

# INNHOLDERS' CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

### ISSUE

Sadly, we are still unable to meet and celebrate Christmas as usual at Innholders' Hall so we send you this newsletter with our warmest festive greetings. We will continue to send out these newsletters in the New Year and would like to hear from you, please contact the Assistant Clerk Rebecca. Tomlin@innholders.c o.uk with your news and stories for the next issue.

### FROM THE MASTER

Dear Innholders,

Christmas is now almost here, and after what seems a long year since the Covid-19 pandemic started to affect us all, we have vaccinations beginning. This is excellent news and just what we want to give us all a light at the end of the tunnel. We very much hope that we may be able to start some small Innholder events in 2021 somewhere around end of March.

Thanks to Rebecca for another great newsletter, also to all those who have contributed, and to our Beadle John, for putting together the Christmas quiz you'll find in this edition. I look forward to seeing your answers!



I will finish by wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year, looking forward to when we can all meet again at our Innholders Hall.

Happy Christmas!

Keith

# **NEWS FROM INNHOLDERS' HALL**



### Diversity Charter

The diversity and inclusion agenda has never received more attention than in 2020. The welcoming of all, though, has long been the bedrock of the hospitality industry and the Innholders

can be proud of our friendly reputation throughout the City and the equality, diversity and inclusion that we embrace and support.

In support of this work, the Court has established a Diversity Working Group which held its first meeting in November. The first recommendation was for the Court to approve a Diversity Charter, which the Master signed in December. It confirms the Company's commitment to introduce people of diverse backgrounds to the Company and to encourage those who share our aspirations and wish to make a positive contribution to participate in the Company's work and activities. You can find a copy on the Company's website.

The Group will continue to meet regularly to make recommendations on how to promote the diversity agenda through suggested activities and initiatives. All Innholders have a role to play in supporting diversity and inclusion, whether in relation to introductions to the Company, the hosting of guests at our events, suggesting charities or causes for the Company to support or encouraging others to participate in the work of the Company.

The group is chaired by STA Alice Jeffs (née Groom) and also includes PM Julia Sibley, PM Charles Attlee, STA Edmund Brandt, Liveryman Conrad da Cunha, and Assistant Clerk Rebecca Tomlin.



#### From the Clerk

I can certainly hear that lockdown has come to an end by the road noise outside out house. There were a few good things about lockdown when it started – the good weather to begin with and possibly the novelty of working from home. I have

generally worked away from home since 1984 and for the past 23 years spent only weekends at home so this was a very pleasant change. Now that we have been doing it for so long and the weather has turned decidedly colder, I have sharpened my axe and chopped the firewood for Christmas. One more visit to the Hall and that will be that – for a while at least. Catch up on much missed leave, hopefully have the children back home, a tree up, a turkey in the oven and loads of bad jokes, hot gluhwein and hardy walks. What a year it has been, but we've pulled through, still well and intact, and we all

just hope things will get better in 2021. Thank you Master, Rebecca and John, those Friday Zoom meetings have been a godsend. Happy Christmas to one and all, keep safe, keep sane, keep happy.



### From the Beadle

2020 will live long in my memory as being the opposite to my usual Innholders' year. Normally, in a busy week, thanks to HB's success and Elena's unstinting drive, I would expect to meet, greet and see some 400 to 500 people. Since March, now if I see 4 to 5 people when I'm in the Hall, that's about it and occasionally I have a few days seeing no one! Livery Halls were created to be the country home of the companies in the City, and they are the meeting place and hub of a Company's business

and entertaining. Hope is now on the horizon in the form of a vaccine and we are ready in all respects to fire up the kitchens and get back to what we do best, "as the home of hospitality in the City". So, from Mr & Mrs Beadle (who survived having me home for 15 weeks) we wish you a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone in 2021.

At the end of this newsletter, you will find a fiendish quiz devised by the Beadle. Test your knowledge of the Company and send us your answers by the 15th January 2021. Prizes will be awarded, and the judges' decision is final!

# A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN, THE VERY REVD ANDREW NUNN, DEAN OF SOUTHWARK



It's the time of year when we should be piling into school and village halls, or taking our place in the pew of the local church to watch the nativity play. Be it your son or daughter, your grandchild, whoever, there is a sense of eager anticipation and no little nervousness as the school class, or the Sunday school, or the playgroup enter and take their places. Some will be dressed up in angel wings and tinsel halos; some will have tea

towels secured to their heads, and an old dressing gown tied around them, a toy sheep under an arm. One small girl will be in blue robes next to a boy with a stuck-on beard and staff in hand. But it is the child who walks in with a lantern on a pole that we all look out for.

One of the most popular roles in any nativity is the innkeeper. Ok, little girls want to be angels, boys like the rough and tumble of being a shepherd and those with a more serious disposition like to be one of the three kings. But it is the innkeeper who has the character role, all the opportunity for a bit of acting. The couple, the girl in blue, the boy with his staff arrive at a door. Rat-a-tat-tat. The door opens and the child with the lantern appears. Teachers hope that the question 'Have you got a bed for the night? Mary is having a baby.' is not met with a friendly 'Yes' but a more surly 'No', 'No room in the inn', 'Go away it's late and we are full.' And then the innkeeper's heart melts and they remember the stable and the hay and the animals 'But there is a stable over there; you can stay there if you want.'

I find it very moving that surmounting and crowning the arms of the Innholders is the star of Bethlehem. Of all those in the Livery of the City of London we get to play the innkeeper every day, we are the ones who offer hospitality; the star, as it were, hangs over our Hall. It has been a terrible year and I for one won't be sad to see it behind us. Next year has to be better. Every part of life has been so seriously affected and recovering from this will be the work of a generation at least. But just as the holy couple, Mary and Joseph, encountered compassion and warmth at the door of the inn so we have seen amazing acts of kindness and generosity over these months. We have seen the tragedy of so much loss – of lives, of jobs, of hope, of confidence – but we've also seen wonderful acts of kindness – in our key workers, in community volunteers, in the simple love of one person supporting another, of a neighbour looking out for a neighbour.

The need to distance has been hard – many of us thrive on touch, on contact, on being close to someone else, the one we love. The way we work often depends and benefits from being in the same space in which we can spark off one another relate to one another, enjoy being with each other. We love to be able to open our door and welcome people in, to offer hospitality, to sit people down and serve them. What Christians celebrate at Christmas is that God comes close in Jesus and closer yet, because as our Gospels tell us 'the Word became flesh and lived among us'. God draws close, never distanced, never absent – as we see God in the baby in the manger, the innkeeper's gift, who his mother Mary holds close.

Whether you share this faith or not, know something of that love this Christmas and every day in the New Year, whatever it might hold.

Andrew

# FROM OUR ALMONER, THE REVEREND CANON BILL CHRISTIANSON FNI



When I arrived in UK in 1976 and enjoyed a robin following me around as I tended my garden in Gravesend, I realised why robins are so popular and feature in so many ways at Christmas. Nor is it a surprise that these little birds topped the poll to become the UK's national bird. As we experience the first of the winter weather, I am reminded of a poem taught to me a good while ago - you may know

it:

The north wind doth blow, And we shall have snow, And what will poor Robin do then, Poor thing?

He'll sit in a barn, To keep himself warm, And hide his head under his wing, Poor thing! (Anon.)

The robin is synonymous with Winter, as is clearly illustrated by the number of robins illustrating Christmas cards each year. You can see my own effort at one such card above. Sadly, illness - coughs, colds, flu and especially this year Covid 19 - is also associated with the coming cold Winter weather. But, the uplifting and wonderful news of a vaccine, is being associated with Spring and a new hope. And coincidently so too is the robin. So with that in mind, I have another poem to conclude little piece, along with my wishes to you and your loved ones for a Blessed and a Safe Christmas:

Piping Robin, piping so,
Tell the snow
It's time to go;
Tell the rough winds not to blow
Any more through field and glen;
Call the bluebirds home again,
Tell the little flowers to grow,
Piping Robin, piping so.

(Annette Wynne)

Yours, Bill.

# A FAVOURITE RECIPE FROM HERBERT BERGER



We are missing Herbert's fantastic Christmas feasts so here is a recipe from the archive to bring back happy memories. This is enough for 12-15 portions, but it will keep in the freezer. If you give it a go, send us a picture of your results!

### Iced Christmas pudding soufflé

#### For the soufflés:

250g Christmas pudding 60g Brandy 120g egg yolk (approx.7 large) 150g egg whites (approx.5 large) 250g caster sugar 500ml Double cream

#### For the clementine coulis:

300g peeled clementines or mandarins 80g caster sugar (to taste) 50 ml mandarin liquor or similar

# Optional:

Candied cranberries and crystallised puff pastry leaves in cinnamon sugar.

#### Method:

- 1. Chop the Christmas pudding and soak it in the brandy. When soft, mix it into a coarse paste.
- 2. Whisk the egg yolks with half the caster sugar in a mixer until light and fluffy.
- 3. Whisk the egg whites and the remaining caster sugar into a stiff meringue.
- 4. Stir the Christmas pudding paste into the yolk mixture and then fold in the meringue mix.
- 5. Whisk double cream until slightly stiff but still soft and add to the rest of the mixture.
- 6. Fill individual moulds, a terrine or Christmas pudding moulds and freeze for 24 hours.
- 7. Place all ingredients for the coulis into a saucepan, bring to the boil for 5 minutes, blend, and pass through a fine sieve. Chill.
- 8. Unmould your souffles, decorate with crystallised cranberries and pastry leaves and serve with the clementine coulis.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO ASSISTANT ANDREW MCKENZIE MI



Andrew was recognised by the 2020 'Catey' Awards, the hospitality industry's equivalent of the Oscars, organised by The Caterer magazine. Andrew, who is Managing Director of the Vineyard Group, was made Wine and Spirit Ambassador in recognition of his oversight of a culture of passion around wine. His citation included his services to

the industry in encouraging a generation of sommeliers and wine experts, for democratising the service of wine, for his leadership and for his support to industry bodies such as the Master Innholders, the Worshipful Company of Innholders and the steering committee of Relais & Châteaux.

Also at the Cateys, The Queensberry Hotel, Bath, owned by Laurence Beere MI and his wife Helen, was awarded Independent Hotel of the Year, our congratulations to Laurence and Helen.

### UPDATE FROM THE SAMARITANS



Those of you who were at the last Court and Guests Dinner in February will remember hearing from Sam Gale about the work of the Samaritans and especially the new City Hub to which the Innholders contributed a substantial sum in 2019. We were pleased to hear from Sam recently, who told us that City Hub has now reopened, having taken a larger office space in the same building to make sure that

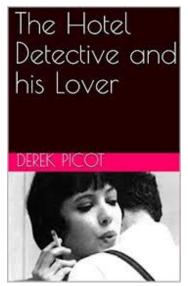
volunteers on shifts can adhere to social distancing guidelines. Training is progressing well, and recruitment of volunteers is gaining pace. If you follow this <u>link</u> you can watch a short video about the new Samaritans services that the Innholders helped to fund.

#### NEWS FROM THE CITY AND THE LIVERY



27th Inter Livery Clay Shoot

We have been invited to field a team for the annual Inter Livery Clay to be held at Holland & Holland Shooting Grounds on Thursday13th May 2021. If you are interested in joining the Innholders team, please contact the Assistant Clerk and she will pass your details on to Team Captain Liveryman Andrew Ovey.



A new novel from Derek Picot MI FIH

If you are looking to settle in for a good read during these wet winter months, why not try *The Hotel Detective and His Lover*, the latest book by Derek Picot MI FIH? Set in London during the swinging sixties the story is based around a takeover bid for the fictional luxury Adelphi hotel and the high-risk stakes that are played out by a series of colourful and ruthless characters. Derek has kindly offered the Company personalised copies and is giving £2 for every copy sold to Hospitality Action. Members can make an order directly with Derek at derekpicot@hotmail.com. The price of each book is £15 including postage to the UK.



The Court of Common Council and the Annual Address to the Livery

The Lord Mayor's Annual Address to the Livery on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 is available to watch using this <u>link</u>. Chaired by the Lord Mayor and hosted by the Livery Committee Chairman Victoria Russell, the other speakers were Sir Charles Bowman, Pan Livery Steering Committee Chairman

and John Barradell, the Town Clerk. The current virtual proceedings of the Court of Common Council are now posted on YouTube and the link for the 3 December meeting can be viewed here.



Inter-Livery Playing Cards Events Postponed Regrettably the annual Inter-Livery Bridge Competition at Drapers' Hall, which happens on the first Monday of March every year, is postponed. Instead it will be moved to Monday 6th September in 2021. It will then return to its usual slot the following year. If you are a bridge player and would like to participate please contact the Assistant Clerk to register your interest.



United Guilds Service Rescheduled to Friday 21 May 2021

We have received notice from the Chairman & Trustees of the United Guilds' Service that, in response to the promising news for the delivery of a vaccine programme, they have decided to re-instate the United Guilds' Service on Friday 21 May 2021. 'Naturally', they write 'we shall still be obligated to follow the prevailing HMG guidance, but the fervent hope is that a date in the late Spring will optimise the chances of high and safe attendance by as many as possible.'

# **INNHOLDERS' COVID-19 EMERGENCY APPEAL**



We are grateful for the generous contributions that many of you have made to the Emergency Appeal. It is now clear that many people need to make greater and very deserving calls on our limited funds. Many members of the Company already support the Innholders' Charitable Foundation very

generously by direct regular financial contributions (standing orders). If you do not yet make a regular financial contribution, and are in a position to do so, please consider setting up a regular donation so that we can continue to support those most in need. Contact the Assistant Clerk Rebecca.tomlin@innholders.co.uk for a standing order form and Gift Aid declaration which will take only a few minutes to complete. Should you find you have something to spare for a one-off donation, the Emergency Appeal remains open. Click here to donate.

#### HAPPY CHRISTMAS



We hope that you have enjoyed reading this newsletter. We wish you a very happy, if quieter than usual, Christmas and we look forward to the New Year bringing us mass vaccination and a return to Innholders hospitality. Enjoy the quiz and don't forget to send us your answers!

Do get in touch if you have any news to share, and until we meet again keep safe and well.

With seasons greetings and warm wishes,

Charles Henty, Clerk Rebecca Tomlin, Assistant Clerk

# THE BEADLE'S BIG CHRISTMAS QUIZ – WHICH HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH CHRISTMAS!

How well do you know your Livery Company and Hall? To entertain you over Christmas, the Beadle has devised a true test of your Innholder and Livery knowledge as well as your powers of observation. It is just for fun but send us your answers by email and prizes will be awarded for the best attempt and any that make us laugh. Points for each correct answer are given in brackets. The judges' decision is final!

#### A. About the Innholders

- Q1. What is the correct translation of the Company motto "Hinc Spes Effulget"? (1)
- Q2. We all know our current Master Keith is special and this year he joined an elite band of Innholder Masters to serve two consecutive years. In which two decades has that also happened in the last hundred years? (2)
- Q3. Many companies have a "Father of the Company" usually the Senior living Past Master. In the history of the Innholders though, only one Past Master was named the "Father of the Company" (5)

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- a. Can you name him?
- b. What year was he Master?
- c. Name his two sons?
- d. What year was each son Master?
- Q4. A Beadle saved the Hall, not once but twice (3)
- a. Name the Beadle
- b. What were the two occasions?
- c. His son also went on to be the Company Beadle who was he?
- Q5. Name the well-known firm which provided the Company's Clerk for many years (1)
- Q6. And who was the first Clerk to be appointed despite not being employed by the above company? (1)
- Q7. The company received its first charter in 1514 from Henry VIII. (2)
- a. How old was Henry VIII when he presented the company with its first charter?
- b. Who was his Queen at the time?

- Q8. The Hall was presented with its splendid Inn sign by another Worshipful Company (2)
- a. name that generous Company
- b. and why were they so generous?
- Q9. Who was Innholders' last Lord Mayor and in which year? (2)
- Q10. The Innholders' are 32 in the order of precedence (3)
- a. Which Companies are at 31 and 33?
- b. What affiliation shares the number 32?

# B. Livery General Knowledge

- Q11. Dick Whittington is probably the most famous Lord Mayor (2)
- a. Which was his livery Company?
- b. How many times was he Lord Mayor?
- Q12. Name the Great Twelve Companies in the correct order of precedence? (12)

- Q13. Everyone knows Skinners' and Merchant-Taylors are at 6s and 7s, however on Christmas day this year who is 6 and who is 7? (2)
- Q14. Innholders' Hall is located in a Ward, an important part of the governance of the City. (8)
- a. In what Ward is Innholders' Hall?
- b. Name the Alderman of the Ward?
- c. Name both Common Councillors of the Ward?
- d. Name the Ward Beadle?

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- e. Including Innholders' how many other Livery Companies are in our Ward and can you name them?
- Q15 How many Wards are there in the Square mile of the City? (1)
- Q16. What lies beneath Guild Hall yard?
- Q17. Two companies celebrate "Burying the Hatchet" (3)
- a. Which two companies are they?
- b. Why do they need to bury the hatchet?

- Q18. Who are the two mythical figures in Guildhall? (1)
- Q19. There have been two women Lord Mayors in the 900 years of the office, can you name them? (2)
- Q20. How many years was it before the WCO Bakers issued an apology for burning down three-quarters of the City in 1666? (1)

#### C. How Observant are You?

- Q21. In the main window in the Hall, nine Inns are represented in the glass, can you name each Inn? (9)
- Q22. What is the figure sitting on top of the Beadle's Staff of Office? (1)
- Q23. How many years have the WCO Cook's called Innholders' Hall home? (1)
- Q24. There are two portraits of Clerks in the Hall (4)
- a. name the two Clerks;

- b. where are both paintings are situated?
- Q25. Which current member of the Court has his 'Sir'name emblazoned on the side of the building? (1)

- Q26. Which Past Master has a family bust in the Hall? (1)
- Q27. The Company recently celebrated 500 years since receiving its first charter in 1514. (4)
- a. The Grant of Arms 1634 has a star on it which was replicated and placed on the ceiling in the reception area, how many points has the star?
- b. Herbert Berger's logo replicates this star, how many Michelin stars has Herbert been awarded during his illustrious career?
- c. Which Master during the Quincentenaries' celebrations, perfected a swallow dive from the podium at Southwark Cathedral reception, in the hope of getting everyone's attention prior to his speech?
- d. What connection has the newest Short-Term Assistant to this swallow-diving Master?

#### D. Clerk Versus Beadle

Q28. One appointment is relatively new in the long history of the Company, while the other can be traced back to the very beginning of the Livery movement. Which role is the newbie? (1)

Q29. Allegedly both the Clerk and Beadle did go to school, albeit a very long time ago. One went to a very good school called a Comprehensive and the other went to a little-known school in Windsor. Who went to Eton? (1)

Q30. One had a long-distinguished career in the Senior Service and the other was in the army. Who was in the army? (1)

Final Question (and tiebreaker): To the nearest £, how much was the total cost of rebuilding the Hall after the Great Fire of 1666, completed in 1670?