenary Service in June 2015. It also resulted in encountering a book about the battle published by 'Thomas Kelly of Paternoster Row'. This led me to explore the life and work of Past Master Thomas Kelly (Lord Mayor 1836-37). A man of humble origins who did much good with his wealth and talents.

The company is now pleased to participate in the commemoration of his life every July in the churchyard of St Leonard's Chelsham where he is buried. Thomas Kelly is an example and a challenge to us all.

Has it all been plain sailing?

Well sailing was almost necessary during the Great Plaisterers' Flood of 2016 and we have had all the challenges of Covid-19. We would not have chosen to have had either but we got through 2016 and are getting through Covid-19 by being flexible and innovative. The Company has lost three Halls and been on the brink of extinction more than once.

There are dangers in the current circumstances but also there are opportunities to be grasped and I know that in their new Clerk, the Company has someone who is no stranger to either. I wish him well and hope that he will greatly enjoy the role.

I have had a wonderfully varied 10 years attending fascinating events, eating enjoyable dinners and meeting interesting and entertaining people in a wide variety of places.

We have had some wonderful events here at the Hall, some serious some a little frivolous. That aptly sums up the life of a Clerk, a bit of grandeur and ceremonial combined with fun!

I could not have done any of this without an understanding wife and a fantastically supportive colleague in Ali. I thank them both. Will I miss it? Of course. Is it time to go? Yes! I will always be grateful to the Plaisterers for the opportunity to be their Clerk.





A History of Plastering and the Plaisterers





The Armorial Bearings

A HISTORY OF PLASTERING AND THE PLAISTERERS

The original patent, which in part is worn and difficult to decipher, is now framed and hung in the foyer of the Hall, together with the blazon inscribed by the late Mrs Margaret Wettren, and reads as follows:

"Azure on a chevron engrailed argent a rose gules budded or, stalked and leaved vert, between two fleurs de lys azure; in chief a trowel fessewise between two plasterer's hammers palewise all argent handled or, in case a plasterer's brush, of four knots tied argent handled or."

Crest

On a wreath argent and azure an arm vested bendy of four gules and or, holding in the hand proper a plasterer's hammer as in the arms.

Mantling

Gules doubled argent.

Supporters

On either side an opinicus vert winged, membered and eyed gules, the throat and belly purfled or.

(Granted by Thomas Hawley Clarenceux - 20th January, 1545/6.)

Motto

Let Brotherly Love Continue.

Glossary of Heraldic Terms

Argent: Silver.

Azure: Blue. Any shade of blue.

In the Company's Arms, as can be seen from the original Grant hanging in the foyer, it is dark blue.

Gules: Red.

Or: Gold.

Vert: Green.

Opinicus: An heraldic beast having the head, neck and wings of an eagle, except that the head has prominent ears, and the body and legs of a lion, but with a bear's tail. The modern version of an opinicus varies in certain respects from that of 1546, which is described in the Armorial Bearings.

There is also hanging in the Hall a beautiful banner worked by Mrs Wettren, depicting on the one side the Arms as in the original patent, and on the reverse a copy of the Arms as sometimes used.



The Company Prior to 1940



A Brief History of Plastering

Pre 12th Century

Although plaster was often used by the Romans, Anglo Saxons and even by early cave-dwellers, there is little recorded history of the Craft until the 12th century. Middle Ages

Nowadays, the term 'pargetting' refers to specialist tasks such as plaster decoration in relief on exterior walls, or flue-lining. In the Middle Ages, however, all plasterers were pargettors, and their main function was to protect outside surfaces from the weather and to prepare interior surfaces for painting.

1189

Already, in 12th century London there were so many cook-shop fires that Henry Fitz Alwyn, the first Mayor of London, ordered all such places to be plastered and limewashed for protection.

1212

The order must have had some success, because in 1212, King John endorsed the edict further, allowing shop-owners

on the Thames and London Bridge just eight days to whitewash and plaster, inside and out, any house covered with reed or rush, at pain of having their property demolished.

1254

In fact, it was rare for plastering to be used for ornamental purposes in Britain until 1254, when Henry III, on a visit to France, was so taken with the fine, white qualities of Plaster of Paris that he introduced it here.

Yet the first references in writing to our Craft record the fire-proofing, rather than decorative qualities of plaster and limewash. Ironically the first two Company of Plaisterers' Halls would later be destroyed by fire, the first of them in the Great Fire of 1666.

The 76 Crafts Practised in London

An entry in the Brewers' records, documenting the 76 crafts practised in London from the 12th century lists 'Plasterers' at number 20. At the time of this listing there is no record of how the order was agreed, but it is interesting to

note that, of the first 13 names on this list, ten remain in the Great Twelve City Livery Companies to this day, the first five in exactly the same order.

Mercers

Armourers

Saddlers

Drapers

Weavers (linen)

Girdlers

Goldsmiths

Dyers

Haberdashers

Skinners

Tailors

Grocers

Weavers (wool)

Ironmongers

Fishmongers

Fullers

Cordwainers

Vintners

Plasterers

Cutlers

Much later, in 1515, the Court of Aldermen of the City of London would agree an order of precedence for Livery Companies based on their economic or political standing.

Typical Work in the Early Days

An indication of a typical plasterer's work can be seen in an entry in the City archives for 1317.

This records an agreement by Adam le Plaster, citizen of London, to 'supply Plaster of Paris and to repair therewith the walls, within and without, and also the flues, of the Earl of Richmond's hall in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's Cathedral, in eight weeks on security of all his goods'.





The Mystery of Gipsars

Despite its existence as a recognised craft as early as the 12th century, it was not until 10 March 1501 that the Company of Plaisterers received its first Charter, granted by Henry VII. The Charter gave privileges to the Company of Plaisterers but also duties and obligations. These included:

"Authority for ever to search and try, and on making and exercising the search both in, on and of any stocks touching and concerning the art or mystery of Gipsars within the City of London, commonly called Plasterers, and in, on and of all workers and men working in the same art or mystery, so that their works in this way may be just faithful and legal without any deception and fraud.

And to duly correct the defaults and deceptions which in this manner they shall have found and to duly punish all persons in this manner offending according to their demerits and faults, or to cause them to be punished by the survey of the Mayor of the said City of London for the time being".



The Charter

The Charter of 1501 hangs in the foyer of the Plaisterers' Hall, along with a transcription of the translation from the original Latin by Mrs Margaret Wettern, the late wife of Past Master Patrick Wettern, who died in July 2017.

It refers to Mary as the Company's Patron Saint, and describes the Company as: 'The Master of the Guild or Fraternity of the Blessed Mary of Pargettors, commonly called Plaisterers, of the City of London'.

It bears the following legend: 'Sigill: Artis Miste: de Daubers nunc nuncupat: Plaisterers Civitatis London'. This translates as: 'The Seal of the Art or Mystery of Daubers, now called Plaisterers, of the City of London'.

'By the Discreyson of the Wardeyns'

Although the first Charter was granted in 1501, and there is a record of donations to the Crown to arm men for the French War of 1513, the earliest proof that a petition for Livery had been accepted by the Court of Aldermen of the City of London was in 1538.

On 9 April 1538 the Wardens of the Company of Plaisterers asked the Court of Aldermen to establish the following articles of the Company:

"they that have bene on the lyverey and hath not bene wardeyn to have but one apprentice" and "they that bene owt of the lyvery yf the wardeyns thynke that he be hable [able] and of habilitie [ability] to kepe hym by the dicresyon of the wardeyns shall have one apprentice".

The Company was granted its Armorial Bearings in 1545/46. In 1560, when the Court of Aldermen decreed that no further companies should assume a Livery without its consent, the

Plaisterers stood at number 46 in order of precedence, just as it is today.

Early Livery Halls and Accommodation

In 1556 William Elder, Citizen and Plaisterer, died and bequeathed to the Company its first known Hall. It may have previously been the Hall of the defunct Pinners' Company.

It was destroyed, like so much of the City, in the Great Fire of 1666. The second Hall, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, was built in 1669. It contained a Great Room, called the Common Hall of the Company, and some 15 other rooms including kitchen, buttery, cellars, parlours and chambers.

The first Plaisterers' Hall was situated at the corner of Addle Street and Philip Lane (close to London Wall), neither of which have survived into the 21st Century. This property too was destroyed by fire, in 1882.

The next building erected on this site was destroyed by enemy action in December 1940. In 1956, exactly 400 years after William Elder bequeathed our first known Hall, the site was compulsorily acquired by the Corporation of the City of London.



Conflict with Other Livery Companies

While our Motto is 'Let Brotherly Love Continue', there have been, during the course of our long history, occasional disputes with other companies and fraternities.

For example, after many years of dispute, the Company of Painter-Stainers resorted to an appeal to Parliament to restrain plasterers from using oil colours on enriched work.

In 1603, Parliament found in favour of the Painter-Stainers and an Act was passed forbidding plasterers from using colours on enriched plasterwork in London or its suburbs, though they were permitted to distemper and use blacking, whitening and ochres provided the mixed colours had no oil content.

The Act of Parliament did not prevent George Fewkes and Humphrey Willmott, both of whom would later rise to the position of Master within the Plasterers' Company, completing the elaborate moulded plasterwork decorations and enriched plaster ceilings of the Mansion House when it was built between 1739 and 1752.

Discipline within the Livery

These entries from the Work Quest Book don't just illustrate the zeal with which the Company carried out its duty to preserve high standards of workmanship, they are also evidence that female plasterers were not uncommon in the 18th century.

Search Day

24 May 1726

Randolf Stanley for very bad workmanship in lathing and setting greene and bore and bad gurcks. Fined 10 shillings.

24 May 1726

Mary Smith for bad lathing not being lapped and not being nayled and or ends cut off. Fined 5 shillings.

20 August 1742

Thomas Parks for bad workmanship in washing stopping and whitening at His Majestys palace of Saint James. Fined 40 shillings.

20 August 1742

Hamerton widow of Thomas Hamerton for bad workmanship and repairing of plasterers work and washing and stopping and colouring of the outside of six houses in the strand. Fined £1.10.0.

31 July 1753

Wooldridge Plasterer of Carters Rents for bad whitewashing at the Merchant Taylors Hall. Fined 40 shillings.

7 August 1760

Francis Edwin, a Master Plasterer and Liveryman of the Plasterers' Company having made use of bad materials and having mixed and used hay & straw with haire. Fined 40/-

5 August 1761

Humphrey a Master Plasterer and Liveryman of the Company for bad and imperfect workmanship in the cleansing and whitening of Plasterers' work by him done. Fined 42 shillings.

The Founding of The City and Guilds of London Institute

By 1860 the Company of Plasterers comprised just 46 Liverymen and the Company's income was a mere £120.

The last Apprentice Charles George Ive was 'bound' on 21 January 1840 to Joseph Staynes (Master 1852) yet in 1877, Past Master S.M. Hubert represented the Company at two meetings of those Livery Companies which had promised to contribute to the proposed scheme for a national system of technical education.

In November 1877 the Plasterers were one of the original eight Companies that formed an association for the purpose of united action in the promotion of technical education by means of a City Guilds University. This became the City and Guilds of London Institute.

By the time the Institute was finally incorporated under the Company Acts in 1880, a further eight Livery Companies had joined as founder members.

The Plasterers have contributed to the City & Guilds of London Institute every year since helping to found it in 1877, with the exception of a few years following the destruction of its property in 1940 and the consequential loss of its income.

Donations to the Armed Forces Prior to 1940

By 1884, the Company's income had increased by some £340, primarily due to increases in rent on our Addle Street premises.

In 1900 we were able to respond to the Lord Mayor's appeal with a donation of 50 guineas to the 'Transvaal War Fund' for the Boer War.

The money was to be applied in such a way as the Lord Mayor in his discretion might think most advisable for the relief of distress arising from the War. The Company made a further donation of 50 guineas to the City of London Imperial Volunteer Fund.

In the foyer of our Hall there is a letter from the Under Secretary of State, War Office, thanking the Company and enclosing a medal with clasps to signify those earned by City of London Volunteers during the War.



CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE, 1881



The Company from 1940

The Plaisterers' Company during World War II

During the Second World War the Court continued to meet in spite of the difficulties.

At the beginning of 1940, the then Master, John Bellman died during his year of office. No one was available to take his place during hostilities other than Past Masters. Past Master Percy Mott was elected Master and held office until Henry Mott returned from active service overseas in time to be elected Master in July 1945.

Before the War, the Company's premises in Addle Street were let and Court Meetings were held in the Cordwainers' Hall. After its destruction by enemy action, the Court met in the Master's office for all its proscribed Meetings. On only four occasions did the number attending fall below nine, the number previously required for a quorum.

The Company suffered considerably during the War. The Clerk's office was badly damaged by bombing on two



occasions, but luckily none of the Company's records was lost, although the Master's chair was destroyed. The Carpenters' Hall, where the Company's safe was housed, was also destroyed. The safe remained underground until recovered by the Clerk in 1949, fortunately the contents were undamaged.

The most disastrous blow came when the Company's property was destroyed on the night of the 29 December 1940.

The tenants, Foster, Porter & Company, disclaimed the lease and no rent was thereafter received. This required the Company to sell a total of £1,200 of its 2% Consols to keep the Company running for the rest of the War and until the War Damage money was paid. Therefore in the years immediately following the War the Company's annual income after tax was only £13.14.6d. (£13.72), and the number of the Livery had fallen to 28.

Post War Compensation and Compulsory Purchase

When the War Damage was paid in December 1947, the bulk was invested in replacing the Consols, various Bonds and a few smaller stocks.

Despite food rationing, that started at the beginning of the War and continued for some years afterwards, a dinner for 12 was held on 19 October 1948.

A presentation was made to Alfred Mott on his retiring from the Clerkship. He and his father, Henry Mott, who had been appointed Clerk in 1848, completed 100 years in that Office.

At about the same time, the Common Council of the City of London applied for an Order that the Company's freehold land should be subject to compulsory purchase. The acquisition of the freehold site the Company had owned for 400 years took place in 1956.

In 1948 membership level dropped to 29 but in January that year the resurgence of the company began with the admission of freeman Doris Mary Oates.

The Building of the Plaisterers' Hall

At the Court Meeting on the 7 April 1959, the then Master, Harry Humber started the most momentous and far reaching event in the history of the Company by suggesting that the Company should acquire a site in the City to erect an office block and a Hall.

To safeguard the Company against any loss which might arise through the building of a new Hall, Plaisterers Hall Limited was incorporated on the 21 January 1960. In March 1961 the Clerk gave the City Planning Officer the Company's requirements for a Hall and ancillary rooms and offices, etc. as 10,000 feet super with headroom of at least 20 feet, that being the minimum required for a hall to seat 300 persons.

At a meeting on 17 March 1961 the Planning Officer stated there was a site available on the south side of the corner of London Wall and Aldersgate Street. To get the outline planning permission from the City, Messrs Ronald Ward & Partners were appointed architects, and by April 1964 permission was obtained.

Past Master Derek Robinson was a member of the firm and was closely involved in developing the design. Past Master Ernie Pilgrim, an engineer, was also involved.

Harry Humber, as a builder and a qualified plasterer, made many helpful amendments to the plans in order to get the greatest amount of lettable space out of the office block and the best layout for the Livery accommodation. It was also he who insisted that the decor in the accommodation should be in the Adam style.

The final plans were eventually agreed by the City on the 19 March 1970, and tenders for the work invited.

The tender of G.E. Wallis & Sons Limited for a fixed price contract of £923,797 being accepted, and work commenced on the 8 June 1970.



Plasterers' Hall Takes Shape

The foundation stone was laid on the 27 May 1971 by the Lord Mayor, Sir Peter Studd. During the entire building work Harry Humber attended at the Hall frequently to check the progress and to ensure that the work on the Livery accommodation was carried out to the high standard Adam demanded.

Harry Humber masterminded the decor throughout the Hall, oversaw the design of the purpose made chandeliers, tables and chairs, chose the pattern for the carpet from one designed by Robert Adam, and supervised the purchase of all the other fittings and equipment. In recognition of Harry Humber's huge contribution, the Court commissioned a portrait of him from J. Hughes Hallett to be hung in the Hall.

In 2005 the old Court Room was renamed the Humber Room in honour of Past Master Humber's outstanding contribution to the Company and the portrait was re-hung there.

By now the number of the Livery had increased to 159. When the Hall was nearing completion, a fund was set up to purchase chairs or silver and over 90 Liverymen contributed.

The Clerk approached the City Corporation to see if they would loan the Company paintings to hang in the Hall.

At first they showed reluctance, but on seeing the Hall they not only loaned the portraits of four former Lord Mayors, two of whom were Past Masters of the Company, and the Four Virtues painted by Thornhill, but even arranged for their hanging. Now all was ready for the opening on the 29 November 1972 by the Lord Mayor, Lord Mais.

The Interior of Plasterers' Hall

The accommodation in the Hall consists of the Great Hall – the largest Livery Hall in the City, the Livery Hall, the Humber Room, the Mott Room, the Ambulatory and reception areas and a large kitchen.

The decor of the principal rooms is of the neo classic style created by Robert Adam in the 18th Century. His various designs have been faithfully reproduced in great detail both in plaster and wood.

The Great Hall

The decorations and plasterwork are at their grandest in Great Hall. The magnificence of the work is rarely attempted in this age, and provides a superb setting for the traditional banquets that the City of London is renowned for. Pairs of pilasters with capitals in early Corinthian style as first used on the Tower of the Winds in

ancient Athens, arcade the walls, with sunken panels between them terminating in 'three centred Plasterers ovals'.

A full entablature, richly ornamented and subtly picked out in colour, conceals lighting which illuminates a grand coved ceiling rising to a clear height of over 27 feet.

The three chandeliers are purpose made, each being approximately twelve feet high and eight feet in diameter.

The Livery Hall

The Livery Hall is quite different in style and design from Great Hall. The ceiling consists of ornamental fibrous plaster coffers illuminated by ten basket type chandeliers and the walls are panelled in rich mahogany with an ornamental plaster frieze. This Hall will seat 80. The names of Past Masters were inscribed on the wall panels in 2017.

The Humber Room

Adjoining the Livery Hall is the Humber Room, named in memory of Past Master Harry Humber, whose energy and enthusiasm ensured the realisation of a new Plasterers' Hall.

It is an elegant room decorated in dove grey with the plaster enrichment picked out in gold. Portraits of Past Master Harry Humber and Past Master Peter Cook (Sheriff 2009-2010) hang in this room.

The Mott Room

Facing the Livery Hall and adjoining Great Hall is the Mott Room, named as a tribute to the Mott family. Three generations were Clerks to the Company for 147 years – portraits of them hang there. The delicate enrichments of the plaster ceiling and frieze have been picked out in the traditional pastel shades of the Adam period.

The portraits now hanging on the south west wall of Great Hall, reading from the windows, are those of:

Lord Mais

Honorary Liveryman and Lord Mayor 1972/73

Alderman Nicholas Anstee

Honorary Liveryman and Lord Mayor 2009-2010

Sir John Pirie

Master of the Company 1828/29 and Lord Mayor 1841/42

Sir Thomas Kelly

Master of the Company 1831/32 and Lord Mayor 1836/37

Sir Peter Gadsden

Honorary Liveryman and Lord Mayor 1979/80

Sir Francis McWilliams

Honorary Liveryman and Lord Mayor 1992/93





Number One London Wall

The office block of 11 storeys and 50,000 square feet of lettable space, was finally completed on the 14 February 1973, and the Lease from the City to the Plasterers Hall Limited was completed, signed and exchanged on the 23 March 1973.

The creation of Plasterers Hall Limited meant the Plasterers' Company was protected if anything went wrong, but benefited if Plasterers Hall Limited was a success.

Shortly before the Hall was opened the Beadle, H.G. Herbert, resigned after having served in that office for 52 years. H.G. Herbert had followed four other members of the Herbert family, who had been Beadles continuously since 1825.

The Mott and Herbert families, who served the Company as Clerk (1848-1995) and Beadle (1825-1972) respectively, both achieved 147 years of unbroken service. Without doubt this must be a record in the Livery Companies.



Jubilee Garden

In 1977 to mark the Queen's Silver Jubilee, Plasterers Hall Limited obtained a licence from the City to create a formal garden in stone at the east end of the Great Hall, with two fountains and steps leading up to a balustrade over the old Roman Wall.

This was supervised by the Chairman of Plasterers Hall Limited, Harry Humber and architect, Godfrey Gilbert.

Many challenges arose as consents had to be obtained from not only the City Surveyor, the City Architect and Planning officer, the City Engineer and the Comptroller and City Solicitor, but also from the Consultant to the City Corporation on Ancient Monuments, the Department of the Environment, the Museum of London, the City of London Museum, and the Trees, Gardens and City Open Spaces Committee!

Three years later the City agreed to extend the licence to the strip of land between the Jubilee Garden and Noble Street running to the old watchtower further along.

The garden is now a lawn and wild flower garden and the annual licence fee of one Jubilee Crown is presented by the Master to a representative of the City of London Corporation at a suitable event during the year.

A beehive, in the care of the Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers, was installed in the garden in 2016.

Social Activities

The only social activity before World War II was one dinner a year for the members of the Livery and their ladies. The last dinner, in October 1938, was attended by 18 members and 55 guests. There were no dinners during the War.

Since the War the number of functions has increased greatly. The first Annual Banquet, took place in February 1950, during the Mastership of Ashe Lincoln. It was attended by 18 members of the Court and Livery and 61 guests.

The Charitable Trust

In 1980 the Company started its Charitable Trust. While the Company had never had such a Trust before, it regularly supported the City & Guilds and other education projects out of its meagre corporate income. It also paid pensions to a number of widows and Freemen, amounting in some years to over £100, a not inconsiderable amount in the middle of the 19th century.

In the 21st century the Trust focuses on needs outside of the Company.



THE GREAT HALL PROVIDES A STUNNING ATMOSPHERE FOR SPECIAL PARTIES AS WELL AS FORMAL DINNERS.



Quincentenary Celebrations

The 500th Anniversary celebrations of the Company in 2001 started with a special Service of Thanksgiving in St Paul's Cathedral followed by a Reception in Great Hall on 9 March. On that day in excess of 1,000 people were present in St Paul's including the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, Dean and Chapters and choirs of both St Paul's and Peterborough Cathedrals, Royal Marines trumpeters and the Masters and Clerks of 63 other Livery Companies.

Christopher Gower, the Director of Music at Peterborough Cathedral at the time, wrote a special Anthem for the occasion and has since become a Liveryman of the Company.

At the following champagne reception, nearly 800 people gathered to witness a brilliant moment of theatre. With a fanfare of trumpets from the Royal Marines, King Henry VII swept in with his

entourage to re-present our Charter and make clear the duties and responsibilities of the Company. The Master, Peter Cook responded on behalf of the Worshipful Company, who once again undertook all the directives placed upon it in 1501.

On 28 June 2001, a Gala Banquet took place in Guildhall in the presence of the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs and some 60 Masters of fellow Livery Companies. The glittering evening was rounded off with the Royal Marines Beating Retreat in Guildhall Yard.

To complete a very exciting year for the Worshipful Company, in November the Livery sponsored a horse-drawn Landau in the Lord Mayor's Procession. The Landau carried the then Master, Alan Turner, accompanied by the Clerk, Ralph Vickers, the Upper and Renter Wardens and the Beadle, Michael Coyle, on a most enjoyable journey around the City.

Redevelopment

Only fifteen years after the opening of the Hall, concerns were raised about the office block at Number One London Wall and redevelopment was suggested.

Thirteen years after that in late 2000, Heads of Terms were agreed between Plaisterers Hall Limited and the developer, a partnership between Kajima, a Japanese Bank, and Hammersons Limited.

The redevelopment agreement required the sale of our Head Lease from the City Corporation, to the Developers and a new lease from the Developers to Plaisterers Hall Limited allowing occupation of our Livery accommodation and offices for 150 years at a peppercorn rent. The effect of this agreement was that the Company would no longer be supported by income from the office development, as it had been since 1972.

During this time Livery functions were held in different Livery Halls around the City. Liverymen were very fortunate in being able to visit many Halls during this period including the Mansion House, which was used for the Annual Banquets.

The Livery returned to Number One London Wall on 15 March 2004. The Annual Banquet in May of that year was held in the Great Hall amid much celebration.

Bursaries from the Charitable Trust

Harry Humber Bursary

Following the death of Harry Humber in 1993, a Bursary was set up at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, in recognition of his love of music and his

enormous contribution to the Livery over more than forty years. In 1994, the first bursary for £1,000 was given to Julian Milford, a post graduate student on an advanced Solo Studies Course. Since then many young musicians have greatly benefited from the Humber Bursary.

Since 2016, the Humber Bursary supports the work of Voces Cantabiles Music.

Henry Mott Bursary

The death of Henry Mott in 1999, only four years after his retirement from the Clerk's duties at the age of 91, allowed the Company to fund a further Bursary.

The Mott Bursary commenced in 2000 and sponsors a chorister at Peterborough Cathedral. The award of a Bursary to Peterborough Cathedral reflected the great pleasure provided by the Peterborough Choir at their annual visit to the Livery Carol Service.

500th Anniversary Bursary

In 2001, as a result of a special request to all members of the Livery, on behalf of the Charitable Trust, the 500th Anniversary Bursary was set up.

The Bursary sponsors the education of a chorister at St Paul's Cathedral who is presented with a ribbon and special medallion carrying the Company Crest.

Spurling Bursary

To mark the Spurling family's 200 year involvement with the Company, Liveryman Andrew Spurling endowed a new Bursary. It will, initially, be used to support The Prince's Foundation Bursary Student.



THE MASTER (2000-2001), PETER COOK, PROUDLY HOLDS THE RE-PRESENTED CHARTER BY KING HENRY VII, SOME 500 YEARS AFTER THE ORIGINAL VERSION WAS GRANTED.



The Company in the Third Millennium

Female Liverymen

Past Master Ralph Vickers took over the mantle of Clerk in July 1995. During his tenure perhaps one of the most radical moves was in April 1999, to allow women to become Liverymen in their own right for the first time since the 18th Century.

The first women to be elected to the Livery were robed in July 2002 and by July 2018 the number of female Liverymen has risen to nineteen, with eight female Freemen.

Industry Committee

In 1997 the Court approved the setting up of an Industry Committee with the aim of promoting effective support of the plastering industry. In the first year of the Committee's existence, the Chairman, Past Master Paddy Wettern, discussed with colleges specialising in plastering courses how the Company might encourage expertise with prizes to students and colleges.

Register of Associates

In 1997, Past Master Peter Cook, as part of the Industry Committee, directed the Company in setting up a new register of Master Plasterers. A register of Certified Plasterers had been set up by the Company in 1929 but became defunct.

The idea was well received in the Industry and the first Register of Associates containing sixty members who had been elected Associates of the Company was available in 1999.

In November 2000 the first printed Register of Associates was issued to some 6,000 Architects, Developers, Contractors and Specifiers and contained almost 100 names. The Company is currently examining further ways in which this initiative can be developed.

Awards for Student Achievement

October 1999 also saw the first presentation to colleges of awards

for student achievement in plastering qualifications, with the reintroduction of the Harmer, Crombie and Clanrye Trophies and the Regency Vase.

The ceremony now encompasses awards to commercial training providers and to the top ACA students in the country for both solid and fibrous plastering. A Lifetime Contribution to Training is recognised with a silver salver given by Past Master David Holliday.

The Sword of Excellence, presented by Past Master Michael Hall, is awarded to the plastering Company showing most commitment to training. In 2017 an 'Apprentice of the Year' Award was introduced.

Website

Near the end of 2000, the Company's website went online.

www.plastererslivery.co.uk

The Livery really was in the 21st Century and just about to celebrate its Quincentenary.

Governance of the Livery 1501

In 1501 the Company received its first Royal Charter from Henry VII, allowing the creation of a Guild with legal status, governed by the Master and Wardens, to manage the trade and includes an interesting reference to '**the Master and Wardens and brethren and sisters of the Guild**'.

1765

The Company's current Rules, Orders, Constitutions and Ordinances (ROCOs) were approved by the Chancellor and two Chief Justices. There are some

13,750 words of rather old fashioned English in the ROCOs and significant parts have become outdated but they remain a fascinating historical document.

2001

A Strategic Plan was presented to the Court which suggested that the Company should embark upon governance by objectives.

A Committee structure was drawn up to address and report on matters which affected the progress of the Livery towards achievement of its objectives. This was approved by the Court and resulted in Committees being set up to concentrate on Public Relations, Membership and Functions to work alongside existing Committees of Industry, Investment and Finance and the Company's Charitable Trust.

2003

The Company re-introduced Common Hall calling all members together to discuss matters of interest to the Livery. Arising from the original medieval Guild assemblies, the Plaisterers' Common Hall is now an annual event held prior to the Robing Ceremony in July.

2004

The Court agreed to the re-introduction of Quarterage, starting from 1 January 2004. Quarterage had been charged to all Liverymen until January 1865 when the minutes of the Court Meeting stated that the Court will 'remit charges until further notice'. The Court agreed that the minimum age for election to the Livery be reduced from 30 to 25, and the minimum age for admission to the Freedom was set at 21.





2006

The Strategic Plan was reviewed by the Court for the five year period 2006-2011 and has the following Mission Statement:

- To ensure the positive development of the ancient values of the Company in a modern environment and create a vibrant, sustainable future for the Livery and its membership.
- To make a difference in our support of the industry we represent, the charities we assist, our affiliations, the Lord Mayor and the City of London.

2008

Following the Court's decision that the ROCOs should be reviewed new Rules and Procedures (RaPs) have been written.

At 2,680 words The RaPs are rather shorter than the ROCOs, largely because the new document is deliberately more general. There is very little new in the RaPs – they simply reflect the operation of the Livery in 2008 and provide an understandable set of Rules and Procedures.

2011

The Court embarked on the preparation of a 5-year Strategic Plan for 2011-2016. The Clerk sent a Questionnaire to all Members in February 2011 and the responses were used to identify relevant membership and other issues needing to be addressed in the Plan.

The Master Plasterer Certificate was introduced for the first time.

De Bradshaw was elected Renter Warden, the first recorded Lady Liveryman to hold the post.

2012

A new 5-year Strategic Plan was adopted in October 2011 and important issues relating to membership, finance and the growth of the Charity were addressed. The Company held its first 'Open Day' in June 2012 as part of the "Celebrate the City" weekend linked to the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympic Games.

2013

The Company's first Lady Master, Ms De Bradshaw, took office on 16th July 2013.

2014

First Apprentice "Bound" since 1840.

2015

Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Cornwall, Honorary Liveryman, visits Plaisterers' Hall for the first time.

2016

A new 5-year Strategic Plan was approved by the Court in October 2016. After the flood on Good Friday 2016 the Hall reopens in November 2016.

2019

Alderman Alison Gowman becomes the first sitting Alderman to serve as Master since Thomas Kelly in 1831.

2020

All physical events for the Livery Company cease as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and ensuing lockdown. However, the Company rises to the challenge and embarks on a series of virtual events, including committee and Court meetings and the 2020 Robing Ceremony, all held via Zoom. Three of the Company's Apprentices are admitted to the Freedom of the Company.

The Clerk and the Beadle 1996

The retirement of Henry Mott, ending the family's 147 years of dedicated and unbroken service to the office of Clerk made way for Past Master Ralph Vickers to become Clerk. Holding office till 2002 Ralph's term of office included the reintroduction of female members and ended with the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the first Charter.

2002

Hilary Machtus was elected to office as Clerk having served as Assistant to both the previous Clerks. Her Clerkship saw the Company 'itinerant' during the reconstruction of the offices above the Hall and the substantial review of the governance of the Livery.

2003

Michael Coyle our Beadle retired in July 2003. Michael joined the Livery staff as Hall Keeper and Beadle in 1972 when the Hall opened, retiring from Hall Manager's duties in 1995. During this time he served 31 Masters and three Clerks.

Following his retirement Michael was invited to become a Liveryman of the Company and was subsequently robed in July 2004. The Beadle's duties were taken over by Jamie Wallis who has acted as Toastmaster for a number of years.

2010

Hilary Machtus retired as Clerk and was appointed Clerk Emeritus. The new Clerk, Nigel Bamping, a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Solicitors of the City of London took office at the Robing Ceremony on 20 July 2010.



2020

Nigel Bamping retires as Clerk after 10 years and was appointed as Clerk Emeritus. The new Clerk, Colonel Garth Manger OBE RM, took office on the 21 July 2020, following a long and distinguished career with the Royal Marines.



Royal Charters

The Company has been granted five Royal Charters since 1501.

FIRST CHARTER

Granted in 1501, this allowed the creation of a Guild with legal status to manage the trade.

SECOND CHARTER

The second Charter has been lost.

THIRD CHARTER

The third Charter, granted by Elizabeth I, requires that the Rules and Ordinances shall be approved by the 'Chauncellor and two Chief Justices'.

FOURTH CHARTER

The fourth Charter has been lost.

FIFTH CHARTER

The fifth Charter, granted by Charles II, restates the previous authorities, distinguishes various trades and extends the jurisdiction of the Company.

How did the 'i' get in?

How did the 'i' get in?

The original Charter of 1501 is written in Latin. However, the Charter granted by Elizabeth I about 1596 is in English, and the Company's name is spelled 'Plasterers' and the word 'maister' is spelt with an 'i'.

Then in the Charter granted by Charles II in 1667, the Company is referred to as the 'Guild or Fraternity of the Blessed Mary of Plasterers London', and the word 'master' is spelled without the 'i'.

The next reference appears in the engraving on the Loving Cup presented to the Company by Past Master Thomas Kelly on his election to the office of Lord Mayor in 1836, here the name is spelled without the 'i'. The letter written by the Under Secretary of State, War Office, dated 30 August 1901, thanking the

Company for their contributions towards the campaign against the Boers, spells it without the 'i'. It would seem, therefore, that from at least 1667 the pronouncing of the name has been a reflection of the origins of the Company – Plasterers.

The Clerks since 1848 have used that pronunciation when admitting Freemen to the Company. However, in the 1950s more members were themselves plasterers or closely involved in the industry and preferred to distinguish themselves from other members of the trade by saying they were members of the Plasterers' Company that is, pronounced with the 'i'.

In 1960, the Court resolved that the pronunciation would be left to each member to decide which he/she preferred.





The City of London

Local Government

The Constitution of the City of London Corporation differs from that of other municipalities in a number of ways. The voting rights of the Liverymen of the City Companies is perhaps the most striking example.

Outside the City of London, councillors are elected by the local government electors, whilst the Mayor, who serves for one year, and Aldermen, who serve for four years, are elected by the Council. Sheriffs are appointed by the Crown. By custom they retire at 70, the retirement age of Magistrates (Aldermen were previously all JPs).

However, in the City of London, local government is exercised by the Court of Common Council, consisting of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Common Councilmen. Aldermen and Common Councilmen are chosen by the electors of the twenty-five Wards of the City. This includes residents, partnerships and sole traders as well as corporate and other organisations.

Although Aldermen are appointed to hold office for life, subject to surrender or disqualification, they now offer themselves for re-election every six years. By custom they retire at the age of 70, in line with the retirement age of Magistrates (Aldermen were previously all JPs). Common Councilmen face Ward elections every four years with the next being in March 2021.

The Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and certain officers, however, are chosen each year by another electoral body, consisting of the liverymen of the City's Livery Companies, known as Common Hall. There are 110 Livery Companies having some 30,000 liverymen, making this the largest gathering of citizens for any municipal purpose.

Such an assembly places the election of the Lord Mayor on a far wider basis than the usual appointment by a Council.

The custom whereby the liverymen in Common Hall select two persons for submission to the Court of Aldermen for the final choice of one of them as Lord Mayor was firmly established in 1406.

Before a citizen can attain to the office of Lord Mayor, he or she must submit him or herself to election on three occasions and finally to scrutiny by the Court of Aldermen.

Firstly

The voters of the Ward for which they are a candidate for the office of Aldermen.

Secondly

The Liverymen in Common Hall assembled, on election as Sheriff.

Thirdly

The Liverymen in Common Hall, on nomination for Lord Mayor.

Finally

The Court of Aldermen, select one of the two persons nominated by the Livery.



As many Aldermen serve their apprenticeship on the Common Council, an earlier election by Ward voters can usually be inserted at the head of this list. The Elections of both the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs require the approval of the Sovereign.

In the City, the Lord Mayor has precedence over every subject and takes his or her place immediately after the Sovereign. Traditionally, when the

Sovereign enters the City, the Lord Mayor awaits at the City boundary. On ceremonial occasions the Lord Mayor surrenders the City Sword point downwards and on receiving it back bears it erect in procession before the Sovereign. This ceremony is now only occasionally performed.

Outside the City, the Lord Mayor takes position next below Privy Councillors.

Freedom of the City of London

For centuries the Freedom was essential to every man or woman who desired to exercise a trade or handicraft within the City.

Among the privileges were immunity from toll at all markets and fairs throughout England, freedom from impressment into the armed forces, exclusive right to trade both by wholesale and retail within the City, and the right to vote at Ward and Parliamentary elections.

As long ago as 1275 Andrew Horn, a City Chamberlain, wrote,

‘It should be known that there are three methods by which a man acquires the Freedom of the City; first that he be a man born in the City lawfully from his father, secondly, that he be an apprentice with a freeman for seven years and not less, and thirdly that a man may compound the Chamberlain for his freedom before the Mayor and other Aldermen’.

These three methods, known as Patrimony, Servitude and Nomination, still apply today:

By Patrimony

For children of Freemen – provided one parent was a Freeman prior to the applicant's birth.

By Servitude

For apprentices who have served a full apprenticeship to a Freeman.

By Nomination

Persons of any nationality may apply for the Freedom by nomination of two sponsors who will be Common Councilmen of the City of London, Aldermen or members of a Livery Company.

Applicants may also be presented by a Livery Company. In addition, there is another specialised category open to those people who wish to stand for election to the Court of Common Council and who do not have ready access to the Nominators outlined (ie the Lord Mayor, Sheriff, Aldermen, Common Councilmen of the City of London or Liverymen).

In such a case an applicant can be supported by any two electors registered in the City or by two persons eligible to sign an application for a passport.

The Present Day Privileges Enjoyed by Freemen and their Dependants

Freemen of the City may take apprentices without the intervention of a livery company, according to the Custom of London, to serve a bona fide apprenticeship. Such apprentices must be bound before the Chamberlain and enrolled in his office, and at the expiration of their indentures will, on proof of faithful service, be entitled to the freedom of the City by servitude.

Freemen of the City in distressed circumstances are eligible, subject to certain conditions, for admission to one of the Corporation's Almshouses, which provide accommodation for married couples and single persons. The widow, widower or child of a deceased Freeman is, in certain circumstances, also eligible for admission.

The children of Freemen of the City are, as far as possible, given preference on a waiting list for admission to one of the Corporation's schools.

The orphan children of Freemen or Freewomen of the City are, subject to certain conditions, eligible for admission to the City of London Freemen's School, where they are maintained and educated. The small fees payable for admission to the Freedom of the City are devoted to the upkeep of this School.

Widows or widowers of Freemen of the City are eligible to receive small sums of money annually at Christmas time (on application).

There are certain charities administered by some of the Livery Companies and other trustees applicable generally to necessitous Freemen and their dependants.

The Freedom of a Company may entitle a person to privileges within that Company and confer rights in respect of its charitable funds. The Freedom both of the City and a Company is a prior requisite to the admission to the Livery of that Company.



Livery Companies of London

The Origins

Guilds were common all over Europe during the eleventh and twelfth centuries. They started as religious and social fraternities and the craft element grew almost accidentally, largely because people of the same craft tended to live in the same neighbourhood.

The first definitive mention of a London Guild was of the Weavers. Their dues to the Crown are recorded in the Exchequer Roll of 1130.

Having no meeting place, a Guild attached itself to a neighbouring church or hospital, whose patron saint it adopted. Legend has it that St. Bartholomew was adopted early in Christian history by the plasterers of Rome. His Saint's Day is 24 August.

The religious side of the fraternities influenced the character of the Guilds and in particular gave them their Liveries. These distinctive costumes were common in the higher grades of life in the Middle Ages. All great households provided their dependants with a livery.

Another aspect of the fraternities that was perpetuated in the Guilds was the encouragement of good fellowship and hospitality. Meetings of the fraternity for funerals or masses were followed by feasts that grew more elaborate until they

finally became the entertainments for which the Companies are famous today.

Survival

In 1835 the Common Council decided that membership of a Company was no longer necessary for the Freedom, or full citizenship, of the City of London causing fears that the end of these ancient corporate bodies was in sight.

These fears were groundless. Today over 30,000 people are entitled to wear the Livery of their respective companies, well over double the number in 1882 when the Royal Commission on the Livery Companies was held. However from 1842 to 1860 the number of Freemen in the Plaisterers Company fell from 140 to 67 and that the number of liverymen fell from 79 to 46.

Livery Companies have amalgamated or fallen by the wayside throughout the years, leaving 110 remaining today.

The Merchant Taylors and Skinners Companies take it in turns yearly to be sixth and seventh. The Parish Clerks, the Watermen and Lightermen's Companies are without Livery.

LIVERY COMPANIES IN ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

1	Mercers	41	Joiners & Ceilers	79	Solicitors
2	Grocers	42	Weavers	80	Farmers
3	Drapers	43	Woolmen	81	Air Pilots
4	Fishmongers	44	Scriveners	82	Tobacco Pipe Makers & Tobacco Blenders
5	Goldsmiths	45	Fruiterers	83	Furniture Makers
6/7	Merchant Taylors	46	Plaisterers	84	Scientific Instrument Makers
7/6	Skinners	47	Stationers & Newspaper Makers	85	Chartered Surveyors
8	Haberdashers	48	Broderers	86	Chartered Accountants
9	Salters	49	Upholders	87	Chartered Secretaries
10	Ironmongers	50	Musicians	88	Builders Merchants
11	Vintners	51	Turners	89	Launderers
12	Clothworkers	52	Basketmakers	90	Marketors
13	Dyers	53	Glaziers	91	Actuaries
14	Brewers	54	Horners	92	Insurers
15	Leathersellers	55	Farriers	93	Arbitrators
16	Pewterers	56	Paviors	94	Engineers
17	Barbers	57	Loriners	95	Fuellers
18	Cutlers	58	Apothecaries	96	Lightmongers
19	Bakers	59	Shipwrights	97	Environmental Cleaners
20	Wax Chandlers	60	Spectacle Makers	98	Chartered Architects
21	Tallow Chandlers	61	Clockmakers	99	Constructors
22	Armourers & Brasiers	62	Glovers	100	Information Technologists
23	Girdlers	63	Feltmakers	101	World Traders
24	Butchers	64	Framework Knitters	102	Water Conservators
25	Saddlers	65	Needlemakers	103	Firefighters
26	Carpenters	66	Gardeners	104	Hackney Carriage Drivers
27	Cordwainers	67	Tin Plate Workers	105	Management Consultants
28	Painter-Stainers	68	Wheelwrights	106	International Bankers
29	Curriers	69	Distillers	107	Tax Advisers
30	Masons	70	Pattenmakers	108	Security Professionals
31	Plumbers	71	Glass Sellers	109	Educators
32	Innholders	72	Coachmakers	110	Arts Scholars
33	Founders	73	Gunmakers		
34	Poulters	74	Gold & Silver Wyre Drawers		
35	Cooks	75	Makers of Playing Cards		
36	Coopers	76	Fanmakers		
37	Tylers & Bricklayers	77	Carmen		
38	Bowyers	78	Master Mariners		
39	Fletchers				
40	Blacksmiths				



Calendar & Events

2020-2022





2020	Sept	Tues 08	Charity Trustees @ 1.00pm
		Weds 09	Finance Committee @ 11.30am
		Weds 09	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm
		Thurs 10	Membership Committee @ 12 noon
		Mon 14	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm
	Oct	Tues 06	October Court & Autumn Livery Dinner
	Nov	Tues 10	Past Masters' Meeting & Lunch @ 11.30am (TBC)
		Sat 14	Lord Mayor's Show
		Mon 23	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm
		Tues 24	Membership Committee @ 12 noon
		Weds 25	Finance Committee @ 11.30am
		Weds 25	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm
	Dec	Weds 02	Carol Service & Christmas Supper
		Mon 07	Investment Committee @ 12 noon (joint with Charity Trustees)
		Mon 07	Charity Trustees @ 1.30pm
2021	Jan	Tues 12	January Quarterly Court & New Year Dinner
	Mar	Tues 02	Charity Trustees @ 1.30pm
		Weds 03	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm
		Thurs 04	Membership Committee @ 12 noon
		Tues 09	Finance Committee @ 11.30am
		Tues 09	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm
		Fri 19	United Guilds Service & Lunch
	April	Fri 02	Good Friday
		Mon 05	Easter Monday
		Tues 13	April Quarterly Court & Spring Livery Dinner
	May	Thurs 27	Annual Banquet (Foundation Stone Anniversary)
	June	Mon 07	Investment Committee @ 12 noon (joint with Charity Trustees)
		Mon 07	Charity Trustees @ 1.30pm
		Thurs 10	Membership Committee @ 12 noon

		Weds 16	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm
		Thurs 17	Finance Committee @ 11.30am
		Thurs 17	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm
		Thurs 24	Election of Sheriffs & Informal Lunch
	July	Sun 04	Annual Kelly Service
		Tues 06	Quarterly Court & Court Dinner
		Tues 20	Common Hall, Robing, Service & Dinner
	Sept	Mon 06	Charity Trustees @ 1.00pm
		Tues 07	Membership Committee @ 12 noon
		Weds 08	Finance Committee @ 11.30am
		Weds 08	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm
		Mon 13	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm
		Weds 29	Election of Lord Mayor & Informal Lunch
		Oct	Tues 05
	Nov	Tues 09	Past Masters' Meeting & Lunch @11.30am (TBC)
		Sat 13	Lord Mayor's Show & Luncheon
		Mon 22	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm
		Tues 23	Membership Committee @ 12 noon
		Weds 24	Finance Committee @ 11.30am
		Weds 24	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm
Dec		Weds 01	Carol Service & Christmas Supper
		Mon 06	Investment Committee @ 12 noon (joint with Charity Trustees)
	Mon 06	Charity Trustees @ 1.30pm	
2022	Jan	Tues 11	January Quarterly Court & New Year Dinner
Mar	TBA	United Guilds Service & Lunch	
April	Fri 15	Good Friday	
	Tues 13	April Quarterly Court & Spring Livery Dinner	
	Mon 18	Easter Monday	



Inter livery sport, social and other events

There are an increasing number of annual (or sometimes occasional) inter-livery sporting contests, or other activities, exhibitions etc. They are usually organised by one Livery Company, but open to all others (though this may not always be the case).

Some examples are below.



Art Exhibitions organised by the Painter-Stainers' Company



Sheep Drive organised by the Woolmen's Company (September)



Bridge organised by the Makers of Playing Cards Company (first Monday in March)



Shooting (clays) organised by the Environmental Cleaners' Company (May)



Golf organised by the Coachmakers' Company (May, the 'Prince Arthur'). Other golf competitions are also arranged.



Shooting (rifle) organised by the Bakers' Company



Skiing organised by the Ironmongers' Company (January)



Pancake Races organised by the Poulterers' Company (Shrove Tuesday)



Tacitus Lecture organised by the World Traders' Company (fourth Thursday in February)



Pewter Live Exhibition organised by the Pewterers' Company (June)



Tennis organised by the Feltmakers' Company (September)



Sailing organised by the City Livery YC (offshore)



Wizadry in Wood Exhibition organised by the Turners' Company

The above are, more often than not, advertised in the Clerk's Newsletter. If you are interested in receiving more information about any of the events listed, please contact the Clerk's Office.

City Briefings

These are aimed particularly at new Liverymen and Freemen; partners are also welcome, as are Court Assistants and Liverymen of longer standing, who have not previously been to a Briefing, who are also encouraged to attend.

They give a short introduction to the work of the Corporation, especially the relationship with the livery companies. The presentation is given by an Assistant Town Clerk and a member of the Livery Committee. There is opportunity to ask questions of the speakers and the Briefing is followed by a light finger buffet, which provides the chance to mix with other Liverymen and Freemen.

Location

Livery Hall
71 Basinghall Street
Guildhall
London EC2V 5DH

Cost

There is a non-refundable charge of £20 per person for the course.

Dates

Monday 9 November 2020

Tuesday 16 February 2021

Wednesday 19 May 2021

Tuesday 21 September 2021

Thursday 21 October 2021

Bookings

www.liverycommitteecourse.org/city-briefings.php

Wardens and Court Assistants City Course

Learn how the Civic and financial City works. This all day course is intended for Senior or Upper Wardens due to take the chair over the coming 12 months. Their spouses, partners and consorts are also very welcome to attend.

The course covers how the City Corporation and key office holders operate and interact, the working of the City and financial services and the role of Master. There is a special session for Consorts.

Location

Guildhall
71 Basinghall Street
London EC2V 7HH

Cost

The course costs £75.



Plaisterers' Lodge

FOUNDED IN 1955

The Plaisterers Lodge was founded in 1955 by several Past Masters and Liverymen of the Worshipful Company of Plaisterers. It celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2005 with an open meeting to dedicate a new banner.

There are some fifty Liverymen who are members of the Plaisterers' Lodge including eight Past Masters of the Livery, who meet, by kind permission of the Master, Wardens and Court of Assistants of the Worshipful Company, in Plaisterers' Hall four times each year. Some 20 or more Sister Livery Lodges meet in the City and regular inter-visiting takes place between them, especially by the Worshipful Master during his year in Office, which fosters good relations between the Sister City Livery Lodges.

Freemasonry is one of the oldest and largest secular fraternal societies. It is a society concerned with moral, social and spiritual values, and its members are taught through a series of dramas using the tools of a stonemason in a symbolical or allegorical way.

During the 18th Century, a period known as the Age of Enlightenment, a great many scientists and other notable men became Freemasons including Sir Isaac Newton, Benjamin Franklin, William Hogarth, George Washington and Sir John Soane. Among those of the 20th Century who were Freemasons were HM King George VI, Sir Winston Churchill, Sir Ernest Shackleton, Captain Scott, Archbishop Geoffrey Fisher, Rudyard Kipling, Duke Ellington and Clive Lloyd.

Freemasonry expects from its members a respect for the law. Its principles do not in any way conflict with its members' duties as citizens. Indeed it should strengthen them in carrying out their public and private responsibilities.

Freemasons undertake to follow three grand principles in their lives, which are expressed (in 18th Century language) as:

Brotherly Love

Showing tolerance and respect for the opinions of others and behaving with the same kindness and understanding towards others as they would wish to be treated themselves.

Relief

Practising charity and caring for those less fortunate than ourselves, not only our own members and families, but also for the community as a whole, both by charitable giving, and by voluntary service.

Truth

Developing high moral standards of truth and honesty, which we aim to achieve in our own lives.



Freemasonry is also a lot of fun and in the Plaisterers' Lodge we enjoy evenings together with the opportunity to get to know other members of the Livery and entertain masonic guests in the wonderful surroundings of the Plaisterers' Hall.

For further information please contact the Lodge Secretary:
Alan Bostock
Mobile: 07715 581093

The dates for future meetings are:

2020	9 November
2021	8 March
	14 June
	13 September
	8 November
2022	14 March
	13 June
	12 September
	14 November

1822-1823	Olive Hall	1888-1889	Henry Urquhart	1961-1962	Richard Kersey
1823-1824	Peter Mitchell	1889-1890	Samuel Messiter	1962-1963	Harold Cadman
1824-1825	Benjamin Willats	1890-1891	Robert Taylor	1963-1964	Walter Horrocks
1825-1826	John Allnatt	1891-1892	William Stoner	1964-1965	Frederick Turner
1826-1827	Thomas Palmer	1892-1893	Rufus Workman	1965-1966	Walter Forrest
1827-1828	Thomas Pritchard	1893-1894	William Connell	1966-1967	Harold Cowan
1828-1829	John Pirie	1894-1895	Arthur Hammack	1967-1968	William Wylie Harris
1829-1830	John Spurling	1895-1896	George Mee	1968-1969	Evan Jenkins
1830-1831	William Willats	1896-1897	Henry Wild	1969-1970	John Jeffree
1831-1832	Thomas Kelly	1897-1898	Aubrey Spurling	1970-1972	William Bell
1832-1833	John Williams	1898-1899	Samuel Stacey	1972-1973	Alfred Telling
1833-1834	John Stayner	1899-1900	Samuel Walker	1973-1974	Albert Powley
1834-1835	William Little	1900-1901	Llewellyn Hammack	1974-1975	Jack Godfrey Gilbert
1835-1836	Thomas Skinner	1901-1902	Arthur Spurling	1975-1976	Andrew Roberts
1836-1837	John Tanner	1902-1903	Wesley Marshall	1976-1977	Peter Schryver
1837-1838	James Hoole	1903-1904	Frederick Capron	1977-1978	John Fleming
1838-1839	John Cooper	1904-1905	Edward Nisbet	1978-1979	Alfred Castell
1839-1840	John Charrington	1905-1906	Cuthbert Spurling	1979-1980	David Mott
1840-1841	Grantham Gace	1906-1907	Henry Holt	1980-1981	Gordon Infield
1841-1842	Richard Mott	1907-1908	Arthur Fox	1981-1982	Patrick Wettern
1842-1843	William Tozer	1908-1909	Richard Johns	1982-1983	Ralph Vickers
1843-1844	Alexander Thomson	1909-1910	Henry Phillipps	1983-1984	Douglas Tribe
1844-1845	Michael Hall	1910-1911	Frank Griffith	1984-1985	Ronald Hills
1845-1846	William Butterfield	1911-1912	Waiter Payne	1985-1986	Derek Robinson
1846-1847	William Shott	1912-1913	Arthur Lacey	1986-1987	Norman Goldwater
1847-1848	Edward Lacey	1913-1914	Herbert Walker	1987-1988	Trevor Spicer
1848-1849	Daniel Norton	1914-1916	Frederick Costello	1988-1989	Roy Beavis
1849-1850	Henry Walmsley	1916-1918	Frederic Hudson	1989-1990	Philip Girtle
1850-1851	James Smallbone	1918-1920	Percy Mott	1990-1991	Julian Dalrymple
1851-1852	Thomas Evans	1920-1921	Francis Goldsmith	1991-1992	Horace Warrell
1852-1854	Joseph Stayner	1921-1922	Edwin Clark	1992-1993	Ronald Jordan
1854-1855	William Hopkinson	1922-1923	John Roper	1993-1994	George Grover
1855-1856	John Furze	1923-1924	William Stearns	1994-1995	Hugh Kersey
1856-1857	James Hoole	1924-1925	Frank Bishop	1995-1996	Raymond Wakeham
1857-1858	Samuel Little	1925-1926	Charles Brown	1996-1997	Bryan Lincoln
1858-1859	Arthur Longley	1926-1927	Frank Griffith	1997-1998	Robert Faulkner
1859-1860	Thomas Brewer	1927-1928	William Watson	1998-1999	Ernest Pilgrim
1860-1861	Henry Hammack	1928-1929	Arthur Harrison	1999-2000	Christopher Towlson
1861-1862	George Roffey	1929-1930	Arthur Pinney	2000-2001	Peter Cook
1862-1863	Samuel Hubert	1930-1931	Percy Edwards	2001-2002	Alan Turner
1863-1864	Percival Spurling	1931-1932	William Costello	2002-2003	Robin Doran
1864-1865	James Vining	1932-1933	William Hepden	2003-2004	Michael Lepper
1865-1866	John Walker	1933-1934	Stanley Palmer	2004-2005	David Holliday
1866-1867	Arthur Cawthorn	1934-1935	George Ells	2005-2006	Michael Hall
1867-1868	Henry Phillipps	1935-1936	Geoffrey Mott	2006-2008	Nicholas Carr
1868-1869	Christopher Ellerby	1936-1937	William Symmons	2008-2009	Reginald Denby
1869-1870	William Hagell	1937-1938	Adam Brown	2009-2010	Robert Dalrymple
1870-1871	Edward Bacon	1938-1939	Walter Pollock	2010-2011	Hubert Lacey
1871-1872	James Hammack	1939-1940	John Bellman	2011-2012	Peter Baker
1872-1873	William Alexander	1940-1945	Percy Mott	2012-2013	Gary Morley
1873-1874	Joseph Surr	1945-1946	Henry Mott	2013-2014	Deirdre Bradshaw
1874-1875	Henry Wild	1946-1947	Rudolph Brunner	2014-2015	Michael Jones
1875-1876	Charles Wild	1947-1948	Cuthbert Spurling	2015-2016	Bill Mahony
1876-1877	Frederick Carritt	1948-1949	Ernest Millwood	2016-2017	Terence Wright
1877-1878	William Brook	1949-1950	Ashe Lincoln	2017-2018	Richard Hanney
1878-1879	George Summers	1950-1951	Horace Palmer	2018-2019	Timothy Cooke OBE
1879-1880	Frederic Hall	1951-1952	Aubrey Ells	2019-2020	Alison Gowman
1880-1881	Thomas Burrowes	1952-1953	John de Savary	2020-2021	Margaret Coates
1881-1882	James Howes	1953-1954	Douglas Abbott		
1882-1883	Robert Ransom	1954-1955	Terriss Bowler		
1883-1884	Percy Spurling	1955-1956	Archibald Lightman		
1884-1885	Robert Durham	1956-1957	William Warne		
1885-1886	James Harrison	1957-1958	John Harmer		
1886-1887	John Billinghurst	1958-1960	Harry Humber		
1887-1888	George Pepler	1960-1961	Thomas Taylor		



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Front cover: The Plasterers at the Annual Sheepdrive. Back cover: The Master and Clerk support City Giving Day.