



The Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders

ISSUE 20 SPRING 2012

LIVERY NEWSLETTER AND GAZETTE

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The Master's Voice

The great day had arrived. To the strains of Handel's Arrival of the Queen of Sheba our first ever Lady Master Fiona Adler led in her Wardens and principal guests to luncheon after her Installation at Skinners Hall on 9th June 2011.

As the 58th Master of our Livery she is the granddaughter of our Founder Alan Adler, and her father, uncle, and brother are all current members.

From the start it was clear that with her principal guest Marilyn Mornington, a lady judge, the proposer Carole Hughes-Mack a Lady Liveryman, plus a lady harpist

to serenade us during lunch, we had not elected a shrinking violet.

On being advised in 1987 that the Livery had agreed to admit her as its first lady Freeman, the date for her admission coincided with the last day of her finals, so she persuaded the Chancellor to allow her to sit her exam a day early.

She worked for the first 10 years of her career in South Africa as a structural engineer before returning to manage the family pipe manufacturing business (A Oppenheimer & Co Ltd) which she helped to diversify and expand before retiring in 2007.

Enter the Mistress! In the course of her diversification she met and subsequently married David Moss, an entrepreneur who founded the hugely successful Valvestock company. He is quite relaxed about his unorthodox temporary title and tells us that there are no less than SIX husbands with similar identity crises among the current City Liveries.

Fiona is deeply involved with the charitable work of the Livery, and is a Trustee of the Benevolent Fund. In her own right she qualified as a therapist to help Hampshire children overcome bullying problems.





Appointments

Canon **David Parrott** has been appointed the Company's Honorary Chaplain.

Assistant **Chris Allen** has joined the General Purposes Committee.

Liverymen **Alan Porter** and **Andrew Golding** have been elected to the Court as Assistants.

New members

Liverymen

Adrian Marshall 27th Jan 2011

John Stevens 27th Jan 2011

Neil Withington 27th Jan 2011

Adam Cleave 9th June 2011

Adam Bennett 19th Sept 2011

Philip Scourfield 19th Sept 2011

Freemen

James Bigwood 27th Jan 2011

Dominic Brisby 9th June 2011

Graeme Munro 19th Sept 2011

Phil Colman 19th Sept 2011

The Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Trade Benevolent Fund

The accounts for the period ending 31st March 2011 show eight months for the Livery and twelve months for the TTBA, making comparison with previous years less meaningful.

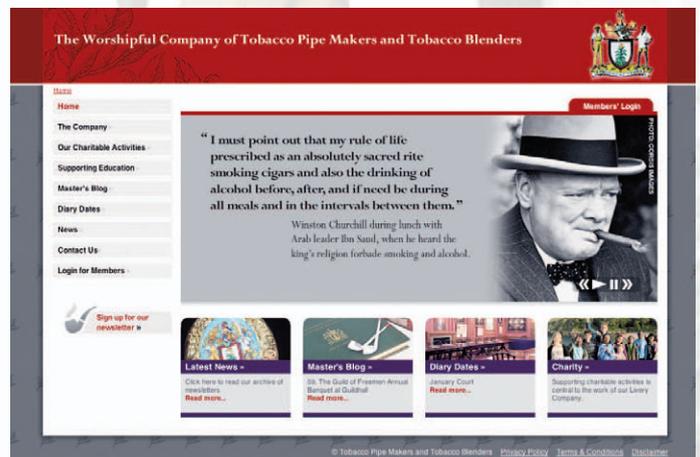
The General Fund shows charitable giving of £63,852 in eight months whilst the Welfare Fund disbursed £215,917 in welfare over the twelve months. The combined assets of the two funds stood at just over £5million at 31st March 2011.

Our finances

The accounts for the year ended 25th March 2011 showed that the company had a small surplus of £2,221 (2010-£11,781) and our investments rose in line with most indices to stand at a value of £1,010,357 (2010-£953,928).

The welcome number of new members saw quarterage rise by £6,000 to £34,385 but a number of exceptional expenses due to the merger of our Benevolent Fund with the TTBA and the changeover in Clerks meant that our surplus was reduced. In the current year we expect a modest recovery.

The New Website www.tobaccolivery.org



If you think there is a touch of "d ej a vu" about this newsletter then you will probably have been keeping in touch through the newly refreshed website which was launched in November. The Master's blog, and those of her predecessors, are all available to view and give rather more detail and pictures than we can show in our 12 pages.

There is a useful new "Members Only" area accessible only to those members of the Livery whose email addresses are recorded with the Clerk. You will also need a password.



The new Website (cont'd)

For this you enter your email address as "Username" and click on the "Forgotten Password" section. Almost immediately a password will be sent to your email inbox.

Sadly it seems we will have to await the day when we can book and pay for functions and other items online, but that is still the plan.

Our Company was one of the earliest to have its own website, which was built and managed for us by Assistant Nick Alton. Over the last decade the internet environment has evolved so much that the Court agreed the time was right to have a revamp.

Designed by Alison Oakley, the pages are clean and sit on a subdued background with an embedded tobacco leaf motif. Information can easily be found by clicking the headings on a simple navigation bar or by clicking feature boxes.

We hope that you enjoy exploring the new website. We have done our best to reflect our Company, its life and character. The site will evolve with our Company so please use it and feel free to make suggestions about features or ideas that may enhance its value by contacting the Clerk or the Membership Committee.

We are grateful to British American Tobacco, Imperial Tobacco and Japan Tobacco International for the financial support that has made the development, launch and future management of our new website possible.

Lost brethren



George who died aged 90 on 20th October.

Past Master George Challis CBE

As the Dean of Guildford said at the funeral service George was the epitome of a Christian gentleman.

He will best be remembered in four specific areas of City life.

After a notable war service with the Gurkha brigade in North Africa and Italy, George returned to Lloyds Bank where he enjoyed an illustrious career, much of it spent in senior positions in the Head office in Lombard St.

In 1978 with the Bank's encouragement he sought successfully election as Common Councilman for Langbourn Ward in the City Corporation. He represented the Ward which encompasses Lombard and Fenchurch Streets for 22 years until his retirement in 2000. During that time he sat on many committees, notably Health and Markets, before in 1991 being elected as

The Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders

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The Court
The Court is the governing body of the Livery Company. It comprises the Master, four Wardens, the Officers of the Company and up to twelve Assistants. The Master and Wardens are appointed annually at an Election Court and installed at an Installation Court held each June. Past Masters play a significant role in the life of the Livery Company, supporting the Court and attending its meetings.

Left to right: Fiona Adler, Michael Pridoux, John Innes, Ronald Kirk, Mark Gower-Smith

Fiona Adler, Master - Appointed Master in June 2011 having joined the Livery Company in 1987 and served on the Court since 2000. Fiona is a Trustee of the Livery Company's Benevolent Fund and Chairman of the General Purposes Committee.

Michael Pridoux, Senior Warden - Appointed June 2011 having joined the Livery Company in 2004 and served on the Court since 2005. Michael serves on the General Purposes Committee.

John Innes, Bester Warden - Appointed June 2011 having joined the Livery Company in 1989 and served on the Court since 2009. John serves on the General Purposes Committee.

Ronald Kirk, Third Warden - Appointed June 2011 having joined the Livery Company in 1989 and served on the Court since 2002. Ronald serves on the General Purposes Committee.

Mark Gower-Smith, Fourth Warden - Appointed June 2011 having joined the Livery Company in 1999 and served on the Court since 2007. Mark serves on the General Purposes Committee.

Left to right: Lieutenant Colonel Peter Skirrow, Simon Oke, Canon David Platt, Nick Hastings-Fox

Latest News
Click here to read our archive of newsletters.
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Master's Blog
80: The Worshipful Company of Pastores, Clerks for Masters and Clerks
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Charity
Supporting charitable activities is central to the work of our Livery Companies.
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Chief Commoner (procedural leader of the City Corporation) in which he served uniquely for two terms, as a result of his successor's untimely death in office. He was appointed CBE for services to the City of London.

His civic responsibilities led him towards Livery and in 1978 he was admitted to our company. He served on the Court from 1981 until his death and was a highly efficient Master in 1992.

This in turn led him to the appointment as Clerk to the Chartered Secretaries and Administrators where he served from 1984 to 1994. In this role he often kept our Court on the straight and narrow when occasionally maverick Masters challenged the Ordinances – courteously and professionally of course!

In all these spheres of activity he was lovingly supported by his wife Margaret and their family. George will be sorely missed in his varied walks of City life, but will long be remembered by all for his unstinting contributions over his many years of service.

Dudley Robert Mott

News has reached us from Australia that Dudley Mott has died. The Archives are silent about his date of birth but we presume he must have been in his late eighties. He joined the Livery in 1968.

As Managing Director of the Ogden Branch of Imperial Tobacco in Liverpool he was a well known character in the tobacco world. His hobby was keeping pigs, which he named after his colleagues in the boardroom!

Retiring to South Australia to farm sheep and cattle (lots of them) he wrote a cheerful letter in 2002 which gives some measure of the man. The following is a typical (and topical) extract. "We return home from time to time to make sure England is still there. I still think we ought to have stayed with the old Empire and made our future with Canada, Australia and the rest. Trade with Europe would still have continued and the problem with the Euro would never have appeared. PM Heath should be doing time for treason!"



Paul Neate

Paul died in hospital on 21st February 2011 aged only 72. His last few years were plagued by diabetes and illnesses.

Well known in the tobacco trade and member of the Livery since 1993 he retired in 1996 as Production Director of Carreras Rothmans in Aylesbury. Prior to that he had worked with BAT in Nairobi, Philip Morris in Holland and then Rothmans in Basildon. His first wife Maureen, who bore him four children, died in 1992, but in 1994 he married Janice with whom he had worked in Rothmans.

His early years were spent on the Norfolk Broads where his ashes were scattered. Being one of the last intakes for National Service he completed officer training and was seconded to the Ghana Regiment in Accra and fell in love with Africa. We extend our sympathy to his family and his widow Janice, who is of course well known to the Court, which he joined in 1998. He was also a Liveryman of Makers of Playing Cards.

Honours

Apart from Wally Kahn's OBE which is reported below, Liveryman **Ken Rich** has received a belated note of thanks from HM Government and been added to the Bletchley Park Roll of Honour for his service in the RAF cypher branch based in Brisbane and Moratu (Dutch East Indies) in the last phases of the war against the Japanese.

Now aged 86 he admits to being rather surprised at the news since he left the RAF in 1947 and spent a career as a wholesale tobacconist in North London. He well remembers being sent to Oxford on a course to learn the arts of cryptology since he was one of only four men among 24 WAAF's. He also remembers his pay as 8/- a day as a Sergeant.





Wally Kahn MBE



In the Queen's 2011 Birthday Honours List our senior Past Master was awarded the MBE for "services to gliding."

Added to his AE (the RAF equivalent to a TD) this makes him the Grand Old Man of Gliding and the editor leapt at the chance to go down and visit him at his home near Lasham airfield.



Those of us in the Livery know him first as the dynamic and entertaining boss of cigar importers Joseph Samuel, whose lively rivalry with Hunters & Frankau was a feature of the 80s and 90s.

Now in his eighties and living with his daughter he is unable to attend any Livery functions but remains a great raconteur, and bon viveur. Who for instance has a lift that takes him from his wine cellar to his bedroom? Not for him the humble Stannah!

Having left university to join the RAF in 1944 he was too late for pilot training and while stationed in France was posted to a Bomb Disposal Squadron until the end of the war.

Until December 1947 when he was demobilised he was editor of the 2 Group RAF Germany newspaper. From 1945 he helped start and nurture the RAF Germany Gliding clubs and thus began his love of the sport.

In 1948 he joined the RAF Volunteer Reserve and gained his civilian flying licence in 1946 and has flown gliders and aeroplanes ever since.

On 4th October he and his daughter Christine went to Windsor Castle to collect his medal from the Princess Royal. She asked Wally whether he knew Aston Down, the ex RAF station just near Gatcombe. "Yes, your Royal Highness I was stationed there in 1944" She asked whether I had flown over her house. "Yes, Ma'am, many times".

The visit ended with a celebration lunch at the Michelin starred Royal Oak near Bray.



Not to be outdone, this is the Master "wingwalking."



Our new Honorary Chaplain and spiritual home, St Lawrence Jewry



The serenity is palpable as **Canon David Parrott** prepares to suck on the pipe presented to him by our Master. This is our new Honorary Chaplain photographed outside his church, St Lawrence Jewry in Guildhall Yard.

We are very lucky to have him since he has no less than 9 other Livery Companies to whom he provides spiritual succour, but in truth he regards all Livery Companies as his parish.

He was appointed to what he himself describes as a “unique and strange job” of Guild Vicar two years ago, after a distinguished career in the church of England as parish priest, and as an educator of clergy.

He is an expert on church law and has published a book on the subject as well as being Educational Adviser to the Ecclesiastical Law Society and a tutor for the College of Preachers.

He lives with his wife Sue “above the shop” in a flat tucked into the bell tower of St Lawrence and as he says he is “there for the Livery”.

A very approachable and personable character whom we will get to know better down the years. His Wren church is one of the gems of the city and we were privileged to hold our **Carol**

Service there on 6th December. This was held as before with the Worshipful Company of Bowyers, who this year fielded the greater part of the congregation. The service featured the excellent singing of the Sennocke Consort from Sevenoaks school under their conductor Christopher Dyer, accompanied lustily by the resident organist Catherine Ennis.



The Sennocke consort at St Lawrence Jewry.

In his address our new Chaplain provided a very realistic impersonation of American comedian Bob Newhart in his famous telephone conversation sketch with Sir Walter Raleigh who had called to announce his discovery of tobacco. Whilst on a more serious note he reminded us that Christmas was about Jesus Christ and not X or Winterval.

Sad as it is to have ended our connection with St Botolph’s Aldgate there is no doubt that we now have the finest venue and a worthy pipe smoking successor to our previous incumbent.



Lord Mayor David Wootton at last year’s service as guest of the Master Bowyer.



The Master writes about her chosen Charity:

The Children's Magical Taxi Tour

Each year since 1993 the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers have organised the most incredible three day trip to Disneyland Paris for over 200 children suffering from a range of chronic debilitating illnesses and life limiting conditions.

It is not just for the children - it also gives sorely-tested siblings and parents a three-day break, during which they don't have to think about anything except enjoying themselves.

This amazing convoy stretches up to three miles long and is made up of over 100 taxis, police command vehicles, motor bike outriders including the Gendarmerie, ambulances and AA breakdown trucks.

Every working participant is a volunteer and this event is only possible with the help of sponsors who generously give toward the expenses of

hotel, fuel, food, admission charges etc. The taxi drivers give freely of their time and use of their vehicles.

Our Livery sponsored a taxi and the Mistress David and I were thrilled to be invited to the Big Breakfast send off; the start of the adventure. Whilst the taxis were collecting children from their homes, specialist units and hospitals we were on a tube train travelling to Canary Wharf where we met seven year old Rafe Louis. Rafe had had a wonderful experience on the Children's Magical Taxi Tour and wanted to make sure other children also had the chance to enjoy the trip as much as he had.

Rafe had raised over £7,000 for this year's Tour – amazing. When we asked what the best bit was for Rafe he answered “The police waving us through red lights was great, but watching the French Gendarmerie and British Police doing wheelies on their motor bikes was incredible”.

As the Mistress and I entered the East Wintergarden in Canary Wharf over 500 people were enjoying a free cooked breakfast. In the gallery the military band played Disney tunes and huge balloons of Disney characters adorned the room.

The smiles that filled this huge space were incredible and you could feel the joy and expectation mounting. The Lord Mayor Alderman Michael Bear and his Sheriffs arrived, trombonists serenaded each table and then the call went out to ‘board your cab’!

The cab that we had sponsored driven by the charismatic Mike had a Union Jack roof and proudly bore our Coat of Arms on the door. We met Henry who is fighting a brain tumour and his lovely Mum, Janet and we quickly found a place for our mascot to ride in the taxi with Henry. The smile on Henry's face says more about this fantastic event than any words I can write.





Piper-Lou: A new horse for Barrow Farm

Riding for the Disabled

Barrow Farm RDA has been fortunate over the last few years to have had money left to them in wills. They try not to eat in to the capital of the legacies so they run a major appeal every five years, so that they can be a charity that is self sustaining.

Past Master John Adler, who is a Trustee, explained that Barrow Farm always seems to run at a deficit, however this year it is worse than usual since charitable donations are way down due to the current financial climate.

Expenses have increased enormously, particularly for feed and straw bedding. Hard hats for the riders, and horseshoes have also escalated dramatically in price. The latest accounts show they have done some long overdue maintenance, but above all they are now paying trained staff more than a pittance.

They work very hard at raising funds but their biggest need has been for another horse. The Blue Peter horse, Jet that was previously financed by the Livery is now very old and nearing retirement. They thought they had found a cheap pony for £3000 but it failed its vets test. They needed £8000 for a new horse, as several of the other horses were getting old and ill.

Barrow Farm tries to encourage people to 'give' them their horses to use in return for free stabling etc. but as is understandable, it takes a very special horse to be compatible with disabled adult riders, many of whom are raised on to the horse by a bulky hoist.



The Benevolent Fund is delighted to announce that from your donations Barrow Farm has found a suitable horse and in honour of our Livery she is called Piper-Lou. Technically she is a pony as she is an inch short of being a horse.

Piper-Lou is very good natured and already loved by her riders. She is also being trained for

carriage driving as well which means that she can be suitable for more disabled riders.

When the photograph above was taken John Adler had just met up with one of the disabled riders who had a ride booked. He had brought along a prize apple for his horse Molly, and his father looked on in admiration at the boy's excitement. His father said that Wednesday was his son's highlight of the week. This is what makes the RDA so worthwhile.

Barrow Farm is very grateful to the Livery for all its support. It is lovely for them to see that they are being recognised for their

hard work, and they have just heard that they have been given tickets for the Para Olympics for the Riding to Music Event.

They will have 38 tickets, including three with wheelchair access and three helpers which will be a wonderful bonus for this splendid charity.





The Lord Mayor's Show 2011

The Master describes our participation

Once again we took part in this celebration to welcome the 684th Lord Mayor of London, Alderman **David Wootton**. We were again walking alongside the Modern Livery Companies float, number 75, in the world's oldest civic procession where over 6,000 participants take part in a three mile display of fun, music and pageantry.

Our Company is now becoming renowned for dressing up as characters connected with a tobacco theme. In the past as a Warden I have dressed as The Old Queen (Elizabeth I) after the Master of that year, **Nigel Rich**, declined the role, preferring the costume of the gallant Sir Walter Raleigh. With my Chief, **Julian Keevil** in his year as Master I dressed as 'Running Bear' – a Native American Indian complete with peace pipe.

This year I chose the theme of 'famous smokers'.

The Senior Warden, **Michael Prideaux** was indistinguishable from Sherlock Holmes. Voices in the crowd regularly shouted "elementary dear fellow" and he would rush forward, cape flapping, calabash pipe wafting smoke, and raise his magnifying glass and ask "do you have a crime you need solving?" So thorough was his preparation that as a dedicated cigar smoker he even took a pipe smoking lesson from Past Master **Roger Merton** to complete his makeover.

The Renter Warden, **John Nokes**, was instantly recognisable as Winston Churchill – siren suit, Homburg, gas mask and puffing a cigar. The most junior warden gets to carry the placard all day so as John strode along the three mile route he regularly gave the V for victory – which delighted scores of adults and children as they acknowledged our distinguished smoker.

My character was not an easy choice, when you think of a famous female smoker who comes to mind? Marlene Dietrich is not easily recognisable, nor is Carmen from the tobacco factory, so a move into cartoon characters was required. I transformed into Popeye....tattooed muscles, a corncob pipe from my brother, Michael, and a can of spinach. The crowd kept asking" Where's Olive?!"

The Senior Warden took his role very seriously knew that after a morning of serious detection we would be in need of refreshment, so as we walked past El Vino's the barman rushed out with three glasses of chilled Chablis that he had previously ordered. What style!

From the start of the show we had been the envy of the other Companies who wanted to dress up, now they were ready to join our Livery! The pace of the procession was much faster as we neared the half way mark and champagne was served aboard HQShip Wellington courtesy of the Master Mariners.





Cont'd from Page 9

As the show started its return route in the afternoon we three smokers stood proudly with our banner in front of BAT headquarters and waited for our float to arrive. Although our feet ached I resisted the urge to ride pillion on the Master Firefighter's Harley Davidson – Popeye sure needed that spinach to get her strength back!



Livery sponsors London Regiment's Help for Heroes marathon cycle ride

On 21st May a team of amateur cyclists from The London Regiment, sponsored by the Livery attempted to cycle from John O'Groats to Land's End in just five days in order to raise money for Help for Heroes and The London Regiment Welfare and Benevolent Fund.

Just in case you didn't know that means nearly 200 miles per day for 5 days.

Nutrition was a critical part of the equation. Each rider would be burning up to 10,000 calories a day - the equivalent of 10 Christmas Dinners - much of which would have to be eaten in the saddle, a huge challenge all of its own.

However, despite all the planning and the hours of training in preparation Lady Luck was not to favour the team. The leader fractured his arm the day before the start, another had a family emergency which forced him to scratch on the first afternoon, and then atrocious weather with 70mph headwinds on day two, with a gust blowing one member clean off the road and into a hedge south of Dumfries.

As dispiriting as it was to accept defeat, to have continued would have only ended in serious injury or worse.

They returned to London determined to have another crack at the challenge. However Reservists all juggle complicated diaries, forever trying to maintain the balance between work and family, let alone an operational deployment to Afghanistan. John O'Groats to Lands End is "unfinished business".

With a different team and with different rules perhaps, one day our lads will be able to call themselves "End to Enders".



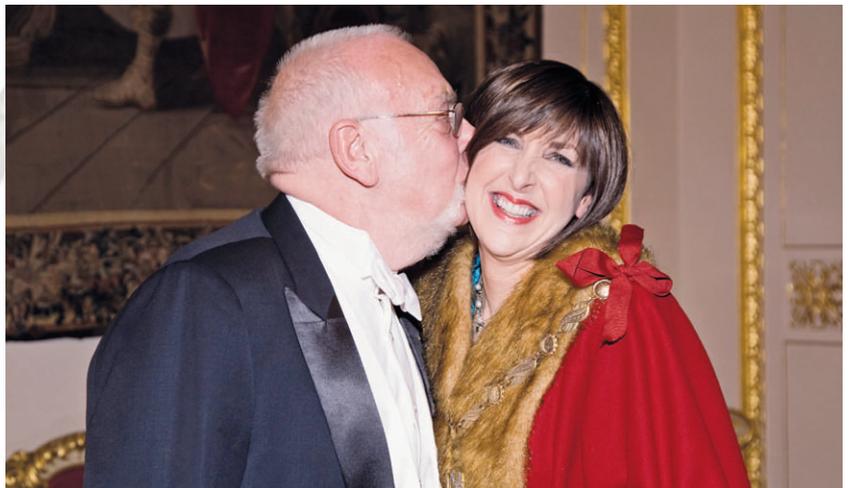
The team of 10 men and one girl before the drive North.



The Annual Banquet at Goldsmiths' Hall 20th October 2011



The pictures from Gerald Sharp Photography tell the story. The Master with her principal guest Rosie Stancer, polar explorer, and being kissed by the Mistress.





Diary of Forthcoming Events

Thursday 16th Feb 2012

Tacitus lecture at Guildhall. Is 'Occupy' Right? Speaker Mr Terry Smith. 5.30pm. Liverymen only. Apply to Clerk for ticket.

Wednesday 21st March 2012

Election Court (11am) and ladies luncheon (12.30pm) at Drapers' Hall. Court only.

Friday 23rd March 2012

United Guilds service at St Paul's Cathedral (10.45am). Apply to Clerk for ticket. Followed by informal lunch.

April/May 2012. t.b.a

Evening Shoot and reception at London Regiment, Battersea.

April/May 2012 t.b.a

The Master's Evening Reception.

Wednesday 2nd May 2012

7pm GSM&D Gold medal competition for instrumentalists at the Barbican. Apply to Clerk for ticket.

Thursday 14th June 2012

Installation Court and dinner at Tallow Chandlers Hall.

Monday 25th June 2012

Common Hall. Election of Sheriffs at Guildhall. 11.30 am Liverymen apply to Clerk for pass.

Wednesday 27th June 2012

Livery golf day at Tandridge.

August 2012 t.b.a

Pipemakers Trophy cricket final at Arundel.

Monday 10th September 2012

Autumn Court and Dinner at Glaziers' Hall. Court members only.

Monday 1st October 2012

Common Hall Election of Lord Mayor at Guildhall. 11.30am. Liverymen apply to Clerk for pass.

Monday 5th November 2012

Annual Ladies Banquet at the Mansion House.

Saturday 10th November 2012

Lord Mayor's Show.

Monday 10th December 2012

Livery Carol Service in St Lawrence Jewry.

Thursday 24th January 2013

January Court and Livery Dinner at Painters' Hall.

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Available from the Clerk

Cufflinks: £15 Shield: £25 Livery tie: £20