

The Newsletter of



*The Worshipful
Company of Upholders*

Upbraid

Issue 21 2017- 2018

CELEBRATING MASTER'S YEAR 2017-18

P4-6 Welcome to our new Liverymen & Freemen

P11-12 Explore London with the History Society

P13-14 Lincoln Cathedral Heritage Skills Festival

In April this year, I was both honoured and delighted to be installed as the Upholders' Company's 634th Master - and only the second lady Master in its long and ancient history!

My Installation Dinner at Saddlers' Hall was superbly attended and I was very touched by this wonderful show of support. My sincere thanks to all those present and to everyone who sent me cards filled with such lovely wishes for my year.

Although I was only clothed as a Liveryman 13 years ago, as a City-born child my involvement with the Civic City began 18 years previously. Over the years, I thought I had made a large number of contacts, many whom have gone on to become enduring friendships, but this number has nearly doubled since taking up my role as Master! At the core of the many responsibilities is a full time 'ambassadorial' commitment. I have been invited to an average of six functions per week since taking office and one of my main aims is to continue to raise the Company's profile, both within and beyond the Civic City. If this pace continues then I may even exceed the famous 'Jim Kelly record' in the year when he was Master! One of the many challenges of so many events is of course an increasing waistline, a challenge my husband Simon also recognises given his average of two 'Mistress and Consort' functions per week, a commitment which he has been embracing with great enthusiasm!



The Master and Simon with Immediate Past Master Tony Lofts and Anne



My predecessor, Immediate Past Master Tony Lofts, continues to provide sage advice and guidance whenever is required. As I said in my Installation speech, Tony had more than his fair share of delicate matters to deal with during his year as Master and I am committed to continuing his excellent work in moving the Company further forwards.

Promoting the organisations I have headed and developing relationships are topics that have always been extremely important to me. I approach these goals with openness and good humour and endeavour to ensure that everyone feels welcome at my functions, whether members or guests.

Upholding our Livery—Installation of the new Master for 2017-2018

During my year in office I am particularly looking forward to getting to know as many members as possible.

The Company exists for its members and there are many ways to get involved in its wide range of activities, including the important area of Committee membership. If you have ideas on how we can make the Company better then please do get in contact, your suggestions are valued and together we have a rich pool of experience to draw on.



Our dedicated Membership Committee team were out in force to support the Master at the Installation Dinner.

L-R are Basil with Mrs Lisa Preuveneers, Martin Pickard pictured with the Beadle and Sebastian Hurst with Miss Rosie Poole.

There have already been many highlights in my year, including the Masters' Weekend in Ironbridge, the Lincoln Cathedral Heritage Skills Festival, the Buckingham Palace Garden Party, launching rescue boat 'Upholder' for the Chelmsford Sea Cadets and even a Star Wars' themed banquet with the Worshipful Company of Information Technologists! My own functions continue to be very well supported, including a capacity crowd of 50 people at my Summer Outing, which was a visit to the Royal Hospital Chelsea on a very hot and sunny afternoon!

The Mansion House Banquet on 26th October will undoubtedly be another highlight for me. Although I have been fortunate to have dined there on a large number of occasions, the excitement of sitting at the centre of the Top Table is quite overwhelming. To ensure we are able to retain this booking in years to come we do need to secure strong attendance. I hope that you will be able to support this special event for the Company, as well as the others during my year. Please do use your



See Mansion House Master's report p22

'Upholding' powers of persuasion to recruit as many attendees as you are able! Looking ahead, I would like to wish our Company and its members a successful and happy remainder of 2017. I have three functions in 2018 before handing over the reins to a new Master, our current Senior Warden Tim Solway. There are some very exciting times ahead for the Company under Tim's leadership, including a possible holiday, so hold on to your hats!

Before signing off, I must take the opportunity to recognise our hardworking Clerk, Susan Nevard, who does so much for our Company. Working with Susan has undoubtedly been another highlight of my year and she has ensured that being Master always runs as smoothly as possible.

Judy Tayler-Smith, Master Upholder

The Saddlers' Company is one of several Liveries who own a Funeral Pall The cloth dates from about 1508, measures 9' x 4/7" and was used until the early part of the 20th Century to cover the coffin of a brother or sister of that Company. Made of Spanish brocaded velvet with English embroidery in gold and silver thread, the fabric is too delicate to handle and so the Pall is now kept in a glass case and protected from disturbance and light. In 2013 the Trustees of another Company, the Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, commissioned a Funeral Pall following the generous bequest of Past Master Sylvia Tutt. It will be made available to the family of any deceased Liveryman to use at the funeral of the deceased.

S Nevard, from www.saddlersco.co.uk and Integrity, the Annual Review of the WCCSA



Installation Dinner at Saddlers' Hall, 26 April 2017



Top L: PM Hugh Taylor with daughter Lindsey Taylor. Court Assistant Stephen and Mrs Terrie Tanner and Liz Thornborough, Liveryman

Top R: Master & Consort with Walter Balmford MBE & Toastmaster Roy Theobald

Middle L: with Liveryman David Ayres, Master, Cripplegate Ward Club

Middle R: with Richard Regan OBE, Deputy, Prime Warden Blacksmith & Livery Committee Chairman

Bottom pictures: IPM and Consort, AMUSF Manager Richard Ranklin & Mrs Christine Fry enjoying the Loving Cup Ceremony



Upholding our Livery ~ New Liverymen 2016-2018

Michael Tang



Michael is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. He also has an MBA from Cass Business School. Michael

is a Risk Manager at Deutsche Bank, based in London. In a varied career, he has worked in the accountancy profession at PwC, in oil exploration at Imperial Continental Gas Association, a company formed by an Act of Parliament in 1824, and most recently in financial services at Lehman Brothers and Deutsche Bank.

Michael was introduced to the Upholders by Judy Tayler-Smith and is delighted and honoured to have been clothed as a Liveryman in September 2016. Having lived, studied and worked in the City for over 20 years, Michael has joined the Upholders to participate more fully in the Civic City and to contribute to the success of the Upholders' Company. He is also a member of the Farringdon and the Broad Street Ward Clubs.

Michael's wider interests include the opera, travelling, playing golf and voluntary work at a local school.

Caroline Lofts

Caroline studied in graphic design,



graduating from Bucks New University in 2011 having first done a year in furniture design. She then did further studies at Shillington College

London, a studio-based graphic design course run by practising designers, graduating in 2014.

Currently working at Apple in Covent Garden and freelancing in graphic design and photography. Previously worked at Local Dialogue as a junior designer on their current campaigns for ongoing developments in the UK and at Solways Printers in print management where she gained knowledge on processes such as foil blocking, embossing, thermography and duplexing. Passionate about craft,

photography, design and dance. In her free time she makes cross stitch coasters and enjoys a weekly salsa dance class.

She is a Young Freeman of the City of London via patrimony through her mother Anne and got involved with the Livery through her father Tony after visiting several events with him as his guest.

Christine M Booth



Both Christine's father and grandfather ran a craft upholstery business and so upholstery was central to her family life. She recalls many happy

hours helping - or hindering(!) - in the family workshop.

After reading Biochemistry at Leeds and then Oxford for a doctorate, she followed a career of university teaching and headed up a biomedical research group. Weekends and evenings were spent helping David her husband with the inevitable admin tasks of running his Timber Merchant's business.

As a Fellow of Keble College and the Higher Education Academy, she now works part time teaching undergraduates, sits on the University Admissions Panel for Biological Sciences and on the Finance Committee.

Amongst other voluntary roles, she has chaired the OU Society Oxon Group, arranging lectures, dinners and cultural visits and currently leads an inclusive community choir. Hobbies include every kind of sewing, gardening, singing and independent travel. She is well grounded in City life, was consort to her father-in-law whilst Master Pavior, actively supports David as Almoner and senior Court member and is a regular contributor to their company magazine.

Christine feels very much at home in the Upholders' Company and is privileged to support its many objectives and ancient traditions.

Andrew Sinclair



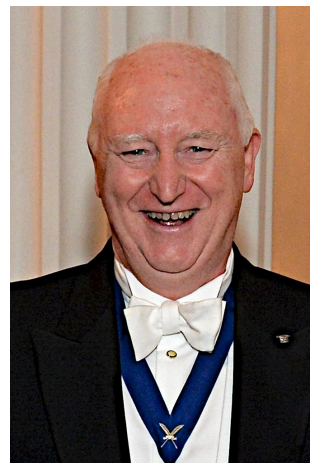
Andrew's initial contact with the City came at age 11 when he visited his first Livery Hall and became enamoured with the history and purpose of the Liveries.

After studying Classical Archaeology and Ancient History at university, Andrew went on to pursue a career in HR, specialising in recruitment, working in the West End and the City for various asset management firms. He now heads global recruitment for a commodities trading, shipping and capital markets business based in London Bridge.

Andrew is a member of Coleman Street Ward Club and the Guild of Young Freeman. When not working, Andrew enjoys clay pigeon shooting, exploring National Trust properties, boring his partner about watches and learning to ride a horse.

Steven Tamcken BSc FCMI

Sponsored by Judy Tayler-Smith and Michael Gilham, Steven was clothed in the Livery in January 2018. Since September 2014 Steven has been Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Firefighters, so lives a very busy City life, his other role being as deputy Ward Beadle to the Guildable Manor of Southwark. Steven is attracted to the Upholders to be with like-minded people who enjoy both the formal and friendly side of the City. He definitely demonstrates a friendly and welcoming face to all and is keen to support the charitable work of the Company.



Upholding our Livery ~ New Liverymen

Martin Pickard

Martin is a Director of Denton Drapes, the couture soft furnishing business currently celebrating its 20th year, and he is the Chairman of the AMUSF Board of Directors, having been appointed in January 2016.

Martin also runs a facilities management consultancy called FM Guru following a long career in the FM sector and he is a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers who have a connection with that trade.

Martin is married to Liveryman Penny Bruce FAMU and they live in Bedfordshire with their daughter Scarlett who is studying to be an actress.

Penny and Martin share a passion for the traditions and heritage of the soft furnishing craft and of the City, but also work hard to promote and develop the future of the trade through their voluntary work with the AMUSF and their own activities with Denton Drapes.

Peter Haworth



A Lancastrian by birth and proud of it. Married to Elaine for over 40 years.

Father of three daughters, Elizabeth, Georgina and Rachel and three beautiful granddaughters.

I lived and worked in Lancashire for many years as a partner in an old established firm of solicitors before becoming a part time judge and a tribunal Chairman.

Appointed a full time judge in 2006 I work at the Royal Courts of Justice as a High Court Master and Cost Judge dealing with high value civil cases which keeps me occupied for most of the time. The mid life career change meant a move to London although we still retain a home in the North of England.

When not working I take to the water in the summer and sail the yacht of which I am part owner, usually on the Solent although we do venture further afield occasionally. Somewhat unusually we are also the owners of a hot air balloon which I pilot and which takes Elaine and I to some pretty unusual places, both in the UK and Europe.

A member of Lime Street Ward Club for several years, I was attracted to the Livery by its customs and traditions as well as wanting to know more about the City.

Geoffrey Savage

I have lived in London for most of my life, in Clapham, the City, Limehouse and now back in the City again at the Barbican with



my wife, Lesley. After university I joined the Civil Service and was an Inspector of Taxes before moving to the private sector, first with Courage and then as Tax Director with Whitbread until retiring. Now free from the tyranny of having to keep up with the constant revisions and innovations in tax law, I have time for other interests: preparing for my year as Master of Cripplegate Ward Club (in which role I will be following fellow Upholders Judy Tayler-Smith and David Ayres), trying to improve my time to finish the crossword, improving my rudimentary cooking skills and enjoying lunch. In regard to the last, I must thank Tim Solway and Stephen Tanner not only for standing as my sponsors but also for several very congenial lunches.

Suki pictured with her Mother Mrs Alison Harris, Uncle Christopher Hayman & cousin Richard Nevard

Suki Thompson

Is an entrepreneur and transformational business leader. Business launches include Bunker Gin, The Haystack Group and award-winning marketing management consultancy, Oystercatchers. Centaur Media acquired Oystercatchers in September 2016 and as member of The Centaur Management Board, Suki is now responsible for vision and growth of Centaur's consultancy, capability and pitch businesses.

Suki specialises in marketing transformation, pioneering new marketing model development and digital capability programmes. Working with 80% of the FTSE 250 and leading global communications networks and technology groups, she is helping to drive client business in USA, Europe and Asia.



Suki is a Board Trustee of Macmillan Cancer Support, NED at Gateley Plc and Addidi Angel Investor for Small Businesses. She sits on the steering committee of The Women's Equality Party, is former Chair of the Marketing Society and a long standing member of WACL and MGGB. Suki holds an honorary Doctorate from Coventry University for services to Entrepreneurship and International Business. She was awarded Small Business Entrepreneur of the Year.



Upholding our Livery—welcome to our new Freeman January 2018



Hannah Weston Smith

My name is Hannah Weston Smith and I am a Traditional Upholsterer based in Folkingham, Lincolnshire. I set up my business six years ago after completing a MA in Furniture Conservation at Bucks New University. With a background in teaching and design, I have a passion for all things furniture! I believe it important to maintain the traditional craft of upholstery in its purest form whilst mixing that with modern products, design and techniques. Working from my restored workshop I have the pleasure of providing a personal service to local people but also enjoy

working for stately homes and interior designers with similar ideals to myself.

After being Yeoman of the Livery for 5 years I decided that I was going to use the progression as part of my own 'Career Development Plan', and see how I could become more involved in the Company. I was thrilled to meet Christine Booth at the Chelsea Hospital tour and her enthusiasm propelled me to apply to become a Freeman. I would like to thank Christine and Judy Tayler-Smith for agreeing to be my sponsors, and look forward to seeing what I can offer in support of the Company.

Website - www.hannahandnails.co.uk

Sara Norman-Smith



I do not remember a time when furniture and fabrics were not a key part of my life. During my teenage years I would fashion headboards for my family, build bookcases, paint murals and make curtains for friends. It was obvious to me that my career would be with Furniture.

For the past 25 years I have held a Directorial position within an Interior Design Company and latterly have my own Interiors business specialising in furnishing Period properties with traditionally upholstered Furniture, antiques and fabrics.

Becoming a Freeman of this Historic Company feels like a natural progression of my life-long passion for Furniture and Fabrics.

Website - www.smithandbritish.co.uk

Upholders welcomes new Father of the Company

We are delighted that having accepted the nomination, and following an announcement by the Senior Past Master at the Audit Court in June 2017, Past Master and Honorary Court Assistant Alan Kinsey now has the title of Father of the Upholders' Company.

Alan is already known to many of you as a very loyal supporter of every kind of Upholders event. In fact according to the Clerk, he has the highest attendance record at Court meetings and Dinners, although this was not the main reason for his appointment as Father of the Company!

Alan's career, from which he has only recently retired, was as a Silversmith so he is also known for producing all the beautiful and intricate Upholders badges and silverware and keeping them clean and in good order.



What newer Liverymen may not realise is that in 2013 Alan completed his 40 years as an Upholders' Liveryman which is a notable achievement.

He was appointed to the Court in January 1984 and since then has given wise counsel and long and faithful service to support our Livery. Alan was Master Upholder in 1991-92, 5 years before the first edition of the Upbraid newsletter.

Welcome to Alan as Father of the Company and we wish you much enjoyment and many more Upholders events in the role.

Upholding our Livery ~ Summer Event 2017 at Royal Hospital Chelsea

On a very hot, sunny day under beautiful blue skies, a full house of 50 Upholders and their guests met at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea for a very successful tour and afternoon tea with the “Men in Scarlet”, the Chelsea Pensioners.



Founded in 1682 by King Charles II, with architecture and grandeur hinting at more than a little competition with Louis XIV's ‘Les Invalides’ in Paris, the Hospital was established in countryside adjacent to the Thames at Chelsea and opened its doors to the first Pensioners in February 1692. In practice, with the dissolution of the monasteries which had traditionally cared for the sick and injured, there was a pressing need to provide care for former soldiers.

Designed by Sir Christopher Wren and built between 1686 and 1692, we were taken to see Figure Court, named after the Grinling Gibbons’ statue of King Charles II dressed as a Roman general. This is now restored to its original gilded glory and looked, very literally, quite dazzling in the glorious sunshine.

The court itself is enclosed by the earliest buildings of the Hospital. Centred around Wren’s magnificent Great Hall and Chapel are two splendid classical wings providing accommodation in ‘Long Wards’ which were originally sub-divided into small cubicles or berths for each Pensioner.

As for the Pensioners now, our guide reassured us that today’s accommodation has improved beyond recognition since the late 17th century but emphasised the enduring tradition of

mutual care and support. All Pensioners, who are still former soldiers, are admitted “unencumbered by spouse” and have a trial residential period when they can experience civilian communal life.

Women were first knowingly admitted in 2009 although a woman - who had fought as a man - was admitted in 1717, her deceit only discovered on her death!!

The afternoon ended with a very welcome afternoon tea where, with customary Upholders friendliness and judging by the sound levels, good conversation was had by all.

Dr. Christine M. Booth, Liveryman

Definition of ‘Comfort’ in the 17th Century?

The ‘Old Berths’, designed by Christopher Wren, were only 6 feet square. Each berth was provided with a bed, a straw mattress, a flock mattress, two pairs of sheets, three blankets and a coverlet. There were also other basic items of wooden furniture. Candlesticks were issued, but withdrawn in 1769 due to the fire risk. For almost 150 years there was no lighting in the berths.



The Master pausing outside the Infirmary



Upholding Our Trade

APPRENTICESHIPS UPDATE

On 2 October 2017 at Plaisterers' Hall, Lord Mayor Dr Andrew Parmley made the formal presentation of Apprentice Certificates to Apprentices from 9 Livery Companies including the Upholders, in front of a specially invited audience of Masters, Industry and Craft representatives and the Board of the Livery Companies' Apprenticeship Scheme (LCAS). During the ceremony, Apprenticeships were awarded in:

Dyeing (2) Bee Farming (6) Upholstery (1)
Stained Glass Practice (2) Watchmaking (3)
Clock and Watch Engraving (1) Wheelwrighting (2)
Coach and Coach Harness Making (1)
Flight Instructor Higher Apprenticeship (1)
Furniture Manufacturing Technician (3)

The Upholders are especially proud of Darren Blackwell, who gained his 3-year Apprenticeship under Trainer Ray Dixon at William Fountain & Co, Leytonstone. Under the LCAS scheme Wendy Shorter-Blake became Darren's Trade Specific Qualifier/ Assessor and we are indebted to her for the many hours she put into guiding Darren to complete his assessments using the online recording system developed by LCAS, for which they have subsequently won recognition.



Darren is pictured with the Master, Wendy and Warden to the Trade Stephen Chapman, and below with girlfriend Jade

RECOGNISING TRADITIONAL UPHOLSTERY MASTER CERTIFICATE AWARDS 2018



“Uphold the high standards expected of all who receive the Master Upholder Certificate and be prepared to act in the capacity of mentor to those who are committed to pursuing a career in upholstery in order that they may benefit from the experience and example of your achievements.”

Darren was called upon to “do your best to achieve success in completing the studies, training and assessments that lead, in due course, to the award of Journeyman Upholder Certificate.”

Congratulations to Wendy Shorter-Blake who received a Master Furniture Maker Award at the same ceremony.

In February 2018 the Upholders made awards of Master Upholder Certificates to Bruce Jack and David James, both members of the Guild of Traditional Upholsterers, and of an Apprentice Certificate to Darren Blackwell. This time the certificates were presented by Lord Mayor Alderman Charles Bowman. Master Judy Tayler-Smith called upon the nominees to

Pictured L-R above are Darren Blackwell, Bruce Jack, the Master and David James



David James receiving his Master Upholder certificate from the Lord Mayor

Upholding the Trade ~ The Cass/ LMU Awards 2017

Upholstery by Storm Mills-Thurley



Malcolm Hopkins received an Upholders cushion from the Master to mark his retirement from LMU



2017 Award Winners

1st Prize Advanced Upholstery
Efia White

2nd Prize Advanced Upholstery
Natalie Kubicki

Highly Commended Advanced
Julia Burton

1st Prize Intermediate Upholstery
Janina Glover

2nd Prize Intermediate Upholstery
Storm Mills-Thurley

Highly Commended Intermediate
Kimberley Pyper

Derek Austin Awards
BA Furniture & Product Design
1st Prize
Freddie Keen (Children's Stools)
2nd Prize
James Whittam (New Age Screen)

Foundation Degree of Arts:
Furniture, 3rd Prize
Peter Stovin (Bench)



Caterpillar stools by Freddie Keen

Caterpillar Stools

Laminate Formed Beech Veneer,
Solid Beech; led by Process

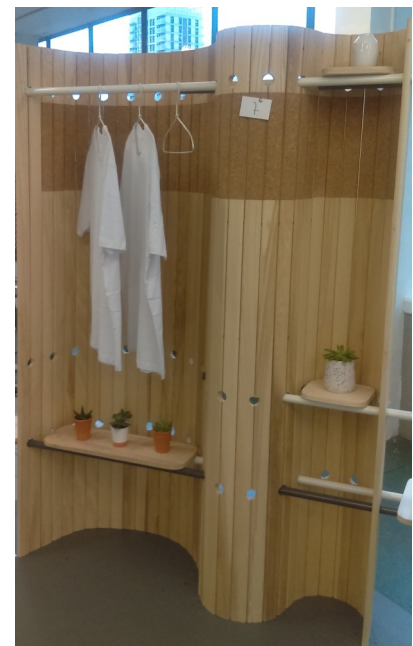
Freddie writes: "Stories bring us together and we never forget a good one. Caterpillar stools were a result of explorations into veneer laminating techniques. These stackable stools are designed to link together in a chain that can curve around a storyteller at story time".

The adjudication of students' work requires two assessment visits, to see the piece under construction as well as when it is completed. We are grateful to David Johns of DC Upholstery and to Liveryman Ernie Spratling for this work. Our thanks also go to Liveryman and Course Leader Franco Marinelli for inspiring his students and organising the Awards Ceremony.

Upholstery by Prize Winners in Intermediate and Advanced Upholstery



Furniture and Product Design—New Age Screen by James Whittam



Upholding Trade ~ Awards day at Wendy Shorter Interiors 29 July



‘Babs’ chair by Mel Davies, and pictured being presented with her Award

2017 Award Winners

With 93% Credits and Distinctions our students produced yet more fabulous work this year. We were pleased to welcome the Masters and Liverymen from both the Upholders and the Furniture Makers' Companies.

Congratulations to the students who won additional prizes:

Kobe Fabrics Traditional Upholstery - Sally Mason, Esther Blake, Mel Davies & Rebecca Gentry

Bute Fabrics Modern Upholstery - Sally Mason, Caty Nolan & Chris Rigby

Bert Chapman Creativity Award - Mel Davies

Master Furniture Maker Dr Tony Smart and the Master Upholder with AMUSF President Malcolm Hopkins



Congratulations to all the students and Award Winners



Upholding our Livery—History Society events

“Tunnel: The Archaeology of Crossrail” Exhibition 12 May 2017

On a somewhat showery afternoon in May a group of 21 liverymen and guests met at the Museum of London, Docklands, for a guided tour of “Tunnel: The Archaeology of Crossrail”. Our wonderful guide was the senior curator Jackie Keilly, who had worked on the project for two years.

From the very beginning of the Crossrail project it was realised that the tunnelling work was likely to reveal some important archaeological findings. Consequently, some two hundred archaeologists worked alongside the engineers as the work progressed. They were not disappointed as, during the excavation which ran from Woolwich to Reading, some 10,000 artefacts were found. These spanned over 8,000 years of history.

The exhibition divides the route into nine sections, beginning at Shenfield and ending in Reading, with each section displaying a number of artefacts. The range of objects on display, of which there are some 500, is astonishing. These range from Mesolithic tools which were over 8,000 years old and a fragment of a mammal’s jaw bone found at Canary Wharf, to the jam jars, ceramic pots and ginger jars found on the site of what was the Crosse and Blackwell factory at Tottenham Court Road, which closed in 1921.

Unsurprisingly, the City of London, which has been a centre of population since Roman times, yielded the greatest results. Roman copper alloy coins and iron horse shoes are displayed alongside the more macabre, including a decapitated skeleton and a cremation pot. Other items in the exhibition include a wooden bowling ball which was discovered in the moat of a Tudor Manor house at Stepney Green and the iron rings, manufactured by the Thames Ironworks and Building Company, which held Cleopatra’s needle in place in the transportation capsule as it made the long journey from Egypt. The tour was much enjoyed by all with many vowing to return for a second viewing of the exhibition.

The afternoon was rounded off with a sumptuous cream tea.

Jackie Williams
Chairman and Hon. Treasurer
Upholders’ History Society

Geffrye Museum of the Home 28 September 2016

If, in the early eighteenth century, you had crossed London Bridge and travelled north along Ermine Street on your way to York, within the very short distance of just over a mile and a half you would find yourself in open country surrounded by farmland and market gardens.

It was here that a “hospital” (or almshouses) for the elderly was built in 1714-15 with funds from a bequest by Sir Robert Geffrye, Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers and Lord Mayor in 1685.

These almshouses, now home to the Geffrye Museum, have witnessed immense changes to their surroundings since the early eighteenth century with the huge expansion of London’s population. Perhaps of most significance for the museum, and giving it its *raison d’être*, was the establishment of a centre of furniture making and a host of allied trades. Located next to the docks in the East End, their initial success was largely due to the availability of the recently discovered species of timber, such as mahogany and rosewood then being imported from Cuba, British Honduras and Brazil.

Such was the density of sweatshops and manufactories that subsequently

developed, in 1911 the London County Council decided to buy the almshouses, not for the sake of the historic buildings but because of the amenity of value of their lawns and gardens for the ever expanding local population.

The Geffrye Museum of the Home opened in 1914 to celebrate the local furniture industry with different rooms set up to reflect the changing styles and fashions of furniture from the sixteenth century through to the present day.

Fifteen Upholders and eleven upholstery students joined together for a most interesting and informative day at the museum. Starting with a fascinating introduction to the history of the local area by the director, David Dewing, we were treated to a behind-the-scenes (and under-the-top-cover) look at some of the museum’s upholstered chairs. After a very sociable lunch, the day was rounded off by a tour of the museum and of one of the almshouses where rooms have been restored to reflect differences in furnishing for occupants of varying social status and wealth over the centuries.

Very sincere thanks go to Court Assistant Wendy Shorter-Blake for organising the day and I am sure we would all like to join in wishing the museum every success for the future as it embarks on a multi-million pound redevelopment starting next year.

Dr Christine M Booth, Liveryman



Cheerful participants in the Smithfield guided walk, September 2017

Upholding our Livery—History Society visits & events 2017

BRITISH LIBRARY – 18 JANUARY 2017 The day started for the 14 of us with a bit of an existential crisis: the security badges handed out by Andy our guide described us all as “UpKeepers”! Fortunately the Master was with us and he helped us manage our momentary panic, while we adapted to our new identity. With admirable stoicism, Andy then began the tour: Upstarts, Bee-keepers, they were all the same to him, what really mattered was The Library.

Our first stop was by a piece of machinery, on the face of it ready for recycling. “This is the press on which the penny black, the world’s first postage stamp was printed,” explained Andy. Ripples of interest throughout the group, proof I guess that philately will indeed get you anywhere. After showing us some of the gems of the philatelic collection, Andy told us about the history and construction of the Library: it is shaped like an ocean liner, it contains some 150 million items in its collection, and its shelving expands by 9.6 kilometres a year. My prized collection of detective fiction suddenly seemed rather insignificant.

Following a talk about the King’s Library collection (King George III, when he wasn’t busy being mad, was a fanatical book collector), we were taken to a large room full of the most extraordinary books and manuscripts. This is just a selection of the treasures held by the Library and of these, Andy drew our particular attention to: a letter beautifully hand-written by Galileo, one of the Magna Cartas in existence, the Codex Sinaiticus from the mid fourth century, a Gutenberg Bible and the only existing copy of the original Beowulf.

After lunch, we spent the afternoon in the Conservation department. Firstly we were given a talk on the specialist cleaning of old books, including an examination of a volume of naval records, and it was exciting to see the actual signature of Samuel Pepys. This was followed by a look at the painstaking and dedicated work being carried out by the textile conservator and her team. The restoration of a unique military flag was of particular interest to members of the group. Lastly, we were shown the quite extraordinary work being carried out as part of a project repairing and digitising Middle Eastern documents and manuscripts.

The level of interest shown by the group, combined with the passion for their work displayed by the conservation team, meant that our scheduled one hour tour came in at slightly under two hours! Then sadly it was time to say goodbye to Jill and her team, renounce our temporary membership of the Upkeepers and return to the hustle and bustle of life outside the Library. Two members of the group were so impressed they asked to sign up to the next tour, some indication of success I think.

Liveryman Steve Gardner

ST. PAUL’S CATHEDRAL 22 NOVEMBER 2017

The History Society’s final event of 2017 was a lunch followed by a guided tour of St. Paul’s Cathedral. It was our biggest event of the year with twenty seven liverymen and guests participating.

Our guide, Chris Allen, took us on a 90 minute tour of the magnificent cathedral. After a general introduction, including the

history of the cathedral, we were shown many interesting and wonderful sights, but the highlight was a visit to the arched gallery, known as the triforium, which stands above the nave. It is the home of the Collections Department at the cathedral and includes the library of the Dean and Chapter. In the library, we viewed the extensive collection of ecclesiastical books and texts, including one of the three surviving copies of Tyndale’s bible. Further along the triforium we were shown the impressive Geometric staircase, more formally known as the Dean’s staircase, which links the cathedral floor to the triforium and consists of eighty eight Portland stone steps which rise over fifty feet. Moving on, we were shown the spectacular view along the nave which is so often used by TV crews when presenting programmes from St. Paul’s. Our final stop in the triforium was at Wren’s Great Model of the planned cathedral which was constructed in 1674. It was intended to be a permanent record, in case of accident to the architect and, to show more clearly than drawings, how everything would fit together.

Our tour concluded with a visit to the Crypt with its many more interesting sights including the tombs of Nelson and Wellington. Unsurprisingly, Sir Christopher Wren’s memorial which consists of a simple stone, is also there surrounded by the memorials to his family, that of Robert Hooke and other masons and colleagues. Nearby, we saw some of the tombs and memorials to artists, scientists and musicians, including Sir Joshua Reynolds, Alexander Fleming, Arthur Sullivan and Henry Moore.

Sadly, the tour ended all too soon. Many of our group vowed to return to spend more time discovering the cathedral and its many treasures. **Jackie Williams, Chairman and Hon. Treasurer**

SMITHFIELD WALK, 16 SEPTEMBER 2017

With Jane our guide, we started from Barbican station, wending our way through little streets to St Bartholomew the Great church. The area is packed with history and Jane was full of anecdotes and snippets of information to make the place come alive: from ghosts to John Betjeman, via a 13th century pub and a memorial to William Wallace, inspiration for the Braveheart movie. Then on through the main Smithfield meat market to Farringdon, hearing in passing about Lollard martyrs, and stories about Elizabeth I at Bleeding Heart Yard. Moving swiftly to avoid the temptations of Hatton Garden, we saw St Etheldred’s church and didn’t see the Cock Lane ghost before ending up at Carluccio’s for a most excellent lunch and much needed liquid refreshment. **Liveryman Steve Gardner**



St Bartholomew’s Gatehouse which protects St Bartholomew the Great, as seen during the Smithfield Walk

Upholding our Crafts at the Heritage Skills Festival, Lincoln Cathedral, 23-24 June 2017

On Thursday 22nd June, Stephen Chapman, Warden to the Trade, ably assisted by Malcolm Hopkins, headed off to Lincoln to set up our stand at the Heritage Skills Festival being held in Lincoln Cathedral. Nestled between the Goldsmiths and the Royal School of Needlework and opposite the Saddlers and Basket Weavers, we had a very good spot where everyone who passed through the Cathedral stopped to admire the work we do.

The Upholders have taken part in Trade shows in many places but Lincoln Cathedral was the most unique venue.



We were to discover some new Livery 'groupings' such as the division of the Companies into the 'clean', (those allocated spaces inside the building), and the 'dirty', (housed outside in small marquees in the grounds).

During the two-day event we were visited by the Master, Judy Tayler-Smith and her Consort, Simon and many other members of our Company. Our new pop-up display stand was stunning, thanks to Solways Ltd, and perfect for the venue. It is the first time we have displayed photos of the stages of work in upholstery rather than of finished chairs.

On Friday Malcolm Hopkins completed half of the second of the piano stools in advance of the auction on the Saturday. He returned on Saturday, making way for Roy Theobald to demonstrate on the stand, and carried on his work at the back, supposedly out of sight. What was lovely was that he still attracted his own group of observers keen to watch a craftsman at work.

On the soft furnishings side, Wendy Shorter demonstrated hand-stitched pencil pleats on a curtain in the traditional way without the use of header tape, and also Canadian smocking on velvet to be used for a cushion.



The latter method, achieved through making a pattern of dots on the reverse of the fabric and then stitching, drawing some stitches tight and letting others sit flat over the fabric, resulted in the right side of the fabric

looking as though it had somehow been miraculously plaited. Both methods showed how precise the laying out, marking up and stitching of the fabrics have to be to achieve a perfect finish.



The show closed at 4.30pm on Friday to give time to prepare for Choral Evensong at 5.30pm followed by an impressive recital on the Father Willis organ by the Lord Mayor, apparently without any rehearsal beforehand on the instrument.

Six of us were lucky enough to have secured tickets for the City of London Livery Companies Dinner on Friday night in the North West Transept of the Cathedral. Sharing the table of ten with the Saddlers was rather fitting since our Master had her Installation at Saddlers' Hall in April.

The menu was a complete delight of regional specialities, with Grimsby smoked and potted salmon followed by Lincolnshire red beef sirloin & fillet which literally carpeted the plate in exquisite tender meat. Lincolnshire Poacher and Dambuster cheeses completed the great feast of the first night.



Upholding our Crafts ~ Lincoln Cathedral



The Master Pavior hammering in a nail

Over the two days, the Cathedral staff and Works Department could not have been more helpful. The Works Department really had the chance to shine with the ingenuity needed to get the two Bentleys and the carriages in and out. A JCB telehandler stacked up dozens of 15' long planks with as much precision as the work being completed by the demonstrators within, across the Cathedral steps to create a vehicle ramp.

On both days there was a rather nice reminder that we were moving within a place of worship; the Cathedral's Quiet Times Protocol ensured that we paused in silence for prayer at 12 noon and 3pm.

Within the space of about 15 seconds of the Dean's call for silence, all work, chatter and footfall ceased - and all that could be heard were the Mystery Players continuing to toot and whistle birdsong as they wandered round advertising their next play in some distant part of the Cathedral.

On Saturday Roy not only managed to traditionally upholster a dining chair, but also attract a stream of Masters to 'Hammer in a Nail' on his UPHOLDER name board. This is becoming a project of years and Roy is well known for it

amongst Livery Masters. Begun in 2012, little brass nails have now progressed to the O and part of the L of UPHOLDER.

At 4pm on Saturday, an Auction of crafted artefacts, many begun and completed during the Festival, took place in a marquee on the East Green. Supreme among craftsmen was the Upper Bailiff Weaver, who successfully bid for the beautiful piece of green silk *woven by him, on a loom that he had designed and built himself*. Also eagerly snapped up were copies of small parts of the Cathedral stonework and woodwork, Malcolm's two piano stools, and a wheelwright's barrow. The Auction was the Cathedral's way to raise money, for in the words of the Dean, "However hard we work, the Cathedral seems to demand more, just like the peregrine falcon chicks." Hopefully the final amount raised of £23,164 will go some way towards that aim.



By 5pm on Saturday the only evidence of all the work achieved by our demonstrators over the two days was on the Cathedral floor where a few horse, hog and cow tail hairs remained from the traditional stuffing materials.

And for those of us who travelled up for the weekend, how many spotted the

Master's Consort Simon dancing with the Clerk to the Parish Clerks, who was one of the Mystery Players?

We had people taking AMUSF and Upholders leaflets, enquiring about Upholsterers and Upholstery suppliers in the North and interested to hear about the charitable efforts of the London Livery Companies and their support for Apprenticeships. The AMUSF has a very practical website for Upholstery news, so it was a great bonus to have Association Manager and Liveryman Richard Ranklin on the stand on the first day.

The most special aspect of Lincoln was that our Apprentice under the Livery Companies' Apprenticeship Scheme, Darren Blackwell and girlfriend Jade, were on hand to talk to the public and visiting Liverymen on both days. Darren's final assessment piece, a large and complicated winged armchair upholstered in two varieties of plain and striped blue velour, was on display and attracted a huge amount of interest, including from several people who wanted to buy it!

It was good to see at least one other Apprentice there, currently working at the Royal Mews and supported by the Coachmakers' company.

In the words of the Lord Mayor there couldn't have been a better time to be outside London, shaking people's hands and demonstrating that the crafts are still alive.

Words by Wendy Shorter-Blake and Susan Nevard; photograph credits to them and to the Master Upholder

The photos below show L-R: Roy Theobald working on dining chair

PMs Richard Nevard and Michael and Wynne Gilham admiring the work

Darren Blackwell with his final Apprenticeship piece chair





Upholding Our Trade

Livery Schools Link Careers Showcase event Guildhall, 6 February 2018



Lord Mayor Alderman Charles Bowman learning how to cover a button with Court Assistant Malcolm Hopkins

The Showcase is an inspirational annual event, where Livery Companies demonstrate their trades and professions to an invited audience of students and their teachers. More than 800 students attended. This event is now in its 6th year and goes from strength to strength enthusing and inspiring hundreds of students every year to aspire to a huge range of diverse jobs and careers. It also helps to offer better signposting opportunities to young people and create a broader awareness as well for their teachers.

The event ran from 9.45 to 15.30 for students and staff, followed by a Private View and reception for Senior Liverymen and Ward Club Members plus School Governors. It was an excellent chance for a wider audience to see what is on show and to meet the stallholders from a wide variety of industries and workplaces.

Our thanks go to Warden to the Trade Stephen Chapman, Liveryman Philip Wellesley-Davies and Court Assistant Malcolm Hopkins for organising the stand and demonstrating.



Liveryman Philip Wellesley-Davies demonstrating dining chair upholstery

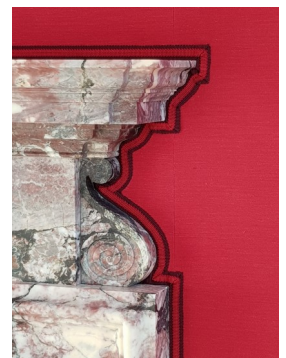
Guild of Traditional Upholsterers (GTU) Upholstery Study Day celebrating the Guild's 30th Anniversary, Salisbury, 7 October 2017

The Master Judy Tayler-Smith and Consort Simon travelled to Salisbury to join GTU and AMUSF Upholster members plus the Clerk and PM Richard Nevard for a fascinating day of illustrated presentations on subjects ranging from Coach Trimming to historic Textile Conservation. Andrew Lawrence of Loungy Upholstery gave an energetic talk on his work transforming and restoring the worn out interiors of classic cars.

Upholders' Liveryman, Award of Excellence recipient and GTU member Steve Franklin described the strength and stamina needed in his career as an installer of fabric walling.



Pictured is a room plus fireplace detail of the large project Stephen undertook at Wolterton Hall, Norfolk



Pictured below are the trophies waiting to be awarded. Liveryman Gregory Cupitt-Jones won in 2016 with a traditionally upholstered two seater sofa.



Upholding the City ~ New Sheriffs and Lord Mayor for 2017-18

The Master led a group of Upholders to exercise their right and duty as Liverymen to vote for the two new Sheriffs at Guildhall on Midsummer Day in June 2017.

Elected amid great ceremony were Alderman Tim Hailes and past Prime Warden Basketmaker Neil Redcliffe. Tim, an International Banker, and Neil took office on Michaelmas Eve, 28th September, then began their duties at the Old Bailey and supporting the Lord Mayor.

Tim Hailes spoke of the need to connect those in the Square Mile with those outside of it, and urged colleagues to help restore trust in London's business district. Using his acceptance speech at the Sheriffs' Election at Guildhall, the first openly gay man to hold the office drew references to social inequality, "interconnecting worlds", and the rise in popularity of Twitter.



Joining Alderman Hailes to serve as a Sheriff for 2017-2018 is Neil Redcliffe, an entrepreneurial businessman who also served as a magistrate at the City of London Magistrates' Court. His interests include travel, history, the arts, and yoga.

Sheriff Neil Redcliffe said:

"My international business experience and deep knowledge of the City of London Corporation and the Livery are very sound bases from which to carry out the duties of Sheriff. Throughout my career, I have strongly promoted the values of integrity, fair play, and trust."

The Sheriffs support the Lord Mayor in his or her civic duties and serve as ambassadors for the UK-based financial and professional services industry at home and abroad, by promoting the UK as a fine place in which to do business. They also support Her Majesty's Judges at the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey) in promoting the importance of the English rule of law to businessmen, diplomats, charities, the City Livery, leading arts figures, and school children.

The Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), where the Sheriffs work and reside, is recognised as the most famous criminal court in the world and is owned and managed by the City of London Corporation.

Words from the City of London Corporation website

www.cityoflondon.gov.uk

Alderman Charles Bowman elected 690th Lord Mayor of the City of London

As Lord Mayor, he launched the City of London Corporation's Business of Trust programme. This programme seeks to create "a lasting legacy of better business, trusted by society".



The Master is pictured at the Farringdon Ward Club Civic Lunch with from L-R the Hon Liz Green, the Lord Mayor and Paul Herbage, Clerk to the Tax Advisers' Company

Charles is a Senior Partner in PwC, Alderman for Lime Street Ward and a magistrate, advisor to the Mansion House Scholarship Scheme and a governor of an academy primary school in Hackney. He is a Court member of the Worshipful Company of Grocers and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. Charles is married to Samantha, a veterinary surgeon and Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Woolmen. They have two daughters, Grace and Charlotte.

Congratulations to Judith Pleasance CC and Graham Packham CC who on 22 March 2017 were re-elected as Common Councilmen for Langbourn and Castle Baynard Wards respectively.



There are 100 Common Councilmen, elected by the voters in the 25 wards of the City. Many but not all are Liverymen. In a hectic schedule they combine Ward and Livery work with more general work on Committees of the City Corporation. Judith is also the Upholders' representative on the Livery Committee, so she is available to us if we have any questions in the running of our organisation or our relations with the City. Contact Judith at judith@judithpleasance.com

Obituaries 2017

RAY USHER Ray Usher was born in County Durham and always remained proud of his heritage. He graduated from Sheffield University having been awarded a Blue for cricket.

After National Service he entered the Insurance industry, moving after an initial period elsewhere to the National Employers Group. He was invited to go to South Africa to run their subsidiary there and when there met Jack Ayerst who later became Master Upholder. Ray was asked to return to London to become Chief General Manager of the National Employers group. He became a founder Liveryman of the Insurers Livery and through his friendship with Jack Ayerst became an Upholder.

Ray became Master Upholder in 2002 and one of his early moves, which has left a most significant mark on the Livery, was to hold a Common Hall at



which the proposal to admit lady members was approved and this move was subsequently adopted by the Court.

He was a most sociable Upholder and a man of vision who enjoyed the warmth of his many friendships and is sadly missed by his friends in the Livery.

Past Master Michael Brecknell 2004-5

Ray was around and supporting me building up to my year as Master, and I was pleased to be able to support him when his time came as Master. We had good times and happy memories shared as well as the good works done in furthering the profile of our beloved Upholders Company of which we are all so proud. Deepest condolences and sincere sympathy to his Family.

Past Master Clive Roffe 1999-2000

Ray was always a kind and generous man who shared our fondness for the

Upholders. I have happy memories of our meetings and discussions.

Senior Warden Tim Solway

Ray was a wonderful man and I enjoyed many a lunch, dinner and cricket match with him.

Past Master Jim Kelly 2011-12

JOAN MILTON, who passed away on 27 October 2017, became an Upholders Freeman in 2006 at the same time as Susan Nevard. Joan is fondly remembered by the AMUSF and Upholders who knew her through her business J A Milton Upholstery Supplies in Ellesmere, Shropshire, her training courses in Upholstery and her many years as AMUSF Finance Director. At Joan's funeral Liveryman Roy Theobald was the celebrant and gave a long and moving tribute. Her husband David Hayes has generously continued contributing to the Upholders in Joan's name, and also took part in a Great Wall of China trek in aid of Nightingale Hospice in Wrexham where Joan spent her final weeks.

DEREK GEORGE BISHOP, who passed away on 26 November 2017, became an Upholder in 2008. Warden to the Trade Stephen Chapman and the Clerk attended his funeral service to hear many affectionate and moving tributes from family and friends.

Derek had his entire career in the Trade, engaged in his beloved craft of upholstery and running an antiques shop. He started out as an Apprentice for the Hille furniture company in Leytonstone, although part of his Apprenticeship was waived to allow for his time in the Army.

Derek was generous, often conducting antiques valuations without charging. He enjoyed Livery and City life and connections, had many friends at home and his golf club in Wanstead, and as confirmed through conversations with his family, Derek definitely had a full and eventful life; at 85 he was still doing a couple of jobs pro bono and enjoying life. **Clerk Susan Nevard**

JOHN COWLING was our very fondly remembered Hon Chaplain from 1991-2011 and Senior Warden 2008-9, although did not become Master due to emerging health issues. John moved

away to Exeter a couple of years after retiring as Hon Chaplain. He died peacefully on Christmas day 2017.



The funeral service was held in Exeter Cathedral on 12 January 2018 and Admiral Sir Mark Stanhope GCB CBE DL and Lady Stanhope attended to represent the Upholders' Company. In his tribute, John's son, Past Master Actuary Charles, said his Father's love of Classics led him to study at Cambridge, where he would later return to study Russian and train as an interpreter as part of his National Service. He loved reading and literature, particularly Jane Austen and Trollope. He also loved singing and had a beautiful tenor voice which he used to great effect in church and in several choirs.

John had a real talent for communicating and story-telling and knew how to reach out to people. He was kind and always cheerful. He touched many lives in his ministry at St Olave's Hart St. in London – John loved his life in the City and Charles spoke of the many lovely messages and memories he has received from the Upholders, the Clothworkers, the Environmental Cleaners and Tower Ward Club. John's strong Christian faith shone through in so many different ways and he is greatly missed.

HARRY PURCHASE JP became a Liveryman in 1981 and he passed away in 2017.

GEOFFREY NORTON was a Liveryman from 1975 until his sudden passing in 2015; the Clerk received this news from his widow Sandra in 2017.

WALTER TIMLETT—Walter's widow Jacquie contacted the Master to advise of Walter's passing back in February 2017. He was clothed in the Livery in 1988.

BERT CHAPMAN Died peacefully but unexpectedly on a Sunday at home on 23 April 2017 after having spent the previous day at a wedding with all the family. He was aged ninety. Bert was born in Stoke Newington, North London on 11th August 1928 to Albert and Kate Chapman. Whilst he was christened Bertram he was affectionately known as Bert. He attended school, but because of the outbreak of war, he was evacuated to Ongar in Essex and later to Horsham, Sussex.

On leaving school in 1943, Bert became an apprentice at the Savoy Hotel Upholstery Workshop. However in 1944 he was called up and became a 'Bevan Boy' and was sent down the mines but was forced to leave a year later due to severe asthma brought on by coal dust. He transferred to the Northamptonshire Regiment until 1947.

Demobbed at the age of twenty one, he joined the family business and resumed his training in the curtain and drapery department. Bert continued to work with his Father until his death in 1958, whereupon he took over the management of the business. He developed an impressive client base including members of the British and foreign Royal Families, Ambassadors, Prime Ministers and other influential people.

Bert's son Steve followed in his Father's footsteps, joining the company in 1973, and subsequently took control of the business in 1995.

With Bert at the helm, the company was responsible for working on many prestigious jobs over the decades. This included curtains and wall panels for the

Queen's Coronation in 1953, silk walling for the Queen's private picture gallery in Buckingham Palace and a Sparva for Leeds Castle. There was also walling at the National Gallery, and in 1980 more walling work in Saudi Arabia for Crown Prince Fahad Bin Abdul Aziz. Other work included refurbishing the carriages used for the wedding of Prince Charles to Diana and work in the King's Private bed chamber and privy chamber at Hampton Court Palace. In 1977, Bert was awarded a special medal in commemoration of the Queen's Silver Jubilee. Ten years later, in 1987, he was awarded the MBE. In 1997 he was awarded another special medal by the Queen and Prince Philip in recognition of his skill and dedication shown in undertaking the restoration work at Windsor Castle after the fire.



His company had the honour of carrying out work for Her Majesty the Queen at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle and was awarded the Royal Warrant. Bert became the Warrant Holder, for which he was immensely proud.

Bert began his long association with the Association of Master Upholsterers and Soft Furnishers by joining in 1961, and

became a Fellow in 1963. He rose to represent the AMUSF as its President from 1982-85.

He became a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Upholders in 1984. He was appointed to the Court and became Master in 2000. (No surprise that his Past Masters' Association was named the 'Millennium Masters'). Bert was later appointed Warden to the Trade, a post relinquished to his son Stephen in 2008. Latterly, he was appointed Father of the Company.

He was a great supporter of the London Metropolitan University Upholstery Department and was a judge of student work for the end of course show and prize giving each year.

In 2003 Bert became President of the Guild of Traditional Upholsterers. Ever since then he has been a huge supporter, and has encouraged the Guild in its endeavours to promote the craft and traditional skills. His dedication to the trade has been unquestionable and his knowledge second to none.

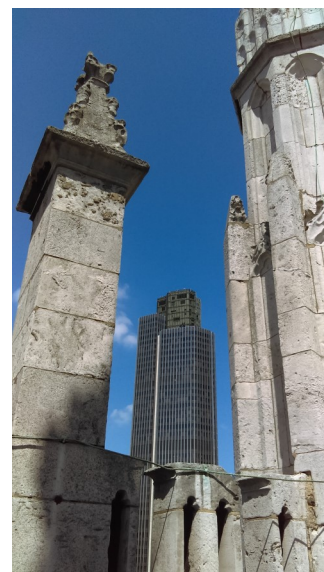
Like a stick of rock, the word Upholstery ran through him. He was passionate about the craft, encouraging the young to develop their skills as well as doing what he could to protect the industry and its heritage and the craft skills.

Bert is survived by his two children Steve and Jan and four grandchildren.

Liveryman Philip Wellesley-Davies

The AMUSF organised donations in Bert's name to go to the Neville Hayman charity and Bert himself left a generous bequest to the charities of the Upholders' Company.

Climbing the Tower at St Michael's Cornhill on Ascension Day, May 2018



The wonderful singing and the sparkling views made the climb of 198 steps well worth it!

Upholding our Livery ~

Church Service Dinner at Armourers' Hall, Tuesday 20th February 2018

The three tenets of City of London Livery Companies – Fellowship, Charity and Education – were well addressed at Master Judy Tayler-Smith's last Livery Dinner for all Liverymen of her year in office, which was a resounding success.

After our Annual Church Service of Evensong at St Michael's Cornhill, beautifully sung under the directorship of Jonathon Rennert, we retired to Armourers' Hall for a sumptuous four course dinner, rounded off by a stirrup cup.

We will all have our own personal memories of the evening, but "Fellowship" for me came in the form of the very many conversations with both new and established acquaintances. As a choral singer, it was very interesting to learn about the history of the music sung at the service from the Director of Music. But, there were many more conversations. These included one with a Brother of Charterhouse and Past Master Lightmonger, Walter Balmford MBE, guest of Past Master Michael Gilham. Walter is hoping to fly in a Spitfire on his forthcoming "very significant" birthday and is so looking forward to it. Also particularly memorable was meeting John Allen, personal guest of our Clerk. John is the 5x great grandson of a former Master Upholder and is himself Clerk to the Gunmakers' Company.



"Charity" was shown in the form of a generous donation to the Saint Francis Hospice and "Education" came when Alderman Peter Hewitt replied on behalf of the guests in an entertaining and highly informative account of the inner working of the City from an Alderman's perspective. It was interesting to gain an insight into the variation in the make-up of each Wards' constituents, who is entitled to vote at Aldermanic elections, and how Aldermen have to juggle supporting the interests of both residents and City businesses.

Very many thanks from everyone who came to the dinner to the Master and the Clerk for all their hard work behind the scenes.

Dr Christine M Booth, Liveryman

Master's Court Dinner, Dyers' Hall

On Thursday 22 March 2018, 42 members of the Court and their guests attended the Master's Court Dinner at Dyers' Hall, where we were welcomed by a pair of swans—one black and one white—most appropriate for the Dyers' Company!

Although in most years this is an event for Court members and Consorts only, this year we were pleased to welcome as Guests of Honour of the Company Margaret and Charles Cowling, widow and son of our late Hon Chaplain, the Revd John Cowling.



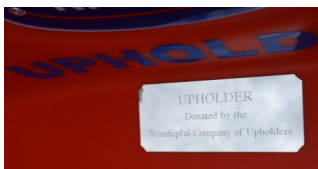
The food was exceptionally good and greatly enjoyed by all, as was the dancing of the 'Swanettes', accompanied on the piano by James Hall, who also entertained us at the dinner.

Alan Kinsey, Past Master and Father of the Company



In July the Master was invited to join the Dyers' and Vintners' Companies to follow the Royal Swan Uppers, who, wearing the scarlet uniform of Her Majesty the Queen, travel down the Thames in traditional rowing skiffs, to collect data on and assess the health of the Mute swans the Companies own jointly with the Crown.





Naval Connections ~ launch of 'Upholder' rescue boat

The Upholders are proud to be associated with Chelmsford Sea Cadets (TS Upholder) and make a modest annual donation from the Peter Jackson Charity. In addition we help fund special projects.

On Sunday 4th June 2017, the Master and her Consort joined members of the Court and their partners Wendy Shorter and Steve Blake, Susan and Richard Nevard and Malcolm and Jean Hopkins, on a visit to TS Upholder in Chelmsford for the launch of their new training boat purchased with the help of the Upholders.

Training Ship Upholder's new boat is a Rigidflex Newmatic 360 boat with a 15hp engine designed as an ideal safety boat for afloat activities, particularly when the cadets are Powerboating, as it is highly manoeuvrable and light enough for the cadets to

lift in and out of the water.



We were met by Petty Officer Keith Chapman and Ms Andi Higham, Unit Chairperson together with Marine Cadet Second Class Luke Salter. Luke very

proudly gave us a

tour of their facilities, including the galley and classrooms where they are taught navigation skills, knots and splices etc. The older cadets also have the opportunity of studying for recognised RYA qualifications in powerboating and sailing as well as in mechanical engineering.

Luke has progressed well from first joining the cadets at the age of 10 to now taking part in various powerboat races around the country.

After a very enjoyable barbecue lunch with members of the team, cadets and their families we challenged the cadets to a



race on the river. A team headed up by my husband, Steve, ably assisted by Susan and Richard Nevard and Malcolm Hopkins who donned floatation aids and set-to for a quick briefing of how to row. They had two races and Steve was convinced that had

they had a longer run at the river the Upholders would have given the cadets a run for their money. However, I'm not quite so sure!

The time then came for the Master to formally launch the boat. Bottle of champagne in hand together with TS Upholders' ceremonial sword, the Master performed the sabrage, taking the

top cleanly off the bottle. Champagne was poured over the boat, as the bottle was likely to bounce off a rigid plastic boat rather than smashing.

After a short speech by the Master thanking all concerned for their hospitality and detailing the links between TS Upholder



and the Worshipful Company of Upholders, the Master and some of our party were then given rides up and down the river in the boat. Everyone enjoyed themselves and particularly the cadets, as the Master reported seeing several boat loads of cadets racing up and down the river after we had left.

Court Assistant Wendy Shorter-Blake with photographs from Wendy, S Nevard and M Hopkins



Upholding Charities

Upholders' paviour laid in National Memorial Arboretum 'Heroes' Square' pavement, Alveras, nr Litchfield, Staffordshire

The Heroes' Square pavement of commemorative pavours nestles in between the new Visitor Centre and the Millennium Chapel in 150 acres of the Staffordshire countryside first planted with ten thousand trees in 1997.

Twenty years on, fifty thousand trees are now maturing, including 32 of the UK's 33 native species. Amongst the trees are over 300 memorials, mostly dedicated to the military, with the emergency services and the RNLI also included.

The Remembrance Centre opened in late 2016 to house interactive exhibition galleries such as an immersive film experience, projected onto multiple screens inside 'The Drum' and illustrating why the act of remembering is an important human need.

Adjacent to the centre is a new landscaped area to explore, Heroes' Square, featuring commemorative pavours, engraved with cap badges or crests of the Royal Navy, the British Army,

the Royal Air Force and City Livery Companies.

The pavours are cut from Yorkshire Scoutmoor stone, chosen for its visual appeal and hardwearing qualities. Heroes' Square and the many memorials are designed to be "a spiritually uplifting place that honours the fallen, recognises service and sacrifice and fosters pride in our nation". The Court supported the appeal for the creation of the pavement garden with the commission of the Upholders' paviour. The photograph was taken by PM Richard Nevard during a personal visit.

Words taken from the NMA brochure and website



Upholding the City in other City and Livery events in 2017-18



On Sunday 24 September 2017 baking icon Mary Berry opened the annual Sheep Drive across London Bridge organised by the Woolmen's Company. This popular event, along with the second Wool Fair which was held around the Monument, is in support of the woollen cloth and sheep farming industries. The Master is pictured in the Livery of the Guildable Manor of Southwark, watch the video here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2LUY_X1oUm8

The Master pictured with Lady Mayoress Samantha Bowman and Mei Sim Lai OBE DL supporting the City Giving Day event at Mansion House



The Lord Mayor's Appeal

At our Annual Mansion House Banquet in October 2017 the Master made the presentation to Representative Lord Mayor Dame Fiona Woolf DBE DL of the Upholders' annual donation supporting the Lord Mayor's Appeal charities. Being a musician and teacher himself, Lord Mayor Dr Andrew Parmley's nominated charities are Music in Hospitals, The London Symphony Orchestra Discovery Programme and St Paul's Cathedral Music Outreach.

Dame Fiona Woolf, Lord Mayor in 2013-14 is shown presenting the Master with a gift on behalf of Lord Mayor Dr Andrew Parmley



Organisations supported by the Worshipful Company of Upholders' Peter Jackson charity in 2017
(In addition to support for our pensioners)

City & Guilds of London Institute
City of London Freeman's School
Guildhall School of Music and Drama
The Lord Mayor's Charitable Appeal
The Royal British Legion City of London Branch
The RNLI
Sheriffs' & Recorder's Fund
Sons & Friends of the Clergy
St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy
St Michael's Cornhill

The Master's chosen charity for the donation of £600 is St Francis Hospice

The Upholders' Annual Mansion House Banquet held on Thursday 26 October 2017



The Upholders' Mansion House Banquet, like our other formal dinners, includes many traditions; the youngest Liveryman carries the banner into dinner (Sebastian Hurst, photo top L), there is room for many guests (PM Gerald Trevor, top R, surrounded by his family and friends), a wide range of organisations are represented (L of Master is Wendy Mead OBE CC, Chief Commoner, former Sheriff and the Upholders' representative on the Livery Committee and R is Alderman for the Ward of Farringdon Within Vincent Keaveny, accompanied by Mrs Amanda Keaveny). Finally it is a time for gift giving; the Upholders' cushion is presented to the Principal Guest, Representative Lord Mayor Dame Fiona Woolf DBE DL, bottom R.



Mansion House Banquet ~ the Master's View from the 'Hot Seat'

The highlight of any Master's year has to be the Mansion House Banquet. It is however also the most worrying, as the Company needs to fill at least 180 seats! For my own Mansion House Banquet I was humbled that many members also brought multiple guests. I was also grateful to be supported by 60 personal guests from my numerous involvements around the City. This not only significantly exceeded the required number but ensured a very large and joyous throng for the occasion.

I was naturally sad that the Lord Mayor Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley was unable to attend; he very kindly came to see me as we were setting up for the Banquet. I was however honoured that Representative Lord Mayor Dame Fiona Woolf stepped in. Former Alderman Dame Fiona is only the second lady Lord Mayor in the history of our great City, making her presence very appropriate given that I was only the second lady Master of the Upholders Company in its 650 year history. Our speeches therefore shared a poignant and common theme, namely what it is like being 'a second'!

Aside from the Company guests and Livery Masters present, the evening was also made very memorable for me through the presence of my sister Janet and niece Joanna, both attending a City event for the first time. I was also delighted to have my exclusive Basketmakers' lunch group, 'The Three Musteatheres', as my guests – well two of them in fact, given that I am the third!

Although my 'Mother' Ward Club is Cripplegate, where I am a Past Master, there was a huge contingent from Farringdon Ward Club in attendance. Our now Honorary Liveryman Alderman Vincent Keaveny and his wife Amanda, were among my guests. Vincent is Alderman for 'Farringdon Within' and a Patron of the Ward Club, where I was President in 2015. Having been a former Corporation of London officer for 20 years, I had the pleasure of dining in Mansion House in 1988 as a guest of the then Lord Mayor. This was of course very special but without doubt the experience is even more so when hosting your own Mansion House Banquet and when you are sitting in the 'hot seat'!

Judy Tayler-Smith, written as Past Master in 2020

New Members' Evening in the Court Rooms of Cutlers' Hall, Monday 20 November 2017

Twenty three current Upholder members, from Yeoman right up to the Father of the Company (see p 6) flocked to Cutlers' Hall to welcome our guests new to Livery who were invited to hear about our charitable work, traditions and long history of support for our trades. Following a fascinating tour led by Cutlers' Beadle David Haslar (naturally Cutlers were portrayed as the most important Livery of all since humans needed to 'cut' in order to eat, make fire and build), guests heard presentations on the Benefits and Privileges of being a Liveryman, our Charities, View from a Young Liveryman and how to become a Liveryman—the next step. Sincere thanks to PM Michael Gilham, younger Liveryman Sebastian Hurst and Court Assistant and Hon Archivist Jackie Williams for their excellent presentations.

The event grows in popularity each year and the Membership Committee are delighted to welcome on p4 one of the guests at this event who went on to be clothed in January 2018.



Upholding Charity



Red Cross Fair, Guildhall

The Upholders' Cushions stall at the Red Cross Fair held at Guildhall on 27-28 November 2017 was organised by Past Masters Michael & Wynne Gilham and raised £1265.00. The photo L shows Michael and Wynne with other stall helpers Liverymen Penny Bruce and Martin Pickard, and Malcolm Hopkins. Cushions remaining at the close of the Fair were donated to the Red Cross for sale in their shops.

Livery Fund for the Grenfell Tower Disaster

Master Baker Patrick Wilkin organised an appeal to the Liveries inviting them to make donations into a Livery Fund to be given for the relief of suffering following the Grenfell Tower disaster. 58 Liveries, including the Upholders' Company, donated a total of £120,500 and the Master Baker sent this amount to the Evening Standard Fund (being run in partnership with the London Community Foundation) as a donation from 'The Livery Companies of the City of London'.



The Master received this very special memento at the final event of her year she attended with the Clerk, the Painter-Stainers' Court Dinner for Masters and Clerks on 12 April 2018. It was not without effort on the Master's part however as she was soon called upon to sabrage a bottle of Champagne with a sabre plucked from the wall—thankfully no historic artefacts were damaged!

Upholding our Livery ~ Dates for your Diary

Upholding our Livery ~ Naval connections

Welcome and goodbye from HMS Triumph

Firstly a warm hello from myself and the Ship's Company of HMS Triumph. Since the last edition of the Upbraid newsletter HMS Triumph has completed several operations of national importance and the Submarine Command Course to assess future submarine Captains. The Ship's Company have been kept at the top of their game through complex manoeuvres whilst keeping a submarine as old as I am at sea!

We have also welcomed our new Captain, Commander David Filtness Royal Navy. He is looking forward to taking the "best submarine crew in the fleet" to sea and is delighted to now be a Liveryman. He, like his predecessors, wishes to carry on and improve the links between the company and HMS Triumph.

Unfortunately, I have to end this article on a sad note. My time on HMS Triumph will shortly be coming to an end and therefore my tenure as the liaison officer. I like many others have enjoyed your hospitality and met some very interesting people. I hope my relief, Lieutenant Ed Murray Royal Navy, enjoys it as much as I have and he must always remember that being on a submarine is much more exciting than being a marine!

Lt Adam Hughes RN, HMS Triumph

| | |
|---|---|
| Wednesday 26 April 2017 | Installation Banquet Saddlers' Hall |
| Friday 12 May 2017, 2.30pm | History Society visit Crossrail at Museum of London Docklands |
| Wednesday 14 June 2017 | Audit Court & Dinner Committee Room 1, Guildhall |
| 10am-4pm Fri 23 & Sat 24 June; Auction Sat 4.30pm | Heritage Skills Festival, Lincoln Cathedral |
| Monday 26 June 2017 | Election of Sheriffs Guildhall + Lunch at Painters' Hall |
| Wednesday 28 June 2017 | Awards & Prize Giving The Cass, London Metropolitan University |
| Monday 10 July 2017 | Master's Summer Event Royal Hospital Chelsea , tour and tea |
| Tuesday 12 September 2017 | September Court & Dinner HQS Wellington |
| Saturday 16 September 2017 | History Society Guided Walk of Smithfield, 11am |
| Friday 29 September 2017 | Election of Lord Mayor Guildhall + Lunch at Painters' Hall |
| Thursday 26 October 2017 | Upholders' Banquet Mansion House |
| Saturday 11 November 2017 | 80th Lord Mayor's Show |
| Monday 20 November 2017 6.30-9pm | Learn about Livery Evening Cutlers' Hall Court room |
| Thursday 18 January 2018 | Election Court, Common Hall & Dinner Brewers' Hall |
| Tuesday 20 February 2018 | Annual Church Service St Michael's Cornhill + Dinner at Armourers' Hall |
| Friday 16 March 2018 | United Guilds Service St Paul's Cathedral + Lunch at Painters' Hall |
| Thursday 22 March 2018 | Master's Court Dinner Dyers' Hall |
| Tuesday 17 April 2018 | Installation Banquet Stationers' Hall |