

Smoke Signals



ISSUE 10 May 2020 THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF TOBACCO PIPE MAKERS & TOBACCO BLENTERS



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2-5 THE MASTER'S YEAR





The Master's Year

This has been a very special year for me and for the Mistress. It all began with a bang because almost immediately after our Installation at Vintners' Hall in early June we were off to Ironbridge! To be candid, Ironbridge was a little tough to start with, as being so recently installed, we knew only a few people....but that soon changed in a combination of nice trips and events where everyone was so friendly. Our visit to the Broseley Clay Pipeworks was definitely a highlight.

Two eminently pleasant Company-related events then followed - the annual golf day at Tandridge, expertly executed and coordinated with charm and precision (in spite of the bad weather) by Past Master Derek Harris. The annual Tobacco Trade Sponsored Charity Lunch then happened, by contrast, on the perfect summer's day and it wasn't just at Lords - it was in the Long Room at Lords! It doesn't get better than that, particularly with Henry Blofeld to entertain us. Many congratulations to Past Master Roger Merton for organising it all!

We were also fortunate that our year collided with the celebration of the 400th Anniversary of the foundation of the original Tobacco Company of Westminster in 1619. This culminated in late June with a Choral Evensong at the historic Temple Church, followed by a reception at Middle Temple Hall. The service, largely the brainchild of Past Master Mark Gower-Smith, was just perfect - I still have Parry's "I Was Glad" ringing in my ears! And the reception afterwards was a celebration of fellowship - the cigars, so kindly provided by Hunters & Frankau, were particularly appreciated. Overall, on top of a strong turn-out of our Members and their guests, we had some 80+ livery companies represented together with a strong contingent from the Corporation of London and Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley representing the Mayoralty. Professor Jonathan Phillips was our much applauded guest speaker, providing so eloquently the right historical context for everything.

This was a great way to meet many Livery Companies and gave us a good foundation for our year. Added to this Kate and I were already members of the ever-closer Apollo 19 Year Group established at Ironbridge, and of the 1920s Group formed to bring our vintage together. For Kate, the City Consorts proved to be a particularly friendly and active group.

All this has meant that we have had a very social year attending lunches, dinners, lectures, music events, charity events and City Functions. We have also made a number of really good friends!

First and foremost, we have thoroughly enjoyed representing our Company and attending its events. As you can imagine, the first committees and Court and the first dinner are all pretty intimidating but you soon settle down.

Luckily, we are particularly blessed with a strong and supportive team in our Livery - from my Wardens to so many Past Masters willing to lend a hand, a very approachable Court, a long suffering and experienced Clerk in Sandra, Alan our stalwart Clerk's Assistant, Mark our fabulous Beadle, David Parrott (the best Chaplain in the City) and Ian our Treasurer. May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your help and support - I couldn't have done it without you!

Our key events continued with a wonderful, relaxed and cigar smoke-filled open-air autumn dinner in September aboard the quarterdeck of HQS Wellington, the only floating Livery. Our host was my dear friend Captain Jim Barclay, Master Mariner.

We were then treated to our first venture into the hallowed grandeur of Mercers' Hall for the Annual Banquet. It's an impressive hall and we were looked after very well. Lord Hodgson of Astley Abbots was our superb guest speaker.

Our celebrations then included the Company's Carol Service at St Lawrence Jewry. This was well attended and there is nothing better than a full Church to raise the volume! The programme was again prepared by Past Master Mark Gower-Smith and the incredibly talented Choir provided by Sevenoaks School, with which we have a valued relationship. My special thanks also go to the Mistress, Fourth





Warden Elise Rasmussen and Carolyn Tuck for feeding us with such delicious nibbles.

The January Banquet followed at Drapers' Hall with a focus on charitable giving in general and our long-standing relationship with Sevenoaks School in particular. We were lucky to have Lord and Lady Sackville as our Principal Guests and the highly talented Emma Johnson (herself a former Sevenoaks School Pipemakers' Scholar) and the best clarinettist in the UK (I'm not biased or anything!) providing the musical entertainment.

At this point my remaining functions should have been our Election Court and Luncheon at Tallow Chandlers' Hall in March, my Master's Reception at All Hallows by the Tower in May and the handover to Adam Bennett as the new Master in June, with his Installation at Armourers' Hall. We all sadly know what has happened....the Coronavirus has so cruelly changed all our plans.

I can however tell you about some of what would have happened had they proceeded! For me the importance of Tallow Chandlers was twofold: we were going to celebrate the installation of the

beautiful new Oriel Window commissioned by Immediate Past Master Roger Brookes and secondly we were (very belatedly) to welcome many Past Consorts of the Company as highly deserving Honorary Freeman. It's only now that I can really recognise the huge contribution and commitment that is required of our Consorts. Our hope now is for both of these events to happen in the Autumn.

My Master's Reception was then to be held at All Hallows, the oldest Church in the City, kindly recommended to me by Past Master Charles Miller. It has foundations with both Saxon and Roman origins which you can tour, a church with a perfect area for an organ recital (as well as canapés and a glass or two of champagne) and an outside area for a cigar! Sadly, this was not to be.

In terms of highlights, I have to say that the Court's agreement to recognise the importance of consorts has been a milestone in my year. The other key development of which I am particularly proud is our new relationship with the Irish Guards Association. I truly believe that this will be an exciting and rewarding relationship in the best of causes, so neatly



sitting alongside our existing relationship with the London Irish Rifles of the London Regiment.

In terms of events organised by other companies I have to say the Livery Hall Walk arranged by the Environmental Cleaners was particularly good, as was the Sheep Drive by the Woolmen, the expert tour of the Houses of Parliament arranged by the Framework Knitters and the humbling Big Breakfast organised by the Hackney Carriage Drivers. I should also mention the exceptional Annual Dinner of the Yeoman Warders of HM Tower of London, to which I was so kindly invited by our Beadle.

Finally, I would like to thank Kate, the Mistress, for standing beside me in this special year - we have been incredibly busy and worked so well as a team. Kate will be writing separately about her year but I have to say that the event she organised at The Clink in HM Brixton Prison was just superb! My wife is amazing!

My thanks also to all of you for putting up with me for nearly (but not quite) a year!

It is an honour to represent this Worshipful Company and I thank its members for the opportunity.



Andrew Golding, Master



The Annual Banquet at Mercers' Hall







The January Dinner at Drapers' Hall







Appointments

Liveryman **Fran Morrison** has been elected to the Court as an Assistant and was installed on 18th September 2019.

Members Gowned with the Livery

Ms Susan Patricia Stocker <i>IT Manager</i>	18th September 2019
Professor Mallory Factor <i>Professor of International Politics</i>	22nd January 2020
Mr Jonathan Fell <i>Investment Manager</i>	22nd January 2020
Mr Pieter Vorster <i>Financial Analyst</i>	22nd January 2020

New Freeman

Ms Jeannie Cameron <i>Business Consultant</i>	18th September 2019
Mr Pieter Vorster <i>Financial Analyst</i>	18th September 2019
Professor Mallory Factor <i>Professor of International Politics</i>	22nd January 2020
Miss Katherine Woodley <i>Events Director</i>	22nd January 2020

Lost Brethren

Liveryman Enrico Bassi | 1938-2019

Known affectionately as Rico to his friends and Ico to his wife Doreen, a proud Welshman with Italian parents, Rico was a giant of a man. Rico was admitted to the Company as a Freeman in 1996 and Gowned in the Livery in 1999.

After completing his National Service (he achieved the rank of Captain in the army) he went to work in his parents' restaurant but decided he hated catering! He sought his fortune in London and joined The Gallaher Group working his way up to Head of Personnel. He was Chairman of London Welsh Rugby Youth, Chairman of the Board of Governors of St Vincent's School, Ealing and was a season ticket holder at QPR for 42 years.

His colleagues wrote of him: Rico's personality was as large as he was; he was a warm, empathetic, principled man who revelled in developing and mentoring young talent. The success of Gallaher Ltd in the 90's could be traced back to his recruitment and personnel development strategies, for which most of the senior management owe a debt of gratitude. He will be sadly missed, his was the voice of reason, common sense and fairness which gave the business its moral compass".

Liveryman Enrico Bassi passed away on 27th May 2019.

Liveryman Barrie Alton | 1942-2020

Barrie was admitted to the Company as a Freeman in 1984 and was Gowned in the Livery in 1990.

Brother of Past Master Anthony Alton, Barrie ran the family wholesale and retail tobacco business around the Nottingham area, whilst Anthony had charge of their cigar manufactory on Derby Road.

Barrie had until recently been living in Cornwall but he and his wife Anne moved to be near family. They were renting in Maidenhead whilst house hunting.

The end was sudden and unexpected: he started feeling unwell on Monday 10th February and after consulting his doctor was hospitalised where they found he had advanced acute myeloid leukaemia.

Liveryman Barrie Alton passed away on 14th February 2020.



Benevolent Fund - Uncertain Times Ahead

April heralds a new financial year for the Benevolent Fund. At our February meeting, the Trustees agreed the budget for the next financial year and we start the year knowing which charities we shall support, how much that support will cost and the size of the smallish reserve we have to support causes on an ad hoc basis. Similarly, the Welfare Fund submits its budget based on predictable factors such as donations and investment income. However, grants and support to claimants are less predictable but we know, in times of rising unemployment and pressure on state support, more claimants will need help.

Between signing off the budgets and the start of our new financial year, a rampant bull market was stopped in its tracks and, one by one, governments around the world put their economies into a state of suspended animation and imposed unprecedented peacetime restrictions on their citizens. What had been seen as a regional outbreak of a novel coronavirus affecting China, Hong Kong, and South Korea soon became a global pandemic. The suspended animation of economies would lead to atrophy and news flow would be dominated by the virus, stock market turmoil and public health initiatives. News reports deal with new coronavirus cases and deaths on a country by country basis but it is all too easy to forget that there are real people having to cope with the consequences of the pandemic through the loss of health, loved ones, employment and financial security. The virus is indiscriminate but the weakest (physically, financially and emotionally) are at greatest risk.

Usually, charities would step into support those at risk but social distancing prevents charity workers getting out to help those in need. Major fundraising events from the London Marathon to the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch have been cancelled. Even the biggest charities are facing falls in income of between 35% to 50% in 2020. Many charities now have an uncertain future. Chairman of the Benevolent Fund Trustees, Nigel Rich, suggested I should email each of the charities we support with reassurance that we have the cash available to meet our commitments in the new financial year.

A decision by the Trustees several years ago to maintain a cash buffer of approximately one year's charitable expenditure would ensure that we are not forced to sell assets at the wrong time to meet our obligations. My emails were gratefully received.

Although we have the cash reserves to meet our obligations this year, the Benevolent Fund is not immune from the volatility and uncertainty in the stock markets. Our investment portfolios are managed by Quilter Cheviot and are diversified geographically and by asset class. Between 31st January and 31st March 2020, the value of the investments fell by 16.5% and we anticipate investment income will fall short of the budget for the current year. Experience has taught us to sit tight even though the ride may be uncomfortable and history has taught us that markets will recover although uphill ride takes longer than the slide.

Looking back at the financial year just ended, it is too early to give financial highlights. However, I can disclose that the General Fund and Freeman Fund made grants of almost £140,000. This sum was lower than the prior year, which had additional funds available for distribution carried over 2018. Donations from members of the Company were higher due to new members, some members renewing their commitments, donations from the 400th Anniversary Celebrations and the proceeds of the sale of some of the Company's valuables. The Trustees are grateful to all who have generously supported the Benevolent Fund.

Following are two reports from excellent causes we support. The Children's Magical Taxi Tour is a perfect example of the charitable work of Livery Movement. Organised by the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers, this annual event brings so much precious joy to families with sick and terminally ill children. The Benevolent Fund has supported Barrow Farm Riding for the Disabled for many years, enabling people with special needs and disabilities to develop their abilities and enrich their lives through riding.

Supporting the Benevolent Fund

The easiest way to donate to the Benevolent Fund is by direct debit. Please email the Treasurer at treasurer@tobaccolivery.org to set up a direct debit or change your annual donation.

Alternatively, you can visit the Benevolent Fund's page on the Company's website and press the "Donate Now" button [Benevolent Fund page](#)

Finally, it is never too late to review one's estate and will. If you are contemplating such a review, please consider a legacy to "The Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Trade Benevolent Fund (Charity no.1135646)". Legacies to charities are free of Inheritance Tax.

Ralph Edmondson, Trustee

Barrow Farm

Barrow Farm continues to thrive in this its 44th year. We have 130 riders and 11 drivers at present every week, with 13 horses and ponies giving so much pleasure to our riders who range in age from 5 years old to in their 60s. Some of our riders have physical difficulties, like cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis; others (about ¾) have learning difficulties and many have difficulties on the autistic spectrum. Some of our riders have life limiting conditions. Barrow Farm gives them Fun, Fitness, Friendship and Fulfilment outside of what, for many of them, is a very challenging life.

Two of our ponies came to us from donations from the Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Trade Benevolent Fund and from donations given at the Memorial Service of John Adler, who was one of our Trustees for many years.

Lula is now 21 years old and although suffering a little from having 'old legs' with a bit of arthritis, is still a much loved and much used member of the team. Her preference is for driving and she is currently doing 4 drives each week. We have a new driving pony who has taken some of the load off Lula, but the two of them have fun going out together as well as working separately.

Lula remains very popular with our riders as she is so safe! She does do some lessons on lead, but her definite forte is for off lead work where her riders can learn independent riding and even independent trotting, giving them so much pleasure. She is really a super star having been providing fun at Barrow Farm for the last 9 years!

Interestingly Lula is great friends with Vella, and they go out in the field together, although it must be remembered that Lula is the boss! Vella has turned into a lovely riding pony with a super active walk, much enjoyed by her riders. (Her disabled driving career was not to be.) She is very popular with both riders and volunteers. Recently she went to her first outside show, learning how to behave with two of our able bodied riders and she was just like an old pro. She was ridden first by one of our young Saturday teenager volunteers and came a good 4th, but went on to higher things with one of our experienced coaches, Clare, with whom she won her class. We have high hopes that next year she will be able to compete with disabled riders at competitions regionally and even possibly nationally!

We remain indebted to the Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Trade Benevolent Fund for their most generous ongoing support to Barrow Farm. It really makes a big difference to the lives of so many disabled children and adults.





Rave

The Children's Magical Taxi Tour

Report from the Disneyland Organising Committee

The Children's Magical Taxi Tour started on Friday 13th September 2019 from the East Wintergarden, Canary Wharf.

We are pleased to report that there were 420 participants and a convoy of 120 vehicles. Once again, we were escorted by units from City of London Police and the Gendarmerie Nationale who joined us at Canary Wharf. We were also assisted by the London Ambulance Service Trust and the AA.

Each year we reach a milestone and we have now taken over 5000 children on a trip of a lifetime. Some of our drivers who have participated in the trip for the past twenty-six years have given over one hundred days of their time. We are pleased that 80% of the drivers are Liverymen or Freeman of the Company. Many Companies would be delighted to get an attendance of this size for an event of this nature.

We welcome the support of the Livery and were pleased to see so many sponsors also attended the breakfast giving them an opportunity to see the children in their sponsored taxis.

In a year of economic uncertainty, we were worried about the take up of sponsorship of the taxis and the target of £160,000 that it costs to fund the trip. In addition, market forces are against us with low interest

on our investments making our task even harder. I am pleased to announce that we exceeded our target.

Each year we try to tweak and improve on what has gone before while staying within the confines of Disneyland, the constraints of Health & Safety issues and the general health of the children involved.

The trip was very successful with no breakdown of vehicles or major medical emergencies. The children, whatever their medical conditions, had a weekend to remember and were full of smiles. From the time they arrived at Disneyland until they came off the ferry at the end of the trip they were treated to many surprises.

The feedback we have received from the hospitals has confirmed that the trip certainly has brought lots of enjoyment to the children and made them feel very special.

The next trip was due to take place on 2nd October 2020 but after lengthy discussions, the Disneyland Organising Committee felt that the trip should be cancelled. The decision was not taken lightly but due to the current situation surrounding Coronavirus, it is impossible to make any plans. We look forward to organising the event in 2021.

The Disneyland Organising Committee



Company Shield at Tallow Chandlers' Hall

This story begins with dinner on a cold winter's night in January 2019 at The George & Vulture; revered City hostelry off Lombard Street. A favourite haunt of Charles Dickens, the place was mentioned more than twenty times in *The Pickwick Papers* and has since become the spiritual home of The City Pickwick Club. On the night in question, I was honoured to be the guest of Past Master Charles Miller, a member of the Club, at one of its meetings where dinner was served in Pickwickian style with large helpings of fun and bonhomie. The Club members were most welcoming to all of the guests.

During dinner, Charles and I found ourselves sitting with two Club members that were both Past Masters of the Tallow Chandlers' Company including David Simmonds, an old school friend of our Past Master Roger Merton. We all got to chat about our links and connections including those of the respective

Companies. The Tallow Chandlers played host to many of our Company's meetings and events in the early years following re-formation in 1954. Things went so well that, by the end of the meal, David Simmonds enquired of us whether the Tobacco Pipe Makers might consider installing a glazed panel bearing our Company's heraldic shield in the oriel window at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. The oriel window is a singular feature in the main Hall that includes many panels with the shields of those Livery Companies with whom the Tallow Chandlers are or have been associated. The answer to the question was a hearty 'Yes!'.

In the weeks and months that followed, we worked with the Tallow Chandlers to agree the basis on which to proceed, the outcome being presented at the Election Court along with costings. With the Court's approval, the project sprang to life with the commission of the panel with vitreous artist, Mel



Howse. It was our good fortune that Mel's work on a huge installation at Durham Cathedral was drawing to its end so she had the time to design and manufacture our panel before another large project was due to begin. The Tallow Chandlers also put us in touch with specialist sign-writer, Philip Surey, to commission him for a gilt inscription to appear besides the oriel window.

Conforming to the designs of the other Livery Companies' panels, the design of our panel consists of the Company's shield which depicts a tobacco plant in flower set on a swirling pattern background suggestive of smoke. Centrally positioned, the shield itself is set in a background of unfurling scrolls and a banner at the foot which bears the name 'Tobacco Pipe Makers'. The design and reference to the Company capture all three of the Tobacco Pipe Makers' Livery Companies which share the same shield motif. The full name of the third Company is written in the gilt inscription acknowledging our role in the installation of the panel.

By September 2019, the panel had been manufactured and was ready for delivery. It was presented at the Autumn Court on board HQS Wellington where Court Members could view the finished product first hand before its installation to the oriel window at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. The Master took the opportunity to call for a vote of thanks to those involved in the project and in particular to Assistant Christopher Sawyer and his wife Jane who funded the project as a gift to the Company. An act of generosity greatly appreciated. Words of blessing were administered by the Honorary Chaplain, Canon David Parrott.

The panel was installed on 19th September 2019 providing the Tobacco Pipe Makers with an exceptional, permanent symbol of our existence in one of the City's oldest and most charming Livery Halls. For us, the panel is also a symbol of fellowship and generosity not just within the Company but also between Livery Companies. We thank the Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Tallow Chandlers for the kindness that they have shown.

Roger Brookes, Immediate Past Master



THE IRISH GUARDS AND THE IRISH GUARDS ASSOCIATION

On Friday 17th January 2020, The Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders confirmed their new affiliation with the Irish Guards Association.

The Irish Guards regiment was formed on 1st April 1900 by order of HM Queen Victoria to commemorate the Irishmen who fought in the Second Boer War for the British Empire.

They are known affectionately throughout the British Army as 'The Micks'.

The Irish Guards are part of the Guards Division which comprises the Coldstream, Grenadier, Scots, Irish and Welsh Guards along with the two Mounted Regiments the Life Guards and the Blues and Royals. The Irish Guards are the only Guards Regiment to have a Mascot – an Irish Wolfhound.

The administrative headquarters for the Regiment is Wellington Barracks, London. The Irish Guards

Regimental Band are also based here.

The 1st Battalion is Stationed (or Based) in Cavalry Barracks, Hounslow but they are due to move to Mons Barracks Aldershot in late 2020.

Colonel – in Chief – HM The Queen

Colonel of the Regiment – HRH Prince William, Duke of Cambridge

Regimental Lieutenant Colonel – General Sir Mark Carlton-Smith

Regimental Adjutant – Major (Retd) Niall Hall

The Irish Guards role is mechanized Infantry and all five Guards Regiments have the honour of guarding HM the Queen on a rotational basis.

The 1st Battalion are at present deployed to Iraq and South Sudan and will return to the UK in late Summer 2020.





THE IRISH GUARDS ASSOCIATION

The Irish Guards Old Comrades Association was formed after the First World War to enable friends to keep in touch with one another and to help members of the Regiment to find suitable employment. The provision of welfare assistance soon began, particularly wounded Old Comrades. Now named The Irish Guards Association and fulfilling a similar role, the Association has five Branches, London (by far the biggest), West Midlands, North of England, Ulster and the Republic of Ireland.

The Governing bodies of the Association are the Regimental Council and The Association Headquarters Committee.

Management of each branch is carried out by: A Chairman and Deputy Chairman – to be ex IG Serving Officers. A Committee consisting of Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Welfare Officer and other members at each Chairman's discretion.

Each branch carries out various social events each year and come together for St Patrick's Day and the Annual March to the Guards Memorial.





St Patrick's Day 2020

In January 2020, the Tobacco Pipe Makers confirmed its affiliation with the Irish Guards Association and to build on that relationship we were invited to attend the Regiment's St Patrick's Day celebrations on Sunday 15th March at Wellington Barracks.

The Master, Senior Warden and family, Clerk and a hardy band of Liverymen and families took their seats ready for the march on parade. The parade was formed of the Regimental Band of the Irish Guards, serving members of the Irish Guards, members of the Irish Guards Association, including our own Clerk's Assistant, Alan Beggs who is the Honorary Secretary of the Irish Guards Association (London branch) and the London Irish Rifles together with members of their Association.

As most of the Irish Guards are serving in Iraq or South Sudan, the parade was abbreviated in numbers but not in spirit. For the first time the London Irish Rifles of the London Regiment, the reserve battalion of the Irish Guards, to whom the Tobacco Pipe Makers also has an affiliation, took part adding an extra dimension to the ceremony.

The Parade was called to attention in front of the barracks and as the late Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge have done many times, General Sir Mark Carleton-Smith, Chief of the General Staff and Regimental Lieutenant Colonel of the Irish Guards took the salute and his wife, Lady Carleton-Smith presented the members of the Irish

Guards, Irish Guards Association, London Irish Rifles and all guests with the traditional Shamrock sprigs to be worn in cap bands or lapels.

It was a stirring sight watching the Parade once again come to attention and follow the Band to the Guards Memorial at Horse Guards Parade to lay wreaths in memory of those Irish Guardsmen who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

On what was probably the last outing for many before lockdown, we then enjoyed a visit to the Irish Guards Library, lunch and an excellent afternoon listening to traditional and modern Irish music in the Sergeants Mess. We were joined by members of the London Irish Rifles including Major Bob Brown who retired as Officer Commanding on 17th March and members of the Irish Guards Association. With probably the best pint of Guinness this side of the Irish Sea available at less than £3 a pint the afternoon was particularly memorable.....

Tony Scanlan, Court Assistant







The Lord Mayor's Show

The Lord Mayor's Show, held on 9th November 2019, was a parade of fun, formality, colour, noise and character. The Master had the honour of walking with the Senior and Renter Wardens. They particularly enjoyed the Senior Warden's secret supply of sloe gin as they smoked their churchwarden clay pipes on the HQS Wellington. And the added bonus was that they even managed to stay pretty dry!







A Visit to The Clink

Last June, in Ironbridge, at our first ever event as Master and Mistress, I was lucky enough to sit next to a delightful, twinkly-eyed Welshman called Geoff Hughes. Geoff was the Immediate Past Master of the Livery Company of Wales and a Liveryman of The Haberdashers' Company. I mentioned to him that I was pondering about organising a Mistress event with something related to the prison service. His eyes lit up - I was talking to the right man! Prisons – few (if any) people in the UK know more about prisons than Geoff! He had spent 27 years working in over 100 prisons in England and Wales and is a former governor of HMP Belmarsh (the highest security prison in the UK), Cardiff Prison and Drake Hall Women's Prison. He assured me he would be delighted to give a talk to a group of Mistresses and Consorts.

I couldn't believe my luck. With my speaker settled I then needed to organise a venue. I'd heard about The Clink Restaurant at HMP Brixton. The meals are all cooked and served by prisoners working towards their City and Guilds NVQs in Food and Beverage Service, Professional Cookery and Food Hygiene. Having spoken to the people there and seen their lovely afternoon tea menu, I decided this was the right place.

On a freezing February morning this year, around 30 friends from our Livery company and 40 Mistresses and Consorts from other Livery Companies joined Andrew and me at The Clink Restaurant in Brixton for my Mistress Event.

The security was what you would expect on entering a high security establishment and no, we couldn't



take our phones in! The restaurant itself was well appointed, comfortable and professionally run in stark contrast to the high walls and barbed wire which surrounded us as we walked across the courtyard. We then set up the screen and projector (which the Master Mariner had kindly lent us) – no mean feat for two people as technologically challenged as Andrew and myself!

The staff, all inmates, were absolutely delightful, engaging and willing to talk about their difficult stories. So many of them seemed to have chosen one wrong path that inextricably led to poor decisions resulting in their prison terms. All were in the last year or so of their sentences and were keen to pursue a training that would get them a job “on the outside”. Many had ended up in prison as a result of their inability to engage rationally and calmly in confrontational situations. So, learning how to deal with demanding lunch or dinner guests in a pleasant and controlled manner is vitally important to their success, once they leave prison and a hugely useful life skill.

The afternoon tea with a delicious array of sandwiches, scones and cakes were all made on site by prisoners training to be chefs and were totally scrumptious. A novel tea-based cocktail was presented to everyone on arrival and a constant flow of tea was available all afternoon. I was also lucky enough to have a quick tour of the kitchens which were most impressive and spotlessly clean.

I felt incredibly blessed to have met Geoff at Ironbridge. He retired in 2008 and now travels extensively around the world as a consultant for prison reform. He presented a fascinating talk about Women in Prisons with facts and figures, funny stories and personal reminiscences. My favourite was a story he told about a group of women on gardening duty at Drake Hall. He saw them in gales of laughter planting out spring bulbs on the bank outside the prison. Having flowered a few months later the sunny yellow daffodils spelt out the word B*****KS!

This has been the most amazing year for me – I have met so many wonderful women who will be friends for life. Our past Mistresses have also been incredibly supportive and kind. I wish Sam and Adam all the best for what I hope will be a memorable and happy year for them. A huge thank you to our Clerk, Sandra too. Her organisation and support throughout the year and in particular her enormous help with planning this Mistress event has been much appreciated - I couldn't have done it without her! Andrew hasn't done a bad job either.

Bye for now, stay safe, stay at home and hopefully see you all in the Autumn.

Kate Golding, Mistress



The Inter-Livery Pancake Races 2020

The Worshipful Company of Poulterers once again orchestrated the City's Inter-Livery Pancake Races on Shrove Tuesday – an annual event which first started in 2004. This year's event comprised of thirty Livery Company teams of four - a Master, a Liveryman, a Lady and a Novelty Entrant. These contestants are pitched against their fellows from the other Companies in a series of heats in which they run much of the length of Guildhall Yard tossing pancakes whilst clad in gowns, aprons, gloves and chef's hats. The times of the contestants are recorded and the top five in each category win a place in a final.

For the Tobacco Pipe Makers this year, the team comprised The Master, Mistress, Third Warden Paul Taberer and William Rasmussen (our Novelty entrant) with the Clerk as Team Leader. William made an outstanding effort in his selection of





dresswear depicting no other than the legendary John Bull!

All profits from the day went to The Lord Mayor's Appeal and The Poulterers' Pelican Trust which they hope will be in the region of £4,000.

The event employs the skills of a variety of other liveryes. Clockmakers time it, Gunmakers fire the starting pistol, Glovers provide the white gloves worn by the competitors and the Fruiterers provide lemons.

Weather conditions were good, dry and somewhat chilly and a large crowd of well-wishers gathered to watch the spectacle which went on for 90 minutes officiated by Judges, Starters, Marshalls and Stewards! We were joined by the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs and the Chief Commoner.

How did we do?

Well we thought respectably and if some of us had not dropped the pancake during the toss we would have done a lot better! We hope to have secured our place for next year (save the date - 16 February 2021).

William won his heat with an outstanding run but alas that was where our winning streak ended for The Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders.

The results of the Novelty Dress:

1st	The Clockmakers
2nd	The Fruiterers
3rd	The Water Conservators
Special mention	The Air Pilots

And individually:

Masters Qualifying Race: Communicators
Masters Race: The Fruiterers
Liveryman Race: Marketors
Ladies Race: Fuellers
Novelty Race: Insurers
Fancy Dress Costume: Clockmakers
Victor Ludorum: Fuellers

Paul Taberer, Third Warden





Halls and Taverns: the historic meeting places of The Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers

Since the Company's revival in the 1950s, our Court meetings and dinners have taken place in the beautiful and historic surroundings of various City Livery Halls. However, in previous centuries our peripatetic forebears met in more down-to-earth surroundings – the inns, taverns and alehouses tucked away in the myriad ancient alleys and side streets that made up the City of London before the Blitz.

August 1807 saw a Special Court taking place in the Castle Tavern, Cateaton Street to decide what to do about a new manufactory being set up by pipe-makers who were not Company Freeman. Cateaton Street (or Catte Street) no longer exists, but if you stand on Gresham Street just outside St Lawrence Jewry you can imagine its original route. In 1845, Gresham Street was created by widening and amalgamating Cateaton Street, Maiden Lane, St. Anne's Lane and Lad Lane. Cateaton Street was that part of Gresham Street which now extends east from Ironmonger Lane, past St. Lawrence Jewry, to Milk Street. Its name is retained in the Cateaton Meeting Room, for hire at 85 Gresham Street. As to the Castle Tavern, next time you visit St Lawrence Jewry, pause for a moment on the west corner of King Street where it meets Gresham Street and look up. Mounted on the wall you'll see a stone sign for the Castle Tavern.

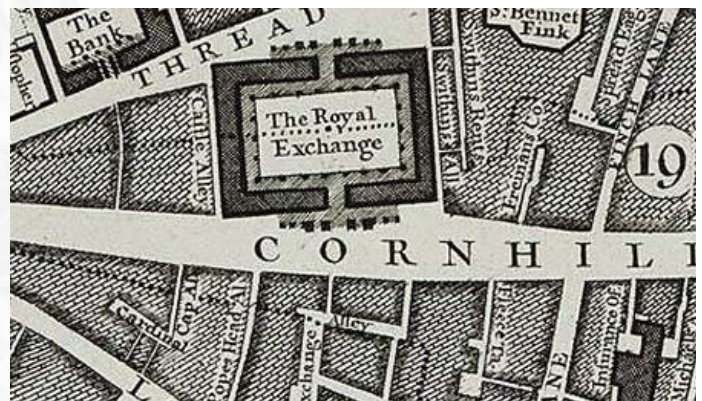


Such signs, made in stone or wood, were a common sight in the City until early Victorian times. Many are now stored in the Museum of London and put out occasionally during a temporary display. This sign is

certainly not far from its original location, a reminder of London past and past meetings of our Livery Company.

2 October 1809 saw the Company meeting at the Edinburgh Tavern, Sweeting's Alley, Cornhill, discussing an "unnecessary and improper conspiracy" amongst Master Pipe Makers to increase prices by 25 per cent, risking damage to the trade of many licensed victuallers in the City.

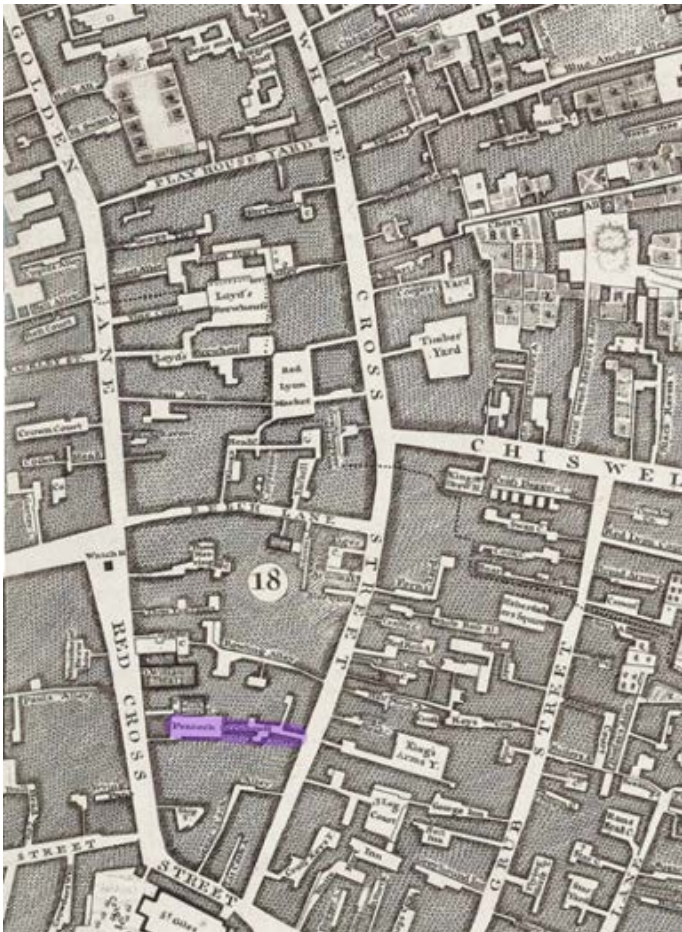
Swithin's or Sweeting's Alley / Sweeting's Rents was situated at the east end of the Royal Exchange. In 1760, an Edinburgh Coffee House is recorded in Sweeting's Alley. This probably became the Edinburgh Tavern, which was still in existence at 1 Sweeting's Rents in 1832 but had disappeared by 1840, swept away with the rest of Sweeting's Alley to make way for the new Royal Exchange Buildings which opened in 1844. The site is now covered by the paved area of Exchange Buildings leading to Threadneedle Street.



On 19 January 1819, the Company met at the Peacock Tavern at 34 Lower Whitecross Street, Cripplegate to agree the price of pipes following a wage rise for Journeymen. At that time, Whitecross Street ran from Old Street in the north to Cripplegate in the south. The Peacock brewhouse dated from at least 1550 and the Peacock tavern (the brewery tap) had been called a "House of Humming Stingo" by Ned Ward in his famous London pub guide of 1718. It moved to 12 Whitecross Street during the latter part of the 19th century but was destroyed during the Blitz when



the Cripplegate area was badly damaged. When the Barbican Estate was reconstructed after the war, that part of Whitecross Street was swallowed up by new construction and the short section between Silk Street and Chiswell Street/Beech Street became part of Silk Street. The only section remaining is that part which runs north from Milk Street, including the famous Whitecross Street market.



While we are fortunate today to meet and dine in rather grander surroundings than taverns in side alleys, our Smoking Club continues the Tobacco Pipe Makers' tradition of gathering together several times a year in some of the less formal but no less interesting places around the endlessly fascinating City of London!

Jacqueline Burrows,
Honorary Archivist

In 1864, a newspaper article about the history of the company (then 78th on the list) noted that "they formerly transacted their business at Curriers' Hall, but now they meet at the Guildhall". Between 1485 and 1921 the Curriers' Company occupied six different halls. This article probably referred to a hall dating from 1820 which stood in [Blue] Boar's Head Alley on the south side of London Wall. In 1921 the Curriers sold their hall and moved in with the Cordwainers, but the Blitz destroyed the Cordwainers' Hall in 1941. Since 1942 the Curriers have been housed at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. A memorial plaque to the various Curriers' Halls can be seen today in St Alphege Garden, just off Wood Street, EC1.



Membership Committee Report

New members are the lifeblood of any organisation, and it is particularly true of Livery Companies, many of whom are no longer able to rely on a healthy stream of new recruits from within the industries to which the Companies relate. Whilst we remain very fortunate that businesses involved in pipe-making, tobacco and their associated trades provide us with many new members each year, it is important that we continue to cast our net as wide as possible.

The Membership Committee was established several years ago with just that brief – to identify a pipeline [apologies!] of potential new members, and to inculcate in them a sense of who are, and why joining the Company is something that they really should be doing. One way that we have been doing this is through our quarterly Smoking Club evenings. These evenings are an opportunity for existing members to gather and connect with friends old and new in a relaxed, social environment, but are also an opportunity for potential new members to be introduced to the Company, and its Members, in a less formal setting than one of our dinners or banquets would present.

The Pipe Makers Company is well known in the Livery Movement as a Company that is fun, welcoming and sociable, and our Smoking Club evenings are just that. In the past year, we have held events at venues as diverse as The Savage Club, The Rosewood Hotel, JJ Fox St James's and Le Coq d'Argent. The evening at JJ Fox in particular was a great evening, and we were grateful to Robert Fox for his hospitality, and for sharing with us some personal reminiscences on his family's involvement in the reformation of our Company in 1954.

In addition, in October last year, the Membership Committee organised a hugely informative and stimulating trip to British American Tobacco's (BAT) Research and Development facility in Southampton, courtesy of Dr David O'Reilly, BAT's Director of Scientific Research. We were due to hold our March 2020 Smoking Club event at the Caledonian Club, but unfortunately COVID-19 put paid to that. We will reconvene once this current hiatus is over, and I would encourage all Members – particularly any who have

not been to one of our evenings before – to come along and enjoy an evening of fine company and fine cigars. All the better, if you can bring along someone who might be interested in joining us!

Jerry Merton
Renter Warden
Chair, Membership Committee





Women in Tobacco

Background to Women in Tobacco

This document answers some of the questions we often get about WIT. This should help anyone considering becoming involved with the organisation. If you want to know more after reading the following information, please contact witforwomen@gmail.com.

What is WIT?

Women in Tobacco (WIT) is a registered, trade-marked international membership organisation for women working in the tobacco and vaping industry. Founded in 2010, it now has over 450 members from more than 24 countries (Zimbabwe, USA, Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, UK, France, Switzerland, Denmark, Brazil, Australia, Cuba, Russia, South Africa, Turkey, Greece, Spain, Italy, Sri Lanka, Bulgaria, Colombia, China, Sweden and Finland). The purpose of WIT is business and social networking and mentoring.

What does WIT do?

WIT is the framework for women in the tobacco and vaping industry to network. We host between 4 and 8 events per year, each event attended by around 30 – 80 members. WIT's events calendar creates opportunities for sharing best practice, discussing issues relevant to our industry, creating and improving links with suppliers/ customers, and mentoring.

How can I get involved?

Joining is simple! Anyone working within the tobacco industry can connect with Women in Tobacco through witforwomen@gmail.com & our LinkedIn group (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3904174>). We recommend forecasting an annual planned budget for about four trips to London, with travel and accommodation costs appropriate to your usual company standards for business travel. We also have a number of people offering free overnight accommodation, to cut costs for those attending on their own account.

What should I expect at a WIT event?

Newcomers to WIT will appreciate the warm welcome they receive from fellow members at our events, which are usually hosted by tobacco and vaping businesses in central London venues with refreshments provided. Each event typically has a guest speaker and a networking element, providing you with a chance to develop contacts throughout the organisation. WIT events are themed; either around issues specific to our industry such as the EU Tobacco Products Directive, illicit trade or harm reduction, or with a more general theme such as gender diversity, mentoring and sponsorship.

What are the business benefits from WIT?

The WIT network is a great platform for developing your contacts within the industry, improving your understanding of tobacco and vaping issues, and personal development through our speakers and mentors.

How do you Join?

It is free to join the Women in Tobacco mailing list, but we have an annual membership fee of £25, which entitles you to priority booking at all our events and helps to cover our running costs - details about payment of these are below.

Our meetings are all free (unless otherwise stated) although we usually have a collection for the charity of choice of the speaker or the sponsor on the night.

To try and keep costs low for our members, we have a number of members in the London area that can offer free accommodation for the night of the meeting for members from out of town.



Please note that there is also a direct Link to our private LinkedIn group:

Please follow the link below to join our private WIT LinkedIn group if you are not already a member
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3904174>

To enable us to verify that you have paid your annual membership fee, please let us know at witforwomen@gmail.com when you have made a payment into our account and if possible please use your name as a payment reference, so we know it is from you.



To pay directly into the WIT UK account:

Name of account: Women in Tobacco
Name of bank: National Westminster Bank
Sort Code: 54 30 11
Account Number: 35237031
IBAN: GB71NWBK54301135237031
Swift Code: NWBKGB2L

For payments from outside the UK, which are cheaper and easier with PAYPAL please use:

<https://paypal.me/lusiamcanna>

Because of the inherent costs associated with PayPal, can you please select "pay a friend" to absorb the Paypal fees.

Our First Virtual Event

The Covid-19 situation may have paralysed life as we know it, but we Tobacco Pipe Makers are a tenacious lot and, thanks to the wonders of technology and the enterprise of newish Liveryman Roger Southam, an inaugural 'Smoking Social' was held on Thursday 9th April via Zoom.

Starting at 7pm and lasting approximately 50 minutes, some fourteen Liverymen and Freemen met over the ether, half smoking pipes or cigars and wearing, naturally, the Livery smoking cap. Included were four Past Masters (Merton, Tranter, Miller and Edmondson), the Third Warden, Paul Taberer and the Fourth Warden, Elise Rasmussen (accompanied by her son Freeman William) who was one of three ladies with Liveryman Martine Petetin and our Clerk (who's also a Liveryman), Sandra, there to maintain order from her command bunker in Sutton.

High sartorial standards were maintained from South Devon by Liveryman Christopher Lally (called 'Vivienne' on the screen for some reason!) sporting a striped blazer, our cap and bow tie and smoking a fine calabash; Liveryman Archie Smith looked like he had the most senior cigar on the go in Hertfordshire and looked very at home with his claret and we were able to glimpse never-before-seen interiors of various domiciles and gardens. The joy of this sort of internet forum means that members can, time zones allowing,

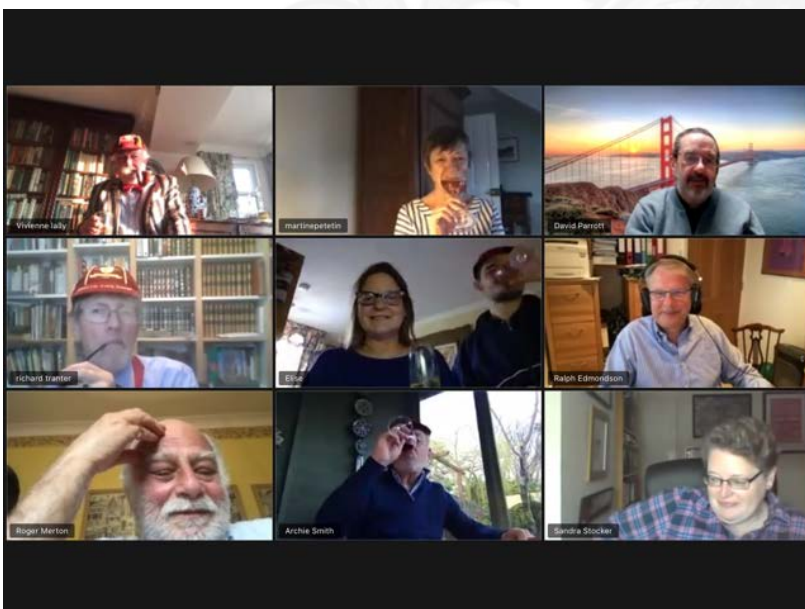
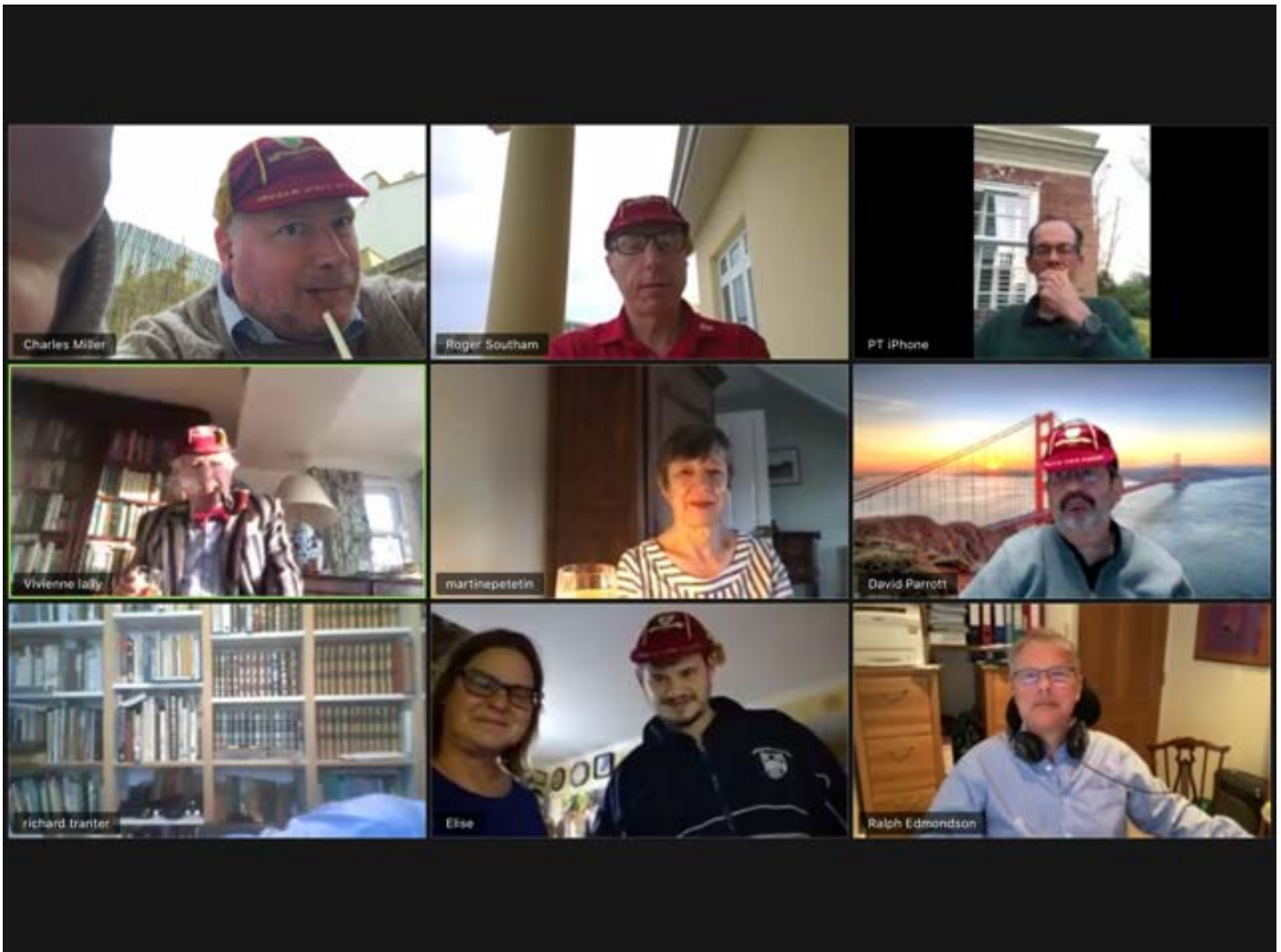
join us from anywhere in the world and indeed, organiser Roger (to whom a vote of thanks) joined us from the Cayman Islands whilst the Chaplain tried to convince us he was in San Francisco - but none of us were taken in, sorry David!

I joined a minute or two past 7pm by when Past Master Tranter had already held a ten point meeting and was on to something else.. a paper is being prepared for the Court which, the way things are going may also be via Zoom. Past Master Merton impressed upon us that he had not been idle at home and had spent his time growing a fine set of whiskers, ironically Past Master Edmondson had just shed his -- perhaps Buckinghamshire is more clement than Herts? Third Warden Paul Taberer joined us from some fine Palladian pile which we assumed was his weekend cottage until a waiter popped in with a tray bearing his refill! (or was it his butler?) The banter was pleasant and the rounds cheap, and it was very good to see so many old (in the metaphorical sense) faces as the lock-down came just as we were about to enjoy a little flurry of events, including our Election Court and Lunch. The time passed in a pleasant haze with and if someone talked too long, the mute button was always available! I hope this will become a regular event whilst we're in loco parentis and perhaps even beyond - we're going to have to face up to a Brave New



World for a while I fear and this is a good step in the right direction – join us for the next one, the Clerk will circulate details.

Charles Miller
Past Master





The Pipe Makers' Easter Challenge 2020

This year we initiated the Pipe Makers' Easter Collective Nouns Challenge and invited our Liverymen and Freemen (as well as a number of friends across the City) to provide their suggestions across a number of Livery characters. The response has been excellent and our thanks to all those who participated. I suspect that the bottle of English fizz (for a St George's Day deadline) as a prize might have helped!

In any event the Pipe Makers were joined by Turners, Firefighters, Framework Knitters, Broderers, Marketors, Educators, Master Mariners, Chartered Accountants and even the Phoenix Past Masters year group! Well done to everyone!

Some responses were of course unprintable and some a little borderline. In the latter category I felt that a Manure of Chaplains (apparently at their best when spread thinly!), a Chamberpot or an Antonym of Court Assistants and a Piddle of Beadles were a little unfair. A Dalmatian of Masters (because there are at least 101 of them) however was very witty. Then again, some suggestions were far too clever, I had to rush to my dictionary for clarification on a Mumuration of Liverymen (a flock of warblers!), a Dapifer (rather than a Quarter Pounder) of Beadles and a Swanimote of Sheriffs, all of which are particularly impressive suggestions!

And thanks too to those of you who stepped beyond the listed categories to provide your own. I particularly like the idea of a Pouch of Pipe Makers, a Hasbeen or a Pasture of Past Masters (given the imminent end to my year I sense this already!) and a Bouquet of Mistresses.

And now the moment for which you have been waiting! With the help of the Mistress and the Clerk (who 'chose blind') we have worthy winners and runners-up in each category as follows:

1. A Tottering of Masters/Prime Wardens/Upper Bailiffs. Congratulations to Ian and Julia Grundy of the Framework Knitters and to the runner-up Andrew Neill of the Turners for Magisterium.
2. An Obligation of Wardens. Congratulations to our own Court Assistant Fran Morrison and to the runner-up Christopher Scott of the Turners for Abutment.
3. A Scribble of Clerks. Congratulations to Past Master Ralph Edmondson and to the runner-up Past Master Richard Tranter for Conspiracy!
4. A Trial of Court Assistants. Congratulations to David Pearson of the Marketors and to the runner-up our Chaplain David Parrott for Antonym.
5. A Muster of Liverymen and Freemen. Congratulations to Past Master Michael Walter and to the runner-up Alan Beggs (our valiant Clerk's Assistant) for Family.
6. A Purse of Treasurers. Congratulations to our Beadle Mark Anderson and to the runner-up Third Warden Paul Taberer for Magpie.
7. A Bumble of Beadles! Congratulations to Alan Beggs who moved up to first place on this and to the runner-up Roy Palmer of Phoenix for Bamboozlement.
8. A Blessing of Chaplains. Congratulations to Past Master Charles Miller and to the runner-up Liveryman Peter Rawlinson for Cross.
9. A Brace of Sheriffs. Congratulations to Jim and Elizabeth Barclay of the Master Mariners and to the runner-up (again) Andrew Neill of the Turners for Clink.
10. A Chain Gang of Lord Mayors. Congratulations to Frances Blois of the Firefighters and to the runner-up Past Master Ralph Edmondson for Dick-Whit.

Many congratulations to the winners and to all those who so kindly participated, we say a big thank you.

Andrew Golding
Master



Company cap, ties and cufflinks

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

The new Company Cap at £50.00.

The earlier batches were 'snapped up' but another 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 polyester tie embroidered with the Tobacco leaf plant at £21.00. (Proceeds from the sale of this tie will go to the Benevolent Fund.)

Company Bow Tie

Self tied navy silk bow tie at £21.00.

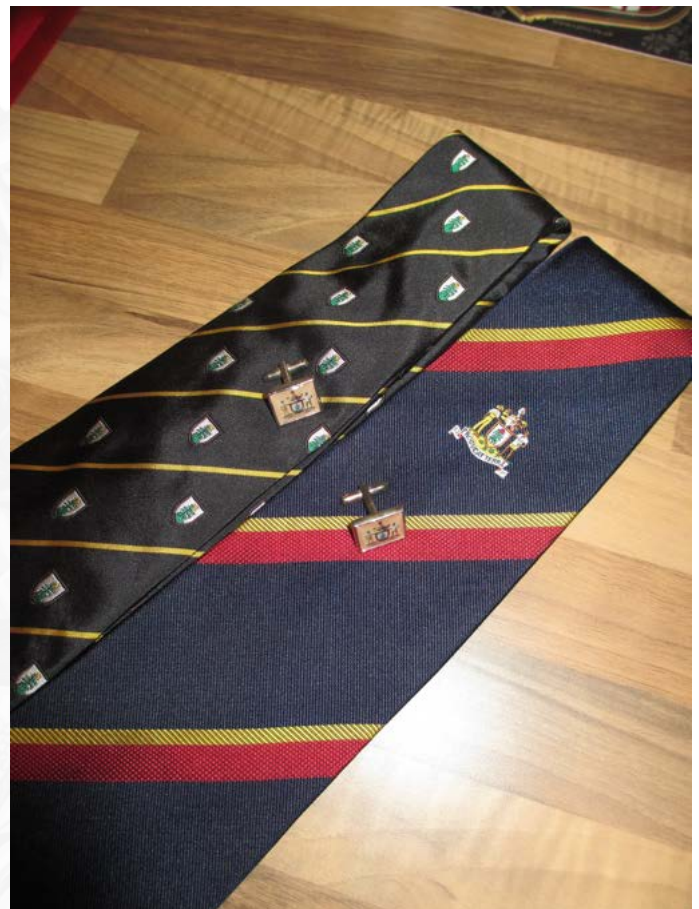
Cufflinks

Cufflinks that depict The Company Coat of Arms at £5.00.

All prices are inclusive of postage and packing. To purchase any item, please contact the Clerk at clerk@tobaccolivery.org



New Company Cap



Company ties and cufflinks



Company Bow Tie



Diary of Forthcoming Events

Wednesday 3rd June 2020

Installation Court and Lunch at Armourers' Hall
(The Court meeting will be held virtually. The Lunch is cancelled.)

Thursday 17th September 2020

Autumn Court and Dinner (Court only) on HQS Wellington

Thursday 15th October 2020

Annual Banquet at the HAC (The Honourable Artillery Company)

Tuesday 8th December 2020

Carol Service at St Lawrence Jewry

Thursday 21st January 2021

January Court and Dinner at Drapers' Hall

Thursday 25th March 2021

Election Court and Luncheon (Court only) at Cutlers' Hall

Friday 19th March 2021

United Guilds Service at St Paul's Cathedral



