

The Worshipful Company of Plaasterers  
[www.plaastererslivery.co.uk](http://www.plaastererslivery.co.uk)

YEARBOOK 2020-2021



## Masters since 1570

1570-1571	Simon Bedaugh	1630-1631	John Allen	1698-1699	Henry Cromwell	1761-1762	John Pratt
1571-1572	Cornelys Hand	1631-1632	William Wichnor	1699-1700	Edward Martin	1762-1763	John Meelery
1572-1573	Raffe Bettes	1632-1633	Edmond Lake	1700-1701	Henry Doegood	1763-1764	John Laban
1573-1574	Thomas Kelley	1633-1634	Edmond Waite	1701-1702	John Combes	1764-1765	James North
1574-1575	Cornelys Hand	1634-1635	Martyn Eastbrand	1702-1704	John Tooley	1765-1766	( James Wise
1575-1576	Raffe Bettes	1635-1636	William Whiting	1704-1705	John Edmondson		( Jabez Reed
1576-1577	Thomas Kelley	1636-1637	Edmond Lake	1705-1706	Thomas Walker	1766-1767	Walter Scott
1577-1578	( John Bettes	1637-1638	Williant Walters	1706-1707	Robert Powell	1767-1768	William Willat
	( Raffe Bettes	1638-1639	George Eatchell	1707-1708	James Tucker	1768-1769	Thomas Palmer
1578-1579	Simon Bedaugh	1639-1640	John Taylor	1708-1709	Richard Flye	1769-1770	John Baker
1579-1580	Thomas Kelley	1640-1641	William Willingham	1709-1710	Francis Handley	1770-1771	George Wellings
1580-1581	Cornelys Hand	1641-1642	Robert Langley	1710-1711	Robert Shann	1771-1772	James Palmer
1581-1582	Thomas Warbishe	1642-1643	Edward Lucas	1711-1712	John Cordey	1772-1773	Humphrey Wilmott
1582-1583	Raffe Bettes	1643-1644	William Betaugh	1712-1713	Nicholas Roberts	1773-1774	Thomas Brooks
1583-1584	Thomas Warbishe	1644-1645	John Hubbard	1713-1714	John Grinsell	1774-1775	Euclid Harrison
1584-1585	Simon Bedaugh	1645-1646	John Walters	1714-1715	William Hayes	1775-1776	Joseph Rose
1585-1586	John Laycock	1646-1647	George Ubancke	1715-1716	John Crouch	1776-1777	Joseph Cooper
1586-1587	Raffe Bettes	1647-1648	William Shute	1716-1717	Robert Mabbs	1777-1778	John Cloudes
1587-1588	Thomas Warbishe	1648-1649	John Smith	1717-1718	Henry Beale	1778-1779	John Cheek
1588-1589	Thomas Warbishe	1649-1650	Bartholomew Clarke	1718-1719	John Bunce	1779-1780	Francis Edwin
1589-1590	Richard Barfeild	1650-1651	Edmund Perwich	1719-1720	Thomas Combes	1780-1781	Euclid Harrison,Jnr
1590-1591	Raffe Bettes	1651-1652	Martyn Eastborne	1720-1721	William Pope	1781-1782	John Davis
1591-1592	William Bottom	1652-1653	Henry Chippine	1721-1722	John Winterburne	1782-1783	Thomas Cogan
1592-1593	Edmund Essex	1653-1654	Charles Daves	1722-1723	Robert Greene	1783-1784	William Wamsley
1593-1594	Robert Burton	1654-1655	Miles Steede	1723-1724	Chrisostome Wilkins	1784-1785	John Simmons
1594-1595	Henry Willis	1655-1656	Joseph Kinsman	1724-1725	( John Silver	1785-1786	William Green
1595-1596	Richard Barfeild	1656-1657	Edward Goodenough		( Nathaniell Hunton	1786-1787	William Sydenham
1596-1597	John Jackson	1657-1659	Abraham Stanyon	1725-1726	Richard Peak	1787-1788	Edward Stroud
1597-1598	John Jackson	1659-1660	Thomas Lycense	1726-1727	James Ellis	1788-1789	Thomas Cope
1598-1599	Robert Button	1660-1661	William Hollins	1727-1728	Richard West	1789-1790	William Roberts
1599-1600	Henry Willis	1661-1662	Edmund Perwich	1728-1729	Randal Stanley	1790-1791	Joseph Pope
1600-1601	Hugh Cappe	1662-1663	Arthure Toogood	1729-1730	Richard Burgiss	1791-1792	John Brown
1601-1602	Richard Dongan	1663-1664	William Musgrove	1730-1731	William Clarke	1792-1793	Thomas Clarke
1602-1603	Jackson Guest	1664-1665	John Smith	1731-1732	John Gregory	1793-1794	Richard Delannoy
1603-1604	Hugh Cappe	1665-1666	Robert Doegood	1732-1733	John Withers	1794-1795	( John Vincy
1604-1605	Richard Dongan	1666-1667	Daniell Morris	1733-1734	William Tooley		( James Palmer
1605-1606	Edward Essex	1667-1668	John Martyn	1734-1735	William Lord	1795-1796	John Wilmot
1606-1607	Richard Dongan	1668-1670	Henry Strode	1735-1736	Thomas Wise	1796-1797	Thomas Willats
1607-1608	Richard Ratcliffe	1670-1671	John Blunt	1736-1737	William Smith	1797-1798	Edward Rogers
1608-1609	Richard Browne	1671-1672	Richard Watte	1737-1738	Joseph Turner	1798-1799	William Dyer
1609-1610	Raphe Guest	1672-1673	Stephen Clay	1738-1739	William Bayly	1799-1800	John Jackson
1610-1611	Henry Standly	1673-1674		1739-1740	John Simons	1800-1801	John Dawson
1611-1612	Hugh Cappe	1674-1675	Daniel Morris	1740-1741	Thomas Bridge	1801-1802	Thomas Palmer
1612-1613	Richard Browne	1675-1676	Thomas Griffith	1741-1742	Thomas Baker	1802-1803	John George
1613-1614	( Raphe Guest	1676-1677	John Stevenson	1742-1743	William Willats	1803-1804	William Bickerton
	( Richard Ratcliffe	1677-1678	Edward Langley	1743-1744	Richard Scarr	1804-1805	William Bates
1614-1615	Henry Stanley	1678-1679	William Floyder	1744-1745	Andrew Eales	1805-1806	Samuel Bostock
1615-1616	Richard Terrey	1679-1680	Stephen Clay	1745-1746	Edward Holloway	1806-1807	William Roberts,Jnr
1616-1617	Randall Clarkson	1680-1681	Henry Gardiner	1746-1747	Edward Jones	1807-1808	Edward Halsey
1617-1618	Ellis Piggin	1681-1682	Henry Hodsdon	1747-1748	Joseph Lister		Bockett
1618-1619	John Longforth	1682-1683	John Dolphen	1748-1749	Thomas Meekes	1808-1809	Ralph Hall
1619-1620	John Allen	1683-1684	Christopher Tompson	1749-1750	Henry Gartrup	1809-1810	Thomas Creser
1620-1621	Henrie Briggs	1684-1685	Samuel Smith	1750-1751	( Edward Everard	1810-1811	John Brotherton
1621-1622	Thomas Atkinson	1685-1686	Thomas Townerow		( William Harrison	1811-1812	Henry Flower
1622-1623	Richard Browne	1686-1687	John Combes	1751-1752	Benjamin Glanvill	1812-1813	John Wyett
1623-1624	John Allen	1687-1688	Andrew Hatt	1752-1753	Thomas Cogan	1813-1814	James Mayor
1624-1625	Richard Fisher	1688-1689	John Stevenson	1753-1754	Arthur Stanley	1814-1815	Richard Delannoy,Jnr
1625-1626	Thomas Widmore	1689-1690	Thomas Newburn	1754-1755	Thomas Fletcher	1815-1816	Thomas Jackson
1626-1627	Robert Whiting	1690-1691	Stephen Cowford	1755-1756	Thomas Seagood	1816-1817	George Dowse
1627-1628	Edward White	1691-1694	Andrew Hatt	1756-1757	William Cutter	1817-1818	John Watts
1628-1629	Thomas Atkinson	1694-1695	Henry Gardiner	1757-1758	Charles Rogers	1818-1819	( John Bell
1629-1630	Richard Rawlidge	1695-1696	(Edward Hollingshead	1758-1759	Richard Wingfield		( Francis Bernascom
			(Thomas Buttler	1759-1760	( Thomas Wise	1819-1820	James Johnson
		1696-1697	John Willeye		( Thomas Chooke	1820-1821	Samuel Hough
		1697-1698	Abraham Crisp	1760-1761	George Fewkes	1821-1822	Thomas Daplyn



# YEARBOOK 2020-2021



THE MASTER AND CLERK VISIT HMS DRAGON IN PORTSMOUTH

# Back to normal... back to the Hall

**I suspect when the numerous Livery Yearbooks for 2021 are reviewed by future generations they will all begin with the line "What a strange year that was" and finish with "how fantastic it is to be getting back to normal". Well it was, and it is!**

This last year, for all its problems, or maybe because of them, passed in a moment and I find myself already looking at the rough edits of my second Yearbook. Normally we have problems getting articles but this year it's problems with photographs. Until the last month of the Livery year the Master had not had the chance to step out and dine with other Liveries or meet with our Military Affiliates. Thankfully that is returning and therefore so are photos.

The Portuguese often say "of oil, wine and Friends, the oldest is the best" and it has been gratifying to see old friendships rekindle (and new ones made) as we returned to the Hall in Fellowship for the first time since March 2020 for Robing in July.

In order not to let down our successors I will say "It's fantastic to be returning to normal!"

**Garth Manger**  
Clerk



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# The Master's Year

Margaret Coates 2020-2021

**I look back on a livery year like no other; a year when COVID-19 not only impacted on the Company, but on the lives of all our members, with different outcomes.**

**A year of stop and go, lateral flow, lockdowns, tiers, bubbles and the Rule of 6. Hope returned with the vaccines. Relief, privilege, gratefulness and pride consumed our senses in the seconds it took to deliver that precious vaccine into our arms.**



## COVID-19 - A year like no other

I had my first vaccine in a converted Magistrates Court in the London Borough of Bromley, manned by medical professionals and volunteers working in harmony, for the common good. If only we could dispense that same spirit of harmony and purpose as our country rebuilds and recovers from the effects of the pandemic.

I have been deeply saddened when receiving news of the loss of members due to COVID-19, which fortunately have been few and of those members who have suffered as a result of the pandemic. I have on behalf of the Court and the Company, expressed our compassion, sympathy and support.

Our Almoner, Richard Grove continues to offer support and the hand of fellowship

to members who are not in the best of health at the moment. I know members were grateful for last year's concerted effort to make contact by telephone, email and by letter, to check on their welfare.

This year's Yearbook is a record of how we Plaisterers made a Virtue out of the Virtual. Our Hall may have been closed since March 2020, but behind the scenes the Court, the Clerk's Office, the Directors of Plaisterers' Hall Limited (PHL), the Charity Trustees and the Livery's Committees continued to meet, invariably on Zoom, or in person when permitted to ensure essential functions were kept operating; strategic decisions taken promptly and plans made for the future recovery of the Company.

At front of house, we sustained fellowship through monthly virtual social events,

combined with Quarterly Information Evenings, so that members were aware of how the Company was faring. That necessitated brushing up on our computer skills and mastering a new communication technology – Zoom. Yes, we became masters of the small screen, waiting for the host (the Clerk) to invite us in, finding the mute and video buttons, making sure we were centre screen and playing to the gallery. We entered a world of other people's homes and they entered ours, eavesdropping on the conversations of those who never found the mute button!

## The start of my year

My Master's Year began with a hybrid Robing Ceremony on the 21 July, 2020. There was a small presence in the Livery Hall, including the new Master, Wardens, Deputy Master and Clerk, the outgoing Clerk, plus three apprentices who had successfully completed their apprenticeships. The Chaplain, the new Liverymen, Freeman and members participated from home.

The ceremony was conducted on Zoom, with oaths being sworn facing a laptop perched on a table at the front of the Livery Hall. The new Liverymen and Freeman made their oaths remotely from home and members viewed the whole proceedings from the comfort of their sofas. A surreal day, but it epitomised what was to be a surreal year; a year in which we found an inner resilience to find ways and means to see it through and survive its harshest challenges. We had no way of knowing then, that our next live Livery event for all members would be exactly 12 months later i.e. Robing 2021 and that Plaisterers' Hall, a premier events and hospitality venue,

would remain closed until June 2021, devoid of its main income stream.

## Supporting The Children's Society

In September and October 2020, two live events took place in aid of my Master's Charity, The Children's Society and their Disruption of the Exploitation of Children in the London Borough of Newham. New members were invited to take part in a guided walk of the Livery Halls in the City of London, sponsored by members of the Company.

The Halls were all closed and shuttered, but that did not dampen our spirits. We walked nearly nine miles that day, ending at Baker's Hall, which was open and their Clerk entertained us with a guided tour and refreshed our tired bodies with much needed tea and biscuits.

On the 4th October, Freeman Michael Shirley, together with staff and cadets from 282 (East Ham) Air Cadets took part in the Virtual London Marathon, walking 26.2 miles in relays of six, through the streets of London, raising over £5,000 for my Master's Charity. Funds were raised not only from members of our Company, but also from the community of Newham, including the family and friends of 282 and the teachers and pupils of Kingsford Community School, which has strong links to the Air Cadets. I know The Children's Society were very appreciative of this community effort.

## A carol service with a difference

The Carol Service in December was another hybrid event with only myself and the Clerk present in the Hall. Again, the service was conducted on Zoom and included pre-recorded carols sung by the choristers of Peterborough and St Paul's Cathedrals. The Clerk and I read



the traditional Christmas Lessons and the Chaplain delivered his Homily live from his home. It simply worked! We all joined in singing those familiar carols, those joyful songs which unite singers and listeners alike. Carols have an intimacy to captivate, bring us together, evoke good memories and generate a feeling of wellbeing. Exactly what was needed as many of us faced Christmas away from our family and friends and some home alone.

### The Plasterers online

As the months dawdled on, we were entertained by a programme of social events and talks that kept us going. The unforgettable Gin Tasting Experience, which gave us much needed Dutch courage; the excellent talk by the author Helen Fry on her then latest book, M19: A History of the Secret Service for the Escape and Evasion in World War II; the Revd Canon Tim Alban Jones' presentation on the History, People and Events of the last 900 years of Peterborough Cathedral, which whetted our appetites for a tour of the Cathedral when circumstances allow. Following that talk, Liveryman Christopher Gower got in touch

with me and gave an account of the circumstances which led to the start of our affiliation with Peterborough Cathedral 40 years ago.

He also said that two Deans of the Cathedral had become Chaplains to this Company, Randolph Wise in the eighties and of course our current Chaplain, the Very Revd Charles Taylor.

Other events included a talk by David Ray on Colditz; a Wine and Cheese Tasting and a Virtual Tour of Vintners' Hall. And, who will forget that excellent presentation and photographic record of the restoration of Sydenham House by heritage plasterer, Sean Wheatly?

### In touch by telephone

That presentation came about as a result of the telephone calls made to members in late 2020. Our Training Awards Luncheon 2020 was unfortunately cancelled due to COVID-19 and that is the one event where we do get to meet up with our actual plasterers, particularly those living outside London. My telephone calls brought me in contact with many of our heritage plasterers, including Freeman Jeff Orton. Jeff put me in touch with Sean and through Sean,

I was introduced to Marianne Suhr, an historic building surveyor, passionate about retaining traditional skills to repair and restore our historic buildings.

Marianne has organised specialist courses for the Autumn 2021 and Spring 2022, including a programme reaching out to plasterers wanting to extend their skills into traditional plastering. We will be promoting this programme and the Plasterers' Charitable Trust will be supporting it financially. If you are a member of the Company and you are a plasterer, why not apply to the Trust for a bursary? Worthy applicants will be given serious consideration.

### Entrance Hall project

With beautiful plasterwork in mind, the 27th May, 2021 was the 50th Anniversary of the Laying of the Foundation Stone of Plasterers' Hall. A celebratory Banquet was due to take place to mark this momentous event, but that had to be postponed to 5th October 2021. The actual anniversary was marked by the opening of the enhanced Entrance Hall to Plasterers' Hall.

Whilst our Hall was closed, the Directors of PHL took the decision to proceed with the project, which had been the inspiration of Court Assistant, the late John Robinson. He left a very generous legacy to the Company for the specific purpose of having an Entrance Hall in keeping with the neo classic style created by Robert Adam in the 18th century and faithfully reproduced in plaster and wood in the halls and rooms below stairs, but at its grandest in the Great Hall. His partner, Liveryman Derek Stubbs, has been instrumental in ensuring John's wishes were fulfilled.

The finished works were on full display, in the opening ceremony on the 27th May. Another hybrid event, with myself and the Clerk in the Entrance Hall, together with Past Master Robert Dalrymple, in his capacity as the Chairman of PHL, Past Master Terry Wright, a director of PHL and the person who kept a watchful eye on the project and Assistant Jon Riley wearing his contractor's hat. Again, staring into that laptop, presentations were given by all, to members watching at home on Zoom. Recorded music from VOCES 8 and a video recording of the project itself made this a very special occasion and I know the final result, that magnificent centre dome, would have made the late John Robinson proud.

### Our affiliates

In this Livery year we have remained in contact with our affiliates remotely, mainly due to the efforts of the Clerk. In June 2021 I was able to visit both the Royal Marine Reserves in Wandsworth and 282 (East Ham) Air Cadets, together with the Clerk. Two unforgettable evenings for me. Both were training evenings, so we got to see the marines and the cadets being put through their paces. Never doubt the warmth shared with our military affiliates. I was surprised to be presented with a commando's dagger, by the RMR marking my visit. The words on the plaque finished with this sentence, 'May our affiliation always remain strong and faithful'.



THE REVD CANON  
TIM ALBAN JONES



LEFT: HELEN FRY AND HER BOOK  
ABOVE: LIVERY HALLS GUIDED WALK



Next year marks the 40th Anniversary of our affiliation with the Royal Marines. Let us ensure we mark and celebrate that auspicious occasion, attesting to that sentiment.

The visit to 282 coincided with a visit by Sophie Parker, the granddaughter of the Odette Hallows, who served in the Special Operation Executive (SOE) during World War II. After the war, Odette was a very hands-on President of 282 Air Cadets. I was privileged to sit in on a presentation Sophie gave to the new cadets about her grandmother's war and specifically her experiences as a prisoner in a Nazi concentration camp. The Squadron's motto 'Que Je Surmonte' (That I Overcome), denotes the values Odette represented i.e., discipline and courage to overcome adversity. A small green leaf on their badge represents a leaf found and kept by Odette because through that leaf Odette clung to hope and life. Those new cadets clung on to Sophie's every word!

#### **A return to 'normal'**

As my year as Master was drawing to a close, Livery life gradually reignited, albeit social distancing remained the norm. On the 22nd June, the Lord Mayor held a Service of Reflection & Hope in St Paul's Cathedral. It was a moving service, remembering and honouring those who had suffered through COVID-19 or had related difficulties. It was also a service of Hope. We know there is much still to challenge us in the months ahead, but the message was to care for each other and the people of our great City in a fresh spirit of Hope.

It is my fervent wish that we Plaisterers embrace that fresh spirit of Hope and

take that forward into our new Livery year. I certainly felt that on the 20th July, 2021 when we finally all came together in person for Common Hall and our Robing Ceremony and Dinner.

I paid tribute to the Chairman and the Directors of PHL for their relentless dedication to the business affairs of that Company to secure its future and financial wellbeing and to our Clerk, Colonel Garth Manger OBE. In his first year as our Clerk, he has remained at his post throughout, always positive, leading from the front with that 'can do' attitude, working closely with myself, the Court and the Directors of PHL to ensure we were fit for purpose and 'ready to go' as soon as we received the green light.

He has worked diligently with us all to ensure a new 5 Year Strategic Plan 2021 – 2026 was in place, addressing the Recovery and Rebuilding Strategies for the three entities of the Company, the Livery, Plaisterers' Hall Ltd and the Plaisterers' Charitable Trust. I gave a detailed presentation on the new Strategic Plan at Common Hall and the full text will be on the Members' section of the website for viewing.

I know we will all step up to the plate and play our part to ensure its objectives are successfully delivered.

This has been a Livery year like no other, but we Plaisterers have made a Virtue out of the Virtual. I thank all our members for remaining engaged with the Company throughout and for all your good wishes.

It has been an honour to serve as Master of our Worshipful Company and in that fresh spirit of hope, I am looking forward to my second term in office.



THE MASTER WITH HER APPRENTICE



# My year ahead as Sheriff

## Deputy Master, Alderman and Sheriff Alison Gowman

To serve in the office of the Sheriff of the City of London is a tremendous honour and privilege. Even though I have been an elected member of the City of London – first as a Common Council member from 1991-2002 and since then as an Alderman, I am sure that there are things that will surprise me about the role of Sheriff. I hope that I will be ready to serve with dedication as well as to enjoy it all. I want to share some of my plans and insights into the year ahead.

The office of Sheriff pre-dates that of the Lord Mayor and whilst the most reliable record refers to the Sheriffs in the 1190s it is clear that an office had existed since the 7th century – what a weight of history!

The derivation of the name comes from Anglo Saxon origins being an officer who administers justice in a locality/shire. They held office as representatives of the Monarch. However as part of the settlement with William the Conqueror in 1067 the City was given the right to elect its own Sheriff and subsequently Henry I allowed the City to appoint a Sheriff over the shire of Middlesex. Hence the two Sheriffs in the City of London, although they now both hold office for the City only. (By the way there is a separate High Sheriff of Greater London whose jurisdiction is the rest of Greater London).

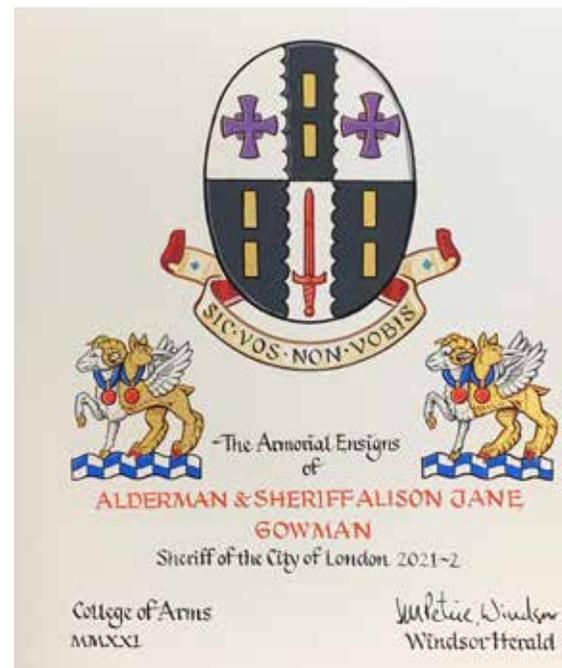
The City Sheriffs are the only Sheriffs to be elected and all others are chosen by the Monarch. However, the City Sheriffs do need to be approved by the Queen and a warrant of approval is given to

them at the Quit Rents ceremony before the Queen's Remembrancer and the Lord Chief Justice in the Royal Courts of Justice. This is a wonderful ceremony of great historic meaning.

### The role of the Sheriff

The modern day role of the Sheriffs is to support the Lord Mayor and work with him or her during the year of office. The parallel role is to support the Recorder and Judges at the Old Bailey and to host lunch with them each working day and promote the role of the Courts and the rule of law. The Sheriffs are involved in numerous meetings with business and overseas leaders around the work of promoting the Global City and its financial and related professional services. The Sheriffs will often step in to represent the Lord Mayor and to make speeches or chair meetings or events.

The Livery are a key stakeholder and there will be many occasions to meet and share time with the Livery Companies at ceremonial or other events. The Sheriffs' business plan for



the year will ensure that they seek to work collaboratively with the Lord Mayor and the Chair of Policy and Resources in alignment with the City's Corporate plan.

### The formal events

To the outside world the ceremonial aspects of the role of Sheriff are the most visible. There are some very formal ceremonies such as the election and installation of the Lord Mayor followed by the Lord Mayor's Show and Banquet – the latter both televised live. I am grateful that the Plaisterers are putting in a float in the Show as the day is so magical and fun with so many people on the streets of the City enjoying themselves.

As Sheriff I will ride in my own horse drawn carriage and will alight with the Lord Mayor at the Royal Courts of Justice where he swears an oath of allegiance to the Queen – the main purpose of the Show in reality! I hope we can wave at each other as we each take our place in the Show's line up. There are likely to be many services at St Paul's Cathedral during the year and let's hope that the United Guilds Service will take place in March with all the Livery Masters robed and in procession.

In June 2022 the country will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and there will be many formal and informal events around that time which will be unique. I think that these will be exceptionally special and moving in the Nation's history.

The Lord Mayor hosts several important dinners during the year and the Sheriffs are in attendance whether it is with the Mayor of London and London leaders in January, the Livery Masters in March, the Ambassadors and Foreign Secretary



in April and the Judges with the Lord Chancellor in July. These are grand events but also networking opportunities to talk about the City's role and to give a platform to UK Plc to speak to a wide variety of stakeholders. Alongside these the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs are likely to attend many Livery lunches and dinners – but a recent time and motion study suggested these only took about 10% of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs' time.

#### My aim during my time as Sheriff

Let me therefore introduce some of my own interests that I want to pursue (as time permits) in my role as Sheriff.

I am seeking to pursue the elements of a programme based around three Ps – property, purposed finance and philanthropy. These are all areas where I have an interest, expertise and track record.

#### Property

As a real estate lawyer I am planning to use my role to promote real estate and the importance that it is to the economy, to help as the property market is making a recovery and to consider aspects around the need to cut emissions from our property portfolio. I have recently become a Court member of the Chartered Surveyors' Livery Company and will work with them on this area.

#### Purposed finance

Purposed finance will probably be a big focus at the start of the year around the COP26 international conference on climate change. Whilst taking place in Glasgow there is a parallel conference online with contributions from London. The City's contribution to this topic is around funding the transition towards renewables and greening our

infrastructure and utilities – both in the UK, but with the huge global demand as well as promoting the City as the global hub for green finance.

I am a non-executive director of the Green Finance Institute and this organisation will be very involved in the work. I have also been leading the Livery Climate Action Group and hope that this can feed into the main COP agenda and spur the Livery Companies to do more and liaise with their trades and professions to make a wider impact on our economy.

#### Philanthropy

Philanthropy is a key trait of City Livery Companies and City businesses. We do it well! I want to ensure that we can use our unique ability and cluster of professional expertise to encourage funds to invest through the City and then disperse their funds intelligently with insight into how best to help those most in need. I have completed my time as the Chair of the City's charity, City Bridge Trust, but still sit on the Board and will be keen to promote the work that is being done and forward the agenda to create a London in which everyone thrives.

*"I am seeking to pursue the elements of a programme based around three Ps - property, purposed finance and philanthropy."*

#### Charity support

The Sheriffs are closely involved in various charity initiatives and these will take up part of my time. The Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund was established over 200 years ago to help ex-prisoners or prisoners' families and this is a focus for the Sheriffs in their year.

I will be planning some events to raise funds for this charity that provides valuable help to break the cycle of prison - release - prison. This may be something that the Plaisterers can get involved with?

The Lord Mayor's Appeal is an equal focus with a series of events during the year and the wonderful City Giving Day in September when the City celebrates the generosity of firms in the Square Mile and promotes responsible business activity.

The Old Bailey (pictured below) is a fabulous venue and available to be used after Court hours or at weekends. The Plaisterers had a talk and tour with HH Judge Anthony Leonard QC in 2018 but I would be pleased to host another event for the Plaisterers sometime in my year. Other events such as a school debate and Sheriffs' Bravery Award are



held annually with other visits hosted by various groups such as the Magistrates in Central London and the High Sheriffs from across the UK.

As a lawyer I want to promote the importance of an efficient and effective criminal justice system and have various events in mind to promote this. It can be an excellent venue to bring people together whether it be about knife crime or violence against women and children.

The accommodation at the Old Bailey will be refurbished in my year and so I will have an office but not an apartment. It will not stop me undertaking the role. I will be keeping in touch via a monthly news sheet so I hope that all that I am doing can be better understood and might spark off other ideas to be taken forward.

It is such a privilege to have the chance to hold an ancient office and to be able to shape a programme about promoting our modern City as we plan to reopen and resurge after Brexit and COVID-19.

I look forward to sharing the journey with the Plaisterers all the way.

#### Alderman and Sheriff Alison Gowman





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# Industry Committee

## CHAIRMAN Jon Riley

With the COVID-19 pandemic coinciding with Brexit, it is fair to say the industry has experienced quite a challenge over the last 12 months. Despite these “once in a lifetime” challenges, the sector has shown how resilient it can be with economic activity already bouncing back to pre-pandemic levels. Notwithstanding this, the plastering sector still suffers from considerable skills shortage of competent craftsmen and women.

Brexit and COVID-19 have further exacerbated this problem by many of the skilled and competent migrant workers leaving the UK and further experienced plasterers leaving the industry due to the COVID-19 pandemic. More than ever the industry requires a push on training to maintain traditional skills.

To become a competent traditional plasterer, it is normal for this to be a seven year commitment to training, with the first three years as an apprentice undertaking formal training qualifications, with a further four years post qualification experience. These are traditionally known as a “Journeyman”, being the journey of gathering experience, working on projects where all aspects of plastering are covered. In short, plastering is a trade that cannot simply be upskilled quickly.

Your Industry Committee is dedicated to promoting the plastering sector and training and to celebrate the traditional craft of plastering by recognising all those involved bringing the beauty of plaster into our buildings.

A perfect recent example of this is Greg Smith, our 2020-2021 Prince’s Foundation apprentice, who has been learning some of the decorative plaster skills whilst helping to deliver our new Entrance Hall.

To further promote the plastering sector and training, the Industry Committee is excited at the prospect of collaborating with the plastering and interior fit out trade association, the FIS, to establish a new Training Awards event which is being planned for November 2022. Our ambition is to celebrate and promote exceptional training and apprenticeships from both the Colleges and Industry combined.

We look forward to celebrating the successes of the next generation of plasterers in due course.



## 2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JON RILEY



## 2021-22 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JON RILEY

Ray Deeks  
Matthew Morgan  
Elizabeth Kitson

Stuart Brown  
Anthony Mitchell  
David Serra

Invited to attend  
Margaret Coates  
Stephen Gilbert  
Garth Manger  
FIS Representative



# The effects of the pandemic on the FIR Agenda in construction...



## ...a chance for the 'Big Reset' or a return to the status quo??

.....  
**Liveryman Helen Tapper,**  
 Operations Director, Tapper Interiors Ltd,  
 President FIS (Finishes and Interiors Sector)  
 .....

Prior to the pandemic, the FIR (Fairness, Inclusivity, Respect) agenda was a hot topic in Construction and across our own sector of the FIS (Finishes and Interiors Sector). Most Government contracts now carry clauses, insisting that Tier One Contractors sign up to and implement the FIR Charter, encouraging the employment and promotion of minority groups within a sector that has traditionally been slow to make progress.



I obviously have a vested interest in the promotion of women within our sector, and my statistics below therefore focus on women. I started out in the engineering sector, training as an electrical engineer in the 1980s and going on to join the construction sector some 20 years ago. In the 37 years since my career began, the gains that women have managed to make have been pitifully slow.

### So how do women fare in the Construction Sector?

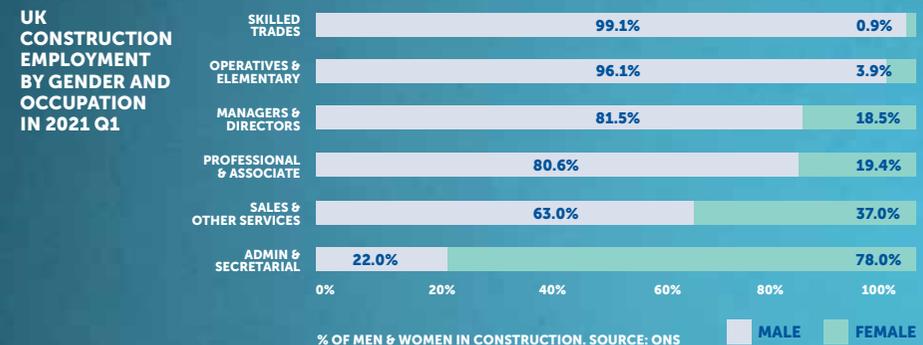
In UK Construction, women accounted for 14.1% of the workforce overall during 2021 Q1 but that varies considerably by occupation group.

Women accounted for only 0.9% of skilled trades, 18.5% of Managers & Directors and 19.4% of Professional & Technical Occupations but women

accounted for 37.0% of Sales & other services and 78.0% of Admin & Secretarial occupations.

The significant changes for female employment in UK construction compared with 10 years ago (a 5 percentage point change or more) have been in Managers & Directors (+6.1pp), Sales & other services (-13.4pp) and Admin & Secretarial (-6.2pp).

In terms of the latest FIS data, we are pretty similar to Construction as a whole, 13% of the workforce are women (rest of construction is 12%), in terms of roles, our workforce survey was less granular, but there is certainly nothing to shout from the rooftops! Over half are in Business Admin/Personnel roles. Trade Operatives account for no more than the 0.9% shown in Construction as a whole.





**The Pandemic**

In March 2020, the pandemic took centre-stage and the first lockdown was implemented. Panic ensued and Construction saw the biggest decline in its output since records began, a drop in-excess of 40%.

There was confusion as the Government stated its desire for Construction to work through the pandemic and The CLC (Construction Leadership Council) wrote the first draft of the SOP (Site Operating Procedures) for use during a pandemic. It was mind boggling for most contractors but most soldiered on and collaboration within the whole supply chain improved during this period, with a desperate need to just 'Get the Job Done'.

This new-found need to collaborate heralded the start of many predictions by industry commentators that Construction could rebuild itself, with a whole emphasis on fairer working practices and in turn being more open and acceptable to women and other minority groups, sadly lacking in the workforce. I was sceptical.

With such a massive downturn in output, a recession was surely looming and having lived through three previous recessions, I feared that the 'dog-eat-

dog' mentality of recessionary contract negotiations would have quite the opposite effect.

The Construction Industry is renowned for its peaks and troughs, caused by short term behaviours and the inevitable 'race to the bottom' that occurs during all recessions. This type of market is no place for trying to inspire change or investing in the FIR agenda.

Miraculously, the recession within Construction did not occur. We fared incredibly well and by March 2021, Construction Output was 2.4% higher than February 2020. All contractors suffered short term pain, largely due to cashflow issues caused by the considerable rapid contraction but orders have held up for most and cash is flowing again. Contractual disputes however are at an all-time high, so the fortitude shown by contractors during the chaos of Spring/Summer 2020 has not been rewarded and my scepticism over the behaviour of the industry during times of adversity was unfortunately well placed.

**So what of the future?**

The 'Big Reset' or 'Building Back Better' after the pandemic, as some have called it, is maybe not a pipe dream after all.

Statistics are still being gathered for the true effects on Construction and as highlighted by the ten year figures, we cannot expect significant changes in the position of women or other minority groups in such a short space of time, pandemic or no pandemic. I am now cautiously optimistic. There has been an opportunity for change and change has certainly been effected.

Most of us are busy, hampered only by the very real and immediate problems of material and labour shortages, caused not just by the halting of production last year but by Brexit and its associated issues. These labour shortages, which are fast becoming acute, will bring real opportunities for women and minority groups, because 'Necessity is the Mother of Invention' and businesses will need to look further afield to attract the talent they require. This will cause an organic improvement in the methods utilised to recruit and will hopefully have a chain reaction. A return to the 'Status Quo' is not an option any longer, if Construction is to evolve and evolve it must, then it must embrace the diversity of talent available in the whole population.

My caution however comes from the fact that some of the issues need

to be tackled from the bottom up. Construction has an image problem and we need to conquer the hearts and minds of young girls. Work needs to be done in schools to empower girls to choose a career in whatever their heart desires, not what society tells them is acceptable.

Construction companies will not just need to change their recruitment protocols but work with educational establishments to inspire change within their organisations and promote an atmosphere of opportunity for all.

At the FIS, we are looking at ways of achieving this and trying to set a good example and inspiring others to follow. Iain McIlwee, the CEO, has joined the FIR ambassador network and I am to be his sponsor. As ever, in this arena, marginal gains are key but we keep forging ahead, because I don't want to 'Look Back in Anger' I want to look 'Look Forward with Hope'.

**Helen Tapper**  
**Operations Director,**  
**Tapper Interiors Ltd**  
**President,**  
**FIS (Finishes and Interiors Sector)**





# Finance Committee

CHAIRMAN **Jon Randall**

**The Finance Committee has the important job of assisting the Court and Clerk in managing the finances of the Livery. The Livery's financial year more or less coincides with the Master's year.**

The work of the Finance Committee includes; the preparation of an annual budget, oversight of the production of quarterly and annual accounts and monitoring the levels of income and expenditure. COVID-19 has made this job more important than ever.

It is usual for the Livery to realise an operating deficit each year which is covered by drawdown from the Livery investment portfolio. The size of the deficit is proportionate to the level of activities, events and sponsorships undertaken in the year.

The pandemic has resulted in dramatically reduced activities of the Company and our inability to hold almost all of the usual events. This has given rise to substantial cost savings and a much reduced operating deficit for 2020/21. We did anticipate this to some degree and we reduced the level of drawdown from our investments (from £75,000 to £55,000). However in setting the level of drawdown we expected a resumption of normal activities and events part way through the year which did not happen. As a result we have not been able to utilise all of the funds available to us in 2020/21. This means we are holding a higher than normal level of cash in our Livery bank account.

At the time of writing we have seen a significant recovery in the stock market resulting in a significant increase in the value of our investments following the "hammering" we took last year. The Livery balance sheet is therefore looking much stronger at the end of 2020/21 compared to a low point at the end of 2019/20.

With the possibility of continued further lifting of lockdown restrictions we may be able to return to a more "normal" level of activities during 2021/22 and this is reflected in the budget for the year. Together with cost inflation and additional commitments such as the Lord Mayors' Show, this means we are budgeting for a significant operating deficit for 2021/22.

However, due to the current higher amount held in the Livery bank account, we intend to retain the lower level of drawdown from the investment portfolio and make up the difference from funds held in the bank account. We continue to transfer funds from Quarterage into a "ring-fenced" separate reserve to help towards safeguarding the future of the Company.

This is my first year as Chairman and I wish to thank Past Master Gary Morley for his assistance with the handover and his support during the year.



**JON  
RANDALL**



**DAVID  
JARMAN**

**2020-21 COMMITTEE  
CHAIRMAN JON RANDALL**

**RICHARD  
WALKER**



**TIM  
FUSSELL**



**2021-22 COMMITTEE: FINANCE AND INVESTMENT  
JOINT CHAIRMAN: JON RANDALL/JAMES MINETT**

**Kevin Hopwood  
Richard Atkins  
Richard Walker  
Tim Fussell**

**Ed Cowdery  
Tim Cooke  
(representing PHL)**

**Invited to attend  
Margaret Coates  
Stephen Gilbert  
Anthony Mitchell  
Garth Manger  
Peter Baker**



# Marketing & Communications Committee

CHAIRMAN **Tim Stokes**

## Strategy and objectives

**During another year shaped by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee maintained its strategic focus and, in a year of adversity with almost all events cancelled, enhanced communications both internally and externally and laid the foundations for a strategy through until 2026.**

During the year the Membership Committee commissioned a wide-ranging survey of Members conducted by Liveryman, Luke Sehmer. This excellent work set the context for the Committee as it considered its future strategy, a strategy which was approved by the July Court.

## The Company online

Collaboration between Committees became stronger and the crossflow of information became better despite the absence of in-person contact. On-line events, social media and the website became the main channels of communication during the year.

The website has continued to develop positively as the 'hub' of Livery communications for both external visitors and for Member communications with visitor numbers supported and driven by social media activity.

## COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES

Until 2026 the Committee will report against its objectives and will work to:

- **Improve awareness and understanding of the Company within its target audiences by featuring our achievements, successes and heritage**
- **Promote the City of London courses to foster an understanding within the Membership of the Corporation and Mayoralty with a view to encouraging members to progress within the City institutions.**
- **Deliver news and information to the target audiences by combining traditional methods with digital channels and, by 2024, ensuring digital channels are the most reliable medium and that the Company website is seen as the most authoritative source of news and engagement.**

With all external activities being cancelled, the Livery made a determined effort to maintain engagement with Members.

Regular online Zoom events were held throughout the year with on average an event taking place at least every month using internal and external contributors including the staging of our 'virtual' Carol service. All online events can be seen on the website.

With fewer events taking place there has been a reduction in external visitors to the site with the exception being BBC's coverage of a MasterChef episode recorded in the Livery Hall which, on the day in April, led to a 'spike' of over 5,000 visitors to the site. The website provides the Livery with access to latest news, to the Master's blog, articles about the City of London and newsletters from the Clerk.

## External communications

With all events being cancelled during the year due to the virus pandemic, the Committee has used its social media

presence to maintain awareness of the Livery and its past events.

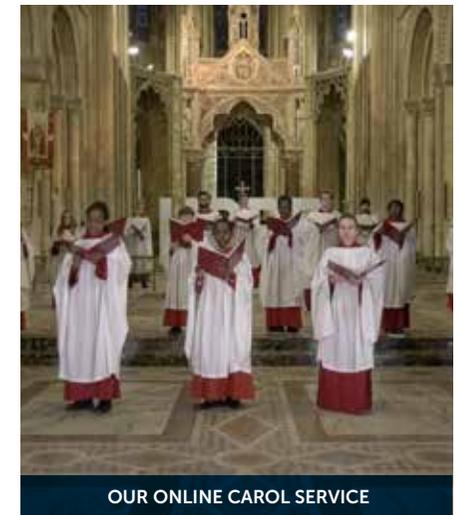
Taking advantage of the upgrading of the Entrance Hall into the Livery Hall during the year, the Committee ensured the craftsmanship involved in creating this wonderful new ceiling was captured on the website for all to see including a video of the finished work. This project is to be celebrated through the production of a book detailing the stunning project.

## Lord Mayor's Show

The Lord Mayor's Show, scheduled for November 2020 was cancelled but the Committee built on its past preparations culminating in it re-confirming its entry for November 2021. A float has been designed to celebrate our Past Master Alison Gowman becoming Sheriff. It will meet the Lord Mayor's sustainability agenda and the Livery entry has been approved by the Pageantmaster's office. The Committee will work to deliver an excellent float with the support of volunteer Livery members.



MASTERCHEF RECORDED IN THE HALL



OUR ONLINE CAROL SERVICE



**Conclusion**

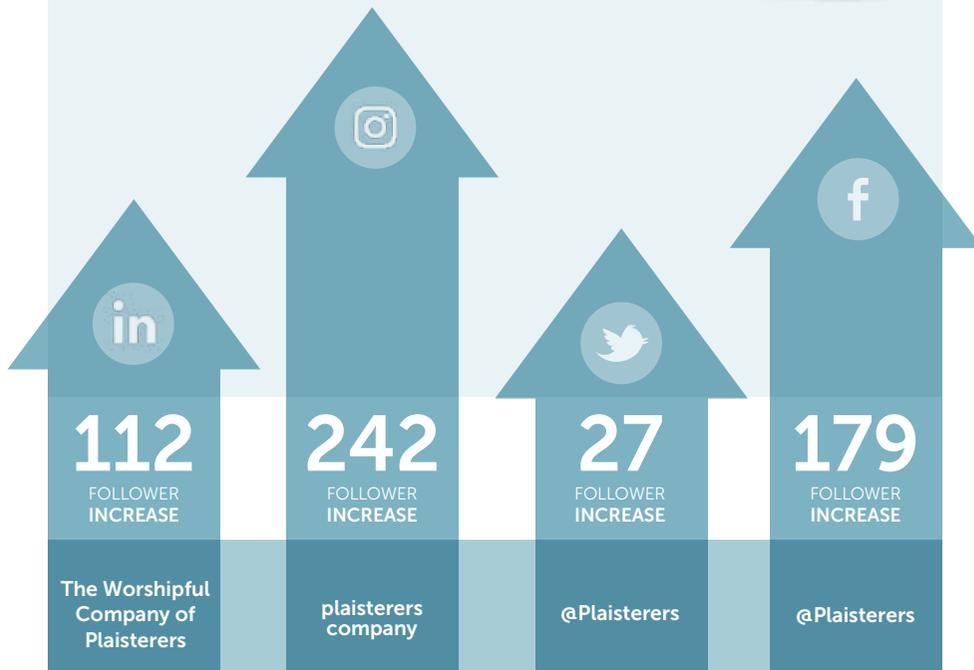
In conclusion, I take this opportunity to thank all Committee members for their contribution and fortitude during what was a most difficult year. I know the Committee would like me to thank our Master, Margaret Coates, Assistant Clerk, Ali Mackey and particularly our new Clerk Garth Manger for their support and encouragement.

The Committee now has its objectives and strategy in place through until 2026. I am confident that with the support of the management team and all Liverymen, the Committee is well positioned to take its work forward to enhance awareness of and the reputation of the Company.

**Follow us on social media**

Digital channels include including LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram have been updated regularly to reflect our activity. Over the year we've seen increased and positive interaction across all the platforms, also reflected in the additional followers shown below.

We're also benefitting online from an increasingly close relationship with Plaisterers' Hall and CH&Co our catering and events partner – an active promoter of the Hall.



**2020-21 COMMITTEE**  
CHAIRMAN **TIM STOKES**



**2021-22 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SUE SPURLING**

Simon Hinks  
Mike Hannibal  
Adrian Marsh  
Archin Talpade  
Jake Kersey

Anthony Leonard  
Adam Binns  
Philip Foster

Invited to attend  
Margaret Coates  
Stephen Gilbert  
Anthony Mitchell  
Garth Manger



# Membership Committee

CHAIRMAN **Tim Cooke**

**This has been a year of achievements and new initiatives, confounding the threat from COVID-19.**

## Recruitment

Foremost amongst the achievements has been the broadening of the Freedom with 13 new freemen welcomed to the Company in July 2021. Our new Freemen bring additional talents and perspectives to the Company as well as delivering a younger age profile and greater diversity. It is particularly pleasing that a number of our new Freemen are from the plastering industry and others are members of 282 (East Ham) Air Cadets.

The Squadron has also provided two of the new apprentices alongside young family members of current Liverymen. In addition, five new Liverymen were robed this year and we warmly congratulate them on their advancement.

## Young Livery Group

Supported by the Committee, Megan Manzi has established the Young Livery Group (YLG) which already has a committee, a sense of identity and ambitions for the post-COVID-19 era when its membership will be able to get together.

It's encouraging that even now we have a significant tranche of our Company who qualify to join YLG and we should anticipate with relish the group becoming more influential within the decision making processes over time.

## Committee Membership

Mike Jones stepped down as chairman of the Committee last Autumn. His chairmanship was distinguished and extended over a number of years.

On behalf of the Company I would like to acknowledge Mike's achievements and also his personal commitment as evidenced by his hosting of New Members' evenings plus his iron grip on the position of each prospective new member on their progress to the Freedom and beyond.

## Retention

The Committee recognised that our existing membership might experience a sense of detachment, even dislocation, from the Company as COVID-19 took hold and stopped all opportunities to meet in the Hall.

Alongside the initiative to link younger members of the Company to those who have been involved for many years, the Master's programme of imaginative, wide ranging on-line events and talks have been important in keeping in touch. Despite the successes, some might well argue that mid-pandemic was a strange time to launch a survey of members and their attitudes towards the Company.

Nonetheless committee member Luke Sehmer agreed to apply his professional skills in devising, constructing and facilitating an in-depth study. The response rate was pleasing and the results were assessed in detail by the

## 2020 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY FINDINGS

### ON LIVERY LIFE

*Members' expectations of the Livery are being met and the majority of members are happy with their current involvement. The Livery plays an important role in members' lives, helping them feel connected to the City of London and offering the opportunity to enjoy the Livery (and City) traditions.*

### ON LIVERY EVENTS

*Engagement with events is high amongst survey participants, with more than half attending 3+ events a year.*

### ON THE CHARITABLE TRUST

*Over two thirds of survey participants trust the Charitable Trust and support the Masters' charities.*

### ON NEW MEMBERS

*Members feel very comfortable introducing people to the Livery, with about two thirds of members considering themselves likely to introduce people to the Livery in the future.*



Read the whole membership survey in the Members' area of the website:  
[www.plastererslivery.co.uk/member-survey](http://www.plastererslivery.co.uk/member-survey)



Committee before a summary was presented to the Court and subsequently on a Zoom meeting to the Company as a whole. The results were then made available on the website.

Whilst there are findings that will help to refine the proposition to our membership, none requires a major shift and indeed the overwhelming sense was that we all remain proud of our involvement with the Company and want it to evolve and become still more relevant whilst holding on to many of its established traditions and its values.

The level of loyalty was made evident when the Clerk's office sought renewal of Quarterage and with just one exception we have all refreshed our membership. Few other subscription-based organisations can boast of such an achievement during this strange time.

My thanks also go to the Committee members and those in the Company who have generously supported the work of the Committee during a strange but ultimately a positive year, one from which we can look forward with confidence.



WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS AT THE ROBING CEREMONY



2020-21 COMMITTEE  
CHAIRMAN TIM COOKE



2021-22 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TIM COOKE

David Hill-Kelly  
Heather Dix  
Ross Ashworth  
Luke Sehmer  
Megan Manzi

Jim Tapper  
Ian Hawthorne  
Ex-officio  
David Jarman  
Richard Grove

Invited to attend  
Margaret Coates  
Alison Gowman  
Stephen Gilbert  
Anthony Mitchell  
Garth Manger



# The Plaisterers' Young Livery Group (YLG)



BY Megan Manzi

- A forum for mutual support and fellowship
- A method of giving younger members responsibility, purpose and a voice
- A pathway for progression within the Company

Formed with 13 founding members in 2020, the YLG has made a great start at building on its core objectives. Regular calls have been held throughout lockdown to keep in touch and plan events, and given the group's moniker it would only be fitting to use WhatsApp for ideas, pictures and meme sharing (all plastering related of course)!

We are very fortunate to have affiliate representation in the starting line-up of the YLG and we want to use this as an opportunity to become an approachable group and support network for affiliate members attending events and exploring involvement in the company.

Our committee representation is also strong and includes the Membership, Marketing, Investment and Industry Committee. Having such a large pool of committee members in the YLG is an invaluable source of company knowledge and provides a great sounding board for strategic ideas.

Events have been a challenge for all, and an adjustment most have had to make in the last year is the transition from drinks

down the pub, to drinks on Zoom. Those dark evenings in January with a shirt on, a glass of wine in hand, the gallery view of friends/colleagues and pyjama bottoms comfortably hidden out of shot are all too familiar for the YLG. That in mind, it was agreed to do something non-virtual for the YLG's first event and so a self-organised walk was held in May to raise money for the Master's charity.

All members of the Company were invited to participate and send in the details/pictures of a May bank holiday walk with family and/or friends, with prizes available for the longest distance, highest elevation, best photograph and best outfit. The event was a great success and in total 200km was covered by over 20 separate walks and most importantly approximately £1,000 was raised for the Master's Charity, The Children's Society.

Beyond lockdown, like all Company members, the YLG are very much looking forward to getting back into the Hall and attending some of the wonderful events scheduled in the calendar and organising some of our own.





# Robing Ceremony

20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021

This year saw us back in our Hall for the Robing Ceremony where we welcomed our new Master and Wardens, Liverymen, Freemen and Apprentices.

We were also pleased to see our 2020 Liverymen and Freemen in person at the ceremony after their virtual admission in 2020.



# Almoner 2020/21

RICHARD GROVE

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

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

Email [richardgrove48@hotmail.com](mailto:richardgrove48@hotmail.com)

Telephone 020 8462 8810



## 2021 LIVERYMEN & FREEMEN

*Back row left to right:* Nicholas Amakye, Stuart Keenor, Bernard Cunningham, Girish Saravanan, Helen Tapper, Fred Ashford-Okai, Saxon Foster, James Carey, Damian Williams, Geoffrey White

*Front row left to right:* Martin Spurling, Ed Davis, Claire Gapper, Simon Carey, David Serra, Winston Michael



## 2020 LIVERYMEN & FREEMEN

*Back row left to right:* Samuel Steinbock, Stephen Gilkes, Michael Lee, Tom Barton, Joshua Oates, Philip Gaches, Thomas Saul, Charmaine Etienne, Richard Tall

*Front row left to right:* Andrew Rainbow, Anita Barton, James York, Arnold Wills



# Our Apprentices

**Apprenticeships are part of the fabric of Britain encouraging trade training, and the Plaisterers have, since our inception in 1501, embraced Apprenticeships. However it has only been since 2013 that the Plaisterers adopted a modern approach to this ancient tradition. Since then our scheme has had some notable success, with 15 Apprentices entering, or being 'bound'.**

This year we saw both ends of the apprenticeship journey. Saxon Foster and Jade Hewitt-Boorman completed their Indentures and were duly elected as Freemen of the Company. Saxon represents the third member of the Foster family to become a Plaisterer, joining her father and sister.

At the other end we welcomed three new apprentices; Stefania Andrei, Caitlin Saul and Kyle Ravi. These three represent a mix of family links through Caitlin, who follows in the footsteps of her brother Thomas under the support of her Master (and grandfather) Liveryman Dennis Roycroft, as well as a new departure with Kyle and Stephanie. Both of these two are the result of our growing bond with 282 (East Ham) Air Cadets.

This has come about following an idea germinating from the Master then taken forward by Liveryman Heather Dix and the Clerk who spent time with the Command team of 282 ensuring we were able to offer the cadets something and, importantly were operating within any child protection boundaries.

Following a presentation to the Cadets by Heather Dix, seven possible applications were received. Based on age and with advice from OC 282 we selected two to take forward this year; others will follow over the next few years.

The procedure and rules governing Apprentices are fairly simple and hopefully designed to allow the parents, the aspirational Apprentices, and their Masters to understand and be part of a process that helps both the Apprentice and the Company. Key to this is a Master. Usually with family apprentices the Master is a Liveryman who is a close family friend or family member. This would not be possible with 282 Cadets and so the Court was approached with a request to take on apprentices.

We were fortunate that both the Master Margaret Coates and Past Master Bill Mahony immediately volunteered and stood beside their Apprentice at the Robing on 20 July when they signed their indentures.

## Looking ahead

This scheme allows safe, positive, outside influences, help and friendship away from schooling, an introduction to the Company and family of Plaisterers, and an early insight into City and Livery workings as part of the fabric of Britain.

All Members are encouraged to consider apprenticeship for members of their family or friends, and if approached by another member, to take on the positive role of Master to an apprentice.

There are a few rules governing the scheme. Notably that an Apprentice

must be at least 14 years old and normally serve their apprenticeship for a minimum of 5 years or until they are 21. They must be supported by a Master who is a Liveryman of the Plaisterers and on successful completion of their servitude the Apprentice they become

'free' of the Company and City, being offered the opportunity to become a Plaisterers' Freemen. Should you require any information or advice on bringing an Apprentice into the Company please speak with the Clerk who will be more than willing to help.

## NEW APPRENTICES

*Left to right:*

*Caitlin Saul with her Mother and her Master LM Dennis Roycroft*

*Stefania Andrei with her Mother and her Master Margaret Coates*

*Kyle Ravi with his Mother and his Master PM Bill Mahony*





# Investment Committee

CHAIRMAN **James Minett**

**The Investment Committee normally meets twice a year, in June and December.**

At the June 2020 meeting Rathbones briefed on the investment performance. Following this Kevin Hopwood, Rohit Nathaniel and the Chairman were asked to report in December 2020 on Rathbones performance across all three entities over the preceding three years; comparing the returns with their benchmarks and industry averages.

It was found that whilst the portfolios had not significantly outperformed for any material periods, they had also not underperformed and overall they had performed in line with their benchmarks with a lower volatility than their benchmarks. This was achieved over a period when the benchmarks had been reset to incorporate a slightly lower risk profile, but with a higher overseas equity component, and a move from capital growth and income to a total return approach.

As a result, it was agreed to continue with the existing managers. This has been rewarded with a strong performance over the last year with good performances in both absolute and relative terms. The pandemic has caused a significant rotation in market leadership over this period with the stay at home stocks (technology and internet related companies) initially performing well. The portfolios performed well over both periods, the managers changing the complexion of the portfolios effectively.

The Committee have also discussed responsible investment with the investment managers, including voting, engagement and ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) issues. This is of particular relevance given the climate crisis. Rathbones do incorporate ESG considerations into their portfolio management. They provided a report on their voting activity, engagement with companies and have joined Climate Action 100 to combine with other fund managers to influence some of the worst CO2 emitting companies.

The Committee held an additional meeting in December to consider the impact the proposed merger of the Investment and Finance Committees. A closer relationship between the two committees would benefit the Livery Company, but one of the most important aspects of the Investment Committee meetings is that they provide a forum for the three entities of the Company to meet with Rathbones and discuss their own investment needs and issues.

The Committee was reassured that the Agendas for the combined Finance and Investment meetings would be set to give sufficient time and attendance from across the Livery, to ensure it remained a good forum for investment debate. The continued uncertain economic background means that we will need to remain vigilant.



## 2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JAMES MINETT



## 2021-22 COMMITTEE

**From 2021 this Committee will be merged with the Finance Committee to become the Finance and Investment Committee.**



# Nominations Panel

## CHAIRMAN Alison Gowman

The Panel is chaired by the Deputy Master (Alison Gowman) and comprises the Master (Margaret Coates) and Past Masters Robert Dalrymple, Peter Baker and Timothy Cooke together with the Gallant Clerk (Garth Manger). It met regularly throughout the year.

Despite (or maybe because of) the lockdown the work has been exceptionally busy. Meeting virtually has not been an impediment to our deliberations and the successful outcome of the year.

The Nominations Panel acted swiftly to ensure that both the Court and committees could continue to meet virtually and effectively. It also promptly took regard of the anticipatory disruption to the Master's year due to the complete closedown. An early decision was made to allow the current Master and Wardens to continue for a second year in office with all the Court adjusting to that revised timescale. These decisions were as a result of wide consultation and were made in the good spirit that is expected of every Livery Company. The Master, Margaret Coates, will now serve until July 2022. The Upper Warden, Stephen Gilbert, will serve likewise. At the end of the Livery year Renter Warden, Tim Stokes, informed the Court that he would not (for personal reasons) be able to progress. The Court endorsed the nomination of Tony Mitchell to serve in this role from July 2021.

Every five years the Company undertakes a Strategic Review. The new Clerk enthusiastically threw himself into the work. After several meetings and consultations with the Court and the Committees it was approved at the July Court for implementation in October

2021. Whilst evolutionary rather than revolutionary, the process has focussed the Livery on the important aspects of its commitment to the industry and charity. A new Livery Committee has been formed to facilitate more events and build up the fellowship within the Livery. The Livery's Rules and Procedures will need some adaptation and that work will follow.

In line with other City organisations, the Nominations Panel proposed a formal statement for the Livery to adopt on equality diversity and inclusion. The agreed statement was adopted by the Court in October 2020 and is at the heart of the Strategic Plan. Additionally a working party has been set up under the leadership of Past Master Gary Morley to consider how and what the Plaisterers need to do to fulfil the pledge made. The agreed statement is "We are committed to promoting equality, fairness and respect and an atmosphere where diversity is recognised and valued."

The Nominations Panel kindly endorsed my progress to become one of the two Sheriffs of the City of London from September 2021. The Court agreed to support me throughout the year of office including submitting an entry in the Lord Mayor's Show. I am very grateful for this engagement. My thanks to the Panel and Clerk for all their hard work in the exceptional year.



ALISON GOWMAN



MARGARET COATES



GARTH MANGER

## 2020-21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ALISON GOWMAN



TIMOTHY COOKE



PETER BAKER



ROBERT DALRYMPLE

## 2021-22 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ALISON GOWMAN

Margaret Coates  
Garth Manger

Timothy Cooke  
Peter Baker

Robert Dalrymple



## The Worshipful Company of Plasterers' Charitable Trust: 'The Plasterers' Charity'

CHARITY STEWARD & MANAGING TRUSTEE **Peter Baker**

The Managing Trustees continue to develop and operate the Worshipful Company of Plasterers' Charitable Trust ('The Plasterers' Charity') independent of the Livery Company, in accordance with the terms of the Trust Deed, dated 1 July 1980, and as required by Charity Law. They continuously monitor the Trust's Objects and *modus operandi*, and review their strategy on an on-going basis at their regular quarterly meetings, and by electronic communications in between meetings, if necessary.

The Trust's Objects are briefly summarised as follows:

- *Providing relief to needy Liverymen or Freeman, their widows, orphans or dependents;*
- *The education of children of deceased Liverymen or Freeman;*
- *The education of persons connected with plastering;*
- *Grants to organisations promoting education and training in plastering; and*
- *Any other charitable purpose.*

### Financial Status

Like similar charities, The Plasterers' Charity has been adversely affected by COVID-19, initially suffering a decline of approximately 20% in the value of its Investment Portfolio in the early stages of the pandemic.

However, in the past financial year this decline was reversed and at 5 April 2021 the investment portfolio was valued at £2.408m (2020: £1.794m). The value has since increased still further, and at 15 July 2021 (the date of this report), the value was £2.584m.

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

The Investment Portfolio managed by Rathbones comprises:

- Unrestricted Funds (circa 85%)
- Restricted & Designated Funds (circa 15%) comprising:
  - The Manchester & Salford and Restricted Training Fund (7%)
  - The Spurling Bursary (2%)
  - 500th Anniversary Fund (Choral Bursary to support St Paul's Cathedral) (2%)
  - Harry Humber Fund (Music Bursary) (2%)
  - Henry Mott Fund (Choral Bursary to support Peterborough Cathedral) (2%)

Investment income declined during the year by 37% to £35,185 (2020: £55,796) due to companies either suspending, or

severely reducing, dividend payments, but this was offset by an increase in donation and legacy income from Liverymen, Freeman and other Benefactors of 24.5% to £65,437 (2020: £52,567), which is most gratifying.

Conversely, total expenditure declined by a net 17% to £79,851 (2020: £96,101), primarily due to the cancellation of the Annual Training Awards event in November 2020 (including prizes awarded to college students attending plastering training courses), whilst bursaries, donations and grants for other charitable purposes marginally increased.

It should be noted that there will likely be a similar decline in total expenditure during the current financial year 2021 - 2022, since the Annual Training Awards event will not resume until November 2022.

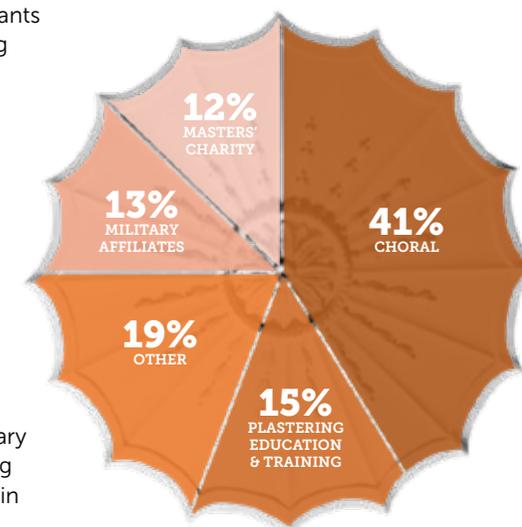
### Donations and Grants

During the last financial year, the Trustees considered and awarded bursaries, grants and other donation payments totalling £51,245 in furtherance of charitable activities, in accordance with the Trust's Objects, comprising:

- *Education and training in the trade of plastering*, including a bursary to support the development of heritage skills in conjunction with The Prince's Foundation (The Spurling Bursary) [15%]
- *Choral bursaries* for Peterborough Cathedral (Henry Mott Fund) and St Paul's Cathedral (500th Anniversary Fund) and for education and training generally via music within a school in an impoverished area of London, in

conjunction with Tom Daggett, OBE, the St Paul's Cathedral's Outreach Fellow, via the designated Plasterers' Bursary (Harry Humber Fund) awarded to the after-school 'Choir Church' scheme at St Paul's Church of England Primary School in the Parish of St George-in-the East, Whitechapel, whose pupils are mainly from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds [41%]

- *The charitable activities of our Military Affiliates*: the Royal Marines Association; the Special Reconnaissance Regiment Association; and 282 (East Ham) Air Cadets [13%]
- *The Master's nominated charity* (The Children's Society) [12%]
- *Other worthy charitable causes* both in the City of London and Greater London area [19%].





No donation was made to The Lord Mayor's Appeal during the current financial year (2020 - 2021) because two payments were made during the preceding financial year (2019 - 2020).

By an agreement between the previous, present, and future Lord Mayors, the current Appeal runs across years and is a partnership with four registered charities: (i) the Place2Be; (ii) Onside Youth Zones; (iii) the Samaritans and (iv) The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. The aim of the Appeal being to help one million people living and working in the City to thrive and create 'A Better City for All'.

**Conclusion**

Despite a difficult year for charities generally, the actions taken by the Managing Trustees on the advice of their financial advisers, The Plaisterers' Charity has 'ridden out the COVID-19 storm' and is well positioned to continue its charitable giving and support for its various beneficiaries during the forthcoming financial year.

Finally, I would particularly like to express my sincere thanks to my fellow elected and ex-officio Managing Trustees and Co-opted Member for their wise counsel, advice and interest in the Charity's affairs.

Most especially I should like to thank our Clerk, Colonel Garth Manger OBE, and his Assistant Clerk, Ali Mackey, for their help in managing the affairs of the Charity to the benefit of our various beneficiaries.

**PM Peter Baker**  
**Charity Steward and Chairman**  
**of the Managing Trustees**



**5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY**  
**2021 -2026**

Since the beginning of 2021, the Trustees have reviewed their Strategy for The Plaisterers' Charity for the next five years (2021-2026), which they developed and presented to the Court of Assistants and was approved at the July 2021 Court meeting.

This is summarised as follows:

- **Ensure the Charity remains 'Fit for Purpose' in the 21st Century**
- **Strive to increase regular giving from the Livery in both financial and practical terms ('Time and Talents')**
- **Aspire to grow the Charitable Funds and nurture them by prudent financial management**
- **Increase and focus grant-making to make 'a lasting difference' in our community**
- **Increase our awareness of those in need within our community, i.e. Plastering Trade, Military Affiliates, Education, etc**
- **Continue to 'Punch above our Weight'!!**



**2020-21 COMMITTEE**

CHARITY STEWARD **PETER BAKER**



**2021-22 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN PETER BAKER**

Margaret Coates  
 Alison Gowman  
 Garth Manger

Bill Mahony  
 Barbara Cook  
 Adam Edwards

Co-opted Member  
 Paul Infield



**The  
Children's  
Society**

# Master's Charity 2020/21

The Master has decided to continue to support The Children's Society throughout her second year as Master as her Charity. Donations made by the Plaisterers in 2020/2021 helped to support the Disrupting Exploitation Programme.

The programme is instrumental in bringing about significant positive impact on the lives of children who are being exploited by criminal gangs in the London Borough of Newham. Sadly not everyone sees the children as victims, but they are.

The Plaisterers help enabled The Children's Society's dedicated Disrupting Exploitation Worker to work with a child in the 'At Risk' category, which empowered the parent or the nearest equivalent, to navigate the child protection processes and referrals to ensure the child was protected and safe. The Children's Society and the Plaisterers have excellent links, connections and history with this borough.

The Plaisterers' Company works and holds a very special relationship with the 282 (East Ham) Air Cadets and The Children's Society's Stride Project works with boys and young men who have been exploited. The Master and The Children's Society hope that members will continue to look upon this partnership favourably.

The contribution and donations of The Worshipful Company of Plaisterers have been, and will continue to be, very much appreciated by The Children's Society and have enabled the Society to continue to support parents and children in Newham and wider.

[www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)





# Building Craft Programme

by Mark Webb Fundraising & Development Manager, The Prince's Foundation

The Worshipful Company of Plasterers is now in its third year of support of The Prince's Foundation Building Craft Programme. Each year the Company provides a bursary to a plasterer on the programme and during 2020 the Company has been supporting Sheffield based plasterer, Greg Smith.

Greg enrolled on the 2020-21 Building Craft Programme, which during the global pandemic remained the only in-person programme continuing under The Prince's Foundation as it allowed sufficient distancing between participants.

During his time on the programme Greg completed an 11-week 'Live Build' project alongside his fellow students that involved the restoration and refurbishment of an 1850's game keeper's cottage on the Dumfries House Estate, Scotland.

Greg, who was working towards a Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Heritage Skills (solid plastering), then went on to undertake work placements with Cliveden Conservation at Grade II listed Draper's Hall in Coventry, Locker and Riley and with master plasterer Karl Claydon of Claydon Plasterwork.

Having completed the programme in April 2021 Greg, like many of the students on the Building Craft Programme, was offered employment by one of his placement providers. His graduation ceremony will take place in September 2021, at Dumfries House.

Asked about his experience of his work placements Greg said:

***"Joining a new team and getting to know them within a short period of time has certainly helped me to build my confidence and communication skills. It was good experiencing how different companies/individuals deal with any technical problems on site.***

***This highlighted how important it is to be able to communicate across the different trades working on a project to ensure all work could be completed to a high standard."***



2020  
BURSARY  
STUDENT  
GREG  
SMITH



# Plasterers' Hall Limited

CHAIRMAN **Robert Dalrymple**

**This will have to go down as the worst 18 months for PHL and the Worshipful Company of Plasterers in living memory. A glance at the report in the Yearbook last year shows that COVID-19 has impacted in the most devastating way, fulfilling our most dire and worst predictions.**

## Lockdown

Since March 2020 the PHL Board has met monthly. We have had major concerns financially as the rental income stream from our events partner CH&Co ceased, almost overnight, as Government Pandemic Protective Legislation closed our Hall.

The PHL 2020 accounts make for a depressing read, with no meaningful income and our cash at bank has been seriously depleted, as it has been used to keep the Hall maintained, the facilities and Clerk's staff retained and the Clerk's office running. An upturn in the stockmarket has assisted our investment portfolio which, to date, has not been touched.

We have also been assisted by a number of Government grants that we have been entitled to and claimed successfully along with the vital job saving, job retention scheme better known as furlough, which we have made full use of and continue to do so until the scheme finishes at the end of September 2021.

Our accounts reflect the loss of rental income from CH&Co and although this has not been written off, provision has been made, so as to truly reflect the reality of our company's position.

With hopes of reopening being regularly dashed and disappointment commonplace, PHL has continued to engage fully with CH&Co seeking a mutually agreeable and practically possible route forward. Addendums to the contract have been well negotiated with them but they have come and gone and the latest ended in September 2021. These Addendums altered the way we do business with CH&Co from a rental contract to a profit share agreement on all events.

Those events were few and far between. Until July 2021 they were limited to selling Hall use to film and TV companies who were able to operate under different legislation. For example the Semi Finals of MasterChef was filmed in the venue in November 2020 and aired in early 2021.

We had a number of events subsequently, run to strict guidelines, following correct social distancing with limited numbers. This included the Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards Annual Banquet - held on round tables of 6 - for 148 including as guests, The Lord Mayor and full civic team, on 21st June 2021. We were delighted to take on the booking when Mansion House cancelled a mere three

or four days before this planned event in their Egyptian Room.

## Where are we now?

The Hall has survived the lockdown well due to a comprehensive and well-regulated maintenance scheme allowing all unnecessary equipment to be shut down but still be regularly serviced and all plant that could not be switched off has been regularly inspected and looked after. The new entrance hall works breathed life back into the venue boosting the morale of all of us who have been working, in both the offices and Hall, in splendid but lonely isolation throughout the lockdowns. The new entrance hall has the 'WOW' giving a taste of splendour upstairs reflecting what is in store to be experienced and enjoyed downstairs.

These continue to be difficult yards being trod, with best made plans regularly having to be adjusted or forgotten as PHL adapted to every necessary twist and turn, as the Government tried to bring normality back.

But despite the 21st June 2021 "reopening" not happening because of a change in case numbers of COVID-19 infections and the Government reviewing the route out of lockdown, we, as of July 2021 received some clarity despite, for a while, 'pinging' bringing about a whole new set of difficulties with staffing and event organisation. For example, one member of our facilities staff, due to be on duty at Common Hall had to self-isolate having been contacted through track and trace necessitating a replacement at the eleventh hour!

Enquiries are busy and buoyant, bookings are steady and for the first time in a very

long time we can start to be cautiously optimistic.

PHL predicted this time last year that our cash at Bank at the beginning of the pandemic would run out at the beginning of July 2021 but through good housekeeping, careful maintenance management and frugal financial planning PHL was able to delay the need to utilise some of our investment portfolio for up to an additional three months. This, at the time of writing this report, could also be subject to change if an income stream starts to flow in from events.

It is now clear that recouping the colossal losses of the last eighteen months will take some years to achieve and PHL will, without doubt, need to support this recovery with its investment portfolio. The events we have had booked in until the end of September 2021 fell under the second Addendum, meaning we enjoy a profit share of each with CH&Co.

We know reading this some Members will be thinking why are we still with CH&Co, writing and rewriting the contracts and questioning whether they are financially stable. Firstly we have had to be practical and focus on what is achievable with Create/CH&Co rather than desirable.

Practically they could no longer fulfil their obligation to the contract by paying us a rental for a venue we could not open or give them access to because of Government restrictions and as restrictions are lifted it would be impractical for us to expect them to immediately return to fulfilling their side of the contract. The ideal is to return to a rental agreement and to that end we



have engaged with CH&Co throughout, trying to predict an unknown and unsure future with no historical data on which to make those predictions!

As to CH&Co's financial security, they are a large multi-company group who have secured financial stability through a private equity company and PHL feels they are as secure, if not more so, as any other events and catering organisation in the hospitality industry at this time. From September 2021 onwards PHL has already signed a Road Map forward with CH&Co agreeing an increased profit share percentage to PHL through to the end of December 2022. Then from 1st January 2023 we are to return to a fixed rental agreement with a minimum acceptable amount already agreed but open to negotiation upwards dependant on trading conditions during 2022.

The current contract with them comes to an end as of the 1st January 2024 so negotiations and discussions will be had and all options investigated.

Members of the Create/CH&Co team in the onsite offices are returning to work full time including Brendan Owen, Catherine Pitcher and Sebin Jose, along with our full time in house Chef Nigel Smith, all of whom have a long and successful track record selling and operating a diversity of events at Plaisterers' Hall.

### The future

So now we should no longer look back, instead we must look forward. It is the intention where possible to sweat the Hall and working closely with an events partner is the only sensible way forward. The business needs to be rebuilt as do PHL finances. You have a strong and

capable Board committed to the long term future of PHL and its commitments to the Livery and it will be strengthened further in the coming months.

When the corporate world returns to working in the City in person and not virtually from home we can hopefully look forward to increases in revenue with their meetings and events being held in the venue. CH&Co continue to be both proactive and reactive within the market place and PHL will continue to closely monitor their progress and scrutinise every event they sell. We have also opened dialogue with other like Liveries with halls to assist each other rather than blindly compete with each other. The road forward could be described as daunting but the challenge will be fulfilling and exciting.

### Security and COVID-19

We continue to assess regularly our security arrangements and remain mindful of a possible return of COVID-19 regulations. Policies are updated and adjusted when and where necessary. We must not forget the terrible events at Fishmongers' Hall on 29th November 2019 and the lessons to be learnt from the inquest and its conclusions.

We must remain vigilant and please assist and cooperate with us with the measures we have and may have to put in place. PHL wants Livery Members, guests and clients to enjoy this wonderful space of ours in a safe and secure manner.

### Sustainability

Sustainability is something that every organisation should sign up to and it is something that PHL is taking very seriously along with CH&Co. Our Deputy Master and Sheriff is leading this in the

City of London. CH&Co are determined to be the city leaders as an events and catering organisation by 2023 and as such are already planning ahead.

As city corporate organisations seem no longer, because of COVID-19, to have in-house events management teams, they are looking more and more to Bookers, Agents and Events Planners to source venues to service their requirements. Soon number one on these Bookers' lists will be a sustainability policy that they are comfortable with when proposing a venue to a client, therefore it is doubly important for PHL to look seriously at our partners and our own sustainability policies.

Amongst the key strategies for 2021/2022 is to create a culture of corporate social responsibility to look for a green supply chain solution to our venue, to look at food waste and aim to achieve zero landfill, maximise recycling, redistribution and minimise waste and to aim low on our carbon emissions.

Create will be looking at our menus. This could mean a reduction in red meat and traditional menus will be adjusted with more sustainable options available to both Livery and outside clients; this along with logistics for supplying functions by reducing deliveries to the Hall. Utilising electric vehicles delivering from hubs is the way we propose to go forward both in the short and long term.

### Immediate difficulties

The Livery should also be aware of the difficulties that there are in transport and supply of food produce. You are no doubt all aware of the difficulties with finding staff in the hospitality industry, which has been well documented in the

press and, you may or may not be aware, but in the food industry alone there are between 60 and 85k lorry driving jobs that need to be filled. This is concerning all the food chain supply companies and us as end users. This is not so much COVID-19 related as Brexit.

### Apartments

On matters European the PHL apartment in Bridgewater Square has a new tenant from Germany, an employee of a German Bank. The flat has been empty since December when two Austrian tenants had to leave and return home, a COVID-19 related return, they were with an international banking group. A European bank bringing staff over to live in the City can give us hope that the City maybe, just maybe, returning to life. The apartment in Wood Street is being enjoyed by The Master as her Livery diary fills and accommodation in the City is needed.

### Entrance Hall Enhancement Project

As you arrive at Plaisterers' Hall you will be able to see the results first hand of the Entrance Hall Enhancement Project undertaken during lockdown enabled by a legacy from our late fellow Liveryman John Robinson.

It is a truly wonderful piece of heritage plastering work that looks so much better in real life rather than on Zoom. I would like to use this platform to thank LM Derek Stubbs for enabling the project to go ahead and PM Terry Wright and Assistant Jon Riley for their work on producing the stunning result that we as Plaisterers should be rightfully proud of.

I would like to express my thanks to the Master for the way she has handled a very different year in office and her



attendance at all our extraordinary board meetings. In the same vein I would like to thank my fellow board members for their diligence and attention in dealing with the major problems we are facing at the present time and the additional work that it has brought them all, thank you for your support.

I would also like to express my thanks and gratitude to Adam Edwards whose assistance and expertise behind-the-scenes for the benefit of PHL have been invaluable.

I would also like to thank Ali our Assistant Clerk for all her help throughout the year and the facilities team for their sheer hard work and ability to adapt whenever and wherever needed for the

benefit of the Hall. And to Garth Manger our Company Secretary and Gallant Clerk whose sage and well considered advice I have grown to trust over the last year. I have enjoyed especially his good company when often we have been the only two in the office and sometimes it has felt like we were the only two in the City! Thank you Garth for throwing yourself in at the deep end and adapting so well to everything that's been thrown at you - that was definitely not in the job description when you applied!!

And finally thank you to the Court and the Livery for all your support

**Robert Dalrymple**  
**Chairman,**  
**Plaisterers Hall Limited**



**ROBERT DALRYMPLE**



**TIM STOKES**

**PLASTERERS' HALL LIMITED**  
**CHAIRMAN ROBERT DALRYMPLE**

**TIMOTHY COOKE**



**TERRY WRIGHT**



**DIRECTORS**

**Robert Dalrymple**  
**(Chairman)**  
**Terry Wright**  
**Timothy Cooke**

**Tim Stokes**  
**Consultants:**  
**Adam Edwards**  
**Rohit Nathaniel**

In attendance  
**Garth Manger**  
**(Company Secretary)**



*Realising the vision of Liveryman John Robinson*

# Entrance Hall Enhancement Project



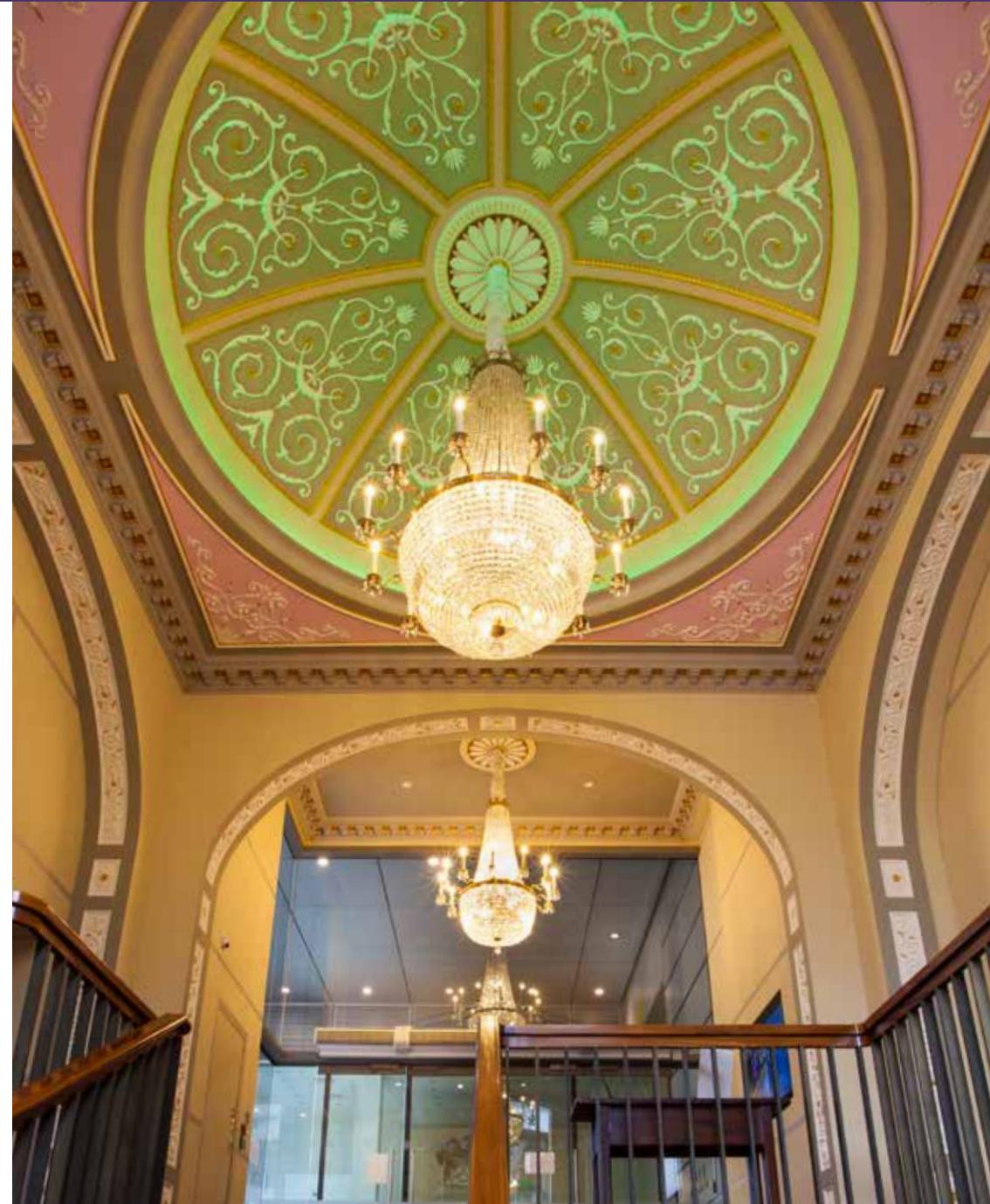
COVID-19 has had a significant negative effect on the business of PHL with the enforced closure of the Hall. The silver lining is that we have been able to realise the vision of Liveryman John Robinson (pictured above) in completing the Entrance Hall Enhancement Project (EHEP).

John became a Liveryman in 1987 and donated significant funds to the Livery to enhance our Training Awards and support training in the plastering industry.

He also expressed a wish to ensure that the Entrance to the Hall should engender the same "wow" factor that the Great Hall creates instead of looking like the foyer of a 3 star hotel. Sadly, in 2013, after a short illness John passed away at the far

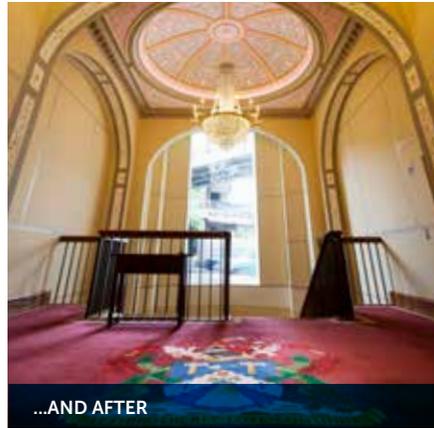
too young age of 53. We are indebted to Liveryman Derek Stubbs, for ensuring that his late husband's wishes could be realised through a generous legacy donation.

It seems so long ago that at Common Hall 2019 I had the pleasure of presenting the final proposals for the EHEP. The programme was for a phased completion during times when the Hall was not in





THE ENTRANCE HALL BEFORE...



...AND AFTER

demand over Christmas and mostly during August 2020. Sadly, as reported in the Yearbook 2019/20, the uncertainty caused by the pandemic and the onerous social distancing requirements imposed on construction led to the postponement of the project.

Mixed messages from Government to the Hospitality Industry were finally replaced by some certainty during September 2020 when HMG effectively closed all event venues until at least Christmas and most likely to March 2021. This was the clarity that the Board of PHL needed, and we decided at a meeting on 2nd October to progress the works to the Entrance Hall to be completed by the end of March 2021.

With the scaffolding being erected, all lighting being replaced with 110volt site lights and alarms made safe at the end of December the work proceeded with demolition of the existing ceiling on 4th January 2021.

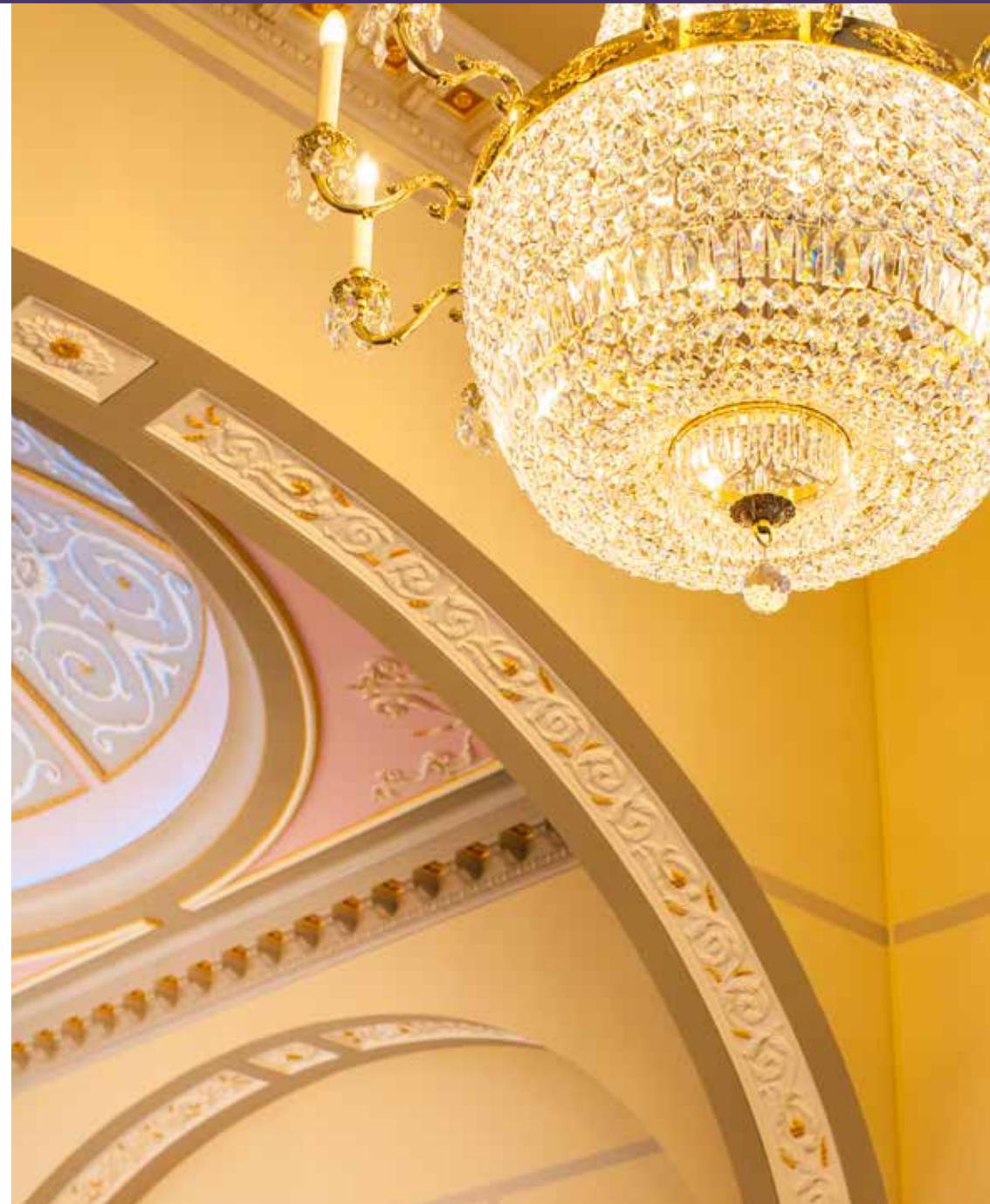
Finally, with severe delays due to the need to maintain social distancing and the self-isolation of staff due to

COVID-19 contacts the project was completed on 10th May 2021. This is all now history. There are far too many visual records of the work to reproduce here, so I am glad to advise that we will be producing a book for a 2022 launch, that will serve as a record of the project.

To remind you all of what the Entrance looked like we have before and after photographs above.

We hope that you will all agree that we have met John's wishes and produced a truly dramatic Entrance that fully reflects the grandeur and "wow" factor of the Great Hall. For the full story of how this was achieved you will have to wait for the book, but I will explain a few details that make this work a true legacy project that you can point out to your guests when they first visit us.

The newly commissioned chandelier to the high level flat ceiling is a ¾ size replica of the existing chandelier above the stairs. Both are now lit by low energy LEDs making significant energy savings on the previous lighting.





The new bulbs can be dimmed, without flickering (a common problem with older LED bulbs) and are controlled by a Casambi wireless control system.

The Dome lights can be adjusted to all the colours of the rainbow. With the touch of an app on a phone the "scene" can be changed from a brightly lit foyer to a vivid pink back drop for that intimate wedding portrait or to a commando green in honour of our Royal Marine affiliates. Whatever happened to light switches?

Note that in each internal corner there is an acanthus leaf cloaking the egg enrichments. Also that all the modillions are hand planted making the spacing along each length equal as is the egg and bud detail. This is classically correct and matches the finish that would have been achieved in Robert Adams time.

Many modern installations might partially space the modillions and the cornice would still be fit for purpose, but they will rarely space the egg detail relying on the corner piece to cover any discrepancy.

There were no short cuts taken here because we were producing a finish fit for a palace!

The attention to classical detail is not restricted to the cornice. Robert Adam would have required not only symmetry but also mirroring. This is where any two sides of a detail are not just the same but mirror each other. Stand in the middle of the arch and look up and to left and right. Note that the elements are mirrored along the central line of symmetry. It would be easier to use the same mould for all elements, but this would simply not do on a legacy project like the EHEP.



The dome is made in just eight pieces with the central joint covered by a centrepiece. Modern mould and casting materials allow for large sections to be made without loss of quality. The sections were fixed loosely using the cleating technique and positioned exactly using a laser.



Fibrous plaster has come a long way since the first patent in 1856. The cleats were then tightened, and all eight sections were fixed together using "scrim and plaster wads", a method of fixing described in the plasterer's bible, Millars Plain and Decorative 1897. Some of the old ways are still the best.

Whilst all contractors who worked on the project fully embraced its legacy nature, I would especially like to thank LM Jon Riley (below left) and his team of plaster craftsmen who have truly demonstrated that the Craft of Plastering is far from being a "dying art". It is alive and better than ever in the hands of specialist companies like Locker and Riley. I feel sure that John Robinson would agree.

**Terry Wright**  
 Director PHL & Project Manager EHEP,  
 Plaisterers Hall Limited  
 (below right)

### Attention to classical detail

The cornice both at high level and around the dome comprises a Roman scroll modillion on a lamb's tongue plinth with a five petalled floral patera (which is an ornamental sunken element between modillions) with a larger lamb's tongue detail between the upper ogee member and vertical face with a Roman egg and bud beneath.

Who better to work on the cornice installation than Greg Smith (pictured right), the recipient of the Plaisterers' Charity Bursary, during his time completing the Prince's Foundation course.





# The Court 2021-2022



MARGARET COATES



STEPHEN GILBERT



ANTHONY MITCHELL



ALISON GOWMAN

## The Court

- Master**  
Margaret Coates
- Deputy Master**  
Alderman Alison Gowman\*
- Upper Warden**  
Stephen Gilbert
- Renter Warden**  
Anthony Mitchell
- Clerk**  
Colonel Garth Manger OBE
- Honorary Chaplain**  
The Very Revd Charles Taylor
- Assistant Clerk**  
Ali Mackey
- Beadle**  
Jamie Wallis

## Assistants

- Robert Dalrymple\*  
J Hubert Lacey\*  
Peter Baker\*  
Gary Morley\*  
De Bradshaw\*  
Michael Jones\*  
Bill Mahony\*  
Terence Wright\*  
Richard Hanney\*  
Timothy Cooke OBE\*  
James Minett  
John Telling  
David Botley  
David Hill-Kelly  
Jon Randall  
Rohit Nathaniel  
Adam Edwards  
Heather Dix  
Sue Spurling  
Timothy Butcher (Additional)  
Jon Riley (Additional)

## Past Masters Emeritus

- Ronald Jordan\*  
Julian Dalrymple\*  
Hugh Kersey\*  
Ernest Pilgrim\*  
Bryan Lincoln\*  
Robert Faulkner\*  
Christopher Towlson\*  
Peter Cook\*  
Reginald Denby\*  
Alan Turner\*  
Robin Doran\*  
Michael Lepper\*  
Michael Hall\*

\*denotes Past Master

## Assistants Emeritus

- Graham Withers  
John Mills  
Christopher Money  
Andrew Popat  
Phillip Holliday

## Clerks Emeritus

- Hilary Machtus  
Nigel Bamping

## Chief Steward 2019-2022

- David Jarman

## Stewards 2018-2022

- Timothy Scott  
Archin Talpade

## Stewards 2019-2023

- Richard Walker  
Bill Welch  
Andrew York

## Steward 2020-2023

- Chris Mackey

## Steward 2020-2024

- Louise Laprun

## Almoner

- Richard Grove

## Plaisterers' Hall Limited

- Directors**  
Robert Dalrymple (Chairman)  
Tim Stokes  
Timothy Cooke OBE  
Terence Wright  
Colonel Garth Manger OBE (Secretary)

## Consultants

- Adam Edwards  
Rohit Nathaniel

## Royal Liveryman

- HRH The Duchess of Cornwall GCVO

## Honorary Liverymen

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

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



# Military Affiliations



HMS DRAGON ON SEA TRIALS IN AUGUST 2020



# SRRA

The Plaisterers' Company continues to support the SRRA when and wherever possible.

Following a SRRA Charity Dinner held at Plaisterers' Hall in July 2019, Heather Jones, wife of Past Master Mike Jones, took the 'opportunity' to jump out of an aeroplane. On 7th August 2021 she completed her tandem parachute jump in support of SRRA with the instructors providing the tandem lift for each 'student jumper'. Heather was surprisingly very calm and took it all in her stride. An exciting day out!

# Royal Marines

As expected the strong link with the Corps has remained in place throughout COVID-19 but unfortunately with limited visits. Tankards and prize money have been awarded on our behalf by the CO's of the Units and it was only towards the latter end of the Livery year that the Master and Clerk managed to visit Royal Marines Reserves London; the only visit of this year.

Major General Matt Holmes retired as Commandant General and has been succeeded by Lt General Rob Magowan CB CBE, who took over in May. General Rob is no stranger to the Plaisterers, having been Commandant General before, he is also a Liveryman.

The link with the Royal Marines Corps Secretary, Lt Col Ed Musto RM, is strong and has enabled us to help him and his team plan their annual Corps Dinner at the Hall, postponed from last year. He is also planning to hold the Royal Marine Officers Dining Club at Plaisterers' Hall in February 2022. Lt Col Ed retires in late 2021 and we all wish him well and look forward to working with his successor.



CG AND LIVERYMAN, LT-GEN ROB MAGOWAN CB CBE





# HMS DRAGON

**2020 has arguably been the most challenging year faced by the UK in recent memory, an experience shared by HMS DRAGON. COVID-19 had a substantial impact on the ship's maintenance, training and deployment, introducing challenges which the Royal Navy had not had to deal with in recent times. The Ship's Company has risen to these challenges at every turn, whether at home or deployed, fighting through inevitable constraints to deliver all that has been asked of the Ship.**

In September 2020, DRAGON was deployed together with HMS ALBION and RFA LYME BAY as part of the Littoral Response Group off the South Coast for Weapons and Sensor Trials as well as the embarkation of the Ship's Wildcat helicopter. From UK waters the ship travelled on to Gibraltar, then Crete and to the Black Sea.

The first stop within the Black Sea was Odessa in the Ukraine. The Ukrainian Armed Forces Band compensated for the lack of shore leave by performing for the Ship's Company from the jetty. DRAGON's contribution to maritime security was further re-enforced upon sailing from Odessa, as she transited close to Crimea en route to her next port of call. Further interactions with other navies occurred during this passage and once again DRAGON's teams remained alert and professional throughout.

Whilst in Odessa, the Ship's Company paid their respects to the Ukrainian War Memorial for the Unknown Soldier. Laying a wreath and pausing to reflect on the sacrifices made in days past.

Operational Sea Training in the English Channel was a three-week package conducted in February and March of 2021 and included collaboration with both the French and German Navies.

Despite less than perfect winter weather in the Channel, DRAGON conducted a wide variety of serials, testing her abilities across all warfare disciplines.

In May, DRAGON sailed for Exercise Formidable Shield, a NATO led exercise under the control of the US Navy 6th Fleet. Ships from eight NATO partners descended on the Hebrides off the Scottish West Coast. The exercise culminated in DRAGON firing her Sea Viper Missile at a drone target and successfully destroying it.

Exercises such as Ex Formidable Shield are a key component to ensuring that the Royal Navy continues to develop its capabilities and that as an organisation, is able to adapt to the ever improving technological advances in warfare.



## Plasterers' Royal Navy Cup winner: *PO Gilmore*



The Commanding Officer of HMS DRAGON wrote:  
*"PO Gilmore, who specialises in Weapon Engineering, has not only performed exceptionally throughout the deployment in his core role but has also directly contributed to maintain the Ship's company's morale. He has single-handedly taken onboard the role of the Ship's boxing coach by holding daily training sessions (sometimes three sessions in a single day), has acted as the Ship's barber raising over £500 for Ship's charities and has also contributed a significant amount of his time to support the personal development of many of our sailors.*

*He upholds the highest of standards in all that he does onboard and has been a true role model for the junior members of DRAGON, during what has been a challenging operational deployment."*



# 282 (East Ham) Air Cadets

REPORT BY SQN LDR CHRIS BOOTY, OC

Like most, it has been a challenging year for 282 Squadron. The Squadron closed for several months during the pandemic and opened for a short period between lockdowns, although virtually.

The Squadron is very active and COVID-19 pretty much cancelled the Squadron's entire programme for the year. On reemerging from lockdown, the Squadron lost just over 30% of its cadets and it was clear that it would take some time to rebuild.

During lockdown, all efforts moved to online learning to ensure the cadets remained engaged and continued to learn. It was clear that most of the regular cadet activities couldn't take place, however there were many courses and opportunities the cadets could take advantage of to build on their skills and knowledge.

The Squadron provided online courses in Radio Communication, Elementary Learning Award in Health & Safety, Methods of Instruction Training (teaching cadets to become instructors), and our regular classification training in aeronautical subjects. Even in lockdown, the cadets achieved qualifications and new skills!

The Squadron Band continued its training online too, with regular training sessions with Liveryman Chris Mackey who amazingly committed most Saturdays throughout 2020/21.

The Squadron had a recruit intake during a lockdown which proved to be difficult but enabled 15 young people to join. No one would have imagined that recruits would undertake their training virtually during a global pandemic and yet push through and pass out at a parade with just as much knowledge and experience as a regular recruit joining during 'normal' times. This is testament to the supporting staff and determination of the young people.

As the Squadron emerged from the last lockdown with restrictions slowly easing, it was full steam ahead with rebuilding and getting back to their regular activities. Priority was to increase morale and teamwork on the Squadron as many cadets were not accustomed to being in large crowds or even communicating with a group of people. Activities such as white water rafting and multi-activity weekends took place along with several Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions which were greatly missed in 2020.

There was a huge surprise waiting for the Squadron when the last lockdown came to an end! The cadets and staff were incredibly lucky to receive a Royal visit in the first week of re-opening.

TRHs the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge travelled to Newham to pay a very special visit to the cadets and see first-hand what they got up to during lockdown and where the Squadron was going.

The Squadron is a huge supporter of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, and with over 60 cadets gaining the award each year; it was humbling for the Royals to see that their Grandfather's legacy was thriving.

The Duchess even got to show off her piloting skills in front of Prince William in the Squadron's state-of-the-art flight simulator which the Worshipful Company of Plaisterers funded. The flight simulator was very popular with the media.

The Royal visit was a huge morale booster for the Squadron, especially as the cadets didn't know who was visiting until 30 minutes before the Royals' arrival!

After a long wait due to COVID-19, the Squadron managed to host the Master and Clerk at a parade evening in East Ham, where the new Squadron drums and banner were displayed, all funded by the Plaisterers' Charity. On the same evening, the granddaughter of Odette Hallowes GC (past Squadron President), Mrs Sophie Parker, visited the Squadron. Sophie was the first family member to visit the Squadron since Odette's passing in 1995 and it was a true honour to have the Master, Clerk, and Sophie Parker all present on this special evening. Sophie carried out a virtual talk on her Grandmother Odette Hallowes in early Spring which many Plaisterers tuned in to.

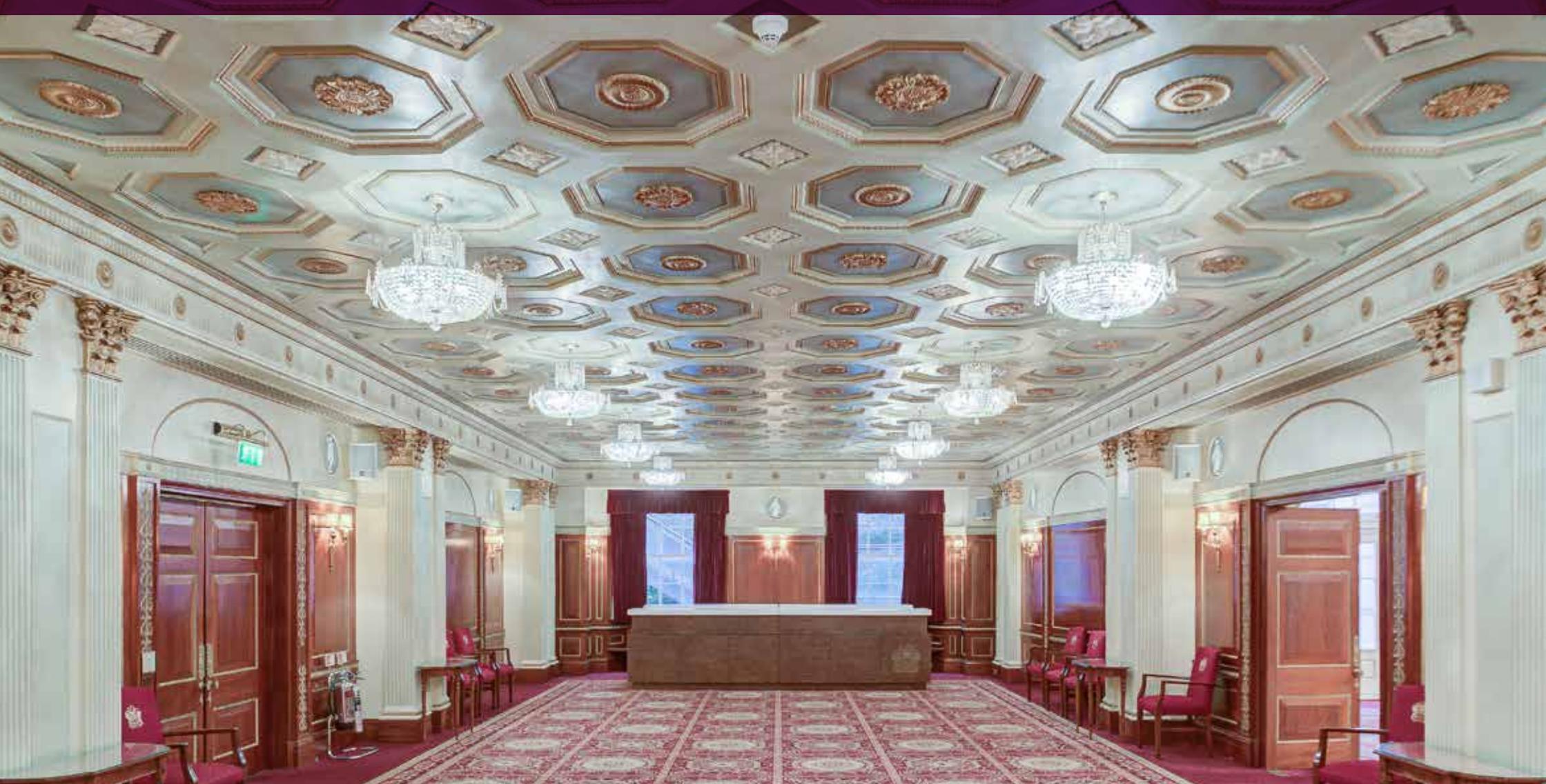
**The Squadron's motto states:  
*Que Je Surmonte -  
'That I Overcome'***

The Squadron is certainly living up to its motto and they'll certainly overcome the challenging times we are all experiencing.





# A History of Plastering and the Plaisterers





# The Armorial Bearings

## A HISTORY OF PLASTERING AND THE PLAISTERERS

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

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

### Crest

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

### Mantling

Gules doubled argent.

### Supporters

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

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

### Motto

Let Brotherly Love Continue.

### Glossary of Heraldic Terms

**Argent:** Silver.

**Azure:** Blue. Any shade of blue.

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

**Gules:** Red.

**Or:** Gold.

**Vert:** Green.

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

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



# The Company Prior to 1940



## A Brief History of Plastering

### Pre 12th Century

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

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

### 1189

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

### 1212

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

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

### 1254

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

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

### The 76 Crafts Practised in London

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

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

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Mercers</b>         | <b>Tailors</b>        |
| <b>Armourers</b>       | <b>Grocers</b>        |
| <b>Saddlers</b>        | <b>Weavers (wool)</b> |
| <b>Drapers</b>         | <b>Ironmongers</b>    |
| <b>Weavers (linen)</b> | <b>Fishmongers</b>    |
| <b>Girdlers</b>        | <b>Fullers</b>        |
| <b>Goldsmiths</b>      | <b>Cordwainers</b>    |
| <b>Dyers</b>           | <b>Vintners</b>       |
| <b>Haberdashers</b>    | <b>Plasterers</b>     |
| <b>Skinners</b>        | <b>Cutlers</b>        |

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

### Typical Work in the Early Days

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

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





### The Mystery of Gipsars

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

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

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



### The Charter

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

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

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

#### ‘By the Discreyson of the Wardeyns’

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

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

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

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

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

#### Early Livery Halls and Accommodation

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

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

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

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



### Conflict with Other Livery Companies

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

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

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

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

### Discipline within the Livery

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

#### Search Day

**24 May 1726**

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

**24 May 1726**

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

**20 August 1742**

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

**20 August 1742**

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

**31 July 1753**

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

**7 August 1760**

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

**5 August 1761**

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

### The Founding of The City and Guilds of London Institute

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

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

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

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

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

### Donations to the Armed Forces Prior to 1940

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

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

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

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



CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE, 1881



# The Company from 1940

## The Plaisterers' Company during World War II

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

## Post War Compensation and Compulsory Purchase

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

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

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

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

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

## The Building of the Plaisterers' Hall

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



### Plasterers' Hall Takes Shape

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

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

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

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

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

At first they showed reluctance, but on seeing the Hall they not only loaned the portraits of four former Lord Mayors, two of whom were Past Masters of the

Company, and the Four Virtues painted by Thornhill, but even arranged for their hanging. Now all was ready for the opening on the 29 November 1972 by the Lord Mayor, Lord Mais.

### The Interior of Plasterers' Hall

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

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

### The Great Hall

The decorations and plasterwork are at their grandest in Great Hall. The magnificence of the work is rarely attempted in this age, and provides a superb setting for the traditional banquets that the City of London is renowned for. Pairs of pilasters with capitals in early Corinthian style as first used on the Tower of the Winds in ancient Athens, arcade the walls, with sunken panels between them terminating in 'three centred Plasterers ovals'.

A full entablature, richly ornamented and subtly picked out in colour, conceals lighting which illuminates a grand coved ceiling rising to a clear height of over 27 feet. The three chandeliers are purpose made, each being approximately twelve feet high and eight feet in diameter.

### The Livery Hall

The Livery Hall is quite different in style and design from Great Hall. The ceiling consists of ornamental fibrous plaster coffers illuminated by ten basket type

chandeliers and the walls are panelled in rich mahogany with an ornamental plaster frieze. This Hall will seat 80. The names of Past Masters were inscribed on the wall panels in 2017.

### The Humber Room

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

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

### The Mott Room

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

### Entrance Hall Enhancement Project

Following a generous legacy bequest from Liveryman John Robinson the Entrance Hall work commenced in late 2020 and was completed in June 2021.

The work has brought the Entrance Hall up to the standard of the remainder of the Hall and serves to draw members and visitors into the Hall showcasing the grandeur of the plasterwork and decoration throughout the Hall.

The work was completed by PHL in conjunction with Locker and Riley and is in keeping with Robert Adam style.

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

#### Lord Mais

Honorary Liveryman and Lord Mayor 1972/73

#### Alderman Nicholas Anstee

Honorary Liveryman and Lord Mayor 2009-2010

#### Sir John Pirie

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

#### Sir Thomas Kelly

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

#### Sir Peter Gadsden

Honorary Liveryman and Lord Mayor 1979/80

#### Sir Francis McWilliams

Honorary Liveryman and Lord Mayor 1992/93





### Number One London Wall

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

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

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

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



### Jubilee Garden

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Social Activities

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

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

### The Charitable Trust

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

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



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



### Quincentenary Celebrations

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Redevelopment

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

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

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

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

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

### Bursaries from the Charitable Trust

#### Harry Humber Bursary

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

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

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

#### Henry Mott Bursary

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

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

#### 500th Anniversary Bursary

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

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

#### Spurling Bursary

In 2017, to mark the Spurling family's 200 year involvement with the Company, Liveryman Andrew Spurling endowed a new Bursary. It will, initially, be used to support The Prince's Foundation Bursary Student.



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



# The Company in the Third Millennium

## Female Liverymen

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

The first women to be elected to the Livery were robed in July 2002 and by July 2020 the number of female Liverymen has risen to 22, with 17 female Freemen.

## Industry Committee

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

## Register of Associates

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

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

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

## Awards for Student Achievement

October 1999 also saw the first presentation to colleges of awards

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

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

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

## Website

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

[www.plastererslivery.co.uk](http://www.plastererslivery.co.uk)

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

## Governance of the Livery 1501

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

## 1765

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

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

## 2001

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

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

## 2003

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

## 2004

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





## 2006

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

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

## 2008

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

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

## 2011

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

The Master Plasterer Certificate was introduced for the first time.

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

## 2012

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

## 2013

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

## 2014

First Apprentice "Bound" since 1840.

## 2015

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

## 2016

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

## 2019

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

## 2020

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

## 2021

Following over 14 months of lockdowns and COVID-19 restrictions the Hall finally re-opened in June 2021 allowing Members to attend the 2021 Robing and Common Hall at which the Master and Wardens were re-installed for a second year.



## The Clerk and the Beadle 1996

The retirement of Henry Mott, ending the family's 147 years of dedicated and unbroken service to the office of Clerk made way for Past Master Ralph Vickers to become Clerk. Holding office till 2002 Ralph's term of office included the

reintroduction of female members and ended with the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the first Charter.

## 2002

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

## 2003

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

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

## 2010

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

## 2020

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



# Royal Charters

The Company has been granted five Royal Charters since 1501.

## FIRST CHARTER

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

## SECOND CHARTER

The second Charter has been lost.

## THIRD CHARTER

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

## FOURTH CHARTER

The fourth Charter has been lost.

## FIFTH CHARTER

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

# How did the 'i' get in?

## How did the 'i' get in?

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

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

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

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

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

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





# The City of London

## Local Government

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

Outside the City of London, councillors are elected by the local government electors, whilst the Mayor, who serves for one year, and Aldermen, who serve for four years, are elected by the Council. Sheriffs are appointed by the Crown.

However, in the City of London, local government is exercised by the Court of Common Council, consisting of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Common Councillors. Aldermen and Common Councillors are chosen by the electors of the twenty-five Wards of the City. The electors are the residents and individuals nominated by businesses in the City. The number of electors per business reflects the total number of employees based with that firm in the City office.

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

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

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

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

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

### Firstly

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

### Secondly

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

### Thirdly

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

### Finally

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



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

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

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

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

### Freedom of the City of London

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

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

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

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

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

#### By Patrimony

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

#### By Servitude

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

#### By Nomination

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

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

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

### The Present Day Privileges Enjoyed by Freemen and their Dependants

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### COVID-19

During the pandemic the Freedom ceremonies, that are usually conducted in person, stopped. However the City Corporation arranged for the ceremony to go online and the first such ceremony was a special freedom given to Captain Tom Moore on 12 May 2020 for his incredible fundraising effort to raise over £32million for NHS charities. They continued in this way for several months.



# Livery Companies of London

## The Origins

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Survival

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

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

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

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

## LIVERY COMPANIES IN ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

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



# Calendar & Events

2021-2023





<b>2021</b>	Sept	Mon 06	Charity Trustees @ 11.00am	
		Weds 08	Finance Committee @ 11.30am	
		Mon 13	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm	
		Weds 15	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm	
		Thu 16	Membership Committee @ 12 noon	
		Tues 28	Installation of Alderman Alison Gowman as Sheriff of the City of London	
		Weds 29	<b>Election of Lord Mayor &amp; Informal Lunch</b>	
	Oct	Tues 05	<b>October Court &amp; Annual Banquet</b>	
		Weds 13	Quit Rent Ceremony	
	Nov	Tues 09	Past Masters' Meeting & Lunch @ 11.30am	
		Sat 13	<b>Lord Mayor's Show &amp; Luncheon</b>	
		Mon 22	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm	
Tues 23		Membership Committee @ 12 noon		
Weds 24		Industry Committee @ 3.00pm		
Dec		Weds 01	<b>Carol Service &amp; Christmas Supper</b>	
	Mon 06	Finance & Investment Committee @ 11.30am (joint with Charity Trustees)		
	Mon 06	Charity Trustees @ 1.30pm		
<b>2022</b>	Jan	Tues 11	<b>January Quarterly Court &amp; New Year (M&amp;C) Dinner</b>	
	Mar	Tues 01	Charity Trustees @ 1.30pm	
		Weds 02	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm	
		Thurs 03	Membership Committee @ 12 noon	
		Tues 08	Finance & Investment Committee @ 11.30am	
		Tues 08	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm	
	April	Fri 01	<b>United Guilds Service &amp; Lunch</b>	
		Tues 12	<b>April Quarterly Court &amp; Spring Livery Dinner</b>	
		Fri 15	<b>Good Friday</b>	
		Mon 18	<b>Easter Monday</b>	
	May	Tues 10	<b>Cocktail Party/Dinner TBC</b>	
	June	Mon 06	Finance & Investment Committee @ 11.30am (joint with Charity Trustees)	

		Mon 06	Charity Trustees @ 1.30pm	
		Thurs 09	Membership Committee @ 12 noon	
		Weds 15	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm	
		Thurs 16	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm	
		Fri 24	<b>Election of Sheriffs &amp; Informal Lunch</b>	
	July	Sun 03	<b>Kelly Service TBC</b>	
		Tues 05	<b>Quarterly Court &amp; Court Dinner</b>	
		Tues 19	<b>Common Hall, Robing, Service &amp; Dinner</b>	
	Sept	Mon 05	Charity Trustees @ 1.00pm	
		Tues 07	Membership Committee @ 12 noon	
		Weds 08	Finance & Investment Committee @ 11.30am	
		Weds 08	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm	
Mon 12		Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm		
Thurs 29		<b>Election of Lord Mayor &amp; Informal Lunch</b>		
Oct	Tues 04	<b>October Court &amp; Autumn Livery Dinner</b>		
Nov	Tues 08	<b>Past Masters' Meeting &amp; Lunch @ 11.30am</b>		
	Sat 12	<b>Lord Mayor's Show &amp; Luncheon</b>		
	Mon 21	Marketing & Communications Committee @ 1.00pm		
	Tues 22	Membership Committee @ 12 noon		
	Weds 23	Industry Committee @ 3.00pm		
	TBC	<b>Training Awards Lunch</b>		
Dec	TBC	Carol Service & Christmas Supper		
	Mon 05	Finance & Investment Committee @ 11.30am (joint with Charity Trustees)		
	Mon 05	Charity Trustees @ 1.30pm		
<b>2023</b>	Jan	Tues 10	<b>January Quarterly Court &amp; New Year (M&amp;C) Dinner</b>	
	Mar	TBC	<b>United Guilds' Service &amp; Lunch</b>	
	April	Fri 07	<b>Good Friday</b>	
		Mon 10	<b>Easter Monday</b>	
	TBC	<b>April Quarterly Court &amp; Spring Livery Dinner</b>		



**Inter livery sport, social and other events**

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

Some examples are below.



**Art Exhibitions** organised by the Painter-Stainers' Company



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



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



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



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



**Shooting (rifle)** organised by the Bakers' Company



**Skiing** organised by the Ironmongers' Company (January)



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



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



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



**Tennis** organised by the Feltmakers' Company (September)



**Sailing** organised by the City Livery YC (offshore)



**Wizadry in Wood Exhibition** organised by the Turners' Company

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

**City Briefings**

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

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

**Location**

Livery Hall  
71 Basinghall Street  
Guildhall  
London EC2V 5DH

**Cost**

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

**Dates**

**21 October 2021**

**2 February 2022**

**10 May 2022**

**19 September 2022**

**3 November 2022**

**Bookings**

[www.liverycommittee.org/city-briefings.php](http://www.liverycommittee.org/city-briefings.php)

**Wardens and Court Assistants City Course**

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

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

**Location**

Guildhall  
71 Basinghall Street  
London EC2V 7HH

**Date**

September 2022

**Cost**

The course costs £75.



# Plaisterers' Lodge

FOUNDED IN 1955

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

There are some 40 liverymen who are members of the Plaisterers' Lodge including eight Past Masters of the Livery, who meet, by kind permission of the Master, Wardens and Court of Assistants of the Worshipful Company, in Plaisterers' Hall four times each year. Some 20 or more Sister Livery Lodges meet in the City and regular inter-visiting takes place between them, especially by the Worshipful Master during his year in Office, which fosters good relations between the Sister City Livery Lodges.

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

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

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

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

## Brotherly Love

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

## Relief

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

## Truth

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



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

For further information please contact the Lodge Secretary:

Alan R Bostock  
E: [plaisterers7390secretary@gmail.com](mailto:plaisterers7390secretary@gmail.com)  
E: [alanrbostockuk@gmail.com](mailto:alanrbostockuk@gmail.com)  
M: 07715 581093

The dates for future meetings are:

2021	8 November
2022	14 March
	13 June
	12 September
	14 November
2023	13 March
	12 June
	11 September
	13 November

# Members' List

## NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The most up-to-date Members' List, detailing all contact information for current members, is now available in the password protected Members' Area of the website: [www.plastererslivery.co.uk/members](http://www.plastererslivery.co.uk/members)

If you require a printed copy of the list, or experience issues accessing the online list, please contact the Clerk's office at [clerk@plastererslivery.co.uk](mailto:clerk@plastererslivery.co.uk).

## In memory

### THE COMPANY RECORDS WITH SADNESS THE DEATHS OF THE FOLLOWING LIVERYMEN/FREEMEN DURING THE PAST YEAR:

Mary Beavis (Companion)	David Lowe
Rodney Cadman	Clive Moss
Past Master Nicholas Carr	Clifford Norris
Thomas Charlick	Past Master Emeritus Derek Robinson
Assistant Emeritus Alan Clarke	Andrew Spurling
Past Master Emeritus George Grover	Brian Vaughan
David Harrison	Doreen Vickers (Companion)
John Hawkins	

1822-1823	Olive Hall	1888-1889	Henry Urquhart	1961-1962	Richard Kersey
1823-1824	Peter Mitchell	1889-1890	Samuel Messiter	1962-1963	Harold Cadman
1824-1825	Benjamin Willatts	1890-1891	Robert Taylor	1963-1964	Walter Horrocks
1825-1826	John Allnatt	1891-1892	William Stoner	1964-1965	Frederick Turner
1826-1827	Thomas Palmer	1892-1893	Rufus Workman	1965-1966	Walter Forrest
1827-1828	Thomas Pritchard	1893-1894	William Connell	1966-1967	Harold Cowan
1828-1829	John Pirie	1894-1895	Arthur Hammack	1967-1968	William Wylie Harris
1829-1830	John Spurling	1895-1896	George Mee	1968-1969	Evan Jenkins
1830-1831	William Willatts	1896-1897	Henry Wild	1969-1970	John Jeffrey
1831-1832	Thomas Kelly	1897-1898	Aubrey Spurling	1970-1972	William Bell
1832-1833	John Williams	1898-1899	Samuel Stacey	1972-1973	Alfred Telling
1833-1834	John Stayner	1899-1900	Samuel Walker	1973-1974	Albert Powley
1834-1835	William Little	1900-1901	Llewellyn Hammack	1974-1975	Jack Godfrey Gilbert
1835-1836	Thomas Skinner	1901-1902	Arthur Spurling	1975-1976	Andrew Roberts
1836-1837	John Tanner	1902-1903	Wesley Marshall	1976-1977	Peter Schryver
1837-1838	James Hoole	1903-1904	Frederick Capron	1977-1978	John Fleming
1838-1839	John Cooper	1904-1905	Edward Nisbet	1978-1979	Alfred Castell
1839-1840	John Charrington	1905-1906	Cuthbert Spurling	1979-1980	David Mott
1840-1841	Grantham Gace	1906-1907	Henry Holt	1980-1981	Gordon Infield
1841-1842	Richard Mott	1907-1908	Arthur Fox	1981-1982	Patrick Wettern
1842-1843	William Tozer	1908-1909	Richard Johns	1982-1983	Ralph Vickers
1843-1844	Alexander Thomson	1909-1910	Henry Phillipps	1983-1984	Douglas Tribe
1844-1845	Michael Hall	1910-1911	Frank Griffith	1984-1985	Ronald Hills
1845-1846	William Butterfield	1911-1912	Waiter Payne	1985-1986	Derek Robinson
1846-1847	William Shott	1912-1913	Arthur Lacey	1986-1987	Norman Goldwater
1847-1848	Edward Lacey	1913-1914	Herbert Walker	1987-1988	Trevor Spicer
1848-1849	Daniel Norton	1914-1916	Frederick Costello	1988-1989	Roy Beavis
1849-1850	Henry Walmsley	1916-1918	Frederic Hudson	1989-1990	Philip Girdle
1850-1851	James Smallbone	1918-1920	Percy Mott	1990-1991	Julian Dalrymple
1851-1852	Thomas Evans	1920-1921	Francis Goldsmith	1991-1992	Horace Warrell
1852-1854	Joseph Stayner	1921-1922	Edwin Clark	1992-1993	Ronald Jordan
1854-1855	William Hopkinson	1922-1923	John Roper	1993-1994	George Grover
1855-1856	John Furze	1923-1924	William Stearns	1994-1995	Hugh Kersey
1856-1857	James Hoole	1924-1925	Frank Bishop	1995-1996	Raymond Wakeham
1857-1858	Samuel Little	1925-1926	Charles Brown	1996-1997	Bryan Lincoln
1858-1859	Arthur Longley	1926-1927	Frank Griffith	1997-1998	Robert Faulkner
1859-1860	Thomas Brewer	1927-1928	William Watson	1998-1999	Ernest Pilgrim
1860-1861	Henry Hammack	1928-1929	Arthur Harrison	1999-2000	Christopher Towlson
1861-1862	George Roffey	1929-1930	Arthur Pinney	2000-2001	Peter Cook
1862-1863	Samuel Hubert	1930-1931	Percy Edwards	2001-2002	Alan Turner
1863-1864	Percival Spurling	1931-1932	William Costello	2002-2003	Robin Doran
1864-1865	James Vining	1932-1933	William Hepden	2003-2004	Michael Lepper
1865-1866	John Walker	1933-1934	Stanley Palmer	2004-2005	David Holliday
1866-1867	Arthur Cawthorn	1934-1935	George Ells	2005-2006	Michael Hall
1867-1868	Henry Phillipps	1935-1936	Geoffrey Mott	2006-2008	Nicholas Carr
1868-1869	Christopher Ellerby	1936-1937	William Symmons	2008-2009	Reginald Denby
1869-1870	William Hagell	1937-1938	Adam Brown	2009-2010	Robert Dalrymple
1870-1871	Edward Bacon	1938-1939	Walter Pollock	2010-2011	Hubert Lacey
1871-1872	James Hammack	1939-1940	John Bellman	2011-2012	Peter Baker
1872-1873	William Alexander	1940-1945	Percy Mott	2012-2013	Gary Morley
1873-1874	Joseph Surr	1945-1946	Henry Mott	2013-2014	Deirdre Bradshaw
1874-1875	Henry Wild	1946-1947	Rudolph Brunner	2014-2015	Michael Jones
1875-1876	Charles Wild	1947-1948	Cuthbert Spurling	2015-2016	Bill Mahony
1876-1877	Frederick Carritt	1948-1949	Ernest Millwood	2016-2017	Terence Wright
1877-1878	William Brook	1949-1950	Ashe Lincoln	2017-2018	Richard Hanney
1878-1879	George Summers	1950-1951	Horace Palmer	2018-2019	Timothy Cooke OBE
1879-1880	Frederic Hall	1951-1952	Aubrey Ells	2019-2020	Alison Gowman
1880-1881	Thomas Burrowes	1952-1953	John de Savary	2020-2021	Margaret Coates
1881-1882	James Howes	1953-1954	Douglas Abbott	2021-2022	Margaret Coates
1882-1883	Robert Ransom	1954-1955	Terriss Bowler		
1883-1884	Percy Spurling	1955-1956	Archibald Lightman		
1884-1885	Robert Durham	1956-1957	William Warne		
1885-1886	James Harrison	1957-1958	John Harmer		
1886-1887	John Billinghurst	1958-1960	Harry Humber		
1887-1888	George Pepler	1960-1961	Thomas Taylor		



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[www.plastererslivery.co.uk](http://www.plastererslivery.co.uk) #theplasterers



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Photographs: Phil McCarthy [www.philmccarthyphotography.smugmug.com](http://www.philmccarthyphotography.smugmug.com)

Front cover: The Master with RM (City of London) addressing a 'clear lower decks'.

Back cover: Three Lady Masters: De Bradshaw 2013/14, Margaret Coates 2020/22, Alison Gowman 2019/20.