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The Worshipful Company of Drapers
Reflections on a Master’s Year

By Past Master Nicholas Bence-Trower

Everyone said to me that, following in the footsteps of a father who had also been Master, I was at least prepared for what lay ahead, as the Immediate Past Master Lord Boyce put the Master’s Badge around my neck at the end of the Election Dinner in July 2014.

Not so, I soon discovered! I had not expected the experience to be quite so all embracing and such a roller-coaster ride - but let me hasten to add that it was a tremendous experience and I am so grateful to those who elected me Master. It was a great honour and I loved every minute.

I had neither anticipated the huge variety of duties that it would entail, nor how time-consuming it would be. I would estimate that the role of Master is 80% ambassadorial and 20% being chairman of a large private company. As chairman, I chaired nine Court of Wardens and ten Court of Assistants meetings as well as attending 35 meetings of the Investments, Finance & General Purposes (F&GP), Charities, Election, Hall & Major Works and Wine Committees and Sub-Committees. Outside these meetings, there are of course all the other issues that arise in the course of leading such an organisation as the Drapers’ Company, and I had to devote many additional hours and telephone calls to these duties.

It was never a chore, however. Indeed, it served to remind me of the vast array of activities in which the Company is involved. As a result, I am in awe of the amount of work and time that both staff and members of the Company devote to our business - and in saying this, I am not forgetting the Herculean efforts of those connected with our educational projects. Those involved with the older established relationships report through the Charities Committee, while all Academy and Free school-related business currently is the responsibility of F&GP and as such of their activities are administered through the Multi-Academy Trust, meaning there is no direct Company involvement.

In the ambassadorial role, I represented the Company at numerous external events. These fell into two categories: first, at functions where I was entertained by other livery companies and the second, at dinners, receptions or other occasions generally hosted by charities or educational establishments with which the Company has a link.

The philanthropic priorities of the Company fall into five main categories. The first of these is education. During my year, I visited 15 ‘places of learning’ with which we have a relationship. These ranged from the Visitation to Bancroft’s, to prize-giving ceremonies at many other schools, including Drapers’ Academy, Howell’s Llandaff, Sir George Monoux, St Paul’s Way Trust and Drapers’ Brookside. I also visited Thomas Adams School, Wem, where the pupils had made a marvellous effort, dressing in red, white and blue for Armed Forces’ Day. The Visitaton to the Bancroft’s Junior School also left me with a memory that I will long treasure, as I ended up ‘high-fiving’ many of the pupils in the front row as I left – I must be the first Master in 651 years who has ever done that!
‘Relief of Need’ gave me the opportunity to visit all three of our almshouses, namely Queen Elizabeth College in Greenwich, Walter’s Close in Southwark and Edmans’ Close in Tottenham. In his capacity as President of the College, we were again honoured by the presence of the Master of the Rolls, Lord Dyson and his wife, on our trip to Greenwich. We actually visited Edmans’ Close twice as my wife, Nicky and I were invited to their Christmas party where ‘good fun was had by all’! These visits emphasised to me how special the relationship is with our residents and I have nothing but praise for the work of FODAH, and I am sure this will flourish under the new chairmanship of Assistant Jane Mather and her excellent team of almshouse friends.

Unfortunately, due to the refit of HMS Monmouth, I was unable to visit the ship during my year, although I was delighted to welcome both its Commanding Officer to a dinner at the Hall and some crew members during their visit in May. I was delighted however to represent the Master at the Ship’s rededication ceremony in Plymouth on 29 October 2015.

I was also able to meet all our other military affiliates. The Clerk and I attended a splendid dinner at RAF Shawbury and we were given a tour of the base the following day. Early in my year, I visited the 71st (City of London) Yeomanry Signal Regiment at the end of their annual exercise near Hanover in Germany. The pride in what they had achieved during those exercises was palpable, and it was a joy to be there to witness it and share the occasion with them.

The centenary of the formation of the Welsh Guards occurred in March 2015 and this was marked by a number of different events, not least the annual dinner held at the Hall, to which all former officers were invited. It is clearly evident that the Regiment values our relationship as much as we do, and not only was I invited to this dinner, but two other events as well. The first was held at Windsor Castle, where we attended the presentation of their new Colours by Her Majesty The Queen, and afterwards we also had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh. A few days later, my wife and I were invited to see their new Colour being trooped at The Queen’s Birthday Parade. It is inspiring to know that it is these soldiers, who put on such a superb display, are the same soldiers who had so recently also served valiantly in Afghanistan.

The Drapers’ Company has strong links with Northern Ireland, which have existed ever since the City livery companies were allocated ‘Plantations’ by King James I. Indeed, we are the only company whose name is still used by the town we each created. It was a huge pleasure for me to lead a delegation of senior Drapers, together with our wives, to visit Draperstown and the other major town in ‘our’ plantation, Moneymore, and later, to have a private meeting with the Mayor of Londonderry. Our tour was organised by Edward Montgomery, the Secretary of The Honourable The Irish Society, through which we provide grants to a number of charities in the region. Our money is clearly not being wasted and we met some very impressive people, not least Patsy McShane and George Glover, who have done so much to bring the communities together. Indeed, later in the year I was delighted to present these two gentlemen with Drapers’ medals in acknowledgement of their enormous and ongoing contribution.

I must admit that, whilst I had obviously read all the papers as well as having numerous briefings at Court meetings, it was only as Master that I truly appreciated both the sheer breadth and scale of the impact of Drapers’ philanthropy, both past and present, and the high esteem in which the Company is held.

And whilst on the issue of giving, I must mention the Master’s Charity. As you will all be aware, I selected the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability. Thanks to members’ generosity, I am delighted that my appeal to members raised £34,000, which I understand is a record. In addition to this, the RHN held a fundraising Gala Dinner at the Hall, which resulted in the final sum raised, owing to their association with the Company over the year, reaching just under £122,000.

I am thrilled with this outcome, and huge thanks to all of you who contributed, and to those who didn’t, I quite understand that one cannot support every charity. But one charity that all members should consider giving to is the Company’s Gift and Legacy Fund. This can easily be done for most people through setting up a Give As You Earn standing order via employers into a CAF account, so that donations are deducted from gross pay. Please do give this some thought.

But what are the other memorable moments from my year? The first one that springs to mind was my participation in the Lord Mayor’s Show. The day started with the help of an alarm clock and arrival at Westminster Boating Club by Dolphin Square at 7.00am! But the shock of this was swiftly forgotten by both Nicky and me as we
climbed aboard the Drapers’ barge, the *Royal Thamesis* and, thanks to the amazing efforts of the Drapers crew, we escorted the Lord Mayor, who was aboard *Gloriana*, down river to HMS *President* just beyond the Tower of London. (The poor rowers had a nightmare journey back and eventually only managed to get the boat out of the water at Putney. A big thank you to them.)

Together with the Masters of the Mercers’, Grocers’ and Skinners’ Companies, I then took part in the Lord Mayor’s procession in a britzka (or carriage), drawn by four horses. The crowds were enormous and wonderfully enthusiastic - especially those from Drapers’ Brookside, whom I spotted as we passed near the Hall. It was an experience that I will remember for a long time.

Similarly, Nicky and I experienced another first (for us) when we were invited to the State Banquet at the Guildhall for the President of Mexico and his wife. Everyone was dressed in white tie and the pomp and circumstance of the occasion, from the trumpeters to the colourful national costumes on show, were unforgettable.

But not to be outdone, Drapers’ Hall was the venue for a banquet for the Anglo-Danish Society, where the principal guests were the Queen of Denmark, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and the Danish Ambassador and his wife. Nicky and I were fortunate enough to be invited and it was a splendid occasion, where the staff did the Company proud.

I have already mentioned what a busy year it was for the Master and his wife, but the staff do their utmost to make one’s life as stress-free as possible. I cannot thank them enough for all their hard work, kindness and understanding that they showed to Nicky and me. Nothing was too much trouble – although it did take them a while to accept that if I was in the Master’s flat alone, I often preferred not to have the dinner that was being served at a ‘Lent Hall’ event downstairs, but instead I liked to nip around to Tesco and grab a simple can of baked beans!

And whilst on the subject of food, I must praise Mark Page, the Head Chef, and his team for the excellence of their dinners … and not to the mention their originality. I will not forget The Master’s Packed Lunch, which was the marvellous pudding at the Court Education Dinner.

All in all, it was a fantastic year that I loved. It was full of new experiences and it was a wonderful opportunity for Nicky and me to meet and get to know a whole group of new friends, which is a very rare occurrence these days for people in their late fifties. In addition, I was so fortunate to have a totally supportive and fully engaged wife, who ran the home, often putting up with my being away at least three nights a week, as well as attending numerous functions with me, on top of those she went to alone with other wives and consorts. I was also blessed to have a superb Court of Wardens, who were equally supportive and encouraging and I cannot thank them, the Court of Assistants, staff and the Livery enough, for their role in making my Master’s year so special.

My final thank you is to all those who attended July’s Election Dinner. At the end, as I was proposing the Company Toast for the final time, I asked for a rousing response. I was not disappointed – I have never heard a more enthusiastic “Forever”. It served as a very special and poignant finale for me – thank you.
We are sincerely grateful for the amazing support that we have received from the Drapers’ Company. We have been overwhelmed by the Drapers’ generosity: it was incredible to witness the continuing stream of donations. The following report details the ways in which the generosity of the Company, and of the individual Drapers, will help improve the lives of people at the RHN who are living with severe disability.

About Us:
The RHN is a registered medical charity, not part of the NHS, which provides rehabilitation and long-term care for adults who have suffered devastating brain injury or illness. All of the people who come to us for care are living with profound neurological disability as a result of their illness or injury. What we do, quite simply, is help people to have the best quality of life possible. We offer a wide range of therapies and services on site which aim to help people become more mobile and independent. We also provide specialist equipment to allow people to begin to communicate again or to control their environment. A great deal of this equipment, as well as many therapies and services, are funded through voluntary donations.

As a charity, we need to raise nearly £3 million in the coming year to pay for equipment such as communication aids which allow people, who have lost the ability to speak, to tell their families that they love them and to communicate with their carers. Voluntary funds also pay for therapies such as music therapy. Research, including studies conducted here at the RHN, has shown that music therapy promotes neuroplasticity (the
Over the past 20 years, Embrace CVOC has worked to help young victims of crime or those who have been traumatised as a result of crime. It was set up in response to the Warrington terrorist bombing in 1993 by police officers in Cheshire and was later adopted by the British Police Rugby squad who developed it into what it is today.

Over the years, the charity has worked with police officers to brighten the lives of over 6,000 children, many of whom have suffered as a result of the most serious crimes and have often been the invisible victims behind the headlines.

A year after the fundraising began, and the name became known across the UK’s police forces, Embrace was registered with the Charity Commission.

Embrace remains the only UK-wide charity which works exclusively to provide practical and emotional support to young victims of crime. It arranges specialist counselling for those aged 12-18 who have been traumatised by their experiences and prioritises those young people living in poverty, making grants for necessities such as clothing and school uniforms. Embrace also provides peer support and family breaks.

At the autumn Informal Livery Dinner the Master commented: “I am very grateful to those who have been kind enough to contribute to my charity this year. Embrace CVOC is a small charity to whose operations the amount we are capable of raising will make a marked difference. They have already used our giving to draw down an additional £4,000 in matched funding elsewhere.”

For more information about the work and fundraising activities of Embrace:
www.embracecvoc.org.uk 0845 60 999 90
It is only right that we remind ourselves from time to time that a key role of the Drapers’ Company is to act as guardian of the charitable funds entrusted to it over the centuries. Invariably, the endowments and donations have been made for the relief of those in need, those who are suffering hardship in various forms, or towards the education of young people, depending on the wishes of the benefactor.

Over the past few years many of the trusts created to manage these endowments have been merged into the Drapers’ Charitable Fund (DCF). It is from this trust, and from the smaller Drapers’ Consolidated Charity and the Gift & Legacy Fund, that the Charities Committee makes grants on behalf of the Court, whose members, collectively, are the trustee of all the Company’s charities. The Committee’s mandate allows it to make grants up to £50,000, above which it must seek the Court’s approval, although all grants are scrutinised by it as a matter of course. While the core of the Committee is drawn from members of the Court they are most ably assisted by several Liverymen.

The income from DCF’s holdings in the Drapers’ Charities Pooling Scheme is supplemented by a generous gift from the annual surplus in the Company’s corporate (non-charity) accounts. The Gift & Legacy Fund is the fund into which members’ donations are placed and the Committee makes grants to causes that it considers the membership would most identify with. The most recent of such grants was to the Welsh Guards Charity, which received £30,000 last April in recognition of the centenary of the regiment’s founding.

During the year up to July 2015, DCF, through the Charities Committee, made grants worth £1.7 million. These ranged from £100 to £90,000, a number of the larger ones being spread over three years. Most grants were for sums between £10,000 and £15,000 where they made a real difference to the small to medium sized charities the Committee tends to support. The accompanying boxes show examples of grants made under the main areas of charitable giving by the Drapers’ Charitable Fund during the year.

### Homelessness

**Pathway**

Pathway aims to transform the quality of healthcare experienced by rough sleepers and other homeless people across the UK by providing support for homeless patients during their stay in hospital and co-ordinating their aftercare. A grant of £20,000 was awarded to extend Pathway’s service to more London hospitals.

A considerable amount of research by the Head of Charities, Andy Mellows, goes into the background and suitability of applicants for grants and the Committee scrutinises each one carefully before making a decision during one of its five meetings in the year. Where a larger grant is to be considered or it is felt to be prudent, the Head of Charities will visit the charity, often accompanied by a Committee member.

### Disability

**Resources for Autism**

Resources for Autism received £10,000 towards the *Autism to Autism* project which gets young people into supported volunteering and in some cases permanent employment whilst improving their independence.

**Oakleaf Enterprise**

A grant of £5,000 was awarded to Oakleaf Enterprise in Surrey and its *On the Up* upholstery project where adults with mental health problems obtain an Association of Master Upholsterers and Soft Furnishers accredited qualification and the necessary skills to secure employment in the upholstery or furniture restoration business.
A large majority of our charitable donations are destined for causes within Greater London. This is for three reasons: it reflects our historical ties with the capital, there is still considerable need in the London social welfare and broader education sectors, and it makes the number of applications for grants more manageable. Eligibility is further restricted by tightly defined criteria for the range of causes which we will support – social welfare including homelessness; prisoners; ex-servicemen; support services for the elderly; those with less visible disabilities; education – projects to raise aspirations or to realise the full potential of disadvantaged young people; and textiles – conservation of items of historical importance and projects within the textiles industry (see a further article in this Journal).

A small but important addition to these is the undertaking by the Company to match amounts raised for charities by members through physical endeavours such as running marathons, cycling long distances and the like. Administration of non-discretionary funds, for which the Company is trustee, such as the Thomas Howell’s Trust, the Francis Bancroft’s Trust and the Drapers’ Almshouse Charity, fall outside the responsibility of the Committee.

The work of the Charities Committee is varied and rewarding but it also gives its members a valuable insight into the charitable causes which the Drapers’ Company considers it should support.

**Education and Young People**

**School-Home Support**
This charity works with children, families and schools to break the cycle of poor school attendance, low educational attainment, antisocial behaviour, crime and poor employment prospects. We made a grant of £30,000 towards the Welfare Fund which is part of the package of support given to families in order to get children into school ready to learn.

**IntoUniversity**
IntoUniversity received the second of three annual grants of £35,000 towards the delivery of its programmes in East London providing access to educational opportunities through academic support and mentoring to raise the academic attainment and aspirations of disadvantaged young people.

**Ex-servicemen**

**Walking with the Wounded**
Walking with the Wounded received a grant of £15,000 towards the Head Start programme which aims to address the increasing mental health needs of ex-servicemen by introducing private psychotherapy from a nationwide network of qualified practitioners working alongside current NHS provision.

**Prisoners**

**Shannon Trust**
Shannon Trust was awarded the final of three annual grants of £25,000 to deliver the Toe by Toe Reading Plan in prisons throughout the UK. The programme transforms lives by inspiring prisoners who can read to teach prisoners with poor reading skills, thus providing learners with opportunities to develop life skills and to engage with education and training opportunities that better equip them to live as contributing members of their communities on release.

**Bounce Back**
Bounce Back is both a charity and social enterprise that specialises in training offenders in painting and decorating skills and their employment on release from custody to aid their rehabilitation. It was awarded £45,000 over three years towards the organisation’s training centre within HMP Brixton and its projects within the community.
Making it in Textiles

By Assistant Jane Mather, Chairman of the Textile Working Group

‘In the 19th century the Drapers’ Company existed primarily as a philanthropic institution, controlling numerous private trusts and property from which it derived a large income. In common with most other livery companies it had long since lost its function of superintending its trade. For the majority of Liverymen the Company was an important social organisation providing several good dinners a year.’

That was the summary of the author of ‘The Drapers’ Company in the late nineteenth century’ in last year’s Drapers’ Journal. Any of us reading his opening paragraph might have been tempted to say that not much had changed in the 21st century so far as the Company exercises any supervision, or gives support to the textile trade from which it had made its wealth in the 16th and 17th centuries.

But we would be wrong. Three and a half years ago, fired by the then new Government initiative to promote apprenticeships, Alastair Ross took the bull by the horns and formed a Textile Working Group in his final year as Clerk to the Company. I suspect he was more aware than the rest of us who attended the first meeting that this enterprise could quite easily end in failure and, despite all of us involved giving it our ‘best shot’, it would go the way of past attempts to support textiles and end up with a considerable effort realising little tangible benefit to the Industry.

But we did have on our side five very determined Drapers working in various aspects of the manufacture and sale of textiles day to day who in their own fields had some success, who knew their strengths and perhaps more importantly understood their limitations.

We were given a small pot of money – the Henry Dixons Foundation for Apprenticing, worth about £40,000 per year – to spend and our brief was to find possible apprenticeship opportunities in textiles that we could support.

There are only five members of the group. We are relatively young and we charge in and out of Drapers’ Hall in our jeans and jackets and communicate largely by email. Andy Mellows, Head of Charities, who keeps us together, has learnt that we cannot meet between January and Easter or between September and October as we are all on business trips to/from the Far East. But we are managing between us to reconnect with young people who want to earn a living in textiles and, using our existing networks, help get them the industry experience they so badly need as their first step on the ladder.

Barry Laden and Nicky Santomauro have written up case studies of the individuals we have helped during our first two years. It is a tribute to the skill and hard work of Barry and Nicky that the young people we have helped on these pilots have found their training in the industry a success and two have jobs entirely thanks to this training initiative. We are now in a position to build on our experience at Lavenham Jackets to offer a Drapers’ Company Apprenticeship Award to other companies with the support of the Huddersfield Textile Centre of Excellence.

As with the first pilots we are taking a risk, but we think it is worth it.

There is a further collaboration we have taken with other livery companies to help young people in textiles, where in some way we are following the example of our forebears in the 19th century working together for the benefit of our trades. This coming together of several companies resulted in the foundation of the City and Guilds of London Institute for the Advancement of Technical Education in 1878.

Fast forward to October 2015 and the Weavers, Clothworkers, Drapers and Campaign For Wool (supported by Prince Charles) jointly funded a conference for approximately 150 textile print and weave students in Bradford called ‘Making it in Textiles’. This initiative is not on the scale of the foundation of a great organisation such as City and Guilds but it is a contemporary example of
livery companies, which have their roots in the manufacture and sale of cloth, working together for the benefit of young people hoping to make a living in the modern UK textile industry.

The ‘Making it in Textiles’ conference is an exercise in educating final-year textile design students in the practical realities of the industry and the broader business skills and knowledge that they will need in order to have a successful career. Four of us Drapers attended the conference and it is our view that, together with the Weavers and the Clothworkers, we should continue to support it.

It was apparent from the conference that there were opportunities for graduates to make careers in high class manufacturing in our UK textile industry. A high point for the students was to be taken on mill visits to see the latest production techniques for textiles that competed globally with the best from other European mills.

Having seen these mills, we think there may be engineering and science graduates from Huddersfield and Leeds Universities, who have not previously considered a career in UK manufacturing, but who might be interested in making products of the best quality which are able to compete worldwide.

Next year, the Clothworkers, Weavers and ourselves will ask the mills what skills they are looking for and then recruit students with an interest in learning those skills to attend this conference. Our aim is to have 10 engineering and science students at the ‘Making it in Textiles Conference’ in Bradford and should any of them show an interest in getting experience in British Manufacturing in Textiles, we will support them as trainees in the Industry providing 50% of their first-year salary. The Weavers and Clothworkers are already providing financial support to a small number of design trainees to get work experience in the industry so we will be following their lead.

Alastair Ross took a risk when he set up the Textile Working Group, but the initiative is still alive and we continue to push the boundaries to see what support we can provide. Working with the Weavers, Clothworkers and Campaign for Wool is our best chance to make a difference, providing a bridge between those mills which are part of our UK manufacturing industry and young people wanting to work in textiles.
In September 2012, I was invited to join the newly formed Drapers’ Textile Working Group with other Drapers, all of whom work in textiles in one form or another.

To begin with, we needed to decide whom we wanted to help and how we were successfully going to do this. We settled on a more typical apprenticeship award for a young person of school-leaving age and also a grant for helping students at university in their placement year.

The company I work for, Lavenham, has a factory based in Sudbury, Suffolk. We manufacture quilted jackets and horse rugs, mostly for the Japanese market. Our factory is unique in the UK in that we quilt our own material before making our garments from start to finish. We have struggled to find home-grown sewing machinists in the last 10 years and had never taken on a young apprentice before, so it seemed sensible for Lavenham to run a pilot apprenticeship scheme to see what the pros and cons might be, after which we could offer the award to other businesses and guide them through any pitfalls.

First, I had no idea how difficult it would be to find an apprentice to enrol on our scheme. I foolishly thought we would be inundated with applications. I went to local schools and talked to Year 11’s; we advertised an open day at the factory targeting local schools and parents; we had a vacancy advertised on the National Apprenticeship website. We also enlisted the help of the Textile Centre of Excellence, a not-for-profit organisation based in Huddersfield offering training and funding for the first seven weeks of an apprenticeship scheme.

Eventually, we started to receive applications from the National Apprenticeship website. However, 16-year-olds aren’t the best at getting back to you when invited to an interview, but eventually we received a reply with the fourth applicant. Her name was Tilly: a local girl who had just finished school at 16 but, owing to some health issues in her last year, she hadn’t been very successful in her exams. Learning that Tilly had always liked to make her own clothes at home, we saw potential and felt this was just the type of person we wanted to help.

Tilly started working at Lavenham in September 2013 on a pre-apprenticeship scheme, funded by the Textile Centre of Excellence. This was an invaluable chance both for Tilly to make sure this was the type of work she expected and for us to make sure Tilly was the type of person we could train.

She was successful and enrolled onto our 12-month apprenticeship scheme in the October. Apart from training on our sewing line, Tilly also enrolled on an NVQ Level 2 Manufacture of Sewn Products. An assessor would come to our factory once a month and assess Tilly on her progress and give Tilly assignments to complete before the next visit.

There are many different sewing operations and general tasks within our busy factory so we have always tried to vary Tilly’s work during the course of a week. We feel this has maintained her interest and given us a very useful young person.

Tilly passed her NVQ with flying colours in November 2014. At the same time we offered Tilly a full-time permanent contract of employment. Tilly is still with us today and is a valuable member of our team.

We took on our second young person in July 2014. Her name was Jessica and she was 16 years old. She also left school with few qualifications but, unlike Tilly, didn’t really have an interest in sewing but was willing to try, which is where the pre-apprenticeship funding is very useful.
Jessica followed the same training and enrolment onto the NVQ as Tilly. She is a bright young person but has been completely different to manage, especially in the summer months, with days taken off ‘sick’ and a tendency to refuse to move onto certain sewing tasks if she felt they were more difficult to master. Her supervisor, Caroline, was very determined and after a few frank and honest discussions in our meeting room with our production manager, she improved to such a degree that she too passed her NVQ in September and was offered a full-time permanent contract of employment.

Having both Tilly and Jessica successfully pass their NVQ’s and training has been hugely rewarding for me and all of the staff at Lavenham. Although Lavenham was piloting this scheme, I would like to thank the Drapers’ Company for the opportunity and two excellent new members of staff.

We feel we are now in a position to offer the Drapers’ Company Apprenticeship Award to other businesses. This is currently in progress and we hope to be able to update you further in 2016.
Five years ago, I took on our first work experience student as an in-house designer at my textile factory. Having studied fashion design at Leeds University for two years, this was the student’s third year, where he would experience the world of work in our industry for the first time. The year passed so successfully that we offered him a job to return to us following his final year back at Leeds.

From this experience, I discovered several important factors relevant to fashion design students coming to London from Leeds.

Some students feel extraordinary financial pressures when coming to London, leaving some unable to fulfil their placements simply because of the lack of funds to live.

Most placements, especially those in fashion design, make such heavy demands on the time of the students that it is impossible to supplement their incomes with additional jobs.

Leeds University places students into excellent companies and there is a very high proportion of these who are offered jobs in those companies on graduation.

When the Textile Working Group was formed, I was delighted to propose the Leeds’ work experience students should receive Drapers’ Bursaries to assist with their living costs during their year in London. As a consequence, the Company has played an extraordinary part in ensuring talented students are able to survive during their work experience year.

Each student is selected by Leeds University, based on their knowledge of the student’s circumstances, and funds are distributed by the University to the students. All students with no family connections in the capital ordinarily live outside London. Most are from the north of England and will never have lived away from home before. Following the success of the pilot, four students were selected in the second year and now we are in the third year where the optimum number of six students are directly benefiting from the bursary.

The positive outcomes from this programme are best summarised using the words of some of the students themselves along with their course leader.

Student Megan initially worked for a fashion PR company and then Harrods: “During this internship I was living in a flat in London which was very expensive. The bursary money really was a life-saver during this period as without it I wouldn’t have been able to afford to live in London. I was very fortunate to have the Bursary!”

Student Aimee worked for fashion designer Temperley London: “Thank you for the help from the Drapers’ Bursary this year. I am so grateful and I would not have been able to complete this year in London without it. I have learned so much about the industry and gained so many skills which you cannot just learn at university.”

Student Subenaz worked for Parka London: “I am one of the few lucky recipients of your bursary. Three months into the internship I was asked to stay for the whole year and I could never have agreed to this without the financial aid you so kindly gave and are providing me... you truly have made a difference not just to my future career prospects but to my life.”

Lynne Webster, course leader at Leeds University, said, “I would like to say a huge thank you... your support regarding this is totally amazing and we are very thankful. Please also send our thanks to Court of the Drapers’ Company. The bursaries will make a big difference to all students.”

Our current bursary recipients are working in very respected fashion houses, including Whistles, French Connection, Anthropologie and Amanda Wakeley. On 16 November 2015 four students, along with Textile Working Group members, Assistant Jane Mather and Freeman Helen Titley, visited my east London factory along with the Master and his wife. This was an opportunity not only to demonstrate the processes of clothing manufacturing but also for the Master to learn directly from the students how significant the bursary is to the students in their work experience year.

The bursary provides much-needed funds to fashion design students studying at Leeds, ensuring the best students in the greatest financial need can focus completely on their careers and cut a path to future success in the industry as Drapers’ Bursary recipients.
Textile Conservation and Industry
Grant-making through the Drapers’ Charitable Fund

The Drapers’ Charitable Fund has wide objects and purposes supporting causes which fall into three main categories:

(a) education and young people;
(b) social welfare – homelessness, prisoners, ex-Service men and women, welfare and disability; and
(c) textile and heritage – textile conservation and industry; preservation of the nation’s heritage related to the former exploits of the armed forces, the history of London or the textile trade.

In addition to the vocational training project initiated through the Textile Working Group, and outlined in the preceding pages, the Charities Committee has supported a number of other textile-related projects during the past year:

Textile Conservation Foundation: Support for a British student for two years at the Centre for Textile Conservation and Technical Art History at Glasgow University studying on the MPhil Textile Conservation course.

Imperial War Museum: To mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, IWM London installed a new First World War permanent exhibition as part of a £40 million regeneration project at the Museum. A grant of £15,000 was awarded towards the conservation of 128 textile items including service uniforms, civilian clothing and flags forming part of the exhibition.

Fashion Awareness Direct: This charity aims to build the skills of disadvantaged young people, mainly from London, through fashion and textile workshops, courses and competitions. A grant of £5,000 was awarded towards the TextileConnect programme through which textile professionals are given support to help disadvantaged young people gain the network, confidence and understanding to enter the fashion industry.

Hoxton Hall: A grant of £15,000 was awarded towards the provision of replica heritage fabric curtains and drapes for the theatre stage and other associated fittings as part of a major project for the refurbishment, conservation and restoration of this Grade II listed music hall in Hackney.

National Army Museum: A grant of £10,000 was awarded towards display cases for selected highlights from the Museum’s collection of 80,000 items of military dress and other garments. The cases are part of the Museum’s five new galleries and display 19 uniforms at a time.

Buckingham Old Gaol Trust: A grant of £2,700 was awarded towards the restoration, conservation and display of a shawl made by Queen Victoria in 1898 and recently donated to the Museum.
In 2013, I visited the city of Bradford and its Cathedral for the first time. It was an unfamiliar city to me at the time, but a place I would get to know very well over the forthcoming three years. In 1963, Edward Maufe designed a new chancel for Bradford Cathedral, giving the east end of the building much-needed light and space. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of Maufe’s extension, a new set of textiles was commissioned to reflect the city’s heritage and links to the textile industry.

Bradford is an extraordinary place: a city steeped in history and industrial change, and a place of many paradoxes. In every direction there are mills and chimneys still visible, some in use for their original purpose, some remodelled into smart new housing, and some derelict. There is prosperity and affluence and yet there is still very real poverty and deprivation. The purpose of the new textiles was to bring the heritage of the city to the fore but in a way that acknowledged all aspects of the past and offered hope and colour for the future.

The high altar table is a dominating four metres wide, making the frontals a significant focal point for the building. As a result the design for the frontals was the primary task and all other pieces were derived from this initial concept. The abstract nature of my recent work lent itself to a brief which had to encompass so much. The literal depiction of objects and scenes can encourage a ‘first glance’ understanding of meaning whereas a degree of obscurity in an abstract design actively encourages a longer more contemplative examination of the images – much more appropriate for a sacred context.

Numerous research visits to Bradford led to an historical map of the industrial city and a current panoramic photograph being the core inspiration for the design. The first captured the industrial powerhouse at its peak, the latter a fragmented urban landscape still struggling to forge a new identity post economic collapse and seismic community changes. The design needed to celebrate heritage yet acknowledge the challenges of the contemporary, while also expressing the respect and hope for the future that the city richly deserves.

My commission comprised 31 separate items,
including four high altar frontals, four pulpit falls, 20 stoles, and three copes. I undertook every stage of the work from design inception to embroidery and finishing. Over three years the project took nearly 1,100 hours. Each set marks a liturgical season as the church year progresses.

One significant aspect of this project was to engage directly with Bradford itself. The materials were all sourced from within the city. Wool fabrics – milled, spun, woven and dyed – came from local companies at mills that have been trading for the last 230 years. Some of the silk fabrics were imported and sold by the Asian community.

In addition to this, the Cathedral team led by Canon Precentor Sam Corley was determined that part of the project should involve young people – the future – in Bradford. We wanted to offer an opportunity for exposure and professional development to the next generation. It is rare that college students have the opportunity to work with real clients, real budgets and real deadlines. It was for this which the Cathedral approached the Drapers’ Company which kindly enabled this vital collaboration to be realised.

The Cathedral approached Bradford College with a ‘live project’ to produce a design for a woven cloth to be made into seat cushions throughout the chancel. Sam Corley and I visited the college on a number of occasions helping them refine their designs and work towards samples for assessment. 20 students presented samples and supported research at an exhibition where we selected a design to be manufactured.

Jackie Greef was the selected designer and she has already proved herself to be a diligent and worthy candidate. She spent a great deal of time researching the process of producing a commercially manufactured cloth, negotiating with the weaving company in Halifax, and learning from a similar project for Liverpool Cathedral. I have been able to offer ongoing ‘remote’ support throughout the process, but the generous support of Cathedral staff has enabled this project to fly when it could have stumbled. Final colours for Jackie’s work have been agreed and samples woven, and the finished cloth is scheduled to be made up in the first quarter of 2016.

This project has been a remarkable opportunity to celebrate Bradford’s history in contemporary textiles, and shows a bold commitment to the arts by the Cathedral in engaging in such a dramatic venture. The generosity of the Drapers’ Company has enabled the students at Bradford College to engage in a ‘real world’ learning experience by competing for a commercial client in a new field. The result has been an enriched professional development for all of the students involved, and a significant first step in the career of one. It has also deepened the connection between the Cathedral and young people in the diocese. I feel very privileged to have been part of that.

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King Richard III’s Coffin Pall

By Claire Recordon, Marketing & Development Officer, Leicester Cathedral

In 2014 Leicester Cathedral commissioned textile artist Jacquie Binns to design and make the coffin pall to be used at the reburial of King Richard III in 2015.

Coffin palls were traditionally used in medieval burials of high-status individuals and typically are made from heavy materials such as velvet and portrayed figures that illustrate the narrative of the deceased.

Jacquie spent 12 months researching and preparing experimental samples for the design. These included 48 embroidered faces for the modern figures, out of which the final nine were chosen. The pall took months of intense, uninterrupted work and was completed in February 2015.

The design by Jacquie Binns has a central focal point of the Arms of King Richard III and there are several themes running through the design. These are Light out of Darkness; the living and the dead; the past and the present; and the Heavenly and the Earthly.

The Heavenly is depicted by six seraphim, the highest order of angels which represent meditation. The seraphim feature on four sides of the pall: two seraphim at the head and foot of the coffin carry shields; one with the symbol of St Martin for the Cathedral and one with the Leicester City Council logo using the ancient rose design.

The Earthly is represented on one side of the pall by the past and depicts individuals from the time of Richard III. The other side has figures from the present day, representing those that have been significant in the recent story of the King leading to his reburial.

On the side representing the past there are three groups of three people. In group one, on the left are an anonymous mourner, representing all who mourn; a lady wearing a truncated hennin and rich robe; and a knight in shining armour. In the central group are Prince Edward, Richard’s son, holding a handkerchief signifying ill health; St Martin, patron saint of the Cathedral with his robe cut into two; and Richard’s Queen, Anne Neville, in heraldic robes. Richard was predeceased by both his wife and son.

In group three, on the right are a medieval Bishop; a Grey Friar holding the Greyfriar’s church, where Richard was originally buried; and a medieval priest holding a chalice.

On the modern side of the pall, in group one, on the left-hand side, the figures represent Leicester University with Professor Sir Robert Burgess, the Vice Chancellor,
now retired, holding the Fielding Johnson Building where Richard III’s mortal remains were coffined; Dr Richard Buckley, Co-Director of the University Archaeological Services, holding a stone fleur-de-lys; and Dr Jo Appleby, the project osteoarchaeologist, holding the skull of King Richard III. The central group represents Leicester City Council and the Cathedral: Sir Peter Soulsby, the elected Mayor, holding a briefcase and a scroll with the city logo; the Dean of Leicester, the Very Revd David Monteith, holding a Bible; and the Bishop of Leicester, the Rt Rev Tim Stevens, holding a crozier. Finally, group three, on the right, represents the Richard III Society: Philippa Langley is seen holding a portrait of King Richard III similar to the one in the National Portrait Gallery; Dr John Ashdown-Hill, the historian, is holding one of his books; and Dr Phil Stone, the chairman of the Society, is holding a silver boar after the brooch that was found at Fenn Lane Farm, site of the Battle of Bosworth.

A Crown of Roses, the oldest known heraldic rose design, is embroidered at the head of the pall. Leicester’s cinquefoil rose is at the top with six white roses completing the circle.

The red and green shot silk used for the ground on which all the figures stand acknowledges the Christian symbolism of red for the blood of Christ and green for everlasting life. These were also the old town colours of Leicester, also seen in the timber roofs of the Cathedral and more recently they were adopted as the colours of the Leicester Tigers Rugby Football team.

The coffin pall is now beautifully displayed in a glass case in Leicester Cathedral draped over a coffin-shaped box. The pall is an important tool in telling the story of Richard III through a creative and aesthetic medium that uses ancient techniques and materials and a narrative that would have been recognised by Richard III’s contemporaries. Many visitors are visibly moved by this piece of contemporary textile art. Jacque spoke publicly with the Dean of Leicester about this particular work in October 2015 and a recording of this conversation can be downloaded from http://leicestercathedral.org/deans-discussions-volume-iv/

The design and creation of the coffin pall was made possible with grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Drapers’ Charitable Fund.
Phase one of the restoration of the tapestry ‘Christ in Glory’
By Christine Doyle, Head of Development, Coventry Cathedral

As fabric conservation projects go, it was probably the largest spring clean being attempted in the UK during 2015. For six weeks in March and April, the tapestry of ‘Christ in Glory’ at Coventry Cathedral was covered up by scaffolding as a team of conservators set to work on the first phase of the project to make initial repairs, clean the tapestry in situ and produce a conservation management plan.

The tapestry of ‘Christ in Glory’ by Graham Sutherland dominates the east wall of Coventry’s new Cathedral: it draws visitors to the iconic building, is a focus for worshippers during services and is the largest treasure in the Cathedral’s significant collection of mid-20th century art.

Bring the vision of a ‘plain casket of jewels’ to life
The new Cathedral was built in the aftermath of the Second World War. Linked to the ruins of its medieval predecessor (destroyed in the Coventry Blitz), Sir Basil Spence, the architect, wanted to create a ‘plain casket of jewels’ to house artworks commissioned from the leading artists of the 1950s and 60s. He wanted visitors to walk from the destruction of the ruins into the new Cathedral and focus on ‘Christ in Glory’. It is for this reason that the fascinating stained-glass windows in the Nave are angled so that they cannot be seen on first entering the Cathedral.

Spence had worked with Graham Sutherland during the war and so commissioned him to create the masterpiece that is now one of the most well-known pieces of Christian art.

Creating the world’s largest tapestry
By early 1958, the design was accepted by the church authorities and sent to France in preparation for the weaving.

To make a tapestry as large as this in one piece required a loom 40 feet wide. Only a few tapestry workshops could accommodate a work of this size – 74ft by 38ft (23m x 12m) (the size of a singles tennis court) and the firm of Pinton Frères at Fellenin, near Aubusson, France, was chosen for this enormous task.

The loom consisted of two large tree trunks, with only 2in (5cm) to spare either side. Most of the wool came from Australia, a little from France, and photographic enlargements of the cartoon were made so that the weavers could have a pattern to help with the hand-dyeing of more than 900 different colours in the tapestry.

There are 7000 warp threads in the 38 feet width. This is equivalent to about 15 threads per inch and about 144 stitches per square inch.
**A spring clean on rather a large scale**

The recent conservation project included the updating of the physical structure behind the tapestry to enable safe access by the conservators, an *in-situ* dry clean and the production of a detailed report outlining the future conservation needs of the tapestry. The entire first phase cost £100,000 with the Drapers’ Company donating nearly £12,000 to enable the project to get under way.

The condition of the tapestry was fully assessed, to include measurement of fading, and review of surface and ingrained dirt, distortion and strain, structural damage and evidence of insect pests.

Overall the tapestry is in a good condition. It continues to hang very flat with little obvious strain and only minor distortion (mainly in areas where it attached to the structure). It was heavily soiled on both sides with further analysis showing that the dirt on the front to be more fibrous than the dirt on the back which is made up of more combustion products (soot) with a slight sticky quality. The Cathedral team were delighted at the discovery of three dead moths and no pest damage!

**Looking to the future**

Once the *in-situ* cleaning was complete, the colours were brighter and showed much more contrast. But this is not the end of the project. Hidden away on the reverse side are two trials which are under way for a year. First, the conservators are reviewing new methods and materials for hanging the tapestry, examining in particular where it is attached to the framework at the sides (where the current black fabric has failed). Secondly, consideration is being given to whether the reverse of the tapestry should be lined with fabric. There are two areas currently covered with different fabrics, one with a scoured down-proof cotton cambric and the other with Tyvek (a spun-bonded polyester fabric).

Also in place for one year are dust traps, fading monitors and temperature sensors, the measurements of which will be analysed and available in late spring 2016. These results will enable the conservators to advise the Dean and Chapter on the future conservation needs of what is, without doubt, one of the most iconic pieces of Christian artwork in the world.
Drapers’ Academy – the history of schools on Harold Hill
By Assistant Tim Orchard, Chair of the Governing Body

In partnership with Queen Mary University of London, the Drapers’ Company formally took over as sponsors of what is now Drapers’ Academy in 2010, although it was another two years before staff and pupils moved into the new building. For us Drapers who are involved in the life of the Academy, whether as governors or in some other voluntary capacity, it is easy to forget that this school did not materialise out of thin air. Quite the contrary, in fact: Drapers’ Academy is merely the latest of many secondary schools in which successive generations of Harold Hill children have been taught. Just as a country is hard to understand without an appreciation of its history, so too the Company’s sponsorship of Drapers’ Academy is illuminated by an appreciation of what came before.

Harold Hill as we see it today is an entirely post-War creation. The London County Council (as it was then) broke cover in September 1945 by announcing its plan to build 10,000 houses for 50,000 people in the north-east part of the Borough of Romford. To put this in perspective, the total population of the borough at the time was just 63,000. Although there had been rumours of a new development in the area, the expectation had been for a development to house no more than 4,000 people. You might say that Harold Hill (the name given to the new estate) came as a bit of a shock.

The land on which Harold Hill was to be built comprised 1400 acres of farmland. (The names of some of the farms echo down the ages in the names of several present-day schools, e.g. Hildene, Dycorts and our very own Maylands.) Over a third of the land was sold to the LCC by the Neave family (of whom Airey was perhaps the most famous scion). Until 1940 the Neaves had lived at Dagmarn Park – a large house that stood close to the site of Drapers’ Academy, but now long since demolished. The family accepted £60,000 for their property (the equivalent of roughly £2 million today).

Construction began in 1947 and continued until 1958. In the end, only some 7,600 houses were built – fewer than the 10,000 originally planned – providing accommodation for roughly 30,000 new residents. The total cost was put at about £14m. The distinguishing feature of Harold Hill’s housing stock is the near-universal use of red brick and the predominance of straightforward two-storey houses. At the very beginning, however, it was a different picture: the first people to arrive (in July 1947) found themselves living in prefabs, most of which had been assembled by German prisoners-of-war. It wasn’t until November 1948 that the first proper house was handed over to its tenants.

Many of the new arrivals came from the East End of London (which had, of course, suffered extensive bomb damage during the War). What did these confirmed city-dwellers make of their spacious and distinctly green surroundings? There is evidence of much grumbling, not least about the almost non-existent provision of schools. A certain Mr Trew wrote to the Romford Times in September 1951: “At present, nothing is right with the estate. No schools for our children, which means they have to travel back and forth to Romford.” Strictly speaking, he was exaggerating because there were in fact two schools in Harold Hill at that time – Straight Road School (now Hildene Primary School, still located just off Straight Road), which had only opened in 1940, and St Thomas Church of England School in Noak Hill. But both schools were quickly overwhelmed by the influx of school-age children, most of whom did indeed have to travel daily to and from Romford, Brentwood or other not-so-nearby towns.

By 1952 the situation had become so bad that 150 children were kept away from school by their parents for almost six months in protest at the introduction of charges for school buses.

The planners did eventually catch up. Educational famine in due course became a feast. By the...
early 1960s there were four secondary schools in Harold Hill (or six if we count boys and girls sections separately); and one of these was a grammar. (Today Drapers’ Academy is the only secondary school, serving a local population that is bigger than ever and growing at a clip.) The first of these schools to open (in 1953) was Harrowfield Secondary Modern Boys & Girls School, situated in two separate blocks (one for boys, one for girls) in Settle Road. (Drapers’ Academy stands on the site of the north block, which housed the girls’ school.) By the time that the Drapers’ Company and Queen Mary University of London became sponsors 57 years later, the buildings were dilapidated in the extreme. Yet in 1954 they won a regional RIBA award. (By a curious coincidence, Drapers’ Academy has also won a RIBA award for the London region. But we may be confident that our school was built to altogether higher standards than its predecessor.) In 1973 Harrowfield merged with Quarles Secondary Modern, which had opened just two years after Harrowfield. (This school’s rather exotic name came from the 17th century Romford courtier and poet Francis Quarles.) Together the two schools formed the Neave Comprehensive School – named, of course, after the former landowners.

The dramatic growth in schools in the 1950s continued with Harold Hill Grammar School, which opened in 1957. Unlike other schools on the Hill, it took many children from outside the local area. By all accounts the Grammar School thrived throughout the 1960s, offering a full range of (what are nowadays called) co-curricular activities – from sports to concerts to drama and so on. Boys in the sixth form were distinguished by their trilby hats (the origin of which custom is obscure). The state education reforms of 1973 swept the Grammar away and the school merged with Broxhill Secondary Modern on the opposite side of the road to form Bedfords Park School. But by 1987 this amalgamated school had merged once again – this time with Neave Comprehensive – to create Harold Hill Community School. This resulting school was the direct predecessor of Drapers’ Academy, albeit via yet another change of name in 1998 (to King’s Wood School – a reference to the royal forest that had once covered the area). King’s Wood evolved into a specialist technical college in 2007, but closed in the Summer of 2010, re-emerging that September as Drapers’ Academy.

The history of Harold Hill’s schools is in many ways a microcosm of state secondary education since the War. But it is hard to avoid the impression that the residents of this patch of Greater London have seen more upheaval than most since the first of them arrived almost 70 years ago to find prefabs in fields. If the sponsorship of Drapers’ Academy by Queen Mary University of London and the Drapers’ Company brings with it a certain stabilising influence on education in Harold Hill, this surely can be no bad thing.

Chloe Simpson, a Year 9 pupil and recipient of The Beharrell Cup, awarded to the pupil or student who achieves the highest number of house points

Gracian Wojciechowski, a year 12 student, who was awarded the Leslie Morris Award for Future Engineer.

**Liveryman Dr Bill Frankland visiting Drapers’ Academy, where he met and talked to representatives of the school council, as well as sixth-formers studying science and art. Dr Frankland recently made a generous donation to the school, to be used at the governors’ discretion.**
It has now been 18 months since Brookside Junior School became a part of the Drapers’ Multi-Academy Trust and it is fantastic to see the education transformation continue to take shape with sustained improvements throughout the school.

I have been in a senior teaching role in Harold Hill since 1999 and the improvements the Trust has implemented in the short amount of time is commendable.

The last 12 months have been filled with hard work and dedication by our staff. We took time to identify the weakness left by the legacy school and this year we have begun addressing these to convert into strengths. Our partnership with an outstanding school – St Peter’s School, South Weald – has continued to flourish and allowed us the opportunity to share best practice and adopt positive change. The legacy school was recognised as ‘inadequate’ by Ofsted. We are yet to have an Ofsted inspection. However, after addressing all weaknesses, we feel in a position to welcome the inspectors and clearly demonstrate the differences we have made.

Drapers’ Multi-Academy Trust now has three schools in Harold Hill and has become an integral part of the community. I am delighted to see the schools work alongside each other to ensure all pupils receive a consistent and excellent level of education. Darren Luckhurst, Principal of Drapers’ Academy, Trudy Spillane, Principal of Drapers’ Maylands Primary School, and I meet regularly throughout the academic year.

This year there have been some fantastic memories which I am pleased to be able to share with you. On 8 July we held our inaugural ‘Annual Foundation Day’. This day recognises the pupils who have excelled throughout the academic year and reward them for their efforts. For the occasion we were pleased to be joined by several dignitaries who included the Master Draper, the Mayor of Havering and the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services.

For the ceremony we used a local venue, MyPlace. To conclude the day we were thrilled to have school governor and established children’s author, Mr Joe Layburn, formally open our new reading hut.

At Drapers’ Brookside Junior School we have introduced a school production each year to be performed by the departing Year 6 pupils in their final term. This year they performed The Lion King. The performance was outstanding and was one of my personal favourite highlights of the last academic year. Each Year 6 pupil was given a role and the whole year group came together to create a memory which I am sure will last a lifetime for all of them.

At the beginning of the current academic year we are thrilled to see the school achieve sporting success. So far we have won games in netball and basketball; however, our greatest achievement came in the Harold Hill Tag Rugby
Tournament. On a very cold Monday in November, we became undefeated in the tournament against all the other local primary schools and subsequently became the Harold Hill Tag Rugby Champions!

These few memories I have shared clearly demonstrate the changes taking place. Alongside academic improvements, pupils now are participating in the arts and sports, which we believe are crucial in allowing the pupils to fully develop and gain new opportunities.

The past 18 months have been a challenging yet truly rewarding time for all of us at Drapers’ Brookside Junior School. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the governors, staff, parents and pupils for being patient and also welcoming to the changes we have made.

Drapers’ Multi-Academy Trust’s role in Harold Hill is only going to become more significant. With increasing pressure on primary school places and the possibility of the Trust expanding further, the Harold Hill community is fortunate in the Trust’s arrival. For this we have to say thank you to our sponsors the Drapers’ Company and Queen Mary University of London.

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At a meeting in September 2013 between representatives of the Drapers’ Company and the Department for Education (DfE), the suggestion was made that the sponsors of Drapers’ Academy (i.e. the Company and Queen Mary University of London) might consider recreating – partially at least – the original vision for the Academy of an “all-through” school, i.e. for children aged from four all the way up to 18, by applying to open a primary free school on the redundant site next door. A “free school” is simply an academy – i.e. a school free of local authority control – that is newly founded, as opposed to an existing school that converts to academy status. There was one obvious snag: in order to give ourselves a decent chance of opening such a school by September 2015, our application to the DfE would have to be lodged by the end of the year. As we quickly discovered, the typical gestation period for a free school application was a year or two. Undaunted, a small team set to work, making good use of the in-house expertise within the Academy; and our application was duly submitted just after Christmas. By May 2014 we were told that our application had been successful. Later on, we discovered that only a quarter of all free school applications had been approved since the programme began.

Our approval was for a 420-pupil primary school representing seven years of 60 pupils, in two classes of 30 per year. We were to open in September 2015 with the Reception year in temporary accommodation and to add another year of pupils over the next six years until fully occupied in six years’ time. A new building would be constructed next to the Academy on Harold Hill to be opened in May 2016 when our two year groups would move into their purpose-built primary school.

Four prospective governors volunteered from the Company: Assistant Tom Harris as Chair, Assistant Tim Orchard, Liveryman Ed Buckley and Freeman Katherine Matheson. Two prospective Governors from QMUL, Mike Shore-Nye and Bryony Frost, also joined the team.

One of the key tasks of the newly formed project team was to appoint a school principal, no mean task when the school was just ‘virtual’. We were delighted that Trudy Spillane, who was working as Deputy Head in an Essex Maylands Primary School –

Draper’s Maylands Primary School – The Launch
By Assistant Tom Harris, Chair of the Governing Body

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Draper’s Maylands Primary School – The Launch
By Assistant Tom Harris, Chair of the Governing Body
primary school and had herself been to school in Harold Hill, agreed to come on board as Principal.

We were delighted that space was found and adapted at Drapers’ Academy to provide our temporary home for the first year of pupils with a separate entrance, two classrooms, staff room, Principal’s office, large communal area and a secure outdoor play area.

Wonderful teachers and staff were recruited, uniforms chosen, and we opened our doors to the 28 new pupils in September 2015. Since then pupil numbers have grown to 36 and are increasing week by week towards our full quota of 60. Feedback from parents has been very positive and encouragingly we have over 45 pupils already signed up for next year.

Designs have been agreed for the new school buildings and construction will commence in early 2016. Inevitably, it has taken longer to get to this point in the design than we had hoped and regrettably we shall now have be in our temporary accommodation for another year.

To open a school successfully from scratch is a huge undertaking and we have been blessed with an outstanding Principal and staff, enthusiastic governors who have given freely of their time and wonderful co-operation from the Academy. The school opening is a true testament to the Drapers’ ‘enduring force for good’.
Bancroft’s, founded by the Company in 1737, continues to flourish. The 2015/16 academic year has a special flavour to it, as Mrs Mary Ireland retires at the end of August after nine highly successful years in post. The School will be very sad to see Mary go, but also delighted to celebrate what she and her colleagues have achieved. The Governors have recently appointed Mary’s successor: Mr Simon Marshall, currently Headmaster of the English College in Prague and previously Deputy Head of University College School in London. As well as being the leading institution locally in north-east London, Bancroft’s is now towards the top of every league table of schools in the UK, with an outstanding academic record. In addition, the School has maintained and enhanced its extra-curricular activities, with equally exceptional achievements in sport, music and drama.

Drapers continue to play an important role in the governance of the School, with five Company nominees on the Governing Body. These are currently Dame Colette Bowe, Dr Peter Southern (a former Head of Bancroft’s), James Rose and Rej Bhumbra (an old Bancroftian). Professor Philip Ogden succeeded Stephen Foakes as Chairman, after his very successful five-year term, in 2013. Visitation Day each summer, when we welcome the Master and Wardens, remains a highlight of the School year and reinforces historic links.

With 1,124 pupils in 2015/16 in the age range 7-18, 866 are in the Senior School and 258 in the Prep. The latter, founded in 1990 in handsome new buildings on the main site and with an interest-free loan from the Company, is now under the leadership of Joe Layburn as Head. The Prep plays a very important role in the Bancroft’s community, not least as a feeder of talented children to the Senior School. The academic results of the School in 2015 were the best ever achieved. The Sixth Form achieved 36 per cent A* grades (against a national average of 7.6 per cent) and 92 per cent at A*-B. At GCSE, the Fifth Form gained 84 per cent A* and 99 per cent A*-B. Using the latter grades, The Times league table in August 2015, for example, placed Bancroft’s first in London and second in the UK amongst co-educational schools and 13th out of more than 400 independent schools overall. These excellent results are reflected in university entrance. In 2015, some 10 students were awarded places at Oxford and Cambridge and 20 went on to study medicine and dentistry. The breadth of what Bancroft’s offers is also reflected in the recent awards of places at RADA and the Royal College of Music.

The School was visited by the Independent Schools Inspectorate in 2013. As all school governors and staff will know in both the state and independent sectors, independent inspection is a very challenging process. Bancroft’s emerged with flying colours. Three quotes from the report perhaps best summarise their findings: “Bancroft’s is highly successful in its aim of enabling pupils to achieve academic excellence, with high standards of personal development”; “pupils’ achievements in art, music and sport are notably strong, as is their commitment to CCF and the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme”; and “the pupils have a keen spiritual awareness, a strong sense of right and wrong, and a deep-rooted respect for other faiths and cultures”. The report also drew attention to the strength of leadership in the School overall and in the Prep and to the relationships between staff and pupils which “are typified by ease, mutual respect and friendliness”.

Part of the original intentions of the School, from its foundation in the early 18th century, was that as good an education as possible should be provided to children of limited financial
means. This tradition has been much reinforced of late by the Bancroft’s Foundation set up to mark the 275th Anniversary. The Foundation has already raised over £2 million, with much-valued contribution from the Company, and supports 12 scholars. These supplement other awards from the School’s own resources, and the Drapers’ awards for top scholars each year. In addition, to the Foundation Scholars, at present in the school are 158 pupils receiving scholarships of varying value and a further 60 who receive means-tested bursaries. The work of the Foundation is also supported by the Old Bancroftians and a number of very successful events have been held recently to reinforce links amongst alumni. These include innovative business breakfasts in the City and a very successful reception and auction at the House of Lords.

The high level of activity in the School also brings challenges in terms of buildings and facilities. The last decade saw the addition of significant new facilities for the Sixth Form, for the Prep School and for drama, art and sport. More recently, a handsome new atrium has extended the use of the dining hall and provided new space for exhibitions and receptions, whilst the space for Design Technology has been brought up to a high standard. Ambitious plans are also under consideration for a further extension of the main buildings for extra classroom space. The Governors are working with the Head and Bursar to determine how best to finance this much-needed project.

Sitting firmly alongside academic achievement is a strong and growing co-curriculum from which all pupils benefit. Myriad sporting events, locally and nationally, concerts, plays and musicals – for example an outstanding production of Les Misérables at the School in 2015 – add greatly to the sense of community. The long-established CCF contributes notably to School life and is supported strongly by staff and pupils. A sample of recent achievements in other areas in just the summer of 2015 gives a flavour of the breadth of activity across the board: both the Army and RAF sections of the CCF put their training into practice at summer camps; members of the Bancroft’s Players performed Lord Arthur Savile’s Crime to appreciative audiences at the Edinburgh Fringe; the senior boys’ hockey squad spent almost three weeks touring Singapore and Malaysia; Silver Qualifying and Gold Practice Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions took place in the Black Mountains; and Bancroft’s received its best-ever LAMDA Speech and Communications results.

There will be a further reason in 2016 to celebrate both the long history of Bancroft’s and the outstanding contribution of Mary Ireland to recent successes, as Liveryman Jeremy Bromfield is the author of a new account of the School, to be published in the spring with the generous support of the Company. This is a lively, well-illustrated and entertaining volume, strongly recommended for summer reading!
Farewell to School
The Head Boy’s speech at the Bancroft’s School 2015 Visitation Day by Harris Nageswaran

Madam Mayor, Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Drapers, Chairman of Governors, Governors, Ladies and Gentlemen, Teachers and fellow Bancroftians: I’d like to thank the Master of the Drapers’ Company for taking time out from his exceedingly busy schedule to edify us with his words. It was truly enlightening to hear what you had to say.

The connection between the Drapers’ Company and Bancroft’s School, although 278 years old, is as poignant as ever. The Company has helped Bancroftians, past and present, to realise their potential, and without them, some of the best people I know would not be Bancroftians at all, and so I’d like to thank the Drapers’ Company for their unyielding commitment to this school and their continued support in ensuring that all Bancroftians flourish.

It’s fair to say that I had heard an awful lot about Bancroft’s long before I was a pupil here. Being the youngest in my family, I had had four years of my oldest sister, and then two years of my second sister, telling me tales of the wondrous things that seemed to happen in this old red building. When I was 6, they both managed to persuade me that Bancroft’s was actually Hogwarts in disguise and that they were actually witches, when they came home from school with pictures of them with a snowy owl. Needless to say, I didn’t argue with them for quite a while.

When I finally joined Bancroft’s, I found out that most of the things my sisters had told me were, thankfully, not true. That is not to say my time at Bancroft’s has not been eventful; nothing could be further from the truth. Throughout the last 11 years, I have experienced things that will stay with me for a lifetime: measuring the distribution of limpets as the sun set on the coast of Yorkshire, or getting to meet, and then present to, Professor Brian Cox in the last year alone.

I must now turn to thank my friends and classmates for their continued presence in my life, both in school and out. School is a time of growth, physically and emotionally, and the people around you are what directs that growth. Through a combination of competitiveness and compassion, I have been shaped into the person I am today, and for that, I am forever indebted. As Mrs Ireland likes to say, you only go through school once, and it has been an absolute pleasure and honour to have gone through it with you.

Although I had known that there was something ineffably special about this school, it was only when leaving did I try and consider what made it so, and I couldn’t put my finger on it. And then, when I came back in during study leave to an almost empty school, it hit me: it is, quite simply, the people. The community spirit we have here is so strong, it is almost tangible; there is a genuine collective of goodwill from almost every pupil to another; there isn’t one person in this room whom I wouldn’t want to see succeed and do well in life. These walls, for all their beauty and history, are nothing without the people who give them life.

Talking of people who give the school life, I must come to our teachers. It is said that you should never work with children or animals, but our teachers have bravely ignored that in order to share with us their genuine passion for the subjects they love. It really does make a difference to learn from people whose enthusiasm is so infectious, that for moments, we also get carried away and don’t even mind getting work from them. We are truly lucky to have the teachers we do, who show us that teaching extends far beyond the classroom, and who throw themselves willingly into spending more time with us. I cannot thank each of you enough, for the impact you have had on the lives of every one of the students who pass through this school.

One of the things I have valued most at this school is the multitude of ways that one can contribute to the school as a whole. It would be quite easy to feel unappreciated or undervalued in a school with almost 1000 pupils, quite easy to get lost in the crowd, but there is such a range of activities and opportunities available that everyone can excel in their own way, and bring something different and new to our world. I have had the opportunity to make primary school children excited about learning with the SHINE programme, and have been able to make a military alliance with India against Turkey when I represented Bhutan in the Model United Nations. I have been able to act, both in student-run and staff-run plays, and sing as part of a house choir. To all the students who still have the honour of studying here for a few more years, I must insist that you make the most of what is truly a plethora of opportunities.

Harris Nageswaran
To The Worshipful Company of Drapers
Throgmorton Street, London

Dear Drapers,

This past year it has been a great honour for me to have support as the Timothy J. Sullivan Scholar at the University of St. Andrews, and to enjoy your hospitality, and that of Mr. Fildes, on several occasions in London.

This scholarship and the associated events you make available to the undergraduate students of the College of William & Mary in Virginia for study in the United Kingdom is extraordinary. It enabled me to have an exceptional educational benefit together with a wide range of long-lasting experiences for which I am profoundly grateful: thank you.

It had always been a hope of mine to study in the U.K.. This was initially stymied by the cost of being an overseas student, so I began my course at William & Mary with the hope of spending my third year somewhere in the United Kingdom. Being able to spend the past academic year as the Timothy J Sullivan Scholar made the experience so much more enjoyable than I could have expected. St. Andrews was the only university whose courses were recognized by William & Mary for physics students studying abroad but also specializes in areas of research I had not yet encountered.

The scholarship alleviated many of my worries about funding. It allowed me to take the time to travel extensively around Scotland and the rest of the United Kingdom, seeing many parts of the country I might otherwise have skipped. From Land’s End in Cornwall to the Isle of Skye, my various backpacking adventures were enabled by the scholarship – something I tried to communicate to my sponsors, Mr. Christopher Fildes and the eponymous sponsor, former President of the College Timothy J Sullivan, by postcards.

The warmth of the Company was made yet more clear to me after my attendance at the Education Dinner in March, where I met Sir Peter Bottomley, MP. After a terrific conversation, we had a short email correspondence that resulted in lunch and being shown around Parliament.

My range of experience has varied from the dash from Bruges to London for the Drapers’ Education Dinner to a small pub in Tintagel, where I met a retired London bus driver on a cold December day and from eating haggis and chips in Portree on the Isle of Skye to wandering into old pubs in Oxford.

Looking back on my experiences, many of which I detailed for the student newspaper of William & Mary, the scholarship has already begun to lead me to new places.

Last summer I completed an internship at NASA and am applying for postgraduate programs in computational nuclear and high-energy physics at universities ranging from the University of California at Berkeley to the Universities of Oxford and Edinburgh. This is inspired by my experience as the Drapers’ scholar of Christopher Fildes and Tim Sullivan and I look forward to further opportunities that stem from having been the Timothy J Sullivan Scholar.

Most gratefully yours,
Matthew Heffernan

Matthew Heffernan
B.Sc. Physics (Hons.) Candidate.
The College of William and Mary 2016

Finally, I’d like to thank our parents. As well as the initial decision to send me to this school, my parents have also been there for me every time I have destroyed the kitchen trying to bake a cake for a cake sale, and have always been there to support me whenever I was in a play, no matter how many times I insisted that they didn’t. Our parents are the foundations on which we lay the fragile beginnings of our lives, the shoulders on you can lean when the going gets tough, and I must thank all the parents here for the unconditional love they have woven into us, which we then pass on to those around us.

And that is why this school is so special to me; for here I have learnt more than can be found in any book, found role models in people who I’m lucky enough to interact with on a daily basis, and most importantly, felt a part of something, something that is bigger than us all. And although it is immensely sad to be leaving, I can leave happy knowing that I am taking a small part of Bancroft’s
In September 2014 City and Guilds of London Art School said farewell to its outgoing Principal Tony Carter and welcomed Tamiko O’Brien into the hot seat. Tony left after 16 crucial years of devoted service, during which he nurtured and developed the core ethos of one of the last not-for-profit independent art schools in the country. This identity is characterised by the Art School’s unique emphasis on materiality across the Fine Art, Historic Carving and Conservation departments from Foundation to degree and post-graduate levels. Deliberately small scale, it delivers outstanding teaching with high levels of contact time. However the defining aspect is that craft and contemporary art practice sit alongside each other offering a unique and fruitful interaction between different specialisms. The courses are immersive, intense and demanding, and designed to blend the cultivation of curiosity and the provision of specialist skills in a fast-changing world. This emphasis is not only rare but in danger of disappearing altogether.

Tamiko took over the helm at an exciting period in the Art School’s history with major forward-looking building projects under way, set against the broader issues of a relentlessly competitive educational sector and a somewhat hostile environment for smaller independent educational centres of excellence. Tamiko has brought years of experience of leading university schools of art and a deep commitment to Arts education and has set her sights on vigorously raising the profile and promoting the excellence of professional academic delivery, developing new partnerships and outward-facing initiatives. She is equally committed to developing and promoting the School’s ethos, refusing to water down the institution’s identity through unsustainably swelling student numbers, a commonly perceived problem across the Art and Design sector. She is particularly appreciative of the involvement of the Drapers’ Company, both as a provider of student scholarships through our Grindling Gibbons awards on the Historic Carving Course, and the relationship with the Livery family and its values. City and Guilds of London Art School is situated in a remarkable complex in Kennington, comprising a fine Georgian terrace on Kennington Park Road, and purpose built artist studios in Cleaver Square. A three-phased building project has the challenge of making effective working sense of the site as a whole, connecting partially interlinked interior space of the listed Georgian terrace, and creating a new entrance and link into the Victorian studio. After five consecutive years of work, Phase 1 of the Development Project was completed in 2014.

The interior of the Grade II listed Georgian terrace is now fully refurbished, injecting new life into the buildings, transforming the quality of studio spaces and facilities, and bringing the whole row of houses into use as one contiguous space for the first time in the 130+ years of occupation of the site as an Art School. Each year featured key additions and created a momentum sparking excitement and a new energy across the School. Importantly, the special quality of the buildings and spaces was retained, along with the sense of the history and identity that they embody. The School was able to raise a total of £2.3m, including generous support from the Drapers’ Company.

Phase 1 also saw the relocation of the Foundation course to one floor of an adjacent disused telephone exchange building, adding 6,000 square feet of new studio space, and the relocation of the wood workshop to a much larger and better-appointed space in the rear studio buildings. The design team was led expertly by Alan Higgs Architects, with works completed on time each year for the beginning of the Autumn term.

An extremely generous pledge from the Hamish Parker Charitable Trust has since enabled the programme to move seamlessly into planning Phase 2 – the creation of a new main entrance and a striking covered atrium space between the Georgian terrace and the studio buildings. The works are being

Amelia Crowley-Roth’s Alice in Wonderland Table
delivered in two stages, the first of which took place over the summer break of 2015. Phase 2 will transform the way the School presents itself on arrival and will make a significant impact at street level. It will also make sense of a presently unresolved and underutilised space that is unprotected from the elements. Standards of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) will be met by creating a step-free access from Cleaver Square at street level and from there into the main studios and via a ramp to the Georgian buildings at basement level; from that point a lift will provide access to the ground and first floors.

The main focus for the Drapers’ Company charitable support has been in enabling two student scholarships each academic year since 2008. The Historic Carving course is unique in the UK and plays a vital role in sustaining high level craft and design skills servicing the upkeep of historic buildings, decorative furniture, and bespoke lettering commissions in wood and stone. As with other departments, Historic Carving employs only practitioner-teachers for whom the skills they impart are integral to their own professional life. There could be no better example of this than the 2015 exhibition marking the decade-long relationship with St George’s Chapel, Windsor, where, 40 fabulous new grotesques have been designed and carved by students for installation on the outside of the Chapel. Here the challenge of working to a brief for a prominent ancient listed building in a contemporary idiom has proved the perfect symbiosis of learning whilst on the job. This opportunity has been the ideal preparation for those students seeking a career in monumental stone carving.

A major challenge for City and Guilds Art School students is the at best limited availability of finance available in the student loan scheme that the rival university sector students can secure, on account of the School’s status as an ‘independent provider’. Historic Carving and Conservation students are particularly affected: the former as non-degree students in vocational training fall entirely outside the governmental student loan provision, and the latter due to having in most cases first degrees already. This is where the help from bursaries scholarships such as the Drapers’ has been and remains crucial. The growing pool of funding for these have seen the numbers and quality of applications rising steadily in recent years. Our scholarships continue to be highly valued and greatly in demand. As Tamiko O’Brien says:

“Our students who benefit from bursary and scholarship support have a particular sense of responsibility and a focus to achieve … This is a very healthy kind of pressure: they recognise that they are ambassadors for their supporters, for the Art School and also, and most importantly, for their subjects. Other individuals have generously invested in them and that is a great spur to their ambitions.”

As part of the Company’s 650th celebrations, Orlando Campbell was commissioned to make the fine Ram gavel, in sonorous use during Court meetings! Amelia Crowley has recently been approached for the commission of a set of bellows bearing the Company’s crest, after producing a similar pair for her degree show.

If any Liveryman would like to visit the School and see the carving and conservation department, fine art studios or hear more about becoming involved in supporting the work of City and Guilds of London Art School, do contact Penny Fussell, the Company Archivist.
At the Informal Livery Dinner on 5 November 2015, the Master gave an overview to Livery of the Company’s investments assets explaining current policies and recent transactions.

A full transcript of the speech is available to Drapers in the secure area of the Company’s website. A summary is given below:

“The Company owns around 35 investment properties, the capital value of which has doubled since 2010. In most cases we own the freehold. Drapers’ Gardens, over the Avenue, is the jewel in our crown. A property in Lincoln’s Inn Fields used as lawyers offices, bought with the sale proceeds from another building in 2009, has appreciated considerably in value.

“Most of the properties are in London or the Home Counties. We now have a hotel and three public houses and those of you in negotiation with HMRC in Staines will undoubtedly feel better for knowing that your taxman is sitting in a Drapers’ building.

“We have had some windfalls. One was by negotiating the Rights of Light as new buildings go up near ours. Using specialist advisers, we realised more than £1m over the last two years alone.

“Our objective is to secure the future stability of the Company. The income, with the catering business, helps to run the Company, but we are also building an endowment for the future.

“The Court of Assistants went to the market and borrowed to buy more property assets taking advantage of

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Drapers’ Investment Assets
2014-2015 purchases
By the Master

Pembroke Road, Sevenoaks

Chaucer Hotel, Canterbury
of the prevailing low interest rates. The financing has been structured in a way that does not affect our heritage assets such as the Hall. We purchased office buildings in Chelmsford (solicitors’ offices), Oxford (a bank) and Croydon (a railway operations office) as well as a hotel in the centre of Canterbury. These are showing a yield of just under 6%. We shall be building up a sinking fund to pay off the debt so that in 40 years time we should own these buildings debt free. And we are about to do the same for the charities.

“The biggest investment in the charities portfolio is a Bookers Cash & Carry in Brighton bought in 2010. The effect on charitable giving has not diminished either with total giving being in the region of £2.5m per annum.

“We sold certain underperforming assets and got a better than anticipated price from selling the Edinburgh Woollen Mills shop in Ipswich. We even own a 75-acre farm in Wales, arising from the demise of Howell’s School in Denbigh. Since the Second World War, we haven’t been managers of farmland so this is going onto the market.

“This hasn’t all happened by accident and property is not the only asset class we hold. We have an equivalent amount invested in equities and funds also aimed at securing the future stability of the Company.

“I should pay tribute to John Padovan, a past Chairman, and all my fellow members of the Investments Committee as well the staff who support them, especially Priya Ponnaiyah and David Sumner.”

Brierly Place, Chelmsford

Botley, Oxford
Over the past year the Company has embarked on three exciting commissions: a carpet for the Livery Hall, a table and set of chairs for the Wardens’ Room and a new garden design.

With the many hundreds of people who visit the Hall each year, it is inevitable that the carpets eventually have to be replaced. Such was the case with the Livery Hall carpet: laid in 1988 it was increasingly showing signs of wear and tear. The Hall & Major Works Sub-Committee was charged by the Court of Wardens to devise a replacement. The expertise of Mrs Helen Owens, a carpet designer with whom the Company has worked on a number of previous projects in the Hall, was once again turned to. Helen, in close liaison with Past Master Lady Victoria Leatham, presented a new design taking inspiration from the marble and plastered ceiling. Helen also oversaw the weaving of the carpet, on traditional Wilton looms, at the Grosvenor Wilton factory in Kidderminster, a complicated task not least because of the length of the room but also because of the curve to the top end. The beautiful new carpet was laid in September 2015 and is a sumptuous addition to the Hall.

The Wardens’ Room is a busy room where most of the Company’s meetings are held. Once also used as a sitting room, trestle tables were essential for this multi-use. However, with the creation of the Court Sitting Room in 2006, and after much debate, the Court of Wardens agreed to commission a bespoke table and set of chairs for the room. Mr Nick Gutfreund, an Assistant of the Carpenters’ Company, was commissioned in 2014. Using walnut and walnut burr, with sycamore detailing, Nick has created a magnificent suite of furniture that is not only practical but also aesthetically pleasing, incorporating imagery and detailing relating to the drapery trade.

And finally the garden. When redeveloping the garden in the early 17th century, the Court of Assistants decreed that the garden should be of ‘delight and comfort to ye Company’. With the same aim, but some 400 years later, the Court commissioned Miss Hannah Gladstone, a graduate of Capel Manor College, to redesign the garden to create more space for people to gather, provide step-free access into the garden and to overhaul the planting scheme, all whilst preserving the garden’s historic and serene atmosphere. With the approval of the City of London planners, work is now under way and is due to be completed in late spring. We await in anticipation to see and appreciate the new place of ‘delight and comfort’.

Penelope Fussell
Archivist

Something New at the Hall
On the first landing of the stairs at Drapers’ Hall are the memorials to members and staff of the Company who gave their lives in both world wars. Also listed are family members who were not yet members of the Company but, had they lived, would have been admitted by Patrimony. The World War I Memorial was designed by the Company’s Surveyor, Heaton Comyn, and manufactured by Birmingham Guild Ltd. It was installed in 1920.

The World War II Memorial was installed in 1948 to the same design. Each year, before the meeting of the Court of Wardens nearest to Armistice Day, the staff and Wardens gather for an Act of Remembrance when the Master places wreaths on both Memorials.

As it is now just over 100 years since World War I began, the time is right to remember the 19 individuals listed and their connection with the Company. There are no direct descendants today of the men listed on the World War I Memorial who are members of the Company. Although there are a number of members who have indirect family links, in particular Past Master Nick Bence Trower to Alfred and Edward Bence Trower and Past Master Christian Williams to Robin Williams.

Next year there will be an article in this Journal about the men remembered on the World War II Memorial.

The details of the war service of the men listed on the World War I Memorial are as follows:

**Gilbert Ashby**
He was a member of staff and a Private (3232) in the 49th Battalion of the Australian Infantry Force. He was killed in action on 4 September 1916 and has no known grave. He is remembered on the Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, France.

**Arthur Robert Bassingham**
He was a Rifleman (9230) in 7 Platoon of the 5th Battalion, The London Regiment (London Rifle Brigade). He was shot by a sniper on the 24 December 1914. He was aged 21. He is buried in Ploegsteert Wood Military Cemetery in Belgium. The Grave Reference is I.C.5.

He was the son of William, a Freeman of the Company, and Fanny Hall Bassingham of 120 Lordship Road, Stoke Newington, London.

**John Penrice Benson**
He was admitted as a Freeman by Patrimony on the 25 October 1906. He was described on admission as a Captain in the East Surrey Regiment but he left the army in early 1914 to train for the priesthood. He was recalled to his regiment when war was declared. He was serving with the 1st Battalion of his regiment when he was wounded in a skirmish before the Battle of Mons. He died of his wounds on 23 August 1914 aged 36. He is buried in the Hautrage Military Cemetery, Belgium. The Grave Reference is I.B.5.

He was the son of Judge William Denman Benson and Jane Benson and the husband of Laura Annette Benson née Rideout who was pregnant at the time of his death and they also had a young son.

He was the first cousin once removed of Richard Benson who is also remembered on the Company’s Memorial and listed next.

**Richard Earle Benson**
He was admitted as a Freeman by Patrimony on 23 November 1883 when he was described as “a Gentleman of Swansea”. He died on 29 September 1914 aged 51 from the wounds he received in the Battle of the Aisne on 20 September. At the time, he was a Lieutenant-Colonel and the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion of the East Yorkshire Regiment. He is buried west of the church in the graveyard of St George’s Church, Reynoldston, Gower Peninsula, South Wales.

He was the son of General Henry Roxby Benson of the 17th Lancers who was married to Mary Henrietta née Wightman.

He was the husband of Florence Benson and he had also served in the South African War.

**Percy Walter Boston**
He was a Lance-Corporal (723) in E Company of the 15th Battalion of the Australian Infantry Force. He was killed in action on 10 May 1915 aged 22. He has no known grave and is remembered on the Lone Pine Memorial in Gallipoli, Panel 44. On enlistment in Australia he was described as a Jackaroo (the *Oxford Dictionary* definition of this informal term is “A young, inexperienced worker on a sheep or cattle station”). He had previously served in the Militia in Canada.

He was the son of Francis Walter, a Freeman of the
Company, and Anna Maria Greenwood Boston of Furze Lane, Purley, Surrey.

Kenneth Seymour Boyd
He was a Lance-Corporal (659) in the 1st Battalion of the Honourable Artillery Company. He was killed in action at Hooge on 30 June 1915 aged 24. He is buried in Branchhoek Military Cemetery, Vlamertingehe, near Ypres, Belgium. The Grave Reference is I.C.14.

The inscription on his gravestone, which would have been chosen by his family, reads: “The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord, Romans 6.23.”

He was the son of Alexander Gaviller Boyd, a Freeman of the Company, and Charlotte Christian Boyd of Stronsay, Kirkley Cliff Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk. His brother, Stuart Augustine Boyd, was also killed nearly two years later and is listed next.

Stuart Augustine Boyd
He was a Private (2225) in the 5th Company of the Australian Machine Gun Corps. He was killed in action on 5 May 1917 and has no known grave. On enlistment he was described as an electrician. He is remembered on the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France. (This means that two of the men listed on the Drapers’ Company Memorial are also listed on this memorial.)

He was also the son of Alexander Gaviller Boyd, a Freeman of the Company, and Charlotte Boyd and the brother of Kenneth Boyd.

George Melford Browne (although listed on the memorial as George Melville Brown)
He was a 2nd Lieutenant in the 42nd Squadron of the Royal Air Force. He was flying as an observer on a reconnaissance mission on 23 September 1918 when he was shot down by Vizefeldwebel Kurt Ungewitter, a German flying ace. He was 19. On his 18th birthday, in March 1917, he had enlisted into the Army Service Corps. He was then transferred to the Rifle Brigade and sent to the Isle of Sheppey to carry out home defence duties. Whilst there, he was recommended for a commission in the Royal Air Force and obtained his Observer Wings on 11 August 1918. He was the son of George Ernest and Ada Browne of 102 Boscombe Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex. He has no known grave and is remembered on the Arras Flying Services Memorial, France which commemorates almost 1,000 airmen of the Royal Naval Air Service, the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Air Force, either by attachment from other arms of the Commonwealth or by original enlistment, who were killed on the whole Western Front and have no known grave.

Paul Silvester Gardner
He was admitted as a Freeman by Patrimony on 23 July 1907 and was described as a surveyor.

He was a Private (1510) in B Company 18th Public Schools Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. He died of wounds on 4 January 1916 at No 33 Casualty Clearing Station, Bethune and is buried in Bethune Town Cemetery, France. Grave reference IV.G.82. He was the son of Walter Silvester and Annie Gardner. He is also remembered on the Memorial in the Town Hall in Maidenhead.

Gerald Garnett Heywood
He was admitted as a Freeman by Patrimony on 26 September 1912 when he was described as an undergraduate at Oxford University. He was a Private (1218) in the 1st Battalion Honourable Artillery Company. He died on 12 March 1915 as a result of wounds received at Kemmel, Belgium on 15 February 1915. He was aged 23. He is buried near the South Boundary, East of the South Gate in the Churchyard of St Nicholas Church, Chislehurst, Kent. He is listed as BA (Oxon).

Arthur Robert Neville Lawford
He was admitted as a Freeman by Patrimony on 28 September 1887 and was described as “a Gentleman of Maida Vale”. He was a Private (327) in the 23rd Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. He was pensioned out of the Army and died in hospital on 7 August 1919 aged 52. He is buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery. He was the son of General and Mrs E. Melville Lawford. He was a native of London.

Percy Clifford Moore
He was admitted as a Freeman by Patrimony on 22 December 1914 and was described as a Printer’s Engineer. He was a Rifleman (Z/2296) in the 1st Battalion of the Rifle Brigade. He died of wounds on 3 May 1916 and is buried in Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, France. Grave Reference VIII.B.25. He was the son of Mrs C F Moore of 11 Selkirkde Street, Clerkenwell, London. The inscription on his gravestone chosen by his family reads: “He
Albert Rumsby
He was a member of staff, an Under-Porter. He was a Private (41681) in the 17th Battalion of the Manchester Regiment. He was killed in action on 31 July 1917 aged 41. He has no known grave and is remembered on the Menin Gate at Ypres, Belgium.

He was married to Gertrude Rumsby.

Rupert Archer Thomson
He was a Lance-Corporal (18097) in the 3rd Battalion Canadian Infantry. He had emigrated to Canada where he became an accountant but he described his occupation on attestation as a Prospector. He was killed in action during a charge at Givenchy on 17 June 1915 when a bullet entered his forehead. He was aged 28 and has no known grave. He is remembered on the Vimy Ridge Memorial, France. He was the son of the Reverend Michael Andrew, a Freeman of the Company, and Mrs K T Thomson of Thistleton Rectory, Oakham, Rutland. He was one of 10 children.

Howard Simson Tindall
He was admitted to the Freedom by Patrimony on 24 July 1906. He was educated at Haileybury and Pembroke College, Cambridge where he represented the University in cross-country running. He was a Lieutenant in the 6th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment when he was killed in action on 31 July 1917 during the advance on Lens while acting as Brigade Signalling Officer. He was aged 33 and is buried in Hooge Crater Cemetery near Ypres. Grave Reference II.H.6. He was the son of Alfred and Sophia Tindall (née Simson) of Ashleigh Grange, Haywards Heath, Sussex. He was a native of St John’s, Deptford, London.

Alfred Bence Trower
He was admitted as a Freeman by Patrimony on 22 January 1902 when he was described as a Wine Merchant’s Clerk. He was a Second Lieutenant in the 1st Battalion Scots Guards. He was killed in action on 29 May 1918 aged 37 and is buried at St Amand British Cemetery, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France. Grave Reference III.C.3. He was the son of the late Percy and Agnes Marian Bence Trower. In 1911 he was living at home with his widowed mother at 11 Bolton Gardens, South Kensington, London. The household included his brother Edward, who was very sadly killed the following day, two sisters, two ladies’ maids, two housemaids, one cook, one kitchen maid, one boot boy, one footman and one scullery maid. His mother was described as “of private means”.

He and his brother Edward are also listed on the memorial in St Peter’s Church, Thorington, Suffolk. As a member of the MCC, his name also appears in the Roll of Honour at Lords Cricket Ground.

Edward Bence Trower
He was admitted as a Freeman by Patrimony on 19 June 1913 when he was described as a Wine Merchant. He was a Major in the 5th Battalion of the South Wales Borderers. He was killed in action on 30 May 1918 aged 27, the day after his brother, Alfred. He had been awarded the Military Cross. He has no known grave and is remembered on the Soissons Memorial.

Francis Hillier Walrond
He was a Second Lieutenant in the 5th Battalion of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. He died of wounds on 15 August 1918 aged 34. He is buried in the Brighton Borough Cemetery, Lewes Road. Grave Reference PM48. He was the son of Robert, a Freeman of the Company, and Clara Walrond of Glencoe, Walpole Road, Brighton.

Robin Arthur Walton Williams
An Old Etonian, he was admitted as a Freeman by Patrimony on 28 January 1914 when he was an undergraduate at King’s College, Cambridge. He was serving as a Lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion of the Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry when he was killed in action at Hill 60 on 18 April 1915 aged 22. He had been wounded earlier in the day but was leading his men to attack a trench which had been retaken by the enemy despite being captured the previous evening. He has no known grave but is remembered on Panel 47 of the Menin Gate, Ypres, Belgium. He was the son of Gerald Walton Williams and Annie Jane Williams of Aboyne Lodge, St Albans, Hertfordshire.

Three generations of Bence Trowers:
Past Master Nick and his daughter,
Freeman Olivia, at the grave of
Freeman Alfred
The Drapers’ Barge in 2015
By Liveryman Andrew Thomson, Bargemaster

The Drapers’ Company shallop, Royal Thamesis, has had a very eventful year. Our first outing was the Royal Watermen’s Tudor Pull, a historic pageant with its origins in the reign of Henry V, which takes place every March. After a ceremony of accepting the ‘Stela’ at Hampton Court Palace, HM Bargemaster carries the emblem, made from a slice of medieval elm water pipe, placing it aboard the Queen’s row barge Gloriana, which we escort from Hampton Court via Richmond eventually to the Tower of London, along with around 20 other Thames cutters and shallops. If you want to know more, come along next year!

During May, the shallop went overseas to the Rendezvous de l’Erdre with a mixed crew of Drapers and members of City Barge, the Oxford traditional rowing club who help to look after the barge for us. This fabulous festival, lasting four days, encompasses music, mostly jazz, and boating on the River Erdre at Nantes.

Then in July, the Royal Thamesis graced Henley Royal Regatta, during which we were filmed by a drone, this being the first time for a long time that the Regatta was televised. A very enjoyable picnic lunch, moored on the booms alongside the finish enclosures, was the highlight of the day.

On June 13/14 we had an important role in the Magna Carta River Relay, celebrating the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta. We led the Charter Flotilla from Hurley to Runnymede carrying prestigious passengers including King John’s half brother, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Town Crier of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and even the Magna Carta itself!

One of our favourite outings each year is to Countryside Live, a real County Show, held in the heart of London, at Lea Valley Country Park. The first two days are reserved for local primary school children, who are introduced to a full range of country sights and pursuits, from sheep-shearing to blacksmithing and milking. We moor alongside and take the children for rides, where we tell them about the history of boats like Royal Thamesis and give them a go at rowing.

We always finish our boating year by joining the flotilla escorting the new Lord Mayor of London from Westminster to HMS President in the City to take up his new office before watching the Lord Mayor’s Show. The Master and his wife were carried in style on the velvet cushions under the shelter of the canopy, while the crew who were rowing in the rain were not quite so lucky! But the smart, warm and waterproof uniforms kept everyone cosy, and the tots of rum thoughtfully furnished by the Clerk, who was one of the crew, kept everyone’s spirits up, so, as always, a good time was had by all.

The Bargemaster’s badge

Patricia Newton and Celia Devereux show off the new white-faced long-haired sheep skin seats presented to the barge by Past Master Woolman Richard Excell
Leading the Magna Carta Flotilla to Runnymede
by Sophie Williams-Thomas

It was with great excitement that I set off towards Henley, to join the crew of the shallop Royal Thamesis on the River Thames this June. We had been asked to lead a flotilla of traditional boats from Hurley to Runnymede. A copy of the Magna Carta was carried by a relay of local people in our sister ship, the royal barge Jubilant, with another rowing boat, The Lady Mayoress, belonging to the Company of Watermen and Lightermen, in attendance. Our task was to provide transport for the Town Crier of the Royal Borough of Windsor, a gentleman of no mean substance, who disembarked at historic sites along the way to make proclamation of the event that instigated democracy as we know it: the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta by King John.

As we rowed down the Thames we were joined by an assortment of vessels both modern and traditional, the most fantastic being the 94-foot Gloriana, launched in 2012 to celebrate The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee. While our shallop, Royal Thamesis, has six oarsmen and can carry eight passengers, the Gloriana towered above us, their 18 oarsmen raising their blades in salute. However, it was our boat that was allotted to host a sizeable actor playing Stephen Langton, the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1215. This was a great honour. He stepped daintily aboard, admired the blue and gold livery, along with the Drapers’ flag flying astern, and promptly sat down on his sandwiches.

As well as her oarsmen, the Gloriana is also powered by two silent electric engines, useful for taking her in and out of locks. By contrast, the crew of the Drapers’ shallop had to stow their long wooden oars and grab paddles. Somehow, most of the boats in the flotilla managed to fit into each large Thames lock on the Saturday. We rowed so fast that we found ourselves always to be previous, up to an hour ahead of schedule at any point. I spent my time watching birdlife along the river, including great crested grebe, Egyptian geese and coots nesting by one of the weirs that would not have been around in 1215.

The Archbishop was relaxed throughout the journey. He merrily blessed all those watching from the bank, waved at tourists from his velvet cushion under the canopy of the Royal Thamesis, and roared with delight as Windsor Castle came into sight. Our barge was beached at Windsor on the ancient river bank opposite the town, so that he could alight and perform. Escorted by the ‘Earl of Salisbury’, he joined other actors who played out the drama that illustrated how and why the barons forced King John to seal the charter.

Although I took an oar from time to time, my job on the crew of the Royal Thamesis that weekend was to act as wiffler, the crewman standing in the bows with a boat hook, who in medieval times would prod floating logs and dead dogs out of the way. I didn’t like to think of what else ended up in the Thames in those days. Our Bargemaster Andrew Thomson acted as coxswain, Liveryman John Borradaile took one oar and his wife, Sue, another. Nevill Rogers was at another oar while his son Tristan Rogers acted as stroke. Janice and Jane Thomson also rowed. We are affiliated to the rowing club City Barge and were joined by the Chairman, Roger Blackburn, who took the helm as we
September is inevitably associated with a return to school in the mind of every child, but it also offers the opportunity for many inner-city London children to experience a taste of the great outdoors at the annual Countryside Live fair. Alongside the Shire horses, the geese herding and the traditional blacksmith floated the Company shallop, and a crew of Draper volunteers to enable these lucky primary school pupils to help row this most unusual of vessels. We were extremely well received by all pupils and their teachers; one girl described the experience as “Epic!”

As usual it was a fully inclusive experience for all: there were physically handicapped and autistic children involved, and these were often the ones who reacted most positively. A particularly touching moment came when a nine-year-old boy, normally wheelchair-bound, boarded the Shallop. Supported by a teacher on one side and a Draper on the other, he was able to row, and, despite having been rather nervous at the outset, it was obvious how much he enjoyed it. He couldn’t keep the smile from his face, and insisted on taking the Company’s email address so that he could write us a thank-you message. The carer of another boy, who was initially very withdrawn, said that it was the most animated and engaged she had ever seen him.

The shallop, and its various motley crews, attracted plenty of attention from pedestrians strolling along the River Lee, and, after learning about the kind of people who would have travelled on this variety of boat in the past, the young passengers were more than happy to bestow a royal wave or two upon their loyal subjects.

Even this small stretch of the river offered many opportunities for learning: pupils chatted away about subjects ranging from nautical history to environmental issues. We spotted swans, herons and dragonflies. For many of the children it was the first time they had been on a boat at all, but once they got their sea legs on, they loved it! Fortunately, we were blessed with beautiful weather, and it was a thoroughly pleasant and rewarding experience, topped off by a well-deserved drink at a riverside pub afterwards.

The Bargemaster Andrew Thomson extended his thanks to the Draper volunteers John and Sue Borradaile, Stephen Heron, Nevill and Luke Rogers, Eric Chipperfield, Janice, Catherine and William Thomson, as well as Dick from Lea Rowing Club. He urges anybody who wishes to help out next year to get in touch!
This past year, Drapers have been as busy as ever in their participation in various Company and Inter-Livery sporting activities, as well as sponsored fund-raising events.

The Inter-Livery Bridge competition once again took place at Drapers’ Hall, with two teams representing the Company: Liverymen Rej Bhumbra and Philip Lawford and Liverymen Philip Beddows and Henry Bottomley made up the two pairs.

In May, four Drapers made up the team for the Inter-Livery Clay Shoot, namely Assistant Alan Morris, Liverymen George Playne and Caroline Dolby and Freeman Richard Leatham.

The Worshipful Company of Feltmakers once again hosted the 2015 Inter-Livery Tennis Tournament at Queen’s Club. Well done to Freeman Matthew Bell and Liveryman Amelia Potter for coming second in the Championship Final, ultimately falling to the Worshipful Company of Tallow Chandlers.

In October, the Great XII Livery Companies came together for the second Great XII Quiz Night, here at Drapers’ Hall. For the second year running, the Drapers’ team managed to win the quiz after a tiebreaker with the Grocers. The Grocers, ever gracious to the end, volunteered to run the quiz next year in Grocers’ Hall. More of this can be found on pages 44-46 of the Journal.

The golfing calendar was as busy as in previous years with Drapers taking part in the following events:
- The Great XII Golf Day at New Zealand Golf Club in Addlestone Surrey
- The Worshipful Company of Marketors Ryder Cup Golf Day at Verulam Golf Club in St Albans
- The Loriners’ Golf Day at Sundridge Park Golf Club in Kent
- The LSL Ray Jeffs Cup at Hartley Wintney Golf Club, Hampshire
- The Leathersellers’ Company Golf Day at Tandridge Golf Club

The Company held its own golf day, together with the Ironmongers’ Company, at the West Sussex Golf Club at Pulborough. The Drapers’ Company was represented by Past Master Anthony Walker, Liverymen Richard Sankey, Rainer Vogt, David Panter and David Adams, and Freeman Benjamin Pritchett-Brown.

Details of forthcoming sporting events are issued in advance and are also available on the Company’s website. If you require further information please contact Debbie Clarke: dclarke@thedrapers.co.uk.

A number of Drapers have again undertaken a variety of sponsored events to raise funds for charity. The Drapers’ Charitable Fund is able to match fund up to £2,500 per person in a Company year as a way to support them in their endeavours. Congratulations therefore go to:
- Past Master Stephen Foakes who took part in Ride and Stride 2015 in aid of Friends of Essex Churches;
- Freeman Celia Devereux who cycled from Calais to Pezenas, in the south of France, in aid of Parkinson’s UK;
- Freeman Edward Chalk who cycled from London to Land’s End in aid of the Red Cross;
- Liveryman Tim Sankey who took part in the Prudential London-Surrey Ride 100 raising funds for The Animal Health Trust;
- Liveryman Sophie Williams-Thomas who took part in The Waterberg Charity Ride, a cycling event in South Africa, in aid of the Waterberg Welfare Society Trust;
- Freeman Richard Wates who took part in the Tour de Force cycling event raising funds for the William Wates Memorial Trust;
- Liveryman Charles Smith who took part in a cycle ride, on the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, from Waterloo to Dover via Brussels along the route that Major Percy rode with the Waterloo Despatches, raising funds for Walking with the Wounded; and
- Liveryman Edward Corbett who cycled from London to Paris in aid of the Alzheimer’s Society

Great XII Sailing Regatta – 6 June 2015

Liveryman Philip Beddows Reports: An intrepid crew of Draper sailors competed in The Great XII Sailing Challenge at Seaview on the Isle of Wight on 6 June (D-Day). In the Mermaid races, the Drapers avoided collisions, tanker ships, metal buoys and overboard crew from other boats, but it was the Fishmongers who won and the Mercers won the Cruiser Class and the new cup (they had presented!) for the best overall result. Next year we should enter our first Cruiser team. It is possible that someone from another Company asked that the formal Great XII dinner that followed prize-giving omitted the loyal toast, perhaps remembering last year’s experience when the words “The Queen” were followed by one table declaring “Citizen & Draper”! A big thank you to fellow Draper, Liveryman Addie Pinkster who very kindly had the team to stay at her home in Seaview and was also our reserve crew We’ll be back to compete next year – if you’re a sailor, please join us!
Great XII Quiz Evening at Drapers’ Hall
By Liveryman Philip Lawford

In the autumn of 2014 the Haberdashers hosted what proved to be a very enjoyable quiz evening among the Great XII Companies. The Drapers’ team cruised to a well-deserved victory, thanks largely, it must be acknowledged, to the contributions of Assistant Alan Morris and Liveryman Lord (Peter) Brooke (the general knowledge counterparts of Messi and Ronaldo). At the end of the evening our captain and last year’s Master, Nick Bence-Trower, offered to host a similar event a year later.

Thus, on October 22, the Livery Hall became the scene of the second annual Great XII Quiz. The format was similar to that of the previous year: each team comprised up to 10 members and the quiz consisted of 10 rounds of 10 questions each.

The questions are set out below and on pages 45-46; the answers are on page 73. The maximum possible score was 110, since each team could nominate one round as a ‘Joker’ round in which correct answers would score double.

The Hall team did an excellent job in the arrangement of the Livery Hall and in the provision of the catering. Nonetheless, the Clerk was overheard – repeatedly, and perhaps somewhat disloyally – expressing the hope that the Drapers would not win again, as he had no wish to host the event in 2016 for a second year running. However, the natural competitive instincts of the team – captained by this year’s Master – meant that they had other ideas...

In addition to the quiz itself, a secondary competition was run for best team name. This rather dubious accolade was won by the Fishmongers for their team name ‘A Load of Pollocks’. The Fishmongers clearly have a knack for this sort of thing: they won the equivalent prize last year with ‘The Prawn Stars’. (The Drapers’ team name this year was ‘The Woolly Thinkers’ – which received no votes, doubtless because it was so obviously inaccurate.)

With hindsight it was a shame that we did not also have a prize for Best Wrong Answer, which would have gone to the team whose answer to question 10 in the Sport category was: she won Strictly Come Dancing (!).

The lowest score (attained by the Fishmongers: one might ask where their priorities lie) was 40. The top score was 69, achieved by both the Drapers and Grocers. The final result therefore came down to the tie-break question: What is the maximum audience capacity of the Royal Opera House? Despite the Grocers having a professional singer in their team, the Drapers came closer to the correct answer and therefore carried the day.

The winning team was captained by the Master, and included Past Master Nick Bence-Trower; Assistants Tom Harris and Alan Morris; Liverymen Philip Beddows, Rej Bhumbra and Quentin Marshall, and Freemen Peter Dunphy, Katherine Morris and Nevill Rogers.

Quiz masters were Liveryman Philip Lawford and Assistant Tim Orchard.

Adjudicator in the event of challenges was Past Master David Addis. (Fortunately David’s services were not required; the closest we came to a challenge was from a member of the Drapers’ team – who shall remain nameless – who revealed some gaps in his knowledge of London geography.)

Markers/Scorers were Liverymen Addie Pinkster and Richard Williamson, and Freeman Peadar O’Mordha.

Helpers were Freemen Olivia Bence-Trower and Paddy Orchard.

At the end of the evening the Master showed that his skills included not only victorious captaincy, but also diplomacy, in persuading the Grocers to ‘volunteer’ to host next year’s event. (The Grocers version of this would be that their arms had been quite seriously twisted – something for which the Master’s professional career amply qualifies him…).

And so, on to 2016. Can the Drapers achieve what Americans would call a three-peat?

Category 10: Guess who?

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Adjudicator in the event of challenges was Past Master David Addis. (Fortunately David’s services were not required; the closest we came to a challenge was from a member of the Drapers’ team – who shall remain nameless – who revealed some gaps in his knowledge of London geography.)

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And so, on to 2016. Can the Drapers achieve what Americans would call a three-peat?
QUESTIONS

Category 1 – Geography
1. Name the five countries that border Slovakia, in clockwise order, commencing with the Czech Republic.
2. The prophet Muhammad is buried in which city?
3. In which city is the St Fagan’s National History Museum?
4. Two U.S. states each share borders with 8 other states. Name one of them.
5. The city of Timbuktu is in which African country?
6. Which city became the capital of Nigeria in 1991?
7. The sea separating Finland and northern Sweden is the Gulf of what?
8. Of what country is Bishkek the capital city?
9. The McMahon Line, established in 1914, is now the de facto (but disputed) border between which two countries?
10. Which is the southernmost city – Toronto, Milan, Odessa or Vladivostok?

Category 2 – Art & Literature
1. Which American painter was the subject of an exhibition at Tate Liverpool that closed last weekend?
2. In 1958 Mark Rothko was commissioned to produce paintings for a restaurant in which New York City building?
3. Bathsheba Everdene is the heroine of which Thomas Hardy novel?
4. Of which institution did Nicholas Cullinan become director earlier this year?
5. Der Blaue Reiter (The Blue Rider) artists’ group was named after a 1903 painting by which Russian artist?
6. Turner’s Bequest specified that his painting “Dido Building Carthage” should hang in the National Gallery between two paintings by which other artist?
7. Which Jane Austen heroine is pursued by Col. Brandon?
8. Who is the Poet Laureate?
9. According to Anthony Blanche, in Brideshead Revisited, what is “the great English blight”?
10. What is the surname of the title character in Kingsley Amis’s novel Lucky Jim?

Category 3 - 2015
1. Nigel Farage stood unsuccessfully as parliamentary candidate in which constituency in the General Election?
2. Which Pacific island nation, formerly known as the New Hebrides, was devastated by a cyclone in mid-March?
3. Muhammadu Buhari was elected president of which country?
4. Name the leader of Plaid Cymru at the time of the 2015 General Election.
5. Name the creator of the fictional Sussex town of Kingsmarkham, who died in May?
6. The Calbuco volcano erupted in April, for the first time in 43 years. In which country is it?
7. Who said, on social media in April: “I’m running for President. Every day Americans need a champion and I want to be that champion.”
8. Name the NASA spacecraft that flew past Pluto in July.
9. In a Bundesliga game last month, a player scored 5 goals in less than 10 minutes. Name the player and the team for which he plays.
10. Expo 2015 ran from May to October – in which city?

Category 4 – Science & Nature
1. Normally a gas, which three-carbon alkane has the formula C3H8?
2. Name the human bone that runs from the shoulder to the elbow.
3. Compounds of Barium are used in fireworks to create which colour?
4. Which metal is common to the alloys monel, invar and nitinol?
5. Which amphibious animal lives in a holt?
6. Wavelength is usually designated by which Greek letter?
7. Name the protein that enables red blood cells to carry oxygen from the lungs to the rest of the body.
8. Name any three of the 5 so-called halogen elements.
9. Which temperature has the same numerical value in Centigrade and Fahrenheit?
10. Marie Curie was a naturalised French citizen. What was her original nationality?

Category 5 – London
1. There are 8 Royal Parks: Regent’s Park, Green Park, St James’s Park, Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens – name 2 of the 3 others.
2. In which year was the first United Guilds Service held at St Paul’s Cathedral?
3. Excluding the Metropolitan line, which London Underground line goes furthest north?

Identify the 10 people shown, who are among the following: Julia Roberts, Beyoncé, Justin Bieber, Darcey Bussell, Jennifer Aniston, David Miliband, Kylie Minogue, Oprah Winfrey, Steven Gerrard, Dani Minogue, Katy Perry, Daniel Craig, Nicole Scherzinger, Condoleezza Rice, James Dean, Cher, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini (Cole), Victoria Beckham, Eric Clapton, Madonna, Johnny Depp, John Lennon, Miley Cyrus, Wayne Rooney, Frank Lampard, Diana Ross, George Harrison, Bill Wyman, Whitney Houston, Jim Carrey, Justin Timberlake, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Matt Damon
4 Name the composer of ‘A London Symphony’, written in 1912 – 13?
5 Sir Walter Raleigh, Samuel Pepys and the Kray twins have all been residents of which building?
6 Which river now flows in a pipe through Sloane Square station, and was once crossed by the original Knightsbridge?
7 The oldest statue in Trafalgar Square shows which monarch on horseback?
8 Within the sequence: W3 – Acton; W4 – Chiswick; W6 – Hammersmith; W8 – Kensington: Which districts are designated by W5 and by W7?
9 William Barlow designed the original train shed at which railway terminus?
10 The London Borough of Hackney is served by only one Underground station. Which is it?

Category 6 – Sport
1 Which sport is played professionally by the Pittsburgh Penguins?
2 Who was Sir Alex Ferguson’s immediate predecessor as manager of Manchester United?
3 In the 2003 Rugby Union world cup final, won by England, who captained the Australian team?
4 Which biennial tournament is named after a Norwegian-American golf club manufacturer?
5 Who won this year’s World Snooker Championship?
6 The twin of former England footballer Phil Neville is the coach of which team?
7 Name the football club, relegated from League 2 at the end of last season, whose home ground is Prenton Park.
8 Which British cyclist, other than Chris Froome and Mark Cavendish, won a stage on this year’s Tour de France?
9 Alastair Cook’s 263 against Pakistan last week was the second highest score by an Englishman against Pakistan. Who made the highest score?
10 What did Flavia Pennetta achieve immediately before retiring from her sport?

Category 7 - History
1 Name the flag used by the medieval French Army, and flown, allegedly for the final time, at Agincourt, which signified that no prisoners would be taken alive. (One word)
2 Of which European country was the deposed King elected Prime Minister in 2001?
3 Helen, or Nellie, Belles was the mother of which British Prime Minister?
4 The 1715 Jacobite Rebellion came to an end in November at a battle named after which Lancashire town?
5 Year 1 of the Islamic calendar began in which year anno domini?
6 Who famously lost a leg at Waterloo, subsequently becoming 1st Marquess of Anglesey?
You will have read last year that HMS Monmouth was recently upgraded during a year-long period in dry dock.

The ship entered refit at the beginning of 2014 and had a significant amount of structural work done, including approximately 17 tonnes of new steel covering an area of 220 square metres - over 1km of welding. 29 different equipment updates were conducted including a new 3D air surveillance radar, the Sea Wolf point defence missile system mid-life update, new 30mm cannons and an updated Combat System. The refit has enabled the ship to remain a capable and versatile frigate, ready to serve the Royal Navy for at least another decade. 2015 has seen her return to sea to conduct a full spectrum of equipment and sea trials proving that she is materially ready. This culminated on 18 September when she was presented back to the Royal Navy by Babcock and the Ministry of Defence’s Defence Equipment & Support Organisation during her “Fleet Date Inspection”. On this date she re-entered the Fleet under the full command of the Fleet Commander and has been operating in UK and European waters on maritime security, defence engagement and training support tasks.

At the end of October the Commanding Officer, Commander Philip Tilden, was delighted to invite both Past Master Nick Bence-Trower and Richard Winstanley to the ship’s rededication ceremony which was kindly supported financially by the Company. The event celebrates her re-commissioning back into active service and was well attended by officials, families and our affiliates. After a parade and service held on the jetty, both Richard and Nick joined a group of former Commanding Officers for a tour of the ship.

2016 marks the 350th anniversary of the name ‘HMS Monmouth’, the first vessel holding the name for only a
Steven Beharrell and Mark Holdsworth were invited by HMS Monmouth to join them on a voyage from Davenport Naval Dockyard, Plymouth to Glen Mallon, Loch Long, Scotland.

The trip had been set up by Lt-Cdr James Holgate, responsible for liaising with the Drapers’ Company which is one of the ship’s affiliates. We knew we were entering uncharted waters when Sub-Lt Tom Reed, our chaperone, emailed us to bring shower bats, warmers and dhobi bags. We were delighted, if further confused, to hear that we would be provided with steaming bats – visions of ping pong in a sauna?

We were met at the Camel’s Head gate of the shipyard by Tom who was concerned at the length of the queue, muttering concerns that the XO must not be kept waiting. This confused us further as we thought the Royal Navy ran on rum, not brandy.

HMS Monmouth is a type 23 frigate. She is the sixth “Duke” class frigate and is the seventh ship to bear the name. Known, owing to her name, as “the Black Duke”, she was built on the Clyde and launched in 1991. The ship carries the most battle honours of any ship in the Royal Navy. Owing to her Welsh connections, the Drapers’ Company has been affiliated to her for over 10 years. We support the 180-member crew’s welfare and enjoy hosting members of the crew at dinners and events in the Hall, as well as making regular visits to the vessel.

Monmouth had just completed (or so we thought) a major refit at Davenport which has extended her life for another 17 years or so at a cost of £28 million, a bargain compared with the billions which a new vessel costs. All we needed were the reports to the Captain of readiness to sail from the commanders of each section and off we were to go.

Unfortunately, there was a snag. Problems with the steering gear had been identified in the previous week of trials and they had not been fixed. Despite heroic efforts by the engineers, they were still being fixed when we left by train back to London at the end of our second day aboard.

With “the Black Duke” at sea – almost
Disappointing, certainly, but we filled the days learning about the ship, seeing its installations and systems, climbing in and out of smaller and smaller apertures and hatches and enjoying the company of the officers and men (this is a “stag ship” - no women other than the nursing staff) and having fun.

At the end of our time we were utterly impressed by the professionalism and morale of the crew and the cleverness of the systems. Every eventuality was planned for; every system backed up and double or triple backed up. The engine rooms, where we were shown around by Chief Petty Officer Jasper Scarrrot, have two diesels and two jet turbines for a turn of speed and a multitude of back-up systems for ensuring power generation or fire hose pressure whatever the circumstance.

The weapons response from the Operations Room, where we were shown around by Petty Officer Gibson, is phenomenal. They constantly scan the air, sea and subsea environment and could identify and evaluate an enemy threat and launch a full protective “sea wolf” missile strike reaching Mach 2 in seconds against an incoming missile; we visited the constantly manned control centre, from which bridge commands and all systems are controlled, which is the heart of the vessel in the bowels of the ship; we learnt of the helicopter which can hunt and kill submarines and act as eyes and ears for hundreds of miles; the gun which can loose off 18 shells per minute; the systems which allow the vessel to disguise herself as a fishing vessel or merchant ship to confuse incoming radar. Truly an amazing array of defensive and offensive capabilities from what the Captain described as “the work horse of the fleet”. This array of equipment supports the triple role of the Black Duke as submarine hunter, defender of our capital ships and projector of UK authority and policy, be it humanitarian aid, interdicting smugglers or holding diplomatic cocktail parties in foreign ports.

Most humbling was the nonchalant assertion that the vessel’s fleet combat role was primarily defensive, rather than offensive, to take the hit aimed at the capital ships. It makes one realise just how dangerous this job can be. However, everyone we spoke to from the top down was confident of the vessel’s ability to do anything asked.

We did get to sea on the ship’s rib (rigid inflatable boat) which is not your common or garden weekend runabout. £250,000 of asset capable of taking six men or a ton of cargo at 40 knots, driven by a diesel powered water jet. This is the boat which, for example, boards the smugglers and rescues the needy. What a blast! 40 knots over the surface and turning on a sixpence. Boyish grins all round and we were glad of the boat handling skills of Leading Seaman Robert Ealey.

As well as all this hard work, we were royally entertained to dinner by the Captain in his private quarters where the table was decked with wonderful historic HMS Monmouth silver. Others who played host to us were the officers’ wardroom hosted by Lt-Cdr Andrew Ainsley and lower ranks’ wardroom hosted by Leading Regulator Ashley Cahiart. We learnt that food is “scran” and, on this vessel, the same food is served to everyone and universally liked - a change, evidently, from some other vessels. We were amazed that the chefs cope on a cost of £0.94 per meal, which is half the daily cost of a prisoner’s or military dog’s allowance!

The chefs probably work only marginally less hard than the Chinese laundrymen (a navy tradition) who personally launder and presses 1000 items per week.

Thanks to the Sub-Lieutenants’ network, Tom also got us on board HMS Bulwark, back from rescuing 5,000 migrants in the Med and into HMS Drake, the Davenport shore station where we introduced the next naval generation to pink gin.

Reluctantly, realising that the departure would be further delayed, we left at the end of the second day, packing our shower bats (flip flops), dhobi bags (washing kit) and warmers (fleeces), leaving our steaming bats (boots) for the next lucky Draper to be shown around the engine rooms by Chief Jasper Scarrrot.

We felt that this was a useful and enjoyable visit. We learnt a lot, had an opportunity to explain about the Drapers’ Company and what we do, and we hope that it will have contributed to an even closer relationship between the Company and the ship.
It gives me enormous pleasure to write again about the Regiment for the Drapers’ Journal. 2015 has been a terrific year for us dominated by celebrating our 100th birthday as well as remembering our last 100 years. It’s all been a bit of a rollercoaster but immensely enjoyable and memorable and with so many highlights throughout the year.

Our centenary year kicked off on 26 February (the day King George V signed the Royal Warrant to raise a Welsh Regiment of Foot Guards) with the launch of our centenary book Bearskins, Bayonets and Body Armour: Welsh Guards 1915-2015 in the State Apartments of the Royal Hospital Chelsea by kind permission of the Governor, General Sir Redmond Watt, himself a former Welsh Guardsman. This was quickly followed by celebrating St David’s Day in the Millennium Centre in Cardiff where approximately 2,500 members of the Regiment turned out, our biggest showing certainly in my living memory. We pride ourselves on being a family Regiment and that day was definitely proof of it. A lot of regimental effort was also expended on the Presentation of New Colours by The Queen at Windsor Castle at the end of April. The Duke of Edinburgh was present as was our Colonel, the Prince of Wales, and the Duchess of Cornwall. We had 1,700 in attendance including many guests of the Regiment and we were blessed with a sunny day. Fortunately, everything I think went according to plan. Our new Queen’s Colour was subsequently “Trooped” on the Queen’s Birthday Parade in June where the Battalion provided the Escort, No 2 and 3 Guards with the Commanding Officer commanding the parade. It was another fine day and the Battalion excelled themselves on Horse Guards.

The Master very kindly allowed as to hold our annual officers’ dinner in Drapers’ Hall and what a very special evening this was. A huge privilege for us and I suspect one of the main reasons why we had such a large number attend, some 170 as opposed to the usual 70 to 80. As with everything to do with the Company, we could not have asked for more support or higher standards. Carriages was meant to be at midnight but it was such a fun evening, that the Master and I were still pushing people out at 1 am!

Our centenary events continued into September when we surged into Wales first laying up our Old Colours in Caernarfon and then conducting Freedom marches in Carmarthen and Powys County and on 1 October the Regiment was granted the Freedom of the City of Newport. All these events involved the Regimental Band and the Battalion, and I believe were enjoyed by all.

Also in September there were two battlefield tours, the first by the Welsh Guards Association to Hechtel in Belgium and the Somme, and the second, a Regimental Battlefield tour also to the Somme but also taking in Loos, the Regiment’s first action in WW1 in September 1915 and its first Battle Honour. It was an absolute pleasure to have a party of six Drapers with us on this tour and one of them, Emma Darke, has written a superb article about it for the Journal, and thus I will not go into any further detail. We hope to conduct another battlefield tour in 2016 and, we hope, we will again be joined by some members of the Company. Indeed, it has been wonderful to welcome Drapers to a succession of events this year: Queen’s Guard, Beating Retreat, New Colours, the Queen’s
Birthday Parade, a day with the Battalion, WG 100 and the battlefield tour. With a change in role for the Battalion from January 2016, our ceremonial opportunities to invite Drapers will cease as tunics and bear skins will be packed away until 2021/2022. I am sure, however, we will come up with other opportunities to come and see us, whether in barracks or in the field.

Remembrance Sunday on 8 November marked the end of our Centenary Year with another good turnout for the service in the Guards’ Chapel and the march to the Guards’ Memorial on Horse Guards.

I have provided far too much information on our Centenary but I have finally to mention Welsh Guards 100 which was the Battalion Centenary project to celebrate and commemorate our 100 years. This project involved the Companies visiting every location or theatre the Welsh Guards had been based or fought in since 1915. Thus, groups of Guardsmen led by their Platoon Commanders went all over the world and in each location run a marathon, whether running or cycling. This ambitious project was a resounding success as it familiarized our men with our rich regimental history, raised the profile of the Regiment and raised funds for the Welsh Guards Charity. And a few men were even fitter as a result! This project also involved three Drapers who bravely joined No 3 Company in northern Italy, completing a tough cycling marathon in the process.

If 2015 has been dominated by our centenary and ceremonial duties, time has also had to be found to maintain core infantry skills and this has seen the Battalion on concentrated battle and shooting camps throughout the year. The Prince of Wales’s Company has also had to prepare for their Falklands tour between mid-October and mid-December and they have had a cracking time down there, despite a pretty unforgiving environment and weather.

I am sure 2016 will see another exciting and interesting time for the Regiment. On current plans various elements of the Battalion will deploy on exercise to Kenya, France and Slovenia as well as getting to grips with their new role as a Light Mechanized Infantry Battalion with a variety of different armoured vehicles and under command of 11 Brigade. A constant, however, will be our treasured affiliation with the Drapers’ Company and we remain hugely appreciative of all that you do for us. Indeed, Welsh Guards 100 was significantly underpinned by support from the Company. In conclusion, a most wonderful year for the Regiment, and the Drapers very much at the heart of all we do.
Welsh Guards Regimental Battlefield Tour
10-13 September 2015
By Liveryman Emma Darke

Fellow Liveryman Andrew Harris and I, and our respective spouses were delighted, on behalf of the Company, to be invited to accompany serving members of the 1st Battalion and No 9 Company, Regimental HQ staff members and members of the Welsh Guards’ 100 Club on the Welsh Guards’ Battlefield Tour last September. Led by our charismatic guides, Rhydian Vaughan and Tim Pritchard-Barrett, we were well and truly “immersed” in the first two major actions in which the Battalion participated in 1915 (the Battle of Loos) and 1916 (the Battle of the Somme). Whilst I had some appreciation of the First World War (WW1) from a political perspective (ie British Foreign Policy – learnt in the confines of a dim and distant History O-Level classroom), the learning curve for “a mere tourist” was a steep one, but nevertheless unforgettable and thoroughly enjoyable.

Given the variety of experience and knowledge in our party, from “novices” like me to Guardsmen (both those currently serving and retirees), the guides had an enviable job of making the material accessible yet interesting to all. I believe they did a sterling job, with my “layman’s questions” being answered enthusiastically.

Without detailing every aspect of the tour, highlights of the trip follow.

**Thursday**
We started the day “sharp” with a 10am departure from Wellington Barracks. It soon became apparent that it would be somewhat troublesome (or quiet) to conduct a tour without a functioning microphone. A hasty stop south of Gatwick ensued to meet an engineer, allowing some tour members to refuel at McDonald’s. What an excellent start to a trip to France (ie a country of some gastronomic repute)! We were quickly on our way – Rhydian and Tim’s booming tones never to be silent again.

In the backdrop of the beautiful late afternoon sun, we visited the Canadian War Memorial. This is truly impressive. Being rather tall and carved from white limestone, it features the names of the fallen (from Canada) with no known grave. At the time of WW1, we learnt that Canada had a population of four million (ie approx. two million men), from which they sent an army of 600,000.

**Friday**
Undoubtedly the unique aspect of the tour was Friday’s burial of an Unknown Soldier of the Welsh Guards at the Guards’ Cemetery near Lesboeufs. He was buried with military honours, including a six-gun salute. Prior to the service, we learnt that there were 280 WWI cemeteries in the area. Owing to the sheer number of casualties (eg Britain alone lost 19,240 on day one of the Battle of the Somme), bodies were not returned home. These remains were discovered by a local resident at Ginchy. Insignia indicated that the remains were those of a Guardsman, but he could not be identified and was thus buried as “a Soldier of the Great War, Known unto God”. The service was deeply moving. A bugler played on a bugle that has been with the Regiment for 100 years, although only recently rediscovered. It would have been used during WW1. Dressed in a spectacular new uniform, he said it was the best bugle that he had ever played on and was touched by the fact that it could well have been heard by the buried Guardsman in battle.

The remainder of Friday’s tour, after a picnic lunch at...
Delville Woods (where South African troops suffered heavy casualties) concentrated on the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards’ involvement in September 1916 at the Battle of the Somme. We visited:

- the cemetery at Carnoy, which – like many cemeteries – was a battlefield casualty clearing centre;
- the cemetery near Guilmont, where we took time to read some of the headstone inscriptions which included very poignant and personal messages from families about their loved ones, such as: ‘He saw beyond the filth of battle and thought death a fair price to pay to belong to the company of these fellows’;
- Ginchy where Prince of Wales Company were sent to consolidate positions, which they captured at great cost (eg there were no officers left in the Company after the first 24 hours of attack); and
- the memorial to the Guards for their efforts in Lesbeoufs.

**Saturday**

In the morning, the tour concentrated on the Somme battlefield. We learnt that the Germans arrived in the area first and took the high ground. This enabled them to prepare their trenches, which were an absolute maze and ran many feet deep in places. They also put up barbed wire barriers throughout No Man’s Land. Highlights visited included:

- Gommecourt cemetery, where we discussed the fighting there from 1 July 1915; and
- Serre Road No 2 Cemetery where 7,000 men are buried in concentrated fashion, which is the largest number of British troops in one cemetery.

Relevant to both locations, we were told that a week prior to the commencement of the Battle of the Somme, 1,500 British guns raged a week’s artillery fire (1.6 million shells). Eroneously, the British Generals believed that the Germans (and their barbed wire) were obliterated. However, when the British troops walked in open ground towards the Germans, the artillery’s failure to cut the wire (and poor reporting of this information) cost a staggering number of men their lives. Indeed, the Generals did not know the real extent of the casualties for three days.

- one of a number of sites known as “Sunken Lane”, where we heard how the British dug tunnels and laid explosives to good effect;
- Newfoundland Memorial, where we gauged the true extent of the myriad of both sides’ trenches (and the carnage suffered by the Newfoundland troops);
- Thiepval Memorial, which is a staggeringly sized monument to remember the missing of the Somme. 72,000 British and South African names feature on what is the largest British war memorial in the world; and
- Lochnagar Crater, which was tunnelled in and packed with 27 tonnes of explosives. It was reported to be the biggest mine blast ever to go off since Krakatoa.

**Sunday**

On Sunday morning, we concentrated on understanding the Battle of Loos, before returning to Wellington Barracks. We visited:

- Dud Corner Cemetery, where listed amongst the deceased is the Hon. Captain F Bowes-Lyons (The Black Watch), brother of the Queen Mother. Our guides reminded us that some suggest that the working classes took the brunt of WW1 casualties. To counteract this argument, we were told that many of the aristocratic families of the time were wiped out (as those from a public school background were expected to lead). The Queen Mother had another brother who suffered with post-traumatic stress disorder post-WW1. As a result she vowed never to set foot on German soil. She initially refused to hand out shamrocks to the Irish Guards in Germany until she was persuaded that the Irish barracks were technically on British soil; and
- the summit of Hill 70, which became the focus of the divisional fighting during the Battle of Loos in 1915 (Prince of Wales, No 3 and 4 Companies being involved). It was an area of great strategic importance. There are no war diaries giving the number of casualties on the Hill. However, all officers were killed at the outset of fighting. Our guides had clearly researched the Welsh Guards’ involvement in the actions (despite the lack of written information/maps and helpful material), thus ensuring that the detailed information was highly relevant to our audience.

A huge thanks must be extended to the Welsh Guards for inviting two Liverymen to attend as “tourists” on such a special and deeply memorable tour. Andrew and I felt hugely honoured to be included, and can only hope that the above brief report reflects – with some accuracy – some of the highlights of our trip. The Drapers’ Company’s affiliation with the Welsh Guards is a truly great association. Long may it flourish.
Over the past year the Regiment has undertaken a wide range of activities including being held at readiness to provide communications support to operations in the United Kingdom, Regimental training, exercises with our paired regular Regiment and much more.

This year 33 members of 36 (Essex Yeomanry) Signal Squadron joined 3 Signal Regiment for their annual collective training exercise, Ex RED KIWI. This was the first time a Reserve unit had joined its paired Regular regiment for a deployment of this type and could possibly be the blueprint for future annual deployments for the Reserve. The exercise provided communications over an area split between the United Kingdom and Germany. Preparations began early in the year with a training package on the Falcon communications system for the Squadron’s command team. The soldiers also completed additional training so that they would be able to establish the long-range high frequency radio links to Germany. The exercise proved very successful, with the soldiers from 71 Y Sig Regt stepping-up to provide the communications between the United Kingdom and Germany, proving themselves as competent as their Regular counterparts and learning a great deal throughout the exercise.

In August one of our officers from 265 (Kent and County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters)) Support Squadron travelled to Bulgaria to attend the Inter-allied Confederation of Reserve Officers Workshop. This is a five-day workshop attended by Tri-Service Reserve officers from all NATO member states, and is designed to introduce junior officers to working with NATO at the strategic level. The workshop is designed to provide a unique opportunity to experience the challenges of working in close quarters with members of the armed forces of NATO and Partnership for Peace (PfP) nations. It is without doubt one of the hidden gems of opportunity available to those of the ranks of 2nd Lieutenant to Captain, and comes highly recommended by all those who have attended. The workshop is run and supported each year by the UK’s Reserve Forces Association and provides a fascinating insight into the higher-level decision-making processes used within NATO.

The Regiment conducted an ambitious Annual Deployment Exercise in Yorkshire and Cumbria during September. The exercise consisted of a five-day United Kingdom operations phase led by our Headquarters from 2nd Signal Group. This was followed by a demanding tactical communications exercise over a further five days in which we practised the skills necessary to provide communications in more conventional operations. For the first time this year we had a Regular contingent of attached personnel from our paired Regiment, 3 Signal Regiment based in Bulford. This proved to be a great success and plans have been made to continue it in subsequent years. On completion of the communications exercises the Regiment enjoyed a well-deserved adventurous training and sports activity package over two days. It was during the sports competition that we were fortunate to be visited by the Master Draper and the Clerk. The Master presented the prizes to the winning Squadron and addressed the Regiment before being our guest of honour at a Regimental dinner night.

In addition to our operational and training commitments we have again this year been privileged to have a mounted detachment in the Lord Mayor’s Show. The mounted detachment, led by 68 (Inns of Court & City Yeomanry) Signal Squadron, is a unique ceremonial duty for the Royal Signals Reserve, which represents the Regiment at the Lord Mayor’s Show each year. This ceremonial duty not only highlights the Regiment’s and the Squadron’s heritage, it also provides a great opportunity for community engagement in the City of London. It is a great opportunity for the riders to enjoy a different aspect of Army life, who in the previous months had been working hard in their roles as Royal Signals communicators, as part of the Regiment in training to support operations in the UK and also contingency operations overseas. The Lord Mayor’s Show was a great experience and the Squadron’s riding detachment got a great deal from the training and the parade itself. There was lots of hard work from all with the
more junior soldiers, notably, stepping up to organise themselves and work well as a team.

As might be expected, each year the Regiment marks Remembrance Sunday by parading at a number of locations throughout London and the surrounding areas. This year the Regiment had contingents at nine different locations reflecting our geographical spread over five counties. 265 (Kent and County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters)) Support Squadron this year helped to organise the local Borough Remembrance Sunday parade and civic service of remembrance. The Army Reserve Centre in Bexleyheath was used to host such dignitaries as the Mayor of Bexleyheath, local MPs, councillors and representatives from the police and fire brigade. A considerable number of cadet units took part in the parade, including representation from Army, Air, Sea, Marine, Police and Fire cadet units. The event concluded with a lunch at which we hosted a large contingent of extremely smart veterans. Over 500 civilians were in attendance at the service, including youth organisations and veterans from the local borough in addition to former members of the Squadron and families of the Reserve personnel on parade.

Throughout the year the Regiment competed in a raft of sporting and physically demanding events. One highlight was the Lanyard Trophy Competition, which is a gruelling military endurance event in which teams of eight soldiers race over a mountain course of 40 miles while carrying personal equipment weighing 40lbs. The team members were drawn from across the Regiment and in preparation for the competition the team conducted build-up training consisting of four weekend sessions. The competition began with a massed start at 0530hrs, with all teams setting off into the darkness with rain pelting down. The rain continued for nine hours finally allowing some brief sunshine before the clouds blotted out the sun once more. Despite the poor conditions morale stayed high in the team. They slogged on and, under cover of darkness, they crossed the finish line to claim third place in the Army Reserve element of the competition.

It is always satisfying when the achievements and commitment of the Regiment’s soldiers are recognised. This year saw a total of ten Reserve personnel being awarded a range of medals including the Volunteer Reserve Service Medal, the Accumulated Campaign Service Medal and commendations for exceptional contributions. At a recent ceremony the Royal Signals Corps Colonel presented 10 medals and one commendation to our Reserve personnel in front of a large audience. It was also gratifying that a number of recipients’ families were present to see the service of their wives and husbands being marked in such a fitting way.

The Regiment is particularly proud to have held a Bond of Association with the Drapers’ Company since 1982 and once again this year we have enjoyed the support of the Company in many different ways. Your kind support this year enabled us to benefit from a particularly good quality adventurous training package during our Annual Deployment Exercise in Yorkshire, for which we are immensely grateful. We look forward to being able to continue strengthening and deepening our bonds with the Drapers’ Company throughout the coming year.
RAF Shawbury
By Group Captain Jason Appleton RAF, Station Commander

Royal Air Force Shawbury has a broad training remit and employs a mix of Service personnel, civil servants and contractors as its permanent cadre, with approximately 130 trainees on strength at any given time.

Trainee helicopter pilots and rear crew from all three services receive their instruction at the Defence Helicopter Flying School, while the Central Air Traffic Control School (CATCS) trains RAF and Royal Navy air traffic controllers. The Flight Operations Training Squadron also trains RAF and Army personnel. As well as training students to world leading standards, RAF Shawbury is a showcase for international defence training. In 2015, it hosted delegations from Oman, Brunei and Lithuania as well as training aircrew from Algeria, Albania, Australia, New Zealand, Oman, Qatar, UAE and the USA.

The base is also home to the largest military Aircraft Maintenance and Storage Unit (AMSU) in the UK, the Air Traffic Control Examining Board (STANEVAL) and the Central Flying School Helicopters (CFS(H)) Squadron (and examiners). RAF Shawbury parent a further 180 units (covering welfare, funding, logistics and security), of which 145 are air cadet/combined cadet force units (7,000 young people). The Unit is also home to 28 (Shawbury) Squadron Air Training Corps providing additional youth activities for local young people.

Throughout 2015, the Defence Helicopter Flying School carried out liaison visits across Shropshire with talks, demonstrations, flypasts and visits to schools, colleges, youth clubs, councils and businesses. The Central Flying School supported the RAF Aerobatic Team (the Red Arrows) in their public duties at 30 displays. In addition, RAF Shawbury offered its facilities to clubs, groups, businesses and professional sports clubs in order to engage and share expertise.

On 8 October, we were also very pleased to welcome the Master Draper, Mr John Giffard to RAF Shawbury as our Guest of Honour at the ARIES Awards Evening, presenting Awards for Recognition of Innovation, Excellence and Service (ARIES). We were delighted to take the opportunity to show Mr Giffard the training that is delivered at RAF Shawbury, including a local flight in a helicopter.

Specific activities, events and charitable activities that I would like to highlight are described below:

UK England Disability Football Teams
The Roland Wycherley Sports Hangar at RAF Shawbury was the venue for a rather special event on 30 January. 60 personnel from the Central Air Traffic Control School were put through their paces by coaches and players from the England Football Association (FA) disability teams. The teams were preparing for the European Championships, the qualifying event for the 2016 Paralympic Games. This was an ideal opportunity to demonstrate how these drills can increase spatial awareness, trust, confidence and communication skills between players to show that disability is no barrier to playing football.

Landowners’ Day
On 7th May, RAF Shawbury and the Defence Helicopter Flying School held its annual Landowners’ Day to thank the farmers and landowners who kindly allow training to be conducted on their land allowing the students to practise landing in difficult and varying terrain. This is something that the helicopter aircrew will have to do safely and regularly when they reach their front-line units.

Motorcycle Track and Safety Day
The RAF Shawbury Motorcycle Club hosted a Charity Motorcycle Rider Weekend on 8-9 August which was attended by almost 300 riders. The event was designed to promote the ‘Ride Safe’ message, and allowed motorcyclists to hone their riding skills in a safe environment without cars or pedestrians to distract the rider’s attention. The event raised £16,000 which will be distributed to RAF Shawbury’s nominated Station Charities for 2015 – Walking With The Wounded and the Cuan Wildlife Rescue.

RAF Shawbury Annual Reception
RAF Shawbury welcomed guests to its Annual Reception on 3 September to thank local dignitaries, business leaders, youth workers and charitable services for their support and assistance throughout the year. This year, 120 guests were hosted in the Officers’ Mess, including the Lord Lieutenant and the High Sheriff of Shropshire and the Mayors of Shrewsbury, Telford and Wrekin, Wem and Market Drayton.

England’s Disability team puts CATCS students through their paces
North Shropshire Safety Scene
RAF Shawbury, in partnership with the West Mercia Police, hosted an important community safety event from 5th-9th October to promote community safety to children. Nearly 650 children from 20 North Shropshire primary schools visited the event, held in the Roland Wycherley Force Development Centre. The project demonstrates the common dangers young children are likely to come into contact with during their daily lives and gives them a hands-on opportunity to learn about these dangers in a safe environment.

ARIES Awards Evening
On 8 October, the Aries Awards winners graced the red carpet for the second Aries Awards evening, presenting Awards for Recognition of Innovation, Excellence and Service (ARIES). The ARIES awards have a lot in common with the qualities of the ARIES mission of 1944, when a Lancaster (PD 328) departed from RAF Shawbury on a record-breaking round-the-world flight. The qualities exhibited by the ARIES crew in completing the mission are the same qualities that are recognised by these awards – commitment, determination, a capacity for innovation when faced with a challenge, and a dedication to duty which puts the Service before oneself.

Remembrance Parade
Servicemen and women from RAF Shawbury played a major role in the Remembrance Day commemorations across Shropshire on 8 November.

Armed Forces Match Day
Shrewsbury Town Football Club was the venue for the second Armed Forces Match Day and Fan Park on 10 October. Giant trucks, a climbing wall, a firing-range and a static Squirrel helicopter display provided the backdrop to the activities as footballers, members of the public and military personnel mingled before kick-off.

The event was the branchchild of Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Football Club to promote the Armed Forces Corporate Covenant, which both Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury Town Football Club have signed. The match ball was dropped into the Greenhous Meadow Football Stadium by a Squirrel helicopter from the Defence Helicopter Flying School, just in time for the kick-off.

Be Seen, Be Safer Campaign
RAF Shawbury launched its horserider awareness campaign in 2014 and to date, the base has distributed over 5,000 items of high visibility clothing throughout Shropshire and the borders of adjacent counties. The aim of the campaign is to promote the wearing of high-visibility clothing by riders in order that they are more visible and can be seen earlier by the helicopter aircrew. Whilst high-visibility clothing may not prevent all over-flights as there may be other safety considerations, it does provide a considerable, cost-effective improvement to rider safety. This campaign was recognised in 2015 with the award of the Tarquin Trophy by the British Horse Society (BHS), presented to the organisation that has done most for equine safety in 2015.

RAF Sportswoman of the Year
Squadron Leader Joan Cawthray was awarded the coveted title of RAF Sportswoman of the Year. She has dominated the sport of Service Slalom Kayaking throughout her RAF career. However, 2015 has been exceptional and she has won every ladies inter-Service title across four extremely diverse kayaking disciplines against much younger opposition. In the last 12 months, this talented sportswoman has added eight inter-Service gold medals to her tally and is the most successful female RAF kayaker in living memory.

RAF Shawbury Airman of the Year
Senior Aircraftsman Kerry Coyne is a Flight Operations Assistant on Sixty (R) Squadron. She was nominated for this award for her outstanding professionalism and commitment in ensuring the smooth running of the squadron operations desk and delivering training on new tasking systems. This award has been kindly sponsored by the Drapers’ Company.

People are at the centre of everything that we achieve at RAF Shawbury and I am immensely proud of our people and their achievements. I am also very grateful for the support of the Drapers and look forward to working with the Company throughout my tenure as Station Commander.
Membership Changes in 2015

Listed below are the details of changes that have occurred in the membership since the Journal was last published:

**Admissions to the Freedom**

**By Patrimony**
Miss Anouska Banks, daughter of Liveryman Mrs Louise Banks
Mrs Emma Morton, daughter of Freeman Mrs Andrea Warner
Patrick Orchard, son of Assistant Timothy Orchard
Thomas Warner, son of Freeman Mrs Andrea Warner

**By Redemption**
The Rev Dr Brutus Green, *Army chaplain*
Malcolm Hitching, *Solicitor*
Benjamin Pritchett-Brown, *Financial sales director*
Edward Young, *CVO*, *Deputy Private Secretary to The Queen*

**By Redemption (Presentation)**
The Rt Hon The Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, *the Lord Chief Justice of England & Wales*
Colonel Tom Bonas, *Regimental Adjutant, Welsh Guards*

**By Redemption (Patrimonial)**
Alderman Julian Malins, *QC*

**Calls to Livery**
Benedict Dunhill
Graham Jackson
Mrs Amanda Raine
James Rose
Professor Morag Shiach
Richard Williamson

**In Memorium**
Richard Bockington, *Liveryman*
Rear-Admiral John Carlill, OBE, Legion d’Honour, DL, *Liveryman*
Philip Chalk, *Past Master*
The Lord Luke, KCB, *Past Master*
Martin Neville, *Past Master*
Richard Norton, *Liveryman*
The Rev Peter Taylor, *Past Master*
The Very Rev John Treadgold, LVO, *Liveryman*

The 2014-15 Master and Wardens’ farewell at the Election Dinner 2014

The change of Master
The Drapers’ Medal

The Drapers’ Medal is one a number of ways in which the Court of Assistants is able to recognise the endeavour and achievement of individuals. Over the past year, the medals have been awarded to the following:

**Bronze Medal**
- Claire Catherall, a postgraduate student in School of Ocean Sciences at Bangor University in recognition of her outstanding research into the sustainable scallop fisheries in the English Channel
- Mrs Alison Duffy in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the work of the Thomas Howell’s Education Fund for North Wales, on which grant-making panel she served from its inception until 2013
- Professor John Last, CBE in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the work of the Thomas Howell’s Education Fund for North Wales, on which grant-making panel he served from its inception until 2014
- Ronnie Barden in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Bancroft’s School where he served as governor from 1984-2012
- Patsy McShane in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the community of Draperstown, Northern Ireland
- George Glover in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the community of Moneymore, Northern Ireland
- Mrs Gail Moore in recognition of her outstanding contribution to RAF Shawbury and to the station’s wider community.
- Chief Petty Officer Jonathon Lucas in recognition of his outstanding contribution to training for HMS Monmouth, in particular for the delivery of essential sea safety training to every member of the ship’s company
- Captain J D Robinson in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the development of education and career management for soldiers and officers, and for his leadership of the Quartermaster’s Department of the 71st (City of London) Yeomanry Signal Regiment
- Kavin Vijayakumar for outstanding academic achievement at Bancroft’s School and for acting to inspire and encourage his peers
- Anna Sharkey for achievement and contribution to John Taylor High School

**Silver Medal**
- Stephen Clear, a postgraduate student in the School of Law at Bangor University, in recognition of his outstanding research into Public Procurement and Judicial Review
- Mrs Catalina Foster, Warden at Queen Elizabeth’s College, for 20 years’ service to the Company
- Ian Ramsay, Sous Chef, for 20 years’ service to the Company

Almshouse residents on reaching their 80th birthday or after five years’ residence, whichever is later, are awarded the Bronze medal on the annual Visitation:
- Edith Anderson, Eileen Walsh, June Dunn and Margaret Webb, of Queen Elizabeth’s College; Edmund Ocran, Barbara Wells and Thelma Campbell, of Edmanson’s Close and Francella Williams, of Walter’s Close.
On becoming Junior Warden in 1994, I was fortunate in being guided and befriended by Martin Neville whose company was always entertaining with a delightful if somewhat mischievous sense of humour. Martin was gifted in many directions - with talents ranging from engineering to boat-building and acting as well as being passionate about the conservation of otters. When he was Master, he and Daphne hosted a children’s party at which their otter, Bee, appeared together with Julian Slade and Princess Michael of Kent. I once remember having tea in the Master’s flat at which Bee also featured.

Martin’s connections with Company extended back on his mother’s side to 1327 and he was passionate about maintaining the Company’s traditions, occasionally even to the extent of extemporisation, wickedly inventing the custom that the Junior Warden had always to carry the port over to General Borradaile at the end of Court lunches!

After his early life living at Stowe where his father was the art master, Martin went to St Edward’s School, Oxford before reading psychology at Durham. He initially worked for a firm making fighter aircraft before becoming publicity manager for BIP where he wrote a monthly magazine about their products such as textiles, paint for cars, resin for boats and with a large budget was able to employ famous artists such as Ronald Seale and John Piper.

In 1957 Martin married Daphne and they produced three daughters – Sophie, Perry and T anzin. In 1965 he became sales director of Chritchly Bros which enabled him to travel, exporting their electrical components and those made of PVC to Japan, Thailand, South Africa and Tanzania.

When Master in 1988/9 he managed to fit in visits to Tower Hamlets, where he single-handedly built a Humber Yawl, which he later sailed in the Lake District. His experience with boats led to his persuading the Company to acquire the 36ft shallop The Royal Thanesis – a replica of Queen Mary’s barge, which has since participated in the Voga Longa at Venice and The Queen’s Jubilee Pageant.

After retiring from industry Martin found himself an entirely new career acting in films and TV often with Daphne with whom he also toured the country with their otters appearing with conservationists such as David Bellamy and David Attenborough.

Latterly Martin became passionate about protecting children from adult predators on the internet and persuaded the Company to support a charity called Childnet.

Martin’s gentle charm, intelligence and humour will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

The Queen speaking to Past Masters Lord Luke, Philip Chalk and Martin Neville prior to lunching with the Court at the Hall to celebrate the Company’s 650th anniversary in 2015.
Philip Chalk, who died in April 2015, served twice as Master, although his first tenure was short, since soon after he took office he suffered a heart attack whilst on holiday in the Dordogne, from which, happily he made a complete recovery. As Master Warden, I was elected Master in October 1991, and Philip, resuming the office of Master Warden, became Master for the second time in July 1992.

Philip joined the Freedom in 1970 and the Livery the following year, having been introduced to the Company by Ralph Winterton, under whom he worked at the Middlesex Hospital, eventually becoming a Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist at the Royal Free Hospital and a Fellow of two Medical Royal Colleges. Clearly he was a skilled and highly respected member of his profession. Somehow he managed to combine his medical duties with those of Master, serving the Company with distinction. One outstanding event of his year was a visit by the Queen to celebrate the tercentenary of the College of William & Mary in Virginia, which he and the Clerk, Robert Strick, visited towards the end of his year.

Philip was endowed with many talents. He was an exceptional bell-ringer from an early age, ringing at St. Paul’s for many years, including for the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer in 1981. He also rang at St. Michael’s Cornhill, a Church for which he did so much, serving on the Parochial Church Council for many years. Philip was a powerful man and specialised in ringing the largest and heaviest bells! I am told that the second heaviest bell, which he rang at St. Paul’s, weighs more than two tons! A campanologist of the first order. I once had the pleasure of seeing him in action in the Bell Tower at Winchester Cathedral when my wife and I were staying with Jean and Philip at Hurstbourne Priors.

Another of Philip’s passions was gardening, particularly vegetable gardening; his rows were laid as became a surgeon and as with everything he did he achieved perfection. When they came to stay with us at Great Hormead he helped me plan and plant my own modest vegetable patch!

A true countryman, he was an expert fisherman, making his own flies, a crack shot, (although I never saw him perform) and when living in Suffolk he kept a flock of sheep. Not content with all this activity he also re-roofed with his own hands his home there.

One or two memories of him at the Hall. At committee lunches with the good Mr. Dann officiating he always chose an apple rather than cheese (did he partake of the excellent fruit cake?) and it was an education to watch him with fruit knife and fork prepare his apple for consumption – with the exactitude of a skilled surgeon! Many times after dinner, before the days of Barbara Castle’s drink-drive laws, he would give me a lift home in his magnificent green Bentley motor going well out of his way to do so.

Philip had the good fortune to be blessed with a wonderful wife, Jean, who was also a medical doctor, with whom he had three delightful children, all themselves now married with families. David had the unusual honour of joining the Court of Assistants whilst his father was still with us.

Philip is greatly missed on the Court, which he continued to attend until near the end.

Philip Chalk (1930-2015)
By Past Master Antony Woodall
A flame that until recently burnt so vigorously and so brightly burns no more. Its warmth drew us near; its brightness raised our spirits. That was Peter.

His faith was strong, deep and unforced but he wore it lightly. It was open-minded, tolerant and benign. He was a big man with a deep voice but exuded an air of gentleness and kindness. Everything about Peter’s life can aptly be described as rich: his unusual and remarkable career, his family, his voice, his prose style, his intellect. He was that most rare combination: saintly and worldly. Many are worldly; few are saintly. Fewer still are both. That, I suspect, was the key to his brilliance as a parish priest. And as a friend.

His own life was not untouched by difficulty, sadness and pain: the breakdown of a marriage, forced departure from the Church, redundancy, the death of a beloved daughter, and in recent years struggles with poor health. But there were also great highs and many blessings. Together these shaped the Peter we knew and loved and fashioned his unique gifts.

Peter’s origins conferred no great advantages in life. At the age of 16, following a stint at the King Edward VII Nautical College, he went to sea serving in the Merchant Navy, on a variety of cargo and passenger liners, for six years. His life then took a rather dramatic turn: he entered theological college and was ordained at the age of 25. He served curacies in Godalming and Epsom and became Rector of East Clandon and West Clandon. He married and had four children, but the failure of that marriage after 13 years led to another dramatic turn when he left the Church, which in those days could not accommodate a divorced and remarried priest.

He thus found himself rather improbably managing a Ford Main Dealership in Worthing, which he did rather creatively, but when the company was taken over shortly after his marriage to Sue, redundancy ensued. Both turned to teaching. Peter taught in a comprehensive school for five years before becoming a county education officer. He retired early on health grounds in 1988 at the age of 53, by which time attitudes in the Church had changed and he was most happily able to resume his calling as a priest, where he was much in demand, culminating in eight wonderful years as Vicar of Burpham.

It is almost 40 years ago to the day that Peter and Sue married. The elegant, beautiful, vivacious, multi-talented Sue: teacher, headmistress, singer, painter, mother, wife, cook. Perhaps not “cook”. Indeed, from that point on, Peter became the chef, cooking every meal for the family of eight. It can be said with confidence that they never went hungry! Together Peter and Sue created a new family with their six children and for the next four decades they loved, comforted, supported and cared for each other in times good and bad.

When Jennie and I sat at his bedside just three days before he died, he was still smiling, laughing and chatting. Although on that occasion he found speaking difficult and was at times slightly confused, he was for the most part clear and lucid. He spoke about the Drapers’ Company. Peter was Chaplain first in 1968-69, which obviously went down sufficiently well with both Peter and the Company that he was admitted to the Freedom a year later and called to the Livery just a year after that; he was Chaplain again in 1974-75 and thirdly in 1983-84, the year before being elected to the Court and serving as Junior Warden. He was Master in 1995-96. He described being on the Court as “exhilarating”, though also sometimes “maddening”. He spoke of the warmth and generosity of the staff.

And how he, and Sue, loved his year as Master Draper; and how much the Company meant to him.

Our hearts go out to Sue, to Simon, Helen, Mark, Sarah and Jo, and to the nine grandchildren. You shared Peter with us in life, and we mourn with you in death.

I said at the beginning that the flame had burned its last. But that is not entirely true. I think a spark lies deep within every one of us privileged to have known him. Whenever we think of Peter, which I am sure we shall do often, that metaphorical spark will burst into flame deep within us and we shall time and again be warmed and uplifted by his memory.

This is an edited version of a tribute delivered at St Nicholas’ Church, Arundel on 20 March 2015.

By Past Master Graham Zellick
Arthur’s father was a distinguished member of the Company, being Master in 1962. By 1993 the long-standing convention that no two members of the same family could serve together on the Court had been done away with and Arthur and his father served together on the Court for some three years.

During his time on the Court, the Call of women to the Livery and thus to the Court was agreed. Whilst Arthur protected useful tradition, he welcomed sensible evolution and was central to the development of today’s Company as an enduring force for good. He became Master in 2001, combining his duties for us, and in the City, with his responsibilities in the House of Lords. He took his role really seriously preparing thoroughly before all meetings.

People in the Company speak of his kindness, his wisdom and his example of selfless service. Many young Liverymen, both male and female, recall with affection his personal welcome to their role and especially those new to committees. Arthur’s style involved wry ‘one-liners’ with a gentle smile. He was a popular Master who kept his prize miniature roses for his daily buttonhole in the fridge in the Master’s flat. The menus during his year of office contain mainly chocolate puddings which he adored. Indeed, he decided that the Company Summer Entertainment, in his year of office, should consist of two dinners on consecutive nights in order to involve as many of the Company and their partners as possible. To his joy that meant chocolate puddings on consecutive nights! Also in his year as Master, the Company combined with the rest of the Great XII Livery Companies to present The Queen with a stained-glass window for the Chapel Royal in St James’s Palace. He attended the special service for its installation in the presence of the Prince of Wales.

Typical of his love of the countryside – I first met him a long time ago shooting in Staffordshire – his Master’s charity was the ARC Addington Fund set up to help farmers in distress following the foot-and-mouth crisis, which raised some £70,000. Also in his year, the Company sponsored a young girl called Hannah Mills from Howell’s School, Llandaff, who went on to win a silver medal for sailing in the London Olympics.

A man of traditional values, with a great love and knowledge of history, he was determined to ensure that modern education should embrace all periods of British history, not merely the last century.

His was a lusty baritone in Company and other services and enjoyed throwing his voice to the back of the church when reading the lesson.

He knew quite a bit about law and order which may, I now find, have had something to do with the fact that he was a Special Constable in the City of London Police from 1958 to 1973.

I visited him during his illness and was overwhelmed by the welcome, not only from Arthur but also from the six pugs and their mother Labrador! I understand that when Cybil the pug died Arthur was surprised to receive more letters than when his father died!

The Company respects his memory and welcomes the fact that the family tradition continues with the next generation as members of the Company.

Tribute delivered at the Memorial Service at St Margaret’s, Westminster Abbey, on 2 February 2016.
The Court of Assistants (*Assistant Emeritus, #Past Master)

David Addis #
Patrick Beddows (Junior Warden)
*Richard Beharrell #
Steven Beharrell (Second Master Warden)
Nicholas Bence-Trower #
Sir Peter Bottomley, MP #
Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce, KG, GCB, OBE, DL#
David Chalk
William Charnley (Master Warden)
*Sir Michael Craig-Cooper, CBE, TD, DL#

*Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Dalton, KCB #
James Devereux #
Stephen Foakes, TD, DL #
John Giffard, CBE, QPM, DL (Master)
David Handley #
Thomas Harris
*Sir Nicholas Jackson Bt #
Lady Victoria Leatham, DL (Renter Warden)
Mrs Jane Mather
Alan Morris
Timothy Orchard

*John Padovan #
*Nicholas Playne, DL #
*Martin Sankey #
Stuart Shilson, LVO
*John Stitt #
*Robert Strick
Anthony Walker #
Christian Williams #
*Antony Woodall #
Professor Graham Zellick, CBE, QC #

The Court are supported in their work by the following Liverymen and Freemen:

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Graham Jackson
Andrew Lawford
Hereward Lawford
Charles Marment
Rupert Phelps

Adams Foundation, Wem, Trust (Trustee) and The Thomas Adams School, Wem (Governor)
Patrick Beddows (Junior Warden) (Chairman)
Robert Lumley (Liveryman)

Bancroft’s School (Governors)
Professor Philip Ogden (Liveryman) (Chairman)
Rej Bhumbra (Liveryman)
Dr Colette Bowe (Liveryman)
James Rose (Liveryman)
Dr Peter Southern (Liveryman)

Benedict Dunhill (Liveryman)
Mrs Amanda Sillars (Liveryman)

Christ’s Hospital (Donation Governor; member of the Court of Governors)
Anthony Walker (Past Master)

City and Guilds of London Institute (Member of Council)
Mrs Jane Mather (Assistant)

City and Guilds of London Art School (Trustee)
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Mrs Felicity Conway (Liveryman)
Benedict Dunhill (Liveryman)
Mrs Amanda Sillars (Liveryman)

Drapers’ Brookside Junior School (Governors)
Stephen Foakes (Past Master) (Chairman)
Peter Craig-Cooper (Liveryman)
Mrs Kristen Russell (Liveryman)
Ms Nicky Santamauro (Liveryman)
Charles Strick (Liveryman)

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Thomas Harris (Assistant) (Chairman)
Edward Buckley (Liveryman)
Mrs Lucy Gregersen (Liveryman)
Mrs Katherine Matheson (Liveryman)

Howell’s School, Llandaff (Governor)
David Chalk (Assistant)

Kirkham Grammar School (Governor)
John Borradaile (Liveryman)

Livery Schools Link (Representative of Company’s membership)
Dr Peter Scott (Liveryman)

Multi-Academy Trust Board
Alan Morris (Assistant) (Chairman)
Stephen Foakes (Past Master)
Thomas Harris (Assistant)
Timothy Orchard (Assistant)
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Mrs Patricia Newton (Liveryman)
Luke Savage (Freeman)

Sir George Monoux College (Governors)
Jonathan Bush (Liveryman)
Tom Foakes (Liveryman)

St Paul’s Way Trust School (Governor)
Jocelin Harris (Liveryman)
A Question of Engagement

By the Clerk

Understanding the nature of the relationship between the Company, its members, and the many communities it seeks to support, does take time, arguably at least three years, precisely the length of time I have been Clerk.

In that time it has become apparent to me that there is considerable scope to increase the connection felt between members and the Company – for mutual benefit. We do not demand support from members, and yet we very much hope that by being involved you will feel a greater sense of belonging to this remarkable philanthropic institution. We are not a club and yet the fellowship within our fraternity demonstrates many attributes of one.

Out of the Company’s membership of 738, and not including the Court, only 16% are currently engaged in some aspect of the Company’s affairs, though this does not include those of you (30%) who so generously donate to the Master’s charity or the Gift and Legacy fund each year. Direct support ranges, for example, from serving on one of our committees or being a friend of almshouse residents, to being a governor at one of the Drapers’ affiliated educational institutions, helping with Open House London each September or crewing the Company Barge. However, it is not always easy to find volunteers and does not appear to be just a matter of Drapers’ busy careers or lack of proximity. Uncertainty about what is possible, and how best to get involved, is also evident.

Understandingly few, other than Court Assistants, have an overall perspective of the totality of what is being done in the name of the Company, though the 600th Fayre will have helped. This situation does not mean anything is fundamentally wrong, but it does mean it is sometimes less easy to attract volunteers. Many have pointed out that members are not sure what such a commitment might entail. Put simply, we feel we need to better communicate if we, in turn are, going to ask more from you.

With this in mind the Company, directed by a Communications Working Group (CWG) created by the Court, is launching an initiative to engage with more members, more fully. I hope the six new developments we have planned will be of interest, providing you with appropriate, relevant and useful information, without overwhelming you. The last thing we want is for you to go direct to the delete button. What we hope to do is to engage with you on a regular basis, such that you feel better informed about the Company’s activities, and thus over time more willing to step forward when you feel your circumstances are right to do so.

The first initiative is a monthly Newsletter which will cover what is going on in the Company at present, what is coming up and a ‘did you know?’ piece of historic interest from the Archivist. Bearing in mind that more people now access information on mobile devices than on a PC or laptop, it will be short in content, linking you back to the members’ webpage on the Company website.

The second proposal is that the current Company website should be split between the Lent Hall commercial activity and the Company’s current site, and that the members’ webpage becomes more regularly updated with information of interest. Debbie Clarke (the new Livery Liaison Administrator) has already begun to populate the members’ webpage with useful information.

The third proposal is that there is an annual briefing on a subject of collective interest. This will take the form of a presentation, with the chance to ask questions, followed by drinks afterwards. It will be on a weekday evening between 6-8pm and will be open to all Drapers. The first such presentation is likely to focus on our charitable activities and will take place in Summer 2016, so that those attending may enjoy drinks in the new garden. There may also be an opportunity to listen to a Drapers Research Fellow give a lecture on their research.

The fourth proposal is that new Liverymen are assigned a Court mentor to help them settle into and understand the Company. It is hoped such relationships, though light in nature, will develop and be of benefit to both parties.

The fifth proposal is that Liverymen are invited to visit the Company’s charities as and when members of the Charities’ Committee visit them. The Committee often visits charities that request larger grants (i.e. over £10,000) to assess them and satisfy themselves there are no risks in proceeding with a grant. Liverymen will receive a briefing from Andy Mellows (Head of Charities) prior to a visit. There will be a maximum of just two Liverymen per visit, so that the charity and its participants do not feel overwhelmed by the numbers of Drapers attending.

The sixth proposal is that staff profiles are placed on the members’ webpage so you have a better understanding of who does what, and where they sit in the Company hierarchy.

Finally, the Court has directed that the CWG should formally review the new Communications Strategy and Plan on an annual basis to ensure it remains relevant to the emerging needs and interest of the Company, whilst taking advantage of technological developments. Comments from all Drapers will not only be welcome, but encouraged.

So, we very much hope that these various strands of communication will help you feel more connected to your Company, and thus more inclined to get involved when time and circumstance permit. To us, it is a question of engagement.
That is how I felt when I received an email from the Clerk, asking if I was interested in assisting with one of the Draper supported schools. As I like to think that I have a can-do attitude, I put my name into the hat for the governorship position at the Thomas Adams School as a willing assistant to Patrick Beddows (Junior Warden) who is Chairman of the Adams Foundation. However, never having been a school governor before, I was not sure how able I’d be.

By way of a bit of background on myself, on leaving school I set about working in the City for my family business, a Lloyd’s insurance broker – Edward Lumley & Sons. This was followed by a transfer to Australia for a three-year stint in the family underwriting business. On returning to the UK, I set up a niche insurance broking business specialising in residential let property. 20 years on, I now sit on the board of two brokers, Weatherbys Hamilton and Let Insurance and one insurance company, Tradewise. I also devote some time as a trustee of a charitable trust which gifts money in the medical research arena. Socially, I am an avid skier, motorcyclist and golfer, when time and weather permit. I have been a Freeman of the Company since 2004 when I was admitted by Redemption.

To my delight I was appointed a Trustee to the Adams Foundation and a governor at the Thomas Adams School in March 2014, taking over from Assistant Tom Harris.

Initially, due to my lack of previous experience, I did not feel totally equipped for the role of governor. However, the support of the other governors and the training offered by Shropshire County Council, meant that I got into the swing of things relatively quickly. I also appreciated the support given by the Company and in particular the opportunity to meet other Draper governors. I have found that Adams has a strong set of governors, who actively get involved in the different committees, and who share a good cross-section of skills meaning we are able to deal with issues as they arise.

Visiting the school is genuinely enjoyable, whether it be for the school prize-giving, the Adams Foundation meetings or the full governors meetings. Whilst I recognise the Governors perform more of an oversight role, the most rewarding part is meeting the pupils. Often the Taiko Drummers, who played at the 650th Anniversary Fayre, can be heard rehearsing on the campus. And meeting the pupils from the Boarding House, which is brilliantly run by Nicki Cooper, is always a highlight for me. They are highly motivated teenagers who have intelligence and confidence supported by the tireless dedication of the staff at the school under Liz Dakin’s headship.

The importance of the Drapers’ involvement was highlighted for me in the Michaelmas term of 2014 when the then Master (Nicholas Bence-Trower), the Clerk, Patrick and I visited the school on a Red, White and Blue dress day. Radio Shropshire crashed the event and the Master eloquently explained the role of the Drapers and their relationship with the School. Whilst having been founded in 1850 by Sir Thomas Adams (Master in 1650) the relationship between the school and the Company was only established in the 1960s. Since then it has developed and strengthened and today is greatly valued by both. Adams today is run as a Maintained Community School with State Boarding, providing education to 1,310 pupils. In addition to nominating governors, the Company provides financial assistance and, through the Drapers’ Charitable Fund, awards five annual leaving prizes and provides for a pupils’ hardship fund.

So next time you hear the Clerk’s Drum Call to consider being a nominated governor, if you are willing the Drapers will help you be able.
Membership Biographies

Liveryman Professor Philip Ogden
Finance and General Purposes Committee

Philip Ogden was admitted to the Freedom in 2010 and Called to the Livery in 2013. Philip comes originally from Lincolnshire and was educated at the Universities of Durham and Oxford. He has spent most of his academic career at Queen Mary University of London where he worked closely over the years with Drapers who were members of the Queen Mary Council, and with Past Master Graham Zellick who, as Principal, appointed him Head of the Department of Geography and later selected him for appointment as Vice-Principal. He joined the Governing Body of Bancroft’s School in 2011 and became Chairman in 2013. He also served as Chairman of the St Paul’s Way School Foundation Trust in east London from 2010 to 2015 and established links between that school and the Company.

As an academic, Philip’s main research interests are in demography and migration. He has extensive experience of research projects in France and other European countries and also in the Caribbean. His doctoral thesis at Oxford was on French provincial migration to Paris and the decline of peasant society and more recently he has worked on migration and demographic change in leading European cities. His work has been supported by large research grants from the European Union and Economic and Social Research Council. He has published widely on these themes in books and papers. He was elected to the Academy of Social Sciences in 2009.

In the mid-1990s, Philip moved into senior management roles at Queen Mary. He served as Vice-Principal for the Humanities and Social Sciences from 1998 to 2006, overseeing the expansion of those disciplines in the University. As Senior Vice-Principal from 2006 to 2012, he played a particular role in overseeing large capital projects as the university expanded, including both residential accommodation and new academic buildings. He is currently Chairman of the UK Higher Education Design Forum, which brings together architects and universities to promote good design in universities, through a series of visits, conferences, publications, workshops and debates. He also served as a Trustee of the St Bartholomew’s Hospital Medical College Trust from 2000-2010.

Beyond academic life, Philip is very interested in travel, architecture, theatre and music. He has been an adviser to the London Chamber Orchestra since 2012 and works with them both to encourage their annual programme of professional concerts and to promote musical education, not least at Bancroft’s and the other schools associated with the Company.

Liveryman Richard Sankey
Investments Committee

Richard was appointed to the Investments Committee in 2014. He is a Liveryman, son of Past Master Martin Sankey and brother of Liverymen Fiona Bowring and Tim and Nick Sankey. Richard was admitted to the Freedom in 1991 and Called to the Livery in 1995. He and his siblings are the third generation of the family to be members of the Company and their connection goes back to William Hales who was made a Freeman of the Company in 1779 and elected Master in 1822.

Richard was educated at Tonbridge School and initially planned a career as a chartered surveyor before having a change of heart, joining the regular army with a commission in the 9th/12th Royal Lancers (now The Royal Lancers) following an amalgamation in May 2015). Subsequently, he left to study for an MBA at the Cass Business School since when he has worked in the investment management industry. Currently Richard works for Newton Investment Management where he manages relationships with charities and pension funds and advises them on their portfolios.

Away from his day job, Richard is a Trustee of The Officers’ Association charity, which assists service leavers with finding civilian employment and also supports former officers and their dependents with benevolence needs. He also sits on the Old Tonbridgian Society Committee. He is married to Veryan and has two daughters, Isabella and Sophia. Subject to the inevitable constraints of modern family life, his spare time is ideally spent on a golf course, ski slope or afloat on a yacht (not his). Richard has also taken advantage of the Drapers’ matched funding arrangements to take part in a number of marathons in support of various charities, particularly in the military sector.
Jonathan joined the Drapers’ Company in 2003 by Redemption and was called to the Livery in 2007. He was educated at Stowe School in Buckinghamshire, and afterwards went up to Hatfield College, Durham University to study Archaeology. It was there he met his future wife, Annabel Spicer, whom he married in April 2000. After initially living and working in London, they both moved out to the Hambleden valley in Oxfordshire and now live in a village called Turville Heath with their young, but rapidly growing, family of three boys, Harry (12), Edward (10) and James (8). Their final family member is a rather disobedient and greedy clumber spaniel called Marmalade.

Jonathan started his City career as an insurance broker with Lloyd’s brokers Minet. He then went on to work in a number of broking, business development and client management roles with Aon and Marsh, the two largest global brokers, before joining Barclays Bank in 2007. Here he was a corporate banker and led the insurance broking portfolio through the financial crisis. He was responsible for senior debt finance transactions, implementing operational banking and providing relationship management across the rest of the bank for his client base.

Jonathan is now the Head of GB for the Financial Institutions Group at Willis Towers Watson. In this role he is responsible for coordinating all of the client activities across the firm for all of the banking, insurance and asset management clients. He is a Chartered Insurance Broker, ACII qualified, and also holds a post-graduate diploma in Strategic Management from Bristol University.

Currently, he is a Draper-nominated governor at Sir George Monoux College with specific accountability for the Resources Committee which he chairs, as well as being Vice-Chair of the Corporation too. He has also just joined the Drapers’ Company Finance and General Purposes Committee. Previously, he was a board member on the Professional Standards Board at the Chartered Insurance Institute and a Governor of the Sir William Boreman Foundation.

Jonathan has always been interested in fishing and shooting and whenever there is an opportune moment he will be outside with rod or gun in hand, ideally with his family joining in too. He organizes the Drapers’ Fishing Day every couple of years and is always incredibly grateful to Annabel who works tirelessly on the picnic for all who attend.
Patricia studied at the University of North London gaining a BSc (Hons) in Architecture in 1981. Feeling the effects of the recession of the early 1980s and shortages in work experience placement in the construction industry, Patricia faced a choice of working in the UK for her “Year Out” practical experience and the prospect of doing toilet details for a year, or working in Kuala Lumpur designing commercial buildings. She chose the latter.

On her return to the UK, and after extensive travel in Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, she completed her Master’s in Architecture at the University of North London, becoming a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1989.

A period of time with T. P. Bennett, Hunter and Partners and Skidmore Owings and Merrill was followed by a move to Architects Group Practice in London where she became an Associate Partner at the age of 28.

The recession of the early 1990s brought about a change in her career, leading Patricia to work as an Expert Witness, providing litigation support to solicitors on design and construction failures and professional negligence in litigation and arbitration cases. Patricia is an Associate Member of the British Academy of Experts and has a degree of Master in Construction Law and Arbitration as a consequence.

So it was that I eventually found myself, in 2014, two years into a four-year tour as the Chief of Materiel (Land) and Quartermaster General, the longest appointment I had ever held and by far the longest time we, as a family, had ever lived in the same house (in glorious Bath). Life being therefore less hectic, I resolved to take the opportunity to make more of my association with the Drapers and cast around for how to do that. Membership of the Charities Committee was my answer.

The Committee meets for a couple of hours every few months at Drapers’ Hall. Under the masterful chairmanship of Past Master James Devereux, it considers applications for grants which have all been screened by the expert eye of Andy Mellows, the Head of Charities. What I love about the Company’s charitable approach is that we give relatively small amounts of money to lots of good causes, rather than large amounts to a few. We also tend to steer clear of the high profile charities, preferring instead to give to those who might struggle to find help elsewhere. Our aim is to improve the quality of life and expectations of people and their communities, especially those disadvantaged or socially excluded, through the award of grants in the fields of education and social welfare, particularly in Greater London where the Company has its historical roots. We also support textile conservation. The work of the Charities Committee, on behalf of the Company, is interesting and rewarding. It is a privilege to serve on the Committee, which I would strongly recommend to any member of the Company.

Patricia next moved to become a Project Manager for Stuart Brown Partnership, undertaking fast-track commercial refurbishment, relocation and fit-out projects. In 1999, she was invited to become a Design Manager assisting in developing MsQ Ltd, a design and build company then part of Struct-uretone. By 2001, Patricia had decided to set out on her own.

With three projects, and from a basement office in Marylebone High Street, Patricia developed her own practice – called A:kitekts Group (pronounced Architects) – and was joint Managing Director with her husband Richard, a Chartered Surveyor. The Practice restructured in 2010 and is now called EngineRoom, which brings together multi-disciplines providing clients with a comprehensive two and three-dimensional design service.

Patricia is a Past Master of the Constructors’ Company, a Dame Commander of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre and a Chevalier of the Confrerie De Sabre D’Or. Patricia has a love of travel (being half Italian, she regularly visits Italy) and enjoys music, the company of good friends, the opera, gardening, cooking and eating good food, and opening champagne bottles with a sabre!

Patricia served on the Hall & Major Works Subcommittee, 2013-15, and currently sits on the Finance & General Purposes Committee. She is also a Drapers’ nominated member of Council of Queen Mary University of London.

Liveryman Patricia Newton
Finance & General Purposes Committee

Patricia studied at the University of North London gaining a BSc (Hons) in Architecture in 1981. Feeling the effects of the recession of the early 1980s and shortages in work experience placement in the construction industry, Patricia faced a choice of working in the UK for her “Year Out” practical experience and the prospect of doing toilet details for a year, or working in Kuala Lumpur designing commercial buildings. She chose the latter.

On her return to the UK, and after extensive travel in Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, she completed her Master’s in Architecture at the University of North London, becoming a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1989.

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The recession of the early 1990s brought about a change in her career, leading Patricia to work as an Expert Witness, providing litigation support to solicitors on design and construction failures and professional negligence in litigation and arbitration cases. Patricia is an Associate Member of the British Academy of Experts and has a degree of Master in Construction Law and Arbitration as a consequence.

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Liveryman The Rev Richard Horner delivered the Fairchild Lecture in May at St Giles’ Church, Cripplegate.

The lecture was established in 1730 by the will of Thomas Fairchild, an early horticultural pioneer, and is now administered by the Gardeners’ Company. Richard was relieved to discover that a learned discourse on gardening was not required; rather, the lecture now forms the address at the Company’s annual service. Afterwards Stephen Bernhard, Master Gardener, presented Richard with 20 genuine shillings from the 18th century, as stipulated in the founder’s bequest. Sadly, the coins, ceremoniously handed over, had then to be unceremoniously handed back to be “given” to next year’s lecturer. Richard and Debbie Horner were treated to a convivial evening by the Gardeners in compensation.

A new Award for Freeman Johanna Vardon MBE
By Junior Warden Patrick Beddows

Only a few individuals and companies hold Royal Warrants of Appointment, a mark of recognition to those who supply goods or services to the Household of Her Majesty The Queen. There are few who can claim to have supplied such a unique service to The Queen as my Aunt Johanna Vardon MBE, a Freeman of the Company.

The service she provides is “Suppliers of foster mares for orphaned foals” for which Johanna is well known in the equestrian world. Since starting in 1965, she has overseen thousands of orphaned foals being paired with foster mares who have lost their own foal and vice versa. In total she has helped in over 20,000 cases, including one involving an orphaned Zebra, and has handled many thousands of telephone enquiries from those needing advice on difficult foaling and other issues.

It all started over 50 years ago when my mother Veronica, also a Freeman, gave her sister a mare one Christmas, called Flicka. When she lost her third foal, Johanna persuaded racecourses to put out a call for an orphaned foal for Flicka to foster. The surprisingly large response led her to found The National Foaling Bank at Meretown near Newport, Shropshire.

Johanna helps not only breeders, but also many vets, who have come to know and trust her instincts and expertise. The equestrian world has honoured Johanna on many occasions and she has just been awarded The British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA) Welfare Award 2015, sponsored by Blue Cross, in recognition of her long-term
Liveryman Dr William Frankland MBE DM FRCP
Awarded the Order of Mercy for Distinguished Voluntary Service

Dr William Frankland has been awarded the Order of Mercy, a prestigious medal, for his voluntary service over many years to charities and non-profit organisations in the United Kingdom and overseas. The awards ceremony took place at the Mansion House in the City of London on 13 July 2015 in the presence of Sheriff Fiona Adler and many other distinguished guests.

Lord Lingfield, President of the League of Mercy, said: “Dr Frankland has done extraordinary work for the welfare of others and those most in need. He is a marvellous example of someone whose long-standing and voluntary dedication to the service and welfare of others is noteworthy and remarkable and we were delighted to be able to make this well-deserved award to him.”

Colonel Piers Storie-Pugh, OBE, TD, DL, Chief Executive of Help for Heroes, in his letter of support explained:

“Dr Frankland qualified before the Second World War at St Mary’s Paddington and within a year was a Clinical Assistant to Sir Alexander Fleming in the discovery of Penicillin … Dr Frankland was captured at the Fall of Singapore in February 1942 and became a prisoner of the Japanese in Changi Gaol for the next three and a half years. One of the few doctors available, he treated British and Commonwealth prisoners, Japanese and locals alike … He was often at the rough end of Japanese treatment, but bears no malice towards them. After the war, Dr Frankland generated his energies into becoming an international figure in the development of remedies for allergy and other forms of immunology coining the phrase ‘pollen count’ … In 1977 Dr Frankland retired from the National Health Service and devoted the next 37 years, almost entirely on a voluntary basis, to help his consultant colleagues and those starting out in this area of medical specialty, with the benefit of his huge knowledge and experience …”

The League of Mercy, originally created in 1899 for the encouragement and recognition of voluntary work in hospitals and the community, was refounded as a nationwide registered charity in 1999 and now continues the work of the original founder, the then Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII. www.leagueofmercy.co.uk

dedication to saving orphaned foals. To be awarded this by an Association, comprising Equine Veterinary experts, is a major accolade recognising her tireless work over many years and her ability to give wise advice at very short notice – she is available 24/7 and rarely sleeps when busy!

A prolific breeder, Johanna has bred 500 horses from the same family. It was hardly surprising to have her work recognised in 2009 when she was awarded the SEIB Meritoire Award at the British Breeders Awards, which followed being presented with the Animal Health Trust Voluntary Service Award in 1999.

The Vardon family have long links with the Company. Johanna has several nephews who are members of the Livery including Past Master Sir Peter Bottomley, together with several great nephews and nieces. In 2011 she presented to the Company a scroll painted by our forebear John Vardon (1796-1889) when a boy, depicting Admiral Lord Nelson’s state funeral, which hangs in the Clerk’s Office. Nelson is one of the very few individuals who have been made members of the Company by Redemption (honoris causa).
Company Staff at Drapers’ Hall

The Clerk
Richard Winstanley

Senior Officers
Director of Finance
David Sumner
Company Secretary
Priya Ponnaiyah

Charities
Head of Charities
Andrew Mellows
Charities Accountant
Viola Viegas

Finance & Administration
Finance Controller (p/t)
Kathryn Birch
Finance Assistant (p/t)
Nicola Woolgrove
HR Administrator
Lynda Lampshire
PA to Clerk
Anthea Brennan
PA/Team Secretary (p/t)
Susan Smith
Livery Liaison Administrator (p/t)
Deborah Clarke
Archivist
Penelope Russell

Banqueting and Events
Head of Banqueting & Events
Louisa Stirling
Events Executive
Erin McGowan
Sale & Marketing Executive
Jackson Baugh
Hospitality Manager
Oreg Murphy
Events Supervisor
Leah Cooper
Operations Supervisor
Marta Leoniewska
Junior Events Supervisor
Oogesh Seepaul
Head Waitress
Berence Wise

Catering
Head Chef
Mark Page
Sous Chef
Ian Ramsay
Sous Chef
Sachin Mishra
Chef de Partie
Marek Stech

Hall & Maintenance
Hall Manager
Elaine Jensen
Receptionist
Derek Jeanes
Receptionist
Dawn Moss
Receptionist (p/t)
Daniel Smith
Maintenance Operative
Carlos Carvalho
Maintenance Assistant
Enddy Nerplat
Cleaning Operative
Nsinjiri Chilunga
## Great XII Quiz Evening at Drapers’ Hall

### Answers

#### Category 1 – Geography
1. Czech Republic, Poland, Ukraine, Hungary, Austria
2. Medina
3. Cardiff
4. Missouri, Tennessee
5. Mali
6. Abuja
7. Bothnia
8. Kyrgyzstan
9. India, China
10. Vladivostok

#### Category 2 – Art & Literature
1. Jackson Pollock
2. Seagram Building
3. *Far from the Madding Crowd*
4. National Portrait Gallery
5. Wassily Kandinsky
6. Claude Lorrain
7. Marianne Dashwood
8. Carol Ann Duffy
9. Charm
10. Dixon

#### Category 3 - 2015
1. Thanet South
2. Vanuatu
3. Nigeria
4. Leanne Wood
5. Ruth (Baroness) Rendell
6. Chile
7. Hillary Clinton
8. New Horizons
9. Robert Lewandowski/Bayern Munich
10. Milan

#### Category 4 – Science & Nature
1. Propane
2. Humerus
3. Green
4. Nickel
5. Otter
6. Lambda (λ)
7. Haemoglobin
8. Fluorine (F), chlorine (Cl), bromine (Br), iodine (I), astatine (At)
9. Minus 40
10. Polish (or Russian Empire)

#### Category 5 - London
1. Greenwich Park, Richmond Park, Bushy Park
2. 1943
3. Central
4. Ralph Vaughan Williams
5. Tower of London
6. Westbourne
7. Charles I
8. W5 – Ealing; W7 – Hanwell
9. St Pancras
10. Manor House

#### Category 6 – Sport
1. Ice Hockey
2. Ron Atkinson
3. George Gregan
4. Solheim Cup (named after Karsten Solheim)
5. Stuart Bingham
6. England Women’s Netball (Tracey Neville)
7. Tranmere Rovers
8. Steve Cummings (won stage 14)
9. Denis Compton (278 in 1954 at Trent Bridge)
10. She won the 2015 US Open – Ladies’ Singles (tennis).

#### Category 7 - History
1. Oriflamme
2. Bulgaria
3. Harold Macmillan
4. (Battle of) Preston
5. A.D. 622
6. Henry Paget, Earl of Uxbridge
7. S
8. A tattoo
9. Battle of the Nile
10. Prohibition

#### Category 8 – Music & Drama
1. Gilbert and Sullivan (William S. Gilbert; Arthur S. Sullivan)
2. 24 December; Christmas Eve
3. John Denver
4. “Come up and see me, make me smile” (Steve Harley & Cockney Rebel)
5. *The Blue Room*
6. Robert Schumann
7. Lake Geneva/Lac Léman
8. Tristan & Isolde (Court of King Marke of Cornwall)
9. *The Taming of the Shrew*
10. Jean-Paul Sartre

#### Category 9 – General Knowledge
1. An intense desire to write
2. The Dambusters Raid (Raid on the Mohne/Sorpe/Eder dams)
3. Coalition
4. Jethro Tull
5. King of Diamonds
6. Mormons; or Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
7. Six
8. Athena
9. Judges
10. Oulton Park, Cheshire

#### Category 10 – Pictures
1. Madonna
2. Justin Bieber
3. Frank Lampard
4. Jim Carrey
5. Beyoncé
6. George Harrison
7. Julia Roberts
8. Katy Perry
9. Justin Timberlake
10. Oprah Winfrey

#### Tie-Breaker
2,268
Forthcoming Events

2016

**February**
23 Company Concert
29 Inter-Livery Swimathon, RAC Epsom

**March**
7 Inter-Livery Bridge, Drapers’ Hall
11 United Guilds Service at St Paul’s Cathedral
15 Company Concert
30 Livery Dinner

**April**
14 Wine Dinner
18 Almshouse Tea Party
18 Great XII Golf Challenge, New Zealand Golf Club

**May**
4 Company Concert
5 Visitation to Queen Elizabeth’s College
12 Visitations to Walter’s Close & Edmanson’s Close
18 Inter-Livery Clay Shoot at Holland & Holland ground
TBA Barge – Tudor Pull

**June**
3-4 Great XII Sailing Challenge, Sea View
20 Livery Supper
24 Election of Sheriffs
24 Summer Entertainment

**July**
TBA Barge – Henley Royal Regatta
1 Visitation to Bancroft’s School
4 Marketors’ Charity Golf Day at Verulam Golf Club, St Albans
6 Company Service at St. Michael’s Cornhill
11 Lord Mayor’s Charity Golf Day, Stoke Park Club, Buckinghamshire
26 Election Dinner
28 Ray Jeffs Cup Golf Day at Hartley Wintney Golf Club

**September**
5 Leathersellers’ Company Golf Day
21-22 Barge – ‘Countryside Live’
29 Election of the Lord Mayor
TBA Inter-Livery Tennis Competition at Queen’s Club

**October**
TBA Great XII Quiz Night, hosted by the Grocers
TBA Company Golf Day

**November**
2 Informal Livery Dinner
12 Lord Mayor’s Show

Fines and Fees

The following are the Fines and Fees payable on admission to the Freedom and on Call to the Livery.
All sums are subject to the addition of VAT at the current rate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Admission to the Freedom</th>
<th>Fine</th>
<th>Fees</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>By Patrimony</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>£125</td>
<td>£125</td>
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<tr>
<td>By Redemption (Patrimonial)</td>
<td>£250</td>
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<tr>
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<td>£300</td>
<td>£125</td>
<td>£425</td>
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<tr>
<td>Call to Livery</td>
<td>£300</td>
<td>£125</td>
<td>£425</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Livery Dinners in March and July will commence at 6.30pm for 6.50pm. Dress will be dinner jacket with decorations. All Liverymen will be summoned to the dinners.

The Senior Livery may introduce a guest on both occasions. Junior Livery of three or more years standing are permitted a guest on one occasion only, of which notice will be given; Liverymen under three years’ standing may not bring a guest.

Informal Livery Dinner
The Informal Livery Dinner on 2 November 2016 will commence at 6.30pm for 7.00pm. Dress will be dinner jacket without decorations. All Liverymen will be summoned to the dinner.

Guests
Guests may be of either sex, but members may not bring their spouse or partners since the nature of such events is more one of fraternal fellowship than family. The Summer Entertainment (24 June 2016), however, is an occasion for families where members may bring their spouses or partners.

Dress at Company Dinners
Unless otherwise notified, ‘black tie’ (black dinner jacket, white shirt, black bow tie and if desired a black waistcoat or cummerbund) is the normal attire. Ladies may wear long or knee-length evening dresses or evening dress trouser suits.

Liverymen are requested to wear their Livery lapel pin or brooch on those occasions when guests are present.

Further details of any diary event may be obtained from Deborah Clarke, Livery Liaison Administrator: dclarke@thedrapers.co.uk