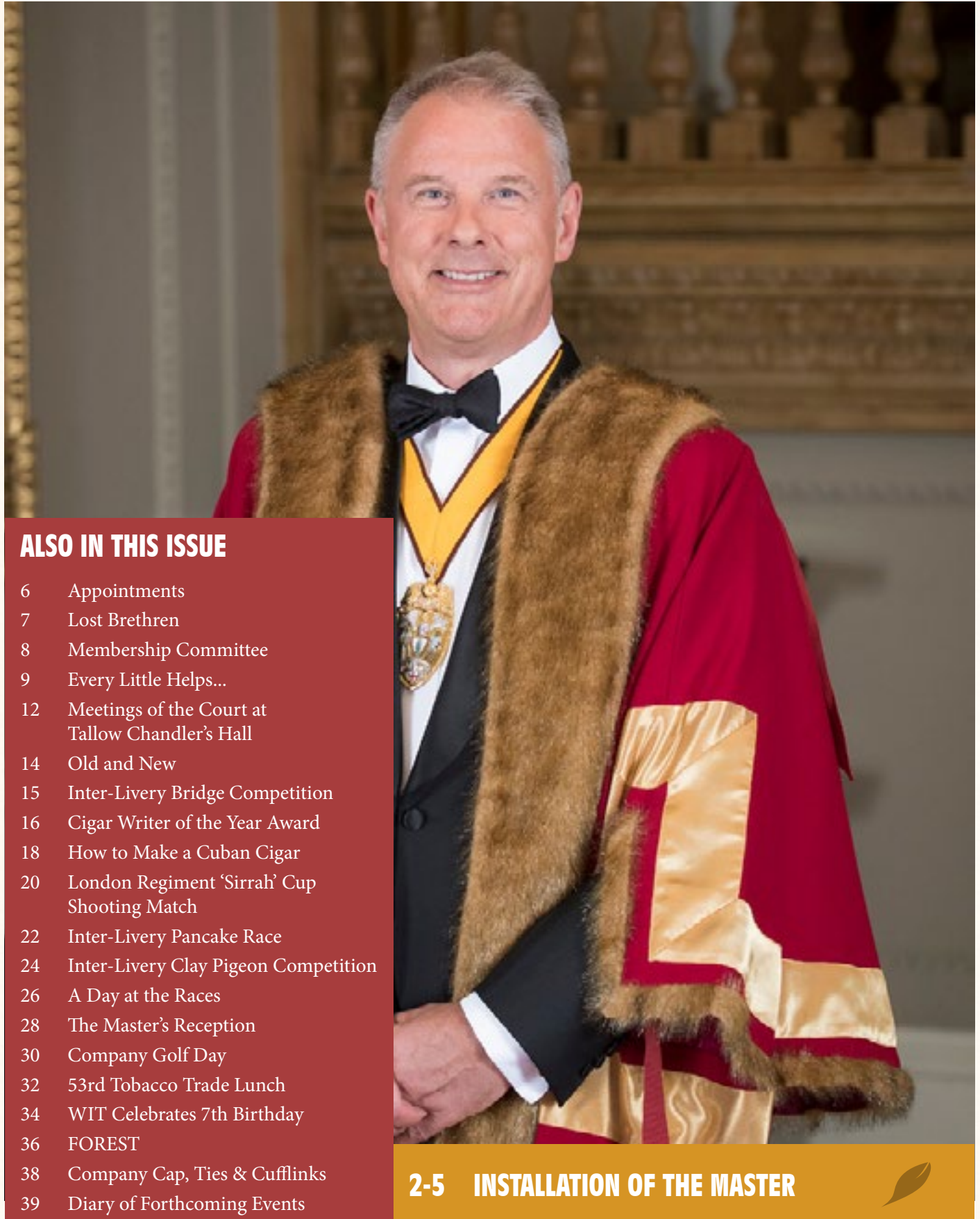


# Smoke Signals



ISSUE 05 SUMMER 2017 THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF TOBACCO PIPE MAKERS & TOBACCO BLENDEBS



## ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- 6 Appointments
- 7 Lost Brethren
- 8 Membership Committee
- 9 Every Little Helps...
- 12 Meetings of the Court at Tallow Chandler's Hall
- 14 Old and New
- 15 Inter-Livery Bridge Competition
- 16 Cigar Writer of the Year Award
- 18 How to Make a Cuban Cigar
- 20 London Regiment 'Sirrah' Cup Shooting Match
- 22 Inter-Livery Pancake Race
- 24 Inter-Livery Clay Pigeon Competition
- 26 A Day at the Races
- 28 The Master's Reception
- 30 Company Golf Day
- 32 53rd Tobacco Trade Lunch
- 34 WIT Celebrates 7th Birthday
- 36 FOREST
- 38 Company Cap, Ties & Cufflinks
- 39 Diary of Forthcoming Events

**2-5 INSTALLATION OF THE MASTER**





## Installation of the Master

Five years on the Court, four years on the GPC, three years as Warden and three years as Secretary to the Trustees of the Benevolent Fund should be long enough to prepare anyone for their Master's year. However, as I start my year, there is a feeling of trepidation and nervousness about following such an outstanding Master. A key element of the job is to represent our Livery in the City and there is no doubt that Charles Miller is a past master when it comes to selling the attractions of being a Tobacco Pipe Maker and Tobacco Blender. Charles and Camilla have been perfect ambassadors and I thank them for their hard work over the last 12 months.

Looking forward to my year, I have the support of four excellent wardens: Roger Brookes, Andrew Golding, Adam Bennett and Jerry Merton. I am confident that they will keep me on track and provide the support to ensure the Court and GPC work effectively. Our Honorary Chaplain, David Parrott, contacted me before the Installation and Maureen and I had lunch with David and Sue to "get to know each other". David provides a safety net for any incoming Master. He has an unparalleled knowledge of the Livery movement and will provide wise counsel in case of need. He is an immeasurable asset to our Livery and time in his company is always an uplifting experience.



The two most important elements to a successful Master's year are a supportive Consort/Mistress and a good Clerk. I am blessed with a wonderful wife who is looking forward to the year with great enthusiasm and the Livery is blessed with an extraordinary Clerk who, through hard work and close attention to detail, makes it happen.

Our Livery faces some significant issues. We have around 170 members so there is headroom to increase our membership. I am open to suggestions about making the Livery more inclusive. There is more to the Livery movement than three or four dinners a year. The Benevolent Fund lies at the heart





of what the Livery movement should be about. I am keen to retain my position as Secretary of the Benevolent Fund during my year as Master. I do not think the two positions are incompatible and the Trustees have agreed to me keeping that position. I think the Benevolent Fund has made good progress over the last three years and now distributes more than ever to deserving causes. We can do more if the donations from the Livery can be increased. I am grateful to everyone who has supported my Jailed and Bailed appeal, in favour of the British Red Cross. The terrorist events have underlined the importance of that charity.

My Master's year started a day early with the Tobacco Trade Sponsored Lunch organised by Past Master Roger Merton. This event allows the Master to present the Livery's prize to the Tobacco Retailer of the Year. It was my pleasure to present our cheque for £500 to Chris Mercer who accepted the prize on behalf of James Barber of Otley. I also enjoyed the company of TV personality, Alexander Armstrong, who entertained us during and after lunch. I even had the opportunity to play 'Pointless'! The proceeds of this event go to our Welfare Fund so I was there in two capacities.

My Installation Dinner was attended by Masters from other companies, many of our Liverymen and Freemen, their guests, my family members and old friends. I am grateful to Tony Scanlan for toasting the guests and to Richard Burrows, Chairman of British American Tobacco, for delivering an entertaining speech that covered the history of tobacco. Richard started with the Huron native American myth which recalled in ancient times, when the land was barren and the people were starving, the Great Spirit sent forth a woman to save humanity. As she travelled over the world, everywhere her right hand touched the soil, there grew potatoes. Everywhere her left hand touched the soil grew corn. And when the world was rich and fertile, she sat down and rested. When she arose, there grew tobacco. 'Producat terra'. We also heard about development of the new generation non-combustion products aimed at reducing risk to the consumer.

*In the splendid setting of Skinners' Hall, it was a jolly event with good humour, friendship, the clinking of glasses and, on the roof terrace, the aroma of Cuban cigars and Armagnac. A perfect start to my year.*







# Appointments

**Liveryman Terry Fenner-Leitao** has been elected to the Court as an Assistant and was installed on 22nd March 2017.

## Members Gowned with the Livery

**Sean Antony Gavin**  
*Senior General Manager -  
Restaurants* 24th January 2017

**Christopher John Sawyer**  
*Company Director and  
Immediate Past Master of  
The Worshipful Company of  
Scientific Instrument Makers* 22nd March 2017

**Cain Michael Tiberius  
Hayward-Hughes**  
*Director* 7th June 2017

**Mohamed Mufallal**  
*Managing Director* 7th June 2017

## New Freemen

**Sean Antony Gavin**  
*Senior General Manager -  
Restaurants* 24th January 2017

**Christopher John Sawyer**  
*Company Director and  
Immediate Past Master of  
The Worshipful Company of  
Scientific Instrument Makers* 22nd March 2017

**Charles Bennett-Baggs**  
*Chartered Accountant -  
Retired* 22nd March 2017

**John Alexander Clark**  
*Compliance Consultant* 22nd March 2017

**Mohamed Mufallal**  
*Managing Director* 7th June 2017

**Courtney Rasmussen**  
*Analyst* 7th June 2017



## Lost Brethren



### **Past Master John James Adler MBE JP, Ritter of Miltenberg**

John was a Pipe Maker and Pipe Man through and through. A member of the Confrérie des maitres-pipiers in St Claude, France, knighted in Germany for his work in the industry and a member of the L'Académie Internationale de la Pipe.

A Liveryman by Patrimony, the elder son of the first Master Alan L Adler, when the Company was re-formed in 1954. John was Master in 1982, served twice as Chairman of the Tobacco Trade Benevolent Association (now the Welfare Fund of our Benevolent Fund) as well as Chairman of our Benevolent Fund itself. He was also President of the Briar Pipe Trade Association and received a 'Lifetime Achievement Award' from the industry.

John was Managing Director of A. Oppenheimer & Company and its many subsidiaries worldwide but his particular love was for the industry of briar pipes and his Company's world famous pipe brands GBD, BBB, Comoy, Civic, Dr Plumb and Loewe to name but a few. John travelled the world not only for his beloved pipe industry but also for the other parts of his family businesses. He was a font of all knowledge about the pipes and had probably the most famous collection of meerschaum pipes in the world.

John received an MBE in 2008 for his extensive charitable work. He was Chairman of the Board of Visitors HM Prison Chelmsford, a Justice of the Peace, a specialist magistrate sitting on the Family Court, the first Chairman of The Mid Essex Hospital Trust when it gained its Trust status. A Trustee of Barrow Farm Riding for the Disabled, raising huge sums of money for them. John's charitable giving will probably never really be known in detail, he helped so many friends and many unknown individuals and countless charities. John was the sort of person whom many would aspire to be - his giving was never selfish or conceited, he was an exceptional and very special man.

Barrow Farm RDA have informed us that the incredibly generous donations following John's Service of Thanksgiving have enabled them to purchase a new carriage driving pony, pay for her training and specialised kit. The pony has been named 'Vella Tor' at the families request in John's memory.



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## Lost Brethren

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### Liveryman Brian George Ace

Liveryman Brian George Ace sadly passed away on the 15th January 2017 after a courageous battle with illness. The husband of Court Assistant Elise Rasmussen (and very proud husband as he delighted in all her numerous achievements, not least joining the Court).

Brian became a Freeman and Liveryman in 2014 after almost half a century spent in the tobacco trade. He spent 39 years at Filtrona International (now Essentra) - manufacturers of cigarette filters, becoming Chairman and MD for the last 10 years. Brian held 15 Directorships during the same period and notably first visited China in 1980 and spent 20 years negotiating a joint venture there.

On retirement from Filtrona, Brian was invited to work for Cartiera del Maglio, an Italian manufacturer of cigarette papers and plug wrap, he joined the board as their managing director in January 1998 and was then chairman for 10 years. Colleagues remember Brian as a dedicated tobacco man with a clear vision and strong business ethics and the current filter business and the tobacco industry are the better for his wise contributions.

Brian was fluent in French, Italian and Russian and a proud Welshman who always claimed he reserved his repertoire of Welsh songs for after an evening of fine Italian red wine. A keen bridge player, Brian represented The Pipe Makers in the Inter Livery Bridge Competition with Warden Andrew Golding, Brian listed his other interests as listening to classical music, attending the opera, entertaining and 'agreeing with my wife'.

**Past Master Fiona Adler**

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## Message from the Membership Committee

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The Membership Committee has had a good start to 2017. In February, it hosted a group of prospective recruits who have worked or still work in the tobacco leaf and associated trades area. The event was held in the Museum at JJFox in St James's. It is a fascinating venue with many interesting artefacts including the chair Winston Churchill would sit in and smoke a cigar when visiting to order supplies. General Manager Dirk Seyfried informed and entertained all of us with stories from Fox's long and illustrious history.

In March, the Smoking Club was held at the Soho Whisky Club in Old Compton Street. An excellent venue for enjoying a cigar and the samples of fine whisky's kindly donated by the Club. There was a good turn out and many enjoyed dinner afterwards in some of Soho's great restaurants.

In June, the club returned to Davy's Woolgate for early evening drinks and the sun shone.

The Smoking Club is held quarterly and guests are very welcome to attend.

**Tony Scanlan**  
Chairman of the Membership Committee





# Every little helps...

The tag line from Tesco's marketing campaign also applies to charity funding. There are many good causes out there seeking support from the public and the approaches adopted by charities to get a share of the public's goodwill vary from sophisticated television adverts to "chugging" on the high street.

In 2015, two-thirds of the UK population had donated money or sponsored someone. Overall giving was estimated by the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) to be £9.6 billion, down slightly on the prior year but the decline was well within statistical error. Although giving cash is the most popular way of supporting charities, volunteering and giving goods are also important channels of giving. A staggering £185 million was raised in 2015 through bake sales alone. The London Marathon has raised over £800 million since its inception, 35 years ago, and is generating more than £50 million a year. Red Nose Day raised £73 million earlier this year and Children in Need raised £46 million last year. Both events underline the power of television in appealing to the nation's conscience.

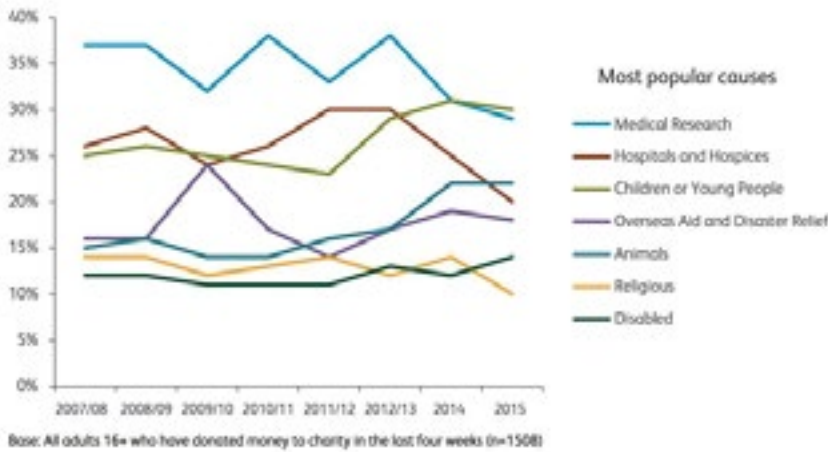
### The top 10 UK charities by charitable spending are:

		£,000
1	Wellcome Trust	992,310
2	The British Council	981,762
3	Save the Children International	753,118
4	Nuffield Health	750,100
5	The Arts Council of England	601,174
6	Cardiff University	485,616
7	The National Trust	471,565
8	Cancer Research UK	441,546
9	The Charities Aid Foundation	431,551
10	United Church Schools Foundation	349,481

The top 10 charities are not necessarily represented by the public's responses when they polled about their charitable giving.

### The top 10 UK charities by income are:

		£,000
1	The British Council	979,639
2	Lloyds Register Foundation	901,037
3	Save the Children International	785,579
4	Nuffield Health	767,600
5	The Arts Council of England	732,814
6	Cancer Research UK	635,145
7	The National Trust	522,165
8	Cardiff University	511,763
9	The Charities Aid Foundation	503,327
10	Oxfam	414,700



Base: All adults 16+ who have donated money to charity in the last four weeks (n=1508)

Figure 1 Which of the following causes have you given to in the last four weeks? Source CAF UK Giving 2015

Recent trends indicate charities focused on children or young people are at the front of the mind when the public is asked about their donations while medical research and hospitals and hospices are on a downward trend.

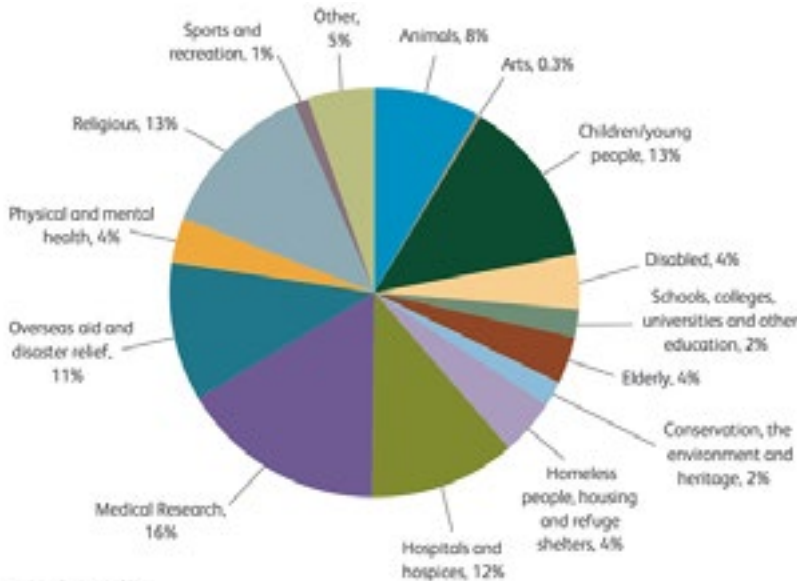


Figure 2 Proportion of total donation amount received by each cause in 2015, Source CAF UK Giving 2015

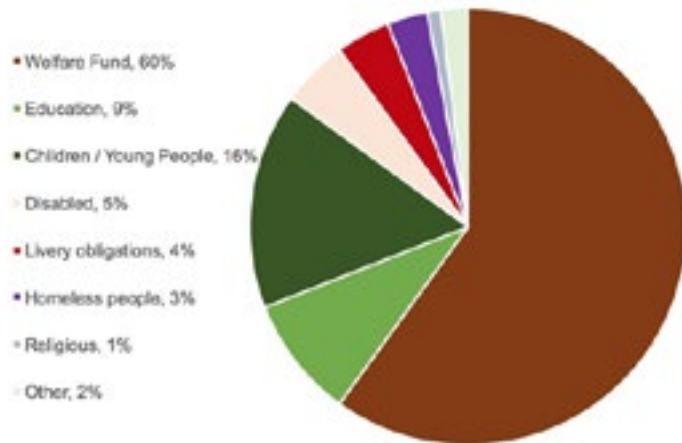
Medical research charities received the highest proportion of total donations (16%), while hospitals and hospices received 12%. Religious charities, who in the prior year received the largest share, received 13 per cent, tying with children/young people.

## Our Benevolent Fund

It is not the intention of the Benevolent Fund Trustees to replicate the national trends of charitable giving. There are two ring fenced funds which comprise the Welfare Fund, offering a helping hand to anyone who has worked in the tobacco trade in any capacity, or to their dependents subject to conditions and strict criteria. As you can see from Figure 3 below, 60% of the charitable giving of the Benevolent Fund is distributed by the Welfare Committee. The remaining 40% goes to various causes that are reviewed and monitored by the Benevolent Fund Trustees. The analysis below follows the criteria adopted CAF in Figure 2 above. There are some charities which all Livery companies are expected to support, which are described as “Livery obligations” in Figure 3.



Figure 3 Proportion of Benevolent Fund total donation amount budgeted for each cause in 2018



The Trustees have agreed Grant Giving Guidelines with the Court which include the following provisions:

- All new Grants should fulfil some overriding criteria, namely, that our support should ideally be City based and be to a Charity where our support is not dwarfed by much larger donors. Additionally, our resources should be deployed where it will do the most for the least advantaged in the community. The purpose being to ensure that every Grant will be seen to make a difference and will consequently help to raise the profile of the Livery Company.
- It follows therefore that the preference of the Trustees is not to spread our grants too widely, but to support fewer Charities with larger amounts for a specific purpose and for a set period of up to 3 years in order to enable the Charity to budget and plan. This strategy will assist the Trustees in conducting their regular Reviews of the outcomes/ consequences of each of our grants.

The Trustees carefully review applications from many charitable causes and approve grants that conform with the Guidelines. The Annual Grant Target determines the sum available for grants in any financial year and this is determined by donations from the Livery together with investment income, less governance costs. The Annual Grant Target for the current financial year is approximately £148,000.

## Donations from the Livery

Donations to the General Fund, after the recovery of Gift Aid, for the year to 31 March 2017 were almost £21,000, slightly lower than the prior year. The bulk of donations are now collected by an annual direct debit. Some donations are paid by standing order which may be for a fixed number of years. However, several standing orders lapse each year. If you find that your standing order has lapsed, please contact the Secretary to the Benevolent Fund who will send you new forms to reinstate your donation. You can contact the Secretary through this link: [benevolentfund@tobaccolivery.org](mailto:benevolentfund@tobaccolivery.org)

Approximately half of the livery donate to the Benevolent Fund and the Trustees are grateful for the continued support of donors. It is through your donations and the stewardship of the Trustees that total value of the Benevolent Fund has grown to almost £8 million. Benevolence is a key element of the livery movement and we have much to be proud of when we look at the support we have given many worthy causes over recent decades. There is much more we can do if more members of the Livery review and reinstate their donations. With the use of Gift Aid, we can make your donations work harder.

Every little helps.

## Legacies

When you review your will, please consider a legacy to the Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Trade Benevolent Fund. You can instruct the Trustees to allocate the legacy to the General Fund or the Welfare Fund. Legacies over £5,000 are invested as capital so your gift will work for years to come.

**Ralph Edmondson**

Master and Secretary to the Benevolent Fund



## Meetings of the Court at Tallow Chandlers' Hall

In the past few months, I have been working on collating and digitizing the Company archives. The task is now complete and our Company archives have now been safely lodged with the London Metropolitan Archives.

Amongst the archives, I found two photographs taken of the Court in 1954 and 1959, both at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. As the Court were visiting Tallow Chandlers' Hall in March 2017 for its Election Court, the Master thought that we should add to the history of our long association with Tallow Chandlers' Hall and take a photograph for the archives.

**Sandra Stocker**  
Clerk





## Old and New



Past Master Rolf Christophersen congratulated Courtney Rasmussen on becoming the youngest Freeman of the Company at the Installation Court on 7th June 2017. Rolf became a Freeman in 1960 and he was the senior Past Master present at the Court meeting.



# Inter-Livery Bridge Competition

Third Warden Andrew Golding and Court Assistant Elise Rasmussen were proud to represent the Company at the annual Inter-Livery Bridge Competition hosted by The Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards.

Elise bravely stepped in at the last moment to replace her late husband Brian Ace, who sadly died shortly before the event. Brian however would have been proud of her.

Held in the grandiose surroundings of Draper's Hall and against some stiff (and rather formidable) competition, the Pipe Makers' Team placed 16th after first half results were posted during the dinner break and finished a respectable 40th after battling several teams of bridge masters.

Andrew and Elise anticipate a higher overall placement next year!



**Third Warden Andrew Golding**



## Sally Audley accepts Cigar Writer of the Year Award on behalf of our late Court Assistant Nic Wing

At the invitation of Liveryman Jemma Freeman, who is also MD of cigar importers Hunter & Frankau, I attended this rather exclusive Cigar Award Evening at Boisdale in Canary Wharf.

Meeting up with Assistant Elise Rasmussen and Jemma, I was very pleased to also see our late Assistant Nic Wing's widow, Sally and son, Leo who had come along to receive an award in his name.

Several awards were given, including 'Cigar Writer of the Year' which was won by Nic Wing - Sally accepted the award and made a touching speech in his absence.



Nearly all the other awards seemed to be won by people on our table until the Cigar Smoker of the Year was announced which was presented to Kelsey Grammer (Frasier to most of us) and who had been kind enough to visit our little table of fans just after dessert (I don't think Elise gave him a choice, but he was very good about it!)

**Charles Miller**  
Immediate Past Master







# How to Make a Cuban Cigar

There are in the world just a few things that are known without question to be the best of their kind. A Havana cigar is one of them.

These exquisite cigars are made entirely by hand with a selection of leaves taken from one of the famous Vegas de Primera (First Class Fields) found on the island of Cuba. They are crafted using methods that have remained almost unchanged in over two centuries.

It takes up to six classifications of leaf to make a Havana cigar and each one has been specifically grown and prepared for its specific purpose.

They are Capa (wrapper leaves), Capote (known as Binder), Volado (used to aid combustion), Seco (praised for its aromatic characteristics), Ligerero (used for strength and depth) and finally, very occasionally Medio Tiempo (even fuller flavoured than Ligerero and only used in the Cohiba BHK range).

Using just a few basic tools, including the flat blade, known as a Chaveta, a Torcedora (cigar roller) is able to produce cigars of incredible variety, both in terms of size and shape as well as in taste and aroma.

Firstly, the Torcedora lays out the leaves that form the binder. They then gather together the leaves of the filler, folding and aligning each leaf to ensure a straight passage for smoke in the finished cigar. All leaves are placed with their lighter-flavoured tips towards what will be the foot (the lit end) of the cigar so that the flavour will intensify as it is smoked. The stronger-flavoured, slower-burning.

Now the Torcedora forms the 'bunch' by rolling the filler into the binder. Then the Torcedora prepares a leaf to be used to dress the outside of the cigar. This is known as the wrapper. The Torcedora then lays it on the board with its most veined side facing upward, leaving its smoothest side to be visible on the outside of the cigar. The Torcedora lightly trims the leaf with the Chaveta blade, paying special attention to the edge that will be seen on the finished cigar.

Finally comes the 'cap'. First a section called the 'flag' is cut out from the spare wrapper leaf. It is then wound round the head to close off the open end and secure the wrapper. To add the finishing touch, a small disc of wrapper is cut out with the Casquillo and secured on the head with a natural vegetable gum.

In a day, a good Torcedor can make between 60 and 150 Habanos in this fashion, depending on the size and complexity of the shape.

**Jimmy McGhee**  
Hunters & Frankau



The 21st century work station of a Cuban torcedor or Cigar Roller



Devotion, skill and experience are the watchwords for Cuba's top torcedores or Cigar Rollers.





## London Regiment 'Sirrah' Cup Shooting Match

If anyone reading this wonders why we shoot for the 'Sirrah' Cup each year, then one only has to look to the list of Past Masters and note that it was company founder Stanley Harris (father of Past Master Derek) who presented the trophy to shoot for, and then spell his name backwards! Derek informs me that originally SIRRAH was registered as a pipe brand in 1914 (as Sirrah Gold Spot Pipes, price 5/-).

For many years, we fought it out at the old barracks in Battersea but with everything in flux now, that is now longer possible and so it is with great thanks to Major Bob Brown of the London Regiment D (London Irish Rifles) Company that we now meet in even more exotic locations than Battersea and the last two matches have taken place in or near Aldershot, a good hour's drive from Town and why it's less convenient for members to view the proceedings - although the invitation still stands to all Liverymen.

This year we were asked to present ourselves at Mons Barracks, Aldershot by 09.30 where, having cleared security, Major Brown met the team: Me, Colin Ritchie, Paul Taberer, Adam Bennett, Archie Smith, John Gossage, along with Ellis, the son of the Irish Guards WO in control of the shoot, Alan Beggs, and Clerk Sandra as cheerleader. Whilst waiting in the briefing room, a sort of jerry can containing something the army call "coffee" arrived.

We were then briefed on the day. We discovered we were in for a real treat: a day on the proper army training simulator using the present service rifle which has been cleverly adapted with gas and lasers so one can shoot (without ear defenders) against a range of targets on large screens. The guns went "bang" and had some recoil. We were also made to observe the correct loading drills with the magazines etc. It's a very clever and expensive bit of kit - the



computer can simulate a whole range of scenarios from targets at assorted distances to combat situations where you “kill” the enemy. It also decides how many rounds your gun will be allowed and when you’re “empty” you have to change magazines etc. whilst shouting “magazine” and “I’m in” etc.

There was also a “game” where a message was given to the far-right shooter and it had to be relayed between guns during a combat situation and be repeated by the last gun on the left, apart from the instruction changing from “right” to “left” halfway down, it was correct. The morning was spent in practice for us to acclimatise ourselves. By about 12.30 it was time for lunch and Bob had decided we were to be treated to the full experience. Thus it was, a truck arrived with jerry cans of some ‘range stew’, loaves of bread, doughnuts and apples and we tucked into a typical field meal and very tasty it all was too - the army eats well these days it seems.

That all done, we then went back to the briefing room where we were introduced to the regimental team up against us. We were to shoot five different targets, alternating teams... all the targets were live action video types and were huge fun - it took some time to really see what was going on as there was “incoming” fire to cope with, plenty of flashes and explosions and advancing enemy troops or terrorists to flush out of derelict townscapes etc. When this was all done, we were told to take the air (it had become a very fine day outside) and a glass of juice. During this,

Major Brown spoke to the assembled company and I responded with warm thanks for a truly splendid and fun day and had great pleasure in presenting him with a cheque to be spent on his men, together with a box of The Master’s Snuff to be shared as needed. Then the scores... these were complicated as the ratio of hits to rounds used had to be computed. It seems we won the 1st and 3rd rounds, the London’s the 2nd and 4th, so it all hinged on the 5th round, and in that they had achieved a 10% better hit rate by using less ammunition, they retained the trophy for the 3rd year in a row! We then repaired back to the training room where we were given a bit of fun - two Glock hand pistols, similarly rigged with sound and ammo etc. were given to us to try our luck in one of the wooded scenarios - only front and back sights and use of both hands. It was very good fun and even Sandra was given a go which she gamely took up with her arm encased in a splint. With the formal proceedings over, the regiment changed into civvies and we popped down the road to buy the Victors a pint in the local - as it was so nice, several of us smoked outside. By 4.45 it was time to go and I said my farewells. Next year we look forward to Ralph joining us as left-handers have no case ejectors to worry about! Take note Ralph and see you there... Thanks to the London Regiment for a great day.

**Charles Miller**  
Immediate Past Master



## The Inter-Livery Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race

Always a fun part of the Livery calendar, our Company was represented this year by myself, Renter Warden Roger Brookes; Liveryman Martine Petetin; and Elise Rasmussen; managed by the able Clerk Sandra, and cheered on to partial victory by the Mistress; Senior Warden Ralph Edmonson and wife Maureen, and for a time Jerry Merton, our nominated Fourth Warden elect.

Ralph also became 'Photographer in Chief', bringing a superb camera to the event and took all the photographs with the downside that he's not in any of them of course! Meeting at St Lawrence Jewry, which is very convenient for this event, we were able to change into our aprons, running shoes and chefs hats in peace and add 'sellotape' to the hat which was never going to last the course.

The racing was due to begin at 12pm and so, gathered in front of the Guildhall Art Gallery, the Course Master spoke briefly before introducing the Lord Mayor who was there in full regalia and

gave an amusing and short address before setting off a starting gun (which nearly floored us all) to announce the formal start. Elise was running in the novelty race - the costumes for which must reflect the Lord Mayor's charities. Needless to say, a lot of musicians, etc. turned up, but Elise trumped the lot of them by arriving as a full organ, complete with pipes, stops and pedals!!! Nothing could touch her and, when the parade of novelties were called forth for an inspection it came as no surprise to us when she was announced as the winner! Well done Elise!! I wish the same could be said for the rest of us. I was up first but came a close second but was relieved to at least finish this year; Roger was pipped by one of the Young Freemen and Martine would have won the most elegantly run race had that been a category, but also lost out, so it was Elise who saved the day! Incredibly she didn't come last in her heat either - as her hands couldn't actually touch and she could hardly see, it was very satisfying to see her soundly beat the chap in lane 5.



With the racing concluded, we changed back and went to dine in the buffet underneath Guildhall where Mark Grove had provided a tasty and warming lunch. The soup was served in special commemorative mugs and there was plenty of wine to keep us going. As workers, Roger and I split the party and wended our way back to a more hum drum

afternoon - the morning had remained fine, clear and sunny, as I rode home it began to rain and the wind picked up, so we were lucky in many ways this morning. Thank you 'Poulters', it was - as ever - good fun.

**Charles Miller**  
Immediate Past Master





## The Annual Inter-Livery Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition

This was another wonderfully supported day, despite the rain, with around 76 Livery Companies participating and providing some 430 shooting guns!

The Master Charles Miller, Fourth Warden Adam Bennett, Past Master John Nokes and Court Assistant Paul Taberer represented the Livery Company.

The annual Inter Livery Charity Clay Shoot is one of the highlights of the City of London charity events.

Since its revival in 1993, it has been a hugely successful fundraiser for charities nominated by teams involved in the day.

The venue was once again the beautiful shooting grounds of Holland & Holland in Northwood, North London. The grounds boast 10 shooting stands, each with its own identity and challenge plus an onslaught of 80 clays from the high tower known as the Flush. We got busy after a fine breakfast in a room packed with fellow 'gunners' all scheming on the day ahead.

Our Livery smoking hats once again drew much attention and interest...if only our shooting skills could have done the same!

It was a rather damp but very pleasant and well-organized event; though sadly no real chance to enjoy a cigar for fear of it dampening out.

Though not in the prizes we were respectable for part time novice shooters, and it was a great occasion to rub shoulders with so many other liverymen.

Lunch was a fine spread of several dishes in a large marquee housing all 430 guns and several more.

Fifty percent of monies raised were awarded as prizes to the winning teams' nominated charities. The remainder goes to charities chosen by members of the organising volunteers, including a contribution of a £1,000 to the Lord Mayor's charity.

**Assistant Paul Taberer**









## A Day at the Races



On 3rd May 2017, Court Assistants Elise Rasmussen and Martine Petetin attended the opening of the flat season at Ascot racecourse. They were joined by several members of Women in Tobacco (WIT), a trade-marked international membership organization for women in the tobacco and vaping industries to network, of whom Elise is also the chairwoman. Other members of WIT present were Past Master Fiona Adler and Mrs Maureen Edmondson, soon to be the Mistress Tobacco Pipe Maker. Their visit to this extraordinary event took place upon special invitation from the Lord Mayor of London, who hosted a charity fund-raising lunch at Ascot's Pavilion Restaurant in support of the Lord Mayor of the City of London's Appeal.

This year's officeholder, Alderman Dr. Andrew Parmley, himself a teacher and a musician as well as Honorary Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders, has chosen a charity project that promotes the involvement of young people with music. Following the motto "Educate – support – inspire", the funds raised from the 2017 Lord Mayor's Appeal support three major projects: LSO Discovery is the London Symphony Orchestra's (LSO) pioneering community and education programme. Launched in 1990, it currently provides music-making and learning opportunities for over 60,000 people every year. It enables especially young people, often from challenging circumstances, to make music – right through from infancy to adulthood. LSO Discovery stages around 950 workshops every year; in 2016, 72 workshops for under-five-year-olds took place.

Another LSO mission the Lord Mayor's Appeal sustains financially is Music in Hospitals, which supports children and young people to improve their wellbeing through the joy and therapeutic benefits of live music.



The third venture is St Paul's Music Outreach, which, in collaboration with the LSO, inspiring young musicians with performances and participation opportunities at all access levels to sing in choir.

During the Ascot race day, WIT members seized the opportunity to support the Lord Mayor's Appeal and to network extensively. Of course, they also took the chance to get to know more about thoroughbred horseracing at Britain's most prestigious racecourse. Initiated by Queen Anne in 1711, Ascot has established itself as a national institution. In acknowledgement of her gift to racing by founding the royal racecourse, the world-famous Royal Ascot week in June is traditionally opened with the Queen Anne Stakes. Today, the Gold Cup, held on the third day of Royal Ascot, is the most important race of the meeting. Ascot continues to be the destination racecourse for the best horses from Europe and the US and for the world's leading jockeys.

While the opening day of the flat season is less formal than Royal Ascot Week, it nevertheless provides ample opportunity to experience the atmosphere of the spacious area. WIT members visited the modern grandstand, which was opened in 2006 and hosts restaurants and enclosures, among them the Royal Enclosure, from where the royal family watches the races during Royal Ascot week. The parade ring, where the horses were presented prior to the start, enabled the audience to assess the shape of the racehorses and pick a potential winner.

WIT members had much fun cheering their favorites on the turf and, of course, betting on them. Either due to expertise or sheer luck, some could even reclaim more than their stakes. For all participants, this genuinely British event certainly was a day to remember.



**Stefanie Rossel**

A member of Women in Tobacco



## The Master's Reception

Each Livery has its own 'Master's event' – many go away on long weekends to exotic locations, or use their own fabulous halls to host some spectacular entertainment. We've yet to delve into these realms and so every year the Master organises a bit of a do at some interesting location, often a museum, and we have seen some interesting places over the years.

Indulging my personal interest in silent cinema, I chose the Cinema Museum in Kennington, a museum co-founded about 25 years ago that not only maintains a film archive and library, but all the paraphernalia associated with the cinemas of yesteryear – signage, posters, uniforms, projectors etc. It's located in the chapel of what used to be the Lambeth Work House (c.1871) a building that became a hospital when the work house closed in 1922 (yes, that late!) and which was latterly absorbed into the NHS until the early 2000s. The main problem is its slightly obscure location in a nest of streets about 10 minutes' walk from Kennington tube station. The answer was to use a bus and, through a pal at the London Bus Museum, I managed to get a 1961 Routemaster to meet us at St. Lawrence Jewry. We were about fifty in total and everyone was asked to muster by 5.45 for a prompt 6pm departure and (one thing I've noticed about Liveries) everyone was assembled and aboard on time. Our Chaplain had kindly chilled a case of Prosecco I'd sent him for us all to enjoy aboard - and we'd nearly dispatched the lot as we arrived at the museum 25 minutes later! We were blessed with fine evening sunshine throughout (after a very overcast day, the Chaplain had obviously had a word!) and so were able to use the little garden adjacent to the museum for more drinks and a little 'interval' cigar kindly provided by Liveryman Jemma Freeman.

Once everyone's glass was charged and cigar lit, I introduced Martin Humphries, one of the co-founders, who gave us a potted history of the museum and the building it's now contained in – the most famous 'resident' was a young Charlie Chaplin who accompanied his mother there when her funds ran out (after a glittering music hall career, she lost her voice) in a tale that really makes you realise that however bad things may seem sometimes today, we've no real idea of the grinding poverty so many endured at the apex of our Imperial past when we were supposed to be one of the wealthiest countries

on earth. With our cigars smoked but retaining our glasses we trooped inside for a look at the exhibits before going upstairs to the impressive and very spacious chapel which has seating, tables and a bar and servery. Everyone soon settled somewhere and I introduced Martin again, and Lillian Henley, our pianist for the evening. I'd asked Kevin Brownlow (the film historian, who was sadly called away at the last minute) and Martin to give us tobacco-related films as far as possible, but to include one Chaplin short in deference to the location. We then enjoyed two halves of about 45 minutes each which comprised:

### Part 1

Admiral Cigarette advert 1897  
Breath of A Nation 1919  
Cultivation of Tobacco 1909  
Harold Lloyd in Among those Present 1921

### Part 2

A Voyage to Jupiter 1909  
Charley Bowers in There it is 1928  
Chaplin in The Cure 1917

Between halves, we enjoyed a good meal of Coq au Vin followed by Eton Mess with enough time for those who wished to pop out for a puff after, and the bar had plenty of cold beer which proved popular for the second half.

Lillian's accompaniment lifted these old titles from their dusty graves and everyone was infected with the spirit of another, perhaps simpler, age. With the films done, I presented Martin and Lillian with a souvenir clay pipe to remember us by and we went and found the bus which had cleverly turned itself around and was waiting with the engine running. I enjoyed it all immensely, and thank the Livery and their guests for supporting me at my last event.

**Charles Miller**  
Immediate Past Master





## Company Golf Day at Tandrige Golf Club

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The annual Company golf day was once again held at the very beautiful and pretty Surrey course of Tandrige, in the rolling hills near Oxted. It was a chilly start, but remained dry and warmed beautifully as the day went on.

Past Master Derek Harris, a long time member of Tandrige, yet again laid on a splendid event. How grateful we are to Derek and all he does to ensure we have the best possible time. He even paid a visit to all of us during play on a buggy with his lovely little golf-trained dog!

We were all given some very useful golfing ammunition – including a lovely score-card sleeve with the Company's logo attached – such a lovely touch from Derek.

There were 10 Company Liverymen and Freemen and seven guests participating and flogging it out for one of the several (BAT sponsored) magnificent hampers – filled with a range of wines and bubbly! Grateful thanks must go to BAT for their continued sponsorship of the prizes.

The Master and Mistress kindly joined us golfers for drinks, lunch and prize giving – following their busy weekend in Ironbridge.

Most of us took on the par 3 challenge for some vouchers from the pro-shop and that meant some browsing there after play – what a well-stocked shop it is!

Compliments must go to the management and green staff for presenting a very well conditioned golf course. Moreover Tandrige lived up to its reputation of providing us with a superb spread of foods for lunch from its quality kitchen...and most of us indulged in a spoon (or 3) of its signature 'Tandrige' pudding!

Past Master Derek introduced the start to prize giving by getting somewhat carried away with recent political events...and The Master presented the prizes and the magnificent Charles Rich Cup.

Very special thanks to Derek for his devoted organisation of the day. He no doubt had much assistance and support from his lovely wife Sheila, and our thanks to her too.

Next year's event is scheduled to take place at the same venue on Monday 11th June 2018.

**Assistant Paul Taberer**



## TOBACCO PIPE MAKERS GOLF RESULTS TANDRIDGE 2017

**1st and Winner of the Charles Rich Cup**  
COURT ASSISTANT PAUL TABERER

**2nd**  
PAST MASTER IAN PANTO

**3rd**  
LIVERYMAN ARCHIE SMITH

**BEST LADY**  
MRS SHARON TABERER (Wife of COURT  
ASSISTANT PAUL TABERER)

**BEST GUEST**  
NICK BROWN (Guest of FREEMAN TONY  
BROWN)

**LONGEST DRIVE**  
LIVERYMAN BRYAN JENKINSON

**NEAREST THE PIN**  
PAST MASTER MICHAEL WALTER





## 53rd Tobacco Trade Lunch

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It was a damp Tuesday in St John's Wood, London, at Lord's Cricket Ground, home to the venerable MCC, and once again venue to the annual Tobacco Trade Lunch, the proceeds of which go to our Welfare Fund.

In fact, too damp to have the Champagne Reception in Harris Gardens – the venue for this moved to The Long Bar, which was a glorious setting under roof. It did not deter a regular outdoor break for a puff on the cigar for many!

The 'Outswingers' provided music during the reception – and they feature at all major Lord's cricket fixtures and so it was especially fitting. Before long we were called to luncheon in the infamous Long Room. As a fan of cricket, it was quite a thrill to wander through the famous pavilion and sit down for lunch overlooking the sweeping grounds where so much sporting history has been made. A vast room with high ceilings, I can only imagine the atmosphere when a batsman walks through on his way to take guard for the first time at the hallowed square.

The Long Room is lined with paintings of famous cricketers and administrators, from the 18th century to the 21st. For contemporary or overseas players to have their portrait placed here is a considerable honour and very few have been awarded this distinction. For example, only four Australian

cricketers have ever been honoured in this way: Sir Donald Bradman, Keith Miller, Victor Trumper and Shane Warne; and of those four, only one has played international cricket in the last 50 years.

Paresh Patel welcomed the guests and Master Elect Ralph Edmondson presented the Retailer of the Year Trophy to James Barber of Otley. Birthday greetings were mentioned to Liveryman Sally Brookes, and she received a cupcake – thanks to Dad, Past Master Roger Merton - a key organiser for this annual event who works tirelessly to ensure a great time is had by all.

Following a delicious lunch, we were humourously entertained by Alexander Armstrong, the comedian, actor, TV presenter and singer – fantastically talented! A late afternoon in the neighbouring pub Lord's Tavern, with plenty to smoke, was how many of us chose to continue the popular annual event.

Another wonderful day – and thanks to the numerous sponsors for their kind and generous donations.

Assistant Paul Taberer







## Women In Tobacco celebrates its 7th Birthday

June 8th 2017 was an auspicious date not simply because of the Parliamentary Election!

Women In Tobacco (WIT) celebrated its 7th birthday by cruising the Thames and listening to financial analyst, Erik Bloomquist discuss changes within the tobacco trade and the ramifications of Next Generation Products to the business landscape and stock portfolios.

The birthday celebration was sponsored by SPI (Liveryman Henry Tuck is a Director of SPI), SWM and the Global Tobacco and Nicotine Forum. Women In Tobacco is a non-profit organization with an international membership of approximately 500.

Mistress Tobacco Pipe Maker Maureen Edmondson, Clerk Sandra Stocker and Court Assistant and WIT Chair, Elise Rasmussen were in attendance.

Women In Tobacco welcomes female Freemen and Liverymen as well as spouses of male Freemen and Liverymen to participate. There is no membership fee or dues. For more information, please contact [witforwomen@gmail.com](mailto:witforwomen@gmail.com)

**Assistant Elise Rasmussen**





## FOREST: “THE VOICE AND FRIEND OF THE SMOKER”

Other groups representing smokers have come and gone, but FOREST keeps battling on



*Simon Clark, Director of FOREST*

**Simon Clark, Director of FOREST - the Freedom Organisation for the Right to Enjoy Smoking Tobacco - is clear about why his hard-working lobby group needs to exist.**

“Smokers,” he says, “have faced a raft of regulation in recent years that has left many law-abiding adults feeling harassed, discriminated against and marginalised. It’s vital that smokers are not forgotten and have a voice. We work hard to achieve that by maintaining a high profile in the media, through our campaigns and as the ‘voice of the smoker’ to government.”

Simon is rarely out of the media. FOREST is now the ‘go-to’ body for comment and interviews to balance the constant anti-smoking

campaigning and pressure for yet more legislation by groups such as ASH (Action on Smoking and Health). Last year alone, FOREST achieved over 2,500 mentions, quotes and appearances in UK media. It has a prominent website, <http://www.forestonline.org>, issues a stream of news releases and Tweets, and runs campaigns to engage the public. Simon also maintains a prolific blog: <http://taking-liberties.squarespace.com>.

The group’s campaigns have included ‘Fight For Choice’, a 3-year battle against the ban on smoking in public places, and ‘Hands Off Our Packs’, launched in 2012 to combat plain packaging of tobacco products. ‘Hands Off Our Packs’ was FOREST’s most successful campaign to date in engaging with the public. It raised over 250,000 signatures opposing plain packs from members of the public, while 53,000 people signed a letter to No.10 Downing Street – figures that significantly outnumbered the tobacco control lobby.

But these campaigns, despite the support they raised from citizens and a good number of MPs, failed to stop the policies being introduced. So is FOREST’s work ultimately in vain? Simon admits it is hard going: “We are up against a well-funded, highly organised anti-tobacco lobby, many parts of it backed by public money – taxpayers’ money! But we won’t

stop. The smoker is too often ignored and must have a voice. We will go on supporting freedom and choice.”

Recently FOREST commissioned an academic study into why people smoke. The lead author was Dr Neil McKeganey, director of the Centre for Substance Use Research, an independent research team that has carried out studies for bodies such as the World Health Organisation, the Medical Research Council and several government departments. The study, ‘The Pleasure of Smoking’, confirmed something that is seldom researched: that smokers are not just “addicts”, as the anti-smoking lobby often suggest, but that a great many adults choose to smoke because they actually enjoy it.

More than three quarters of the smokers surveyed saw themselves continuing to smoke well into the future, and almost all (95%) said their reason for smoking was enjoyment. Over a third indicated that smoking was part of their personal identity, and over half said social stigma was one of the aspects of smoking that they liked least, second only to cost.

Says Simon: “It’s perhaps extraordinary that this subject is so little researched. It may seem common sense that a lot of people actually like smoking, but this study provides hard data.



How can smoking possibly be indefensible when so many people choose to do it and enjoy it?"

Simon himself does not smoke. He describes himself as "a tolerant non-smoker" who believes strongly in freedom of choice. After a career in public relations, lobbying and journalism, he took over as FOREST's Director in 1999 - only its fourth director since it was founded, which perhaps indicates the organisation's staying power.

FOREST was founded in 1979 by the splendidly named Sir Christopher Foxley-Norris, a former Battle of Britain fighter pilot and lifelong pipe smoker who lived to be 86. It soon had a full-time director and a small number of full-time staff. Now based in Cambridge, it is funded by donations from the 'Big Three' UK tobacco companies - BAT, Imperial and JTI.

It is also backed by a Supporters Council whose members include the artist David Hockey, the Oscar-winning screenwriter Sir Ronald Harwood and the musician Joe Jackson, who have all spoken out against harassment of smokers and excessive regulation.

Simon believes FOREST may be unique in the world, and puts its staying power down to being professionally run. "Other smokers' groups have come and gone," he says. "A similar group

in the USA found it hard to achieve a significant presence in the media. Smokepeace, a loose association of smokers' rights groups in Europe, most of them run by volunteers, ultimately collapsed. Our professional staff enable us to sustain fast responses and professional media visibility, and our 38-year history gives us credibility."

And FOREST is now spreading its wings further. It has launched a chapter in Brussels, FOREST EU, to give smokers a voice in the European Union and to put consumers at the heart of the EU legislative debate.

Guillaume Périgois, Director of FOREST EU, says it will arm consumers with information and resources for engaging with politicians and regulators. Like FOREST in the UK, the EU chapter acknowledges the health risks, but says: "If adults choose to smoke that's a matter for them and no-one else. It is not a public health issue; it's a private health issue. We need a liberal and pragmatic approach to tobacco that puts empathy above dogma and takes account of the views of ordinary citizens." FOREST EU's website is at <http://forestonline.eu>

Meanwhile, Simon says Tobacco Liverymen would be welcome at FOREST's annual events, which are great fun and, of course, smoker-friendly. Sadly, it's too

late to book for this year's events in June: 'Smoke on the Water', the annual riverboat party on the Thames, and the 'Freedom Dinner' at Boisdale of Canary Wharf, where the guest speaker will be the very funny and outspoken Sunday Times columnist Rod Liddle.

But you can sign up for FOREST's mailing list at <http://www.forestonline.org/join-our-mailing-list/> to be kept informed about its activities, and to get ahead of the queue for events next year!

**Fran Morrison**  
Liveryman



## Company cap, ties and cufflinks

With new members joining, it's probably a good time to remind members about our Livery accessories.



*New Company Cap*

### **The new Company Cap at £50.00.**

The first batch were 'snapped up' but a second batch has been made and there are still some available.

### **The official Livery Company Tie**

A navy blue silk tie embroidered with the Company Crest at £21.00.

### **Company Tie**

A black silk tie embroidered with the Tobacco leaf plant at £21.00. (Proceeds from the sale of this tie will go to the Benevolent Fund.)

### **Cufflinks**

Cufflinks that depict The Company Coat of Arms at £7.00.

All prices are inclusive of postage and packing. To purchase any item, please contact the Clerk at [clerk@tobaccolivery.org](mailto:clerk@tobaccolivery.org)



*Company ties and cufflinks*



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# Diary of Forthcoming Events

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## **Tuesday 19th September 2017**

Autumn Court and Dinner (Court only) on HQS Wellington

## **Friday 29th September 2017**

Common Hall Election of Lord Mayor  
(Liverymen only. Apply to Clerk for tickets.)

## **Monday 16th October 2017**

Annual Banquet at The Mansion House

## **Wednesday 6th December 2017**

Carol Service at St Lawrence Jewry at 6.30pm

## **Wednesday 24th January 2018**

January Court and Dinner at Goldsmiths' Hall

## **Friday 16th March 2018**

United Guilds Service at St Paul's Cathedral

## **Tuesday 20th March 2018**

Election Court and Luncheon (Court and partners only) at Armourers' Hall

