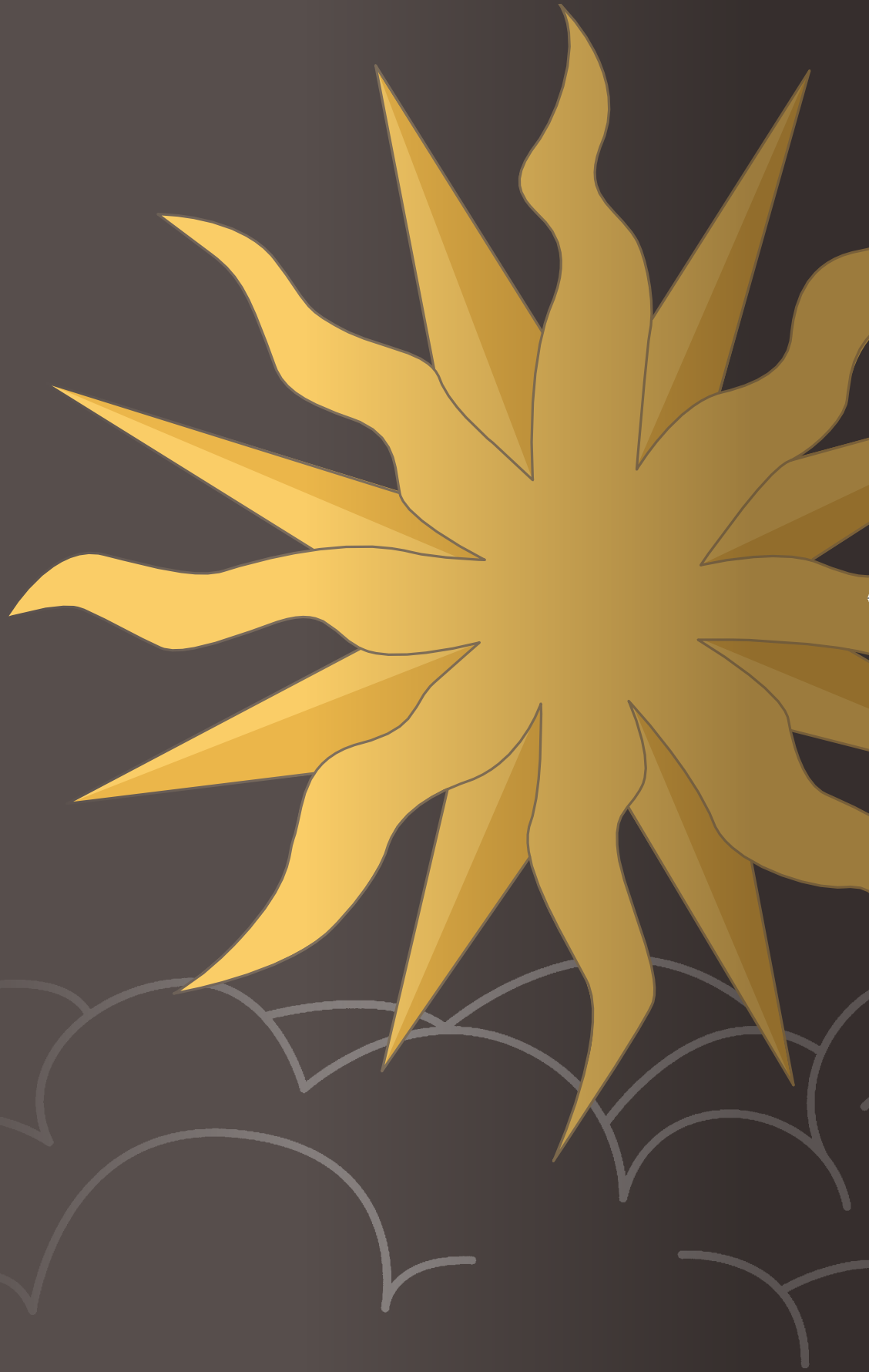


WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF INNOLDERS 2021

A YEAR OF RESILIENCE



OUR NEW MASTER

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INTRODUCING LORD THURSO, OUR NEW MASTER



My journey to Innholders began with a happy accident. Indeed, most things in my life have been accidental! Born in the far north in the family home in Thurso, I was sent to boarding school from the age of 8. During the holidays we enjoyed a wonderful freedom exploring the rocks in front of the house, the farm, and the hills and lochs. We ran barefoot and came in at dusk. In the term we were at schools that still practised cold baths in the morning, rigid discipline, and double helpings of Greek and Latin. The contrast was such that I couldn't wait to finish school and developed a healthy streak of rebelliousness. I did not want to go to university and so when the newly appointed careers master at Eton called me in and, asked me what I wanted to do, I had no idea. Having ascertained I worked in the holidays washing up he suggested I try hotels and thus began a classical hotel career, training at the Savoy, Claridges, The Berkeley and Stones Chop House, and to appointment as General Manager of the Lancaster in Paris. I fell hopelessly in love with the industry and developed a fascination for how to manage people that remains with me to this day.

In 1985 I became founder General Manager at Cliveden and following its success joined the Master Innholders, of which from 1995 to 1997 I was Chair. I introduced the Innholders Scholarship concept to the then Master, Michael Vass, on which we worked happily together for the next 6 years; the rest, as they say, is history. Through all of this I discovered the great warmth and depth of the WCI family and was very honoured to be asked to join the livery and then the Court. I love the traditions of the Company and the rich history of our past. But the rebellious streak is still there, so I also like to see innovation and appropriate change.

Another accident sent my life in a completely different direction. In 1995 when I was CEO of Champneys, my father died unexpectedly, and I found myself in the House of Lords where I became a front bench spokesman. When reforms removed the hereditary peers, I was asked to stand for parliament for my home constituency of Caithness, Sutherland, and Easter Ross. And so, in 2001 I became an MP.

Never expecting to be anywhere remotely near government I wanted to serve the constituency and especially to help the business community create good employment. I bet you didn't know that 70% of the nail varnish worn in Europe is made in a factory in Invergordon, or that 65% of the cameras on the world's sea beds, and 1005 of the cameras on US submarines were made in Wick! I was a member of the Treasury Select Committee and the Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards, and I also chaired the House of Commons Finance Committee as a member of the HoC Commission, the body that runs the Commons. It was a fulfilling 14 years of public service with huge satisfaction and reward but also with moments of unmitigated hell!

In 2015 I lost! Another accident but an extraordinary one as it allowed me to take a new tack when I was appointed Chair of Visit Scotland and in a totally surreal turn of events returned to the Lords as an elected hereditary. My passion at Visit Scotland has been working on sustainable tourism and taking a net zero destination approach and this resulted in having the opportunity to speak at two events at COP26.

Throughout this series of accidents, I have had incredible support from my wife, Marion. We met at 17 and married at 22 some 46 years ago. We have 3 children, and I was delighted that Liveryman James Sinclair, who is a primary school teacher, and his younger brother George, serving in Police Scotland, were able to be at my Installation. It was a great sadness that due to the pandemic their elder sister Louisa was stuck in Canada where she lives with her husband and children running their insurance brokerage.

It has been an extraordinary journey from barefoot highland rebel to Master of this magical Company. I feel deeply honoured to be Master. I look forward to serving and exhorting everyone to "Practise Hospitality".

**LORD THURSO,
MASTER 2021-22**

**"I love the traditions of
the Company and the
rich history of our past.
But the rebellious streak
is still there, so I also like
to see innovation and
appropriate change.."**

IMMEDIATE PAST MASTER'S REPORT

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IMMEDIATE PAST MASTER'S REPORT: LEADING THE COMPANY THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

It is very interesting to look in my diary, back to October 2019 and my installation, when I was looking forward to a busy year, with many things planned in addition to our normal events. By Christmas that year, a new virus was already in the news and in the New Year there was much humour about should we shake hands with people, or bump elbows? What was all this discussion about masks, and washing our hands more frequently, and jokes about more alcohol going into hand gels than being drunk? Events did continue through January, and February, then as early March arrived, there was an invitation to Brewers Hall, but by then we knew that would be the last event before we were all told to go home, stay there and if possible work from home. So began a long closedown which no-one of expected to be so extended. Even today, not far from 2 years on, we still battle with the virus.

Back in spring 2020 we closed up the Hall, and rapidly learned the delights of Zoom meetings. We had to continue running our committees, as all of them were needed, and many thanks go to all the Chairmen of the committees, and all those serving on them. We cancelled events, but what was more difficult, was that in those phases where it looked like we could re-open the Hall, we planned and prepared for events, then each time as the virus surged again, we had to cancel those arrangements. There is no doubt that we re-planned, and then had to cancel more events, than we actually appeared to hold. Very frustrating.

By October 2020 the Court had kindly offered me an historic second year. We therefore tried to keep to regulations and so my second Installation dinner was held with just two tables of six in our Great Hall. By Christmas, with no events allowed, we had a meeting to sign Christmas cards and other bits of admin and then home to the subdued Christmas of 2020, with no Austin Balls Dinner or Beckford Widows' and Apprentices lunch to kick off the festive season. The widows of company Liverymen enjoyed hampers



**"My very best wishes
to you all and thank
you for two interesting,
if not quite to plan,
years!"**

produced by the Merchant Taylors in place of their annual lunch. Many thanks to Charlie and Rebecca, who continued to work hard from home, and to Beadle John, who ventured into the City many times to check the Hall was safely locked and all secure.

As 2021 arrived, apart from large amounts of work in the Hall, which I'll leave to others to tell you about, we were effectively closed until beginning of July. Over the late summer, we slowly returned to a degree of normality, and for me it was a very busy time trying to make up for lost events. I was delighted that we could visit Andrew McKenzie's hotel in Berkshire for a belated Master's Outing – you can read all about that later in this Review. At last, we managed a near normal Installation event for Lord Thurso, who had been a great help and advisor for me during my two years. I'm very hopeful he will have a nearly 'normal' year in office, but that virus has not yet gone, and we can only hope that we do not have another surge. My very best wishes to you all and thank you for two interesting, if not quite to plan, years!

**KEITH HARRISON,
IMMEDIATE PAST MASTER**

PATRONAGE COMMITTEE REPORT 2020-2021

Charitable giving is one of the Company's principle aims and the Innholders Charitable Foundation is fortunate to have been generously endowed by past members of the Livery. It is the job of the Patronage Committee to ensure that, within the objectives set by the Court, the Innholders' charitable giving is as effective as possible. Our core activities cover three main categories, several of which overlap: the young and furtherance of education; the elderly and their welfare; and training and education in the hotel industry. The Committee's grant making decisions are informed by recognition of the Company's links to, and heritage within, the City of London, together with an emphasis on the relief of need.

The Company has two committees that direct the Charitable Foundation's activities– the Patronage Committee and the Charity Committee. Generally, the Patronage Committee investigates suitable charities for which a donation of £5,000 or more would be appropriate and the Charity Committee reviews applications for donations of £500 to £5,000. You will find a report from Middle Warden David Brann, outgoing Chair of the Charity Committee, on page 9.

We have supported a number of our charities for many years and we aim to build strong, supportive relationships that ensure that the Foundation's funds are put to the best possible use. We also try to develop a long-lasting relationship between the Company and the exceptional young scholars we support, who have often overcome very difficult circumstances to succeed.

Featured below are some of the ways that the Innholders' charitable funds have been used in the past year:

THE YOUNG AND FURTHERANCE OF EDUCATION

The majority of funding under this heading is used to provide educational scholarships and bursaries for pupils at a number of schools connected to the City of London. In this period these have included Christ's Hospital, City of London School, City of London School for Girls, Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the London Academy of Excellence, Stratford. The beneficiaries of our funds are selected by the schools based on need, and they are from a diverse range of backgrounds. Other grants in this heading include those to Teach First and Jamie's Farm.

Royal College of Music 'Sparks'

This was a new application to support an established musical outreach programme which is targeted at hard-to-reach families, children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds in London. The Committee agreed that it was a strong application, and that social and artistic activities of this kind will be very important after the pandemic.

Music education can boost a child's confidence and learning skills as well as their musical talent. RCM Sparks is committed to providing these opportunities to young people from all backgrounds, hosting public events for all and providing a targeted community programme in the local area.



Hospitality Action.
We've got you.



WELFARE GRANTS AND THE ELDERLY

The Innholders made several awards under this heading, to projects run by Hospitality Action, and the Licensed Trade Charity. We also supported the Silverline helpline for the elderly.

Hospitality Action

By summer 2021 UK Hospitality estimated that 0.5m seasonal workers had not been recruited and that there had been 55,000 redundancies to the end July. In response to this level of need for those employed in the industry, the Foundation continued to offer significant support to Hospitality Action, directed at these three programmes:

■ **Winter Fuel Grants:** The Hospitality Action Winter Fuel Grants of £150 are available to people currently working within the UK hospitality industry on a full-time, part-time or self-employed basis or who were on the furlough/job retention scheme and who have a low income.

■ **Golden Friends Newsletter:** This is a lifeline for members of HA's industry retiree outreach programme, Golden Friends. Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic HA's outreach work involved speaking to people on the telephone, to check in on them and to offer much needed practical support. In speaking with their Golden Friends, they were delighted to hear how much the scheme, particularly receiving the newsletter, means to them. This is particularly true of those who were cut off from family, friends, neighbours and their wider communities due the lockdowns.

■ **Family Support Grants:** The UK-wide scheme covers food poverty and/or general family hardship, running alongside HA's traditional grant giving programme and their Covid-19 recovery programme. The FSG addresses fuel and food poverty and back to school costs and / or school holiday costs for working age hospitality families. The grant starts from £250 per family and is based on a sliding scale according to how many children a beneficiary household has.

"We have supported a number of our charities for many years and we aim to build strong, supportive relationships..."

THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

Support was given to the Springboard Charity, which works nationally to deliver hospitality, leisure and tourism (HLT)-specific education and employment programmes to support young people and unemployed individuals; and to the Licensed Victuallers School to provide facilities for teaching the BTEC Subsidiary Diploma in Hospitality.

Springboard

The ICF agreed to part fund the completion of a pilot programme called Kick Start your Career (KSyC) in Manchester. Working with Bedford High School and Worsley College, this funding was given to support these organisations with:

- **Group & Classwork Careers Interventions:** to enable them to deliver the framework of 12 cyclical career interventions that offers sustained career interventions over the period of a 24 week academic year.

- **Coaching & 1-2-1 Mentoring:** to deliver the Year 11 mentoring partnerships in which young people are matched with industry mentors. The mentors are local hospitality employers including Sodexo, HIT, Hilton and Dakota Hotels, with fortnightly (learner goal focused) remote mentoring taking place in 2021.

- **Three week KickStart Training Programme:** Revised in March 2021 due to restrictions on work placements with the final two weeks being an 'enterprise week' for the 15 young people on the programme. Due to the regular lockdowns, self isolation and exam assessments, Springboard were not able to access Year 11, so the resources were concentrated on Year 10 students with the webinars delivered as part of the PHSE lessons.

Springboard also developed a digital delivery toolkit for teachers to deliver these interventions until the COVID-19 restrictions were lifted and a blend of face-to-face and digital delivery resumed. These resources were developed and completed, targeting KS4 (Year 10 & 11) and KS5.

Innholder Scholarships

The year under review, as everyone is aware, was an extraordinary and unprecedented time and the impact upon people in the hotel industry, and the wider hospitality sector in general, was felt very sharply. Realising that 2020 was going to be an exceptionally challenging year for the Master Innholders, the industry and the country, the committee of the Innholder Scholarships felt that it would be highly inappropriate to invite applications when so many hotels were closed with their staff furloughed. The decision was therefore taken to postpone the scholarships for a year to allow the industry to settle and return to some semblance of normality. You can find more information about the resumed Innholder Scholarship in David Morgan-Hewitt's report on page 13.

Finally: I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all of my fellow committee members for being such active members of this really important committee and for their wisdom, support and counsel that go towards making our giving so effective. Most importantly huge thanks must go to The Assistant Clerk for all of the tremendous hard work she puts in for Patronage.

Now that (we hope) we are coming back to 'normality', we are again asking members of the Company to let us know if they would like to visit and get more involved with any of the charities that we support. We would also take this opportunity to remind everyone that if they are involved with, or aware of a particular charity that falls within our remit and that you think needs our help, please do get in touch.

**JULIA SIBLEY, MBE
PAST MASTER**

CHARITY COMMITTEE REPORT FOR YEAR

The Charity Committee meets just twice a year and in common with most committees our meetings this year were entirely online using the ubiquitous, but much appreciated Zoom, as a consequence of the continuing Covid 19 pandemic. For the same reason, sadly none of us were able to visit any of our charities this year.

We welcomed Liveryman Alice Jeffs, the new Short Term Assistant, to our committee, replacing Liveryman Alex Clarke. Thank you to Alex for his valuable contribution to the committee over the past few years.

Once again, our budget was £35,000. We agreed to prioritise causes that were alleviating hardship caused by Covid 19 and those that were still able to provide services, whilst continuing to balance our giving between the young and the elderly wherever possible. Charities with high levels of reserves were excluded so that our limited resources could have the highest impact.

The Clerk's office received many applications for our consideration, and we were grateful that the Assistant Clerk whittled these down to a mere eighty-three for our consideration at our meetings. Liveryman Justin Herbert once more conducted further analysis to inform our deliberations. We reminded ourselves of our terms of reference and agreed that we should not only focus on smaller charities, but also on projects that were specific and measurable.

One charity that exemplifies this approach is Box of Basics, that supports people in crisis with boxes of food and household essentials to take care of their urgent and immediate needs, to whom we allocated £2500. Another was Hot Lines Meal Service, who's new 'Hunger No More' initiative sends food packages to families who are in dire straits due to the financial impact of Covid 19. We Innholders are extraordinarily well fed and our committee was grateful for the opportunity to put into practice the exhortation in the grace to be 'mindful of the needs of others'. To Hot Lines Meal Service we donated our maximum grant of £5,000.

As is often the case, we received more applications for the young than the elderly, but we are confident that we have supported some very worthwhile causes, impacting many people in real need. Refreshing Minds will use our gift of just £2000 to provide weekend activities for around 300 children from disadvantaged backgrounds, living in overcrowded conditions and/or abusive home situations. Alive Activities will provide virtual activities for online and telephone groups for older people living with dementia, reducing their loneliness and isolation, which must be exacerbated beyond imagination by the pandemic.

It has been a privilege to chair the Charity Committee for the past 4 years, but I am pleased to hand over a dedicated and motivated team to the able hands of Assistant Edmund Brandt.

**DAVID BRANN,
UPPER WARDEN**

"We Innholders are extraordinarily well fed and our committee was grateful for the opportunity to put into practice the exhortation in the grace to be 'mindful of the needs of others'."

INNOLDERS' CHARITABLE FOUNDATION AWARDS

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THE ELDERLY & WELFARE GRANTS

	2020-2021
Hospitality Action – Elderly Welfare Grants	£10,000
Hospitality Action – Family Newsletter	£15,000
Hospitality Action – Winter Fuel Grants	£37,000
Hospitality Action – Family Support	£18,000
Licensed Trade Charity – Welfare Grants	£10,000
The Drinks Trust – Welfare Grants	£7,500
Silverline Connects Coordinator	£21,251

£118,751



THE YOUNG

	2020-2021
City of London School Scholarships	£9,470
City of London School for Girls Scholarships	£48,350
Guildhall School of Music and Drama Scholarships	£10,000
Royal College of Music Sparks Programme	£10,000
London Music Fund	£1,000
London Academy of Excellence	£7,500
Royal School for the Deaf	£5,000
Teach First	£25,000
Jamie's Farm	£25,000
Livery School Link	£125

£141,445



THE HOTEL INDUSTRY

2020-2021

Springboard Kickstart Your Career	£5,000
Springboard Careers Showcase	£6,000
Royal Academy of Culinary Arts - Adopt a School	£5,000
LVS - BTEC Subsidiary Diploma in Hospitality	£8,000

£24,000



GENERAL PROJECTS

2019-2020

Master's List	£10,000
Beyond Food Foundation	£5,000
Livery Kitchen Initiative	£5,000
The Big Issue Foundation	£10,000
No Going Back	£4,689

£34,689

The Charity Committee also made awards amounting to **£35,000** (see page 12)

**TOTAL GIVING BY THE INNHOLDER
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**

2020-2021 £353,885

CHARITY COMMITTEE AWARDS

DECEMBER 2020

- **SUCCESS STORIES:** **£1,000**
For project Inspire via Wire to give young people struggling socially access to phone support and inspiration.
- **CHEER UP SQUAD:** **£500**
To send a personalized activity pack to families in need, containing activities and educational materials so they don't regress after an extended absence from school.
- **TOWER HAMLETS MISSION:** **£3,900**
To support a therapy and rehabilitation course for a person suffering from alcohol and/or drug dependency, who is homeless, or in danger of becoming homeless and is receiving state benefits.
- **BOX OF BASICS:** **£2,500**
To support people in crisis with boxes of food and household essentials to take care of their urgent and immediate needs.
- **TURNING CORNERS:** **£2,000**
To send emergency baby food, formula and essential household supplies to support teenage parent and young families with serious mental health concerns.
- **DEMENTIA SUPPORT:** **£3,000**
Towards Sage House, a community dementia hub in Chichester.
- **HOT LINES MEAL SERVICE:** **£5,000**
Towards a new initiative, "hunger no more", sending food packages to families who have now become vulnerable and are finding themselves in an unexpected financial crisis due to Covid-19.



JUNE 2021

- **KIDS OUT:** **£1,200**
To provide boxes of new toys for children entering the domestic violence refuge system in London.
- **REFRESHING MINDS:** **£2,000**
To support the 'Speak-Up' Buddy program which will provide weekend supervised activities to around 300 children from disadvantaged backgrounds, living in overcrowded conditions and/or abusive home situations.
- **YOUTH SPACE:** **£3,000**
To support 'Everyone's 1- United!', a Covid safe multi-sports program, enriching recreational activities and skill-based sessions during school holidays.
- **DRAMA EXPRESSIONS FOR CHILDREN:** **£2,500**
Support for 'Drama Makes Me Happier', a weekly drama-therapy club which will help young people struggling with mental health challenges to develop the tool of self-expression, which in turn will help manage emotions and develop resilience, sense of self, nurturing their mental health and wellbeing.
- **HEEL & TOE LTD:** **£1,200**
This project will benefit 200 children with profound physical and neurological disabilities who will receive a weekly video therapy call with a therapist.
- **MARYVALE COMMUNITY PROJECT:** **£3,000**
The grant will be used for Maryvale Community Project in Kingstanding, Birmingham to contribute to its Covid-19 adapted services.
- **ALIVE ACTIVITIES LTD:** **£2,000**
To provide virtual activities for online and telephone groups for older people living with dementia, reducing their loneliness and social isolation.
- **BASINGSTOKE & ALTON CARDIAC REHABILITATION CHARITY:** **£1,200**
To support health programmes catering for people with a wide range of conditions and physical abilities many of whom are recovering from recent surgery and/or have little experience of regular exercise.
- **COMMUNITY LIVES MATTER:** **£1,000**
To support the Luncheon Club for older people in Ormskirk, Lancs by contributing to the cost of a sessional chef, room hire and food costs.

TOTAL AWARDS MADE BY THE CHARITY COMMITTEE

2020-2021 £35,000

THANK YOU

As Trustee of the Innholders' Charitable Foundation, the Court of Assistants thanks the following Freemen and Liverymen for their donations during the year:

Mr Ben Aird	Mrs Kezia Hanson	Mr David Morgan-Hewitt	Mrs Christine Scott
Mr Charles Attlee	Mr Keith Harrison	Mr Ian Mullins	Mrs Julia Sibley MBE
Mr Richard Balls	Mr Stephen Hedley	Mr Richard Norman	Mr Richard Skelton
Mr Graham Bamford	Mr Justyn Herbert	Mrs Susan Newell	Mr Peter Stevens
Mrs Nina Basset	Mr Adam Hersey	Mr Andrew Oxley	Mr Joe Silvester
Mrs Sophie Bourdillon	Mr Mark Hewitt	Mr Ian Plenderleith	Mrs Nia Van der Pauw
Mr Edmund Brandt	Mr John Howard	Mr Jeremy Pope	Mr Michael Voigt
Mr Tony Brighton	Mr Ron Jones	Mr Rory Pope	Mr Peter Wingfield
The Rev. Bill Christianson	Mr Thomas Lister	Mr Nicholas Rettie	Mr Timothy Wood & family
Mr Alex Clarke	Mr Tony Lorkin	Mr Tom Richardson	Dr George Wylde
Mr Mark Dodson Wells	Mr Nicholas Luddington	Mr Philippe Rossiter	Dr John Wylde
Mr Nigel Fox	Mr Luke McEwen	Mr Adam Rowledge	Dr Richard Wylde
Mrs Victoria Gaunt	Mr Andrew Missen	Mr James Sanderson	

MASTER INHOLDERS REPORT

Things have been incredibly challenging for Master Innholders across the country. First, we had to deal with the lockdowns and closing our establishments and then when we were finally able to reopen we faced the most acute staff shortages in living memory. However, we definitely have risen to the challenge! Whilst numbers of hotel guests and diners have had to be limited in most establishments we have seen a return to successful trading in areas outside London. Sadly our capital remains very challenging until the international travellers return in force.

The MIs normally have a well established and highly successful calendar of events each year. A large leadership conference, a magnificent June dinner hosted for us by the Master and Wardens of the Company and of course our Guest Night in Innholders Hall preceded by our AGM. None of these have taken place! However, despite this the last year has been a very exciting journey for our organisation and I am absolutely delighted to report that we have seen our reach, recognition and engagement increase over the course of the last 12 months.

In October 2021 interviews were once again held in the Hall for next year's scholars. Eleven scholarships were given and we are all delighted to be up and running once again on this amazing initiative. Plans are also underway to restart MIALD early in 2022 and the team is gearing up to relaunch that programme. Once again this programme won The Princess Royal Training Award which is fabulous news for Hilary and the team who delivered much of this year's programme virtually. We are also continuing MIDAS, our online programme of learning available to all young hospitality professionals wherever they work and MI MENTOR continues to build.

These have been difficult times but the Master Innholders continue to be extremely positive and industry leading in both our levels of hospitality and our collective support programmes for the world's greatest profession!

DAVID MORGAN-HEWITT MI, COURT ASSISTANT

"These have been difficult times but the Master Innholders continue to be extremely positive and industry leading in both our levels of hospitality and our collective support programmes for the world's greatest profession!"

2020-21 EVENTS

We started the year in October 2020 still unable to hold our usual programme of events. The Master Keith Harrison was re-installed in a modest ceremony at the Hall with a small dinner arranged in tables of six. Herbert set up a fantastic dining club as the rules for hospitality relaxed which was enthusiastically received. Sadly it had hardly got started when it had to close again as London went into Tier 3 lockdown in December 2020 following the arrival of the Kent variant.

The Hall was closed for events through the spring and early summer of 2021 during which we took the opportunity to carry out a programme of redecoration and refurbishment. In July 2021 the Court met in person for the first time since October 2020. This was followed by a small dinner for the Court and the Masters, Prime Wardens and Clerks of other companies. The following day our friends the Watermen and Lightermen welcomed the Court to their Hall for a lunch. A dinner for members of the Court and their partners followed a few weeks later (thank you to Assistant Jason Essenhig for his account of these events, given below). These first social events were all on a much smaller scale than usual as we obeyed the various Covid restrictions in place at the time. Through the late summer the Master was also delighted to host a number of small lunches which enabled him to meet and connect with members of the Company and to help get the Hall operations up and running again.

Our first major event was the Welcome Back to the Hall social in September 2021. In place of the usual livery dinner this was a more casual event which allowed us to welcome back as many of the Company as were able to attend and it was a very enjoyable affair with everyone determined to have a good time (see page 16 for an account of the evening by Liveryman Adam Hersey). This has been followed by Lord Thurso's installation and the Beckford Lunch and Austin Balls Freemens' Dinner, so we are now back in the swing with events. So far we have had no reports of Covid occurrences related to the Hall and we very much hope this remains the case, notwithstanding variants that may arise. We remain vigilant and while the pandemic continues we would ask you to cancel attendance at events, even at short notice, rather than coming to the Hall if you feel at all unwell. A full programme of events is in place for 2021-22 (see page 26) and we hope to continue to welcome you all to the Hall with true Innholders' hospitality.



MASTERS, PRIME WARDENS AND CLERKS' DINNER

6TH JULY 2021

The Master was delighted to welcome guests back to Innholders Hall in early July for an informal Masters, Prime Wardens and Clerks' dinner.

To accommodate social distancing protocols and as a replacement to the formal receiving line, the Master and Members of Court hosted separate tables to ensure our guests needs were well served. Guests were escorted to their respective tables, where a glass of Pol Roger awaited; and the Master then made a short speech of welcome.

Dinner commenced with a chilled soup appetiser, followed by Paupiette of Sole with herb velouté. This was paired with a refreshing New Zealand

Sauvignon Blanc from Churton (Marlborough, 2015). The highlight of the meal was an excellent supreme and confit of duck, with a subtle ginger and orange jus. This was expertly paired with a delightful Cote Rotie from Rene Rostaing (Rhône 2003). The seasonal treat at the conclusion of dinner was a strawberry and rhubarb Eton mess, accompanied by a refreshing glass of Elderton Golden Semillon (Barossa, 2015).

The Master then made a short speech to toast our guests, which was followed by a reply and toast from our guest of honour, Commander David Smith CBE, Master of the Worshipful Company of Cooks. Although the Great Hall was operating with the challenges of multiple table service, the organisational skills of our Beadle, John Cash and the dedication of Herbert Berger and his brigade ensured the night was a success. A convivial evening was enjoyed by all.

COURT LUNCHEON WITH THE COMPANY OF WATERMAN AND LIGHTERMEN 7TH JULY 2021

Each year the Courts of the WCI and the Company of Waterman and Lightermen lunch together, with the venue rotating annually between our respective halls. The Watermen last visited Innholders Hall in 2019. Skipping a year due to Covid issues, it was our turn to visit Waterman's Hall, a building which boasts the most opulent and original Georgian Court Room in the City.

As we entered the recently refurbished first floor function room and headed to our hosted tables of six, we were welcomed by the outgoing Master (Gina Blair) and the Master Elect (Derek Mann). The smaller tables provided an ideal opportunity to discuss a wide range of temporal and pastoral subjects over an excellent lunch of hot cured Scottish salmon, Lancashire grass fed rib eye of beef and summer pudding. Champagne and a range of special cuvee wines accompanied the courses.

Master Gina Blair's speech was both welcoming and highly informative. Gina explained that some years ago, during the refurbishment works of the Watermen's Hall, they discovered an unexploded bomb lying below the basement. The Army bomb disposal team identified that the internal casing had been packed with gravel and sand and not an explosive compound. They explained that this was typical of bombs manufactured at the tail end of the Second World War using slave labour in Nazi munitions factories. Although it would be suspicious if every bomb failed, a significant number of tampered cases got through quality control. Without that brave labourer, Watermen's Hall would have been totally destroyed.

Each year, after lunch, both companies retire from the Hall to continue conversation at a local hostelry. This leads to some banter and rivalry between participants, especially as to which company will boast the 'last man standing'. Unlike 2019, Innholders' honour was restored this year and we say no more on this subject!

COURT DINNER 20TH JULY 2021

Although hospitality restrictions were relaxed a day earlier, the Black-Tie Court Dinner on 20th July went ahead with separate tables of six hosted by the Master and Members of the Court. It turned out to be one of the hottest days of the year; however, the air conditioning in the Great Hall was tested to the limit and coped well.

The Master re-introduced an informal receiving line and the relaxation in strict social distancing protocols a day earlier provided an ideal opportunity for Members and their guests to mingle in the Great Hall before dinner, whilst clutching a welcoming glass of Pol Roger champagne.



A topical and humorous grace was delivered by Immediate Past Master Bill Christianson and the Court and guests then sat to enjoy the chef's appetiser, a delicious, chilled soup. This was followed by a seasonal salad of crab, lobster and prawns with chervil, paired with an exceptional glass of St Aubin En Remilly 1er Cru (2013). Herbert and his brigade were clearly back in business and on top form. The main event was a triumphant dish of supremes of quails with pinot noir and rosemary jus, with a pairing of Bourgogne Rouge from Desaunay-Bissey (2010). The meal concluded with a lime meringue tart with a delicate ginger, chili, lime and coriander syrup, offset with a mango sorbet. This was paired with a stunning 'stickie' from the house of Peter Lehman, his Masters Botrytis Semillon (2013).

Our Beadle, John Cash, was also on top form; and his unamplified voice announcing the speeches caused one Past Master, who shall remain nameless, to jump in surprise! The Master's speech highlighted some of the challenges and opportunities of the past year, before reminiscing on his family's associations with the plumbing profession. This elicited a charming response from our guest of honour, Master Plumber, Peter Rumley MA DPhil MA FSA MCIfA, who then proposed the Company toast.

Entertainment was provided by Nick Durcan on piano and Miriam Kramer on violin. Members and guests returned to the reception room for a closing stirrup cup, before heading out into the very hot night.

JASON ESSENHIGH, COURT ASSISTANT



WELCOME BACK TO THE HALL SEPTEMBER 2021

Walking back through the Innholders Hall doors after such a long time, to be greeted by John, the Beadle, was a reassuring indicator that we are coming back to normality. Add on a warm smile and chilled glass of something sparkling from Paul, it well and truly felt like we were back.

It was so good to see a great turnout for an event that worked slightly differently to usual, with bowl food options being finished and sent from the back of the glorious Great Hall. We enjoyed mingling with fellow freeman, liverymen, and guests, tucking into dishes such as spiced venison with game pepper sauce and celeriac puree, and confit of slow cooked pork belly with apple choucroute with Riesling jus.

Whilst events of this style are rare at Innholders Hall, I have to say that I really enjoyed it as it allowed for conversation with various people, some of which I hadn't see in a long while, and others whom I hadn't had the pleasure of meeting before. The ages of attendees ranged from a few months (Lottie Jeffs) to 99 years old (Liveryman Duncan James), so it felt like the whole Company was truly represented.

The Innholders' Hall is a special place to us as Innholders and the other Livery companies alike who gather here for events. I'm thrilled that people are again enjoying the space, the hospitality and the fabulous food Herbert and his team produces, even more regularly from now on.

**ADAM HERSEY,
LIVERYMAN**



A FOND FAREWELL ELENA AND A BIG WELCOME TO ADAM!



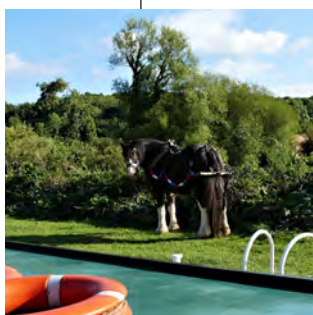
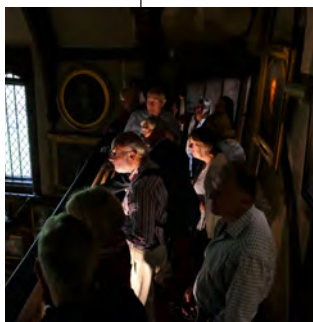
Those of you who have visited the Hall since late October will have noticed the absence of the lovely Elena Leva and her warm greeting for all visitors to the Innholders'. After seeing the new Master safely installed, Elena has taken up a new position as Weddings & Social Events Manager at the Kimpton Fitzroy Hotel on Russell Square. We wish her the best of luck with her new job and, since she is a Freeman, we hope to see her back at the Hall soon.

Many of you will already know Adam Hersey FIH, Elena's replacement as Sales and Events Manager, because he has been a Freeman of the Company since 2016 and a Liveryman since 2019. Adam also has family connections with the Cooks' Company. Adam has made a great start in difficult circumstances and looks forward to welcoming members of the Company back to the Hall as events get back to normal.

A VIRTUAL TOUR AROUND INNHOLDERS HALL

On the 3rd June, while the Hall remained closed, we were able to take a virtual tour of the City of London, led by David Harry FRSA aka 'The London Spy'. We were promised "the best and the worst of the City – starting from Innholders' Hall on a guided tour including T.S Eliot, Communist foundations and Innholders' Soviet tenants, a GCHQ branch in the City, James Bond, Poisoned Princes, Roman Martyrs, Olympic Medallists, Mud-larking and lifesaving listeners, with added real magic' and David did not disappoint.

David is a qualified guide to both the Corporation of London and the City of Westminster and is a former Renter Warden of the Stationers' Company. He has a special interest in the Soviet spies who once occupied our Moorgate building (see the 2020 Annual Review) and was delighted to hear of the Innholders' connection to the story. Those who attended agreed that the tour was both fun and interesting, David was a most informative guide and shaped his material especially for the Innholders. I think that we were all surprised how well it worked by Zoom and all of us learned something new. The tour was recorded, and you can find it on YouTube by searching for 'City of London virtual tour for the Worshipful Company of Innholders'.



THE MASTER'S OUTING 24TH-26TH SEPTEMBER 2021

There is nothing like a Master's Outing to put a stamp of individuality on any Master's term of office: the venue, format and agenda all reflect personal choices of the Master, leaving only the weather to the chance of fate. Looking back to that last weekend in September, when our Master Keith Harrison and his wife Linda took a party of some 34 comprising Court members, their partners and senior liverymen to Donnington in Berkshire, so glorious was the weather it is hard to remember this was not high summer.

We were staying at the splendidly spacious Donnington Valley Hotel and Spa, set in magnificent rolling countryside and run by our own Andrew McKenzie, the personification of warm and friendly hospitality as our host. The Clerk, Assistant Clerk and the Beadle were among the party, and a special mention must be made of the Groom family who were there in three generations: Graeme and Anne, and their daughter and son-in-law Alice and Chris Jeffs who had brought along their 8 weeks old baby granddaughter Charlotte. The beautiful little Lotte was the star attraction in our party at her every appearance!

Perhaps the Hotel's most remarkable facility is "The HangOut", a flexible outside dining concept which enables al fresco dining under lofty canopies but with available heating as and when needed. This was the venue for our buffet lunch on arrival on Friday and later that evening for a barbeque style dinner. Both meals were extremely relaxed and convivial, it was not surprising to be told that this is one of the Hotel's most popular attractions, particularly at this time of Covid restrictions.

In between these two substantial encounters with good food and wine, the main event of the afternoon for the Innholders party was a trip on a horse-drawn canal barge along a section of the nearby Kennet and Avon Canal. In prospect, our immediate concern was for the horse - being constrained to haul a barge loaded with Innholders was surely a clear case of cruelty to animals! But the horse, Drummer, made light of the task, the only stipulation on his behalf being that we should not try to feed him as he was liable to become excited! This ban on feeding did not apply to Innholders themselves however, and we were duly served cream teas while Drummer silently towed the boat as it glided through the Berkshire countryside.

The Grande Finale of the Outing came on Saturday with a visit to Dorney Court near Windsor. This magnificent medieval and Tudor manor house is privately owned by the Palmer family which has held it since late Elizabethan times. Beautifully preserved with a magnificent Great Hall as its centrepiece, it is among our finest country houses, and fully worth surmounting any travel problems we had on the way! No wonder the house has been used as a location for several feature films, it has proved an ideal setting for anything from Shakespeare to Jane Austen.

Lunch was at the nearby Palmer Arms pub. By now, Innholders were realising the virtues of pacing themselves on intake of food and wine, although the appearance of fine individual steak pies with wine accompaniment quickly undermined any resolutions of abstinence!

In the evening back at our hotel, the closing event of the outing before our departure on Sunday morning was a splendid dinner in our own private dining space. The proceedings were officiated by our Beadle in commanding voice, and the Master genially summarised his final thoughts on the occasion and received our hearty thanks for bringing us to Donnington to share with him and Linda such a memorable weekend. Bravo Master!

PETER DENLEY, PAST MASTER



HALLWORKS

Last year the Company commissioned a Hall survey, which included a condition report on the 'health' of our core mechanical and electrical systems. In other words, those elements which are integral to the safe and successful operation of the building, but not features which are always readily apparent or visible to occupiers or visitors. The survey identified five areas requiring early improvement: upgrading or replacing the emergency lighting, kitchen ventilation controls, passenger lift, fire alarm system and the flat roof above the office and guest accommodation.

A budget of circa £200,000 was approved by the Court and the works were procured with the assistance of our retained consultants. To avoid major disruption, the aim was to get as much work completed during lockdown and the temporary cessation of catering operations; however, this would prove to be challenging, as our contractors faced labour and material shortages due to Covid-19 and Brexit consequences. Nevertheless, with the assistance of John Cash, temporarily replacing his Beadle's hat with the hard hat of project management, all works were completed within budget.

We decided to completely replace the fire alarm system with a new generation of detectors and controls which are simple to maintain and flexible to accommodate future change. The biggest challenges were how to thread new cables throughout the building without compromising heritage features and how to install smoke detectors in the Great Hall ceiling to comply with regulations. We decided upon a capillary system with the 'smoke sniffer' equipment located in the loft for ease of maintenance.



"The patience of our Clerk and Assistant Clerk were also tested to breaking point, as replacing a flat roof is both noisy and smelly."



Our costliest and most technically challenging project was replacing our 1990s hydraulic passenger lift. This project would ordinarily take a couple of months to complete; however, things did not go fully to plan. A series of tests take place at the end of a lift refurbishment project to ensure the safety mechanisms work properly. The final test requires a large number of heavy weights to be placed in the passenger car to marginally over-load it; and then the speed governor is adjusted to simulate a fully laden runaway lift. Technically the test was completely successful and the safety gear stopped the lift plummeting to the ground; however, the additional weight produced collateral damage to the arresting mechanism. As a consequence, we had to reopen the Hall without a passenger lift until the problem was fixed.

The patience of our Clerk and Assistant Clerk were also tested to breaking point, as replacing a flat roof is both noisy and smelly. All existing bitumen was replaced, and we added new lead flashing to improve water resilience. To improve energy efficiency, we significantly upgraded the level of insulation in line with current Building Regulations and replaced the cooling / heating units with advanced heat pumps.

The monsoon storms which hit London during the summer had unexpected consequences. Rainwater entered the basement through a blocked internal downpipe. Rodding couldn't resolve the issue and it was agreed to dig up the cloakroom floor to identify the cause. This turned out to be two crushed aluminium beer cans, pushed into the downpipe at roof level by previous workers – and gradually moving down the building over the last 20+ years until they reached a horizontal section.

So - next time you visit the Hall please look up and down and up again.

Look up in the Great Hall and try and spot the smoke detectors.

Look down in the lift and admire the bespoke floor.

More importantly, look up again and keep an eye out for anyone drinking beer on the roof!

**JASON ESSENHIGH,
SURVEYOR OF THE HALL FABRIC**

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMPANY CHAPLAIN

There is a special thrill at the moment when we can actually do things 'in-person' rather than 'on-line'. That really struck me when our new Master stood before me in St Michael Paternoster Royal during the service to mark his installation as he made his commitment to the Livery. Just being there together, being able to sing hymns again in church, let alone filling the Hall and sharing a meal, was an absolute joy. It has perhaps taken the restrictions we have been living under, the demands of lockdowns, distancing, face coverings and everything else, to help us realise that some of the things that we take for granted, the small things of life, are actually the most important.

Not yet wanting to get into a plane, my partner and I had another holiday discovering places in the British Isles that we had not been to. Our summer journey took us from Clacton-on-Sea to Hartlepool and beyond. It was great to experience hospitality along the way in a huge variety of hotels, from the ancient Maids Head Hotel in Norwich with its history of welcoming pilgrims, to the family friendly hotel on the front at Great Yarmouth to the grandeur of a country house hotel in the beautiful countryside just outside of Kelso.

So often though it's the little things that make a difference to a stay, what is on the tea tray, a selection of pillows, good WiFi, as much as a grand staircase or an ancient and noble history. What is especially important is when you go down to Reception, or phone from the room, and ask for something and you realise that the staff are only too happy to help. 'Of course, Sir' are joyous words to hear.

In preparation for the dinner with our Julian Scholars at the end of November I re-read 'The Legend of St Julian Hospitator' in Gustave Flaubert's book 'Three Tales'. Flaubert was inspired by a series of windows in the cathedral in Rouen which tell the story of his life. Julian, traumatised that his blood lust had led him to accidentally kill his parents, lives as a hermit and gives himself to helping travellers across a fierce and dangerous river. Then a stranger arrives, covered with leprosy. Julian rows him across the river and then the stranger makes a series of small requests, shelter, water, food, a bed and finally warmth, but not from a fire but the warmth of Julian lying alongside him. At each stage the saint readily responds and makes that final sacrificial offering, to the stranger who is Christ.

Jesus tells the crowds 'As much as you did it to one of the least of my brothers and sisters you did it to me.' The small things are always great gifts; we know this. It is true hospitality and a tiny baby in an innholders stable is the greatest gift of all.

**THE VERY REVEREND ANDREW NUNN,
DEAN OF SOUTHWARK**

"Just being there together, being able to sing hymns again in church, let alone filling the Hall and sharing a meal, was an absolute joy."



PAST MASTER ANTHONY LORKIN FCA

(1936 - 2021)

Only a few months after celebrating in the pages of our last review Tony Lorkin's outstanding contribution to the Innholders Company, upon the occasion of his retirement as Treasurer, we heard the sad news of his sudden death in April.

His was a lifetime of involvement with Innholders since he was apprenticed in 1951, he became a Liveryman in 1961 and his year as Master was 1998/9. As a Chartered Accountant and corporate Finance Director, he became a founder-member of the newly formed Finance and General Purposes Committee in the late 1980's and was highly influential in shaping the financial affairs of the Company over many years until his retirement in 2020, first as chair of the F&GP and later as Treasurer. His remit also extended to the Investment Sub-Committee which he chaired for four years and a major role on the Property Sub-Committee negotiating the Moorgate redevelopment which was completed in 2019.

His active work for the Company in his various roles continued some eight years into his time as a Senior Past Master, a time when most of his fellow Senior Past Masters would figuratively as well as actually have taken a back seat on the Court. Such was his long-standing devotion to the Company that he considered his work to be an honour and a pleasure, something that "kept him going" notwithstanding increasing ill-health. In turn, he was held in special respect and affection of many in the Company.

Paying tribute to Tony and his work on improving the Company's financial records and accounting, his successor as chair of the F&GP Committee, Past Master Charles Attlee, wrote

"Tony had encyclopaedic knowledge of the finances but in recent years he worked to ensure that the Company and Charity accounts were properly handled, such that this knowledge will not go with him. I know we occasionally voted Tony a small payment for his work; it's nothing compared to the value he gave the Company. He did so with a great generosity of spirit and much good humour despite failing health. We will miss him greatly."

Our thoughts go out to his wife Liza and their children Tina, Patrick and William for their loss.

In Tony's memory, the Company made a donation to University College London Hospitals Charity.

NEW MEMBERS 2020-21

Admissions were suspended while we were unable to meet in person, however once the Hall re-opened we were delighted to admit Miss Sophie Brice and Mr Sebastian Leman as Freeman on 7th September 2021. On the same evening we also clothed Miss Eleanor Hearder, Miss Emily Miles and Mr Cai Mullins in the Livery of the Company. Congratulations to all our new Freeman and Liverymen.

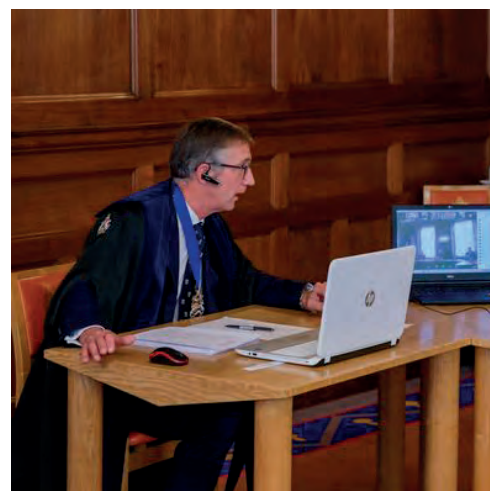


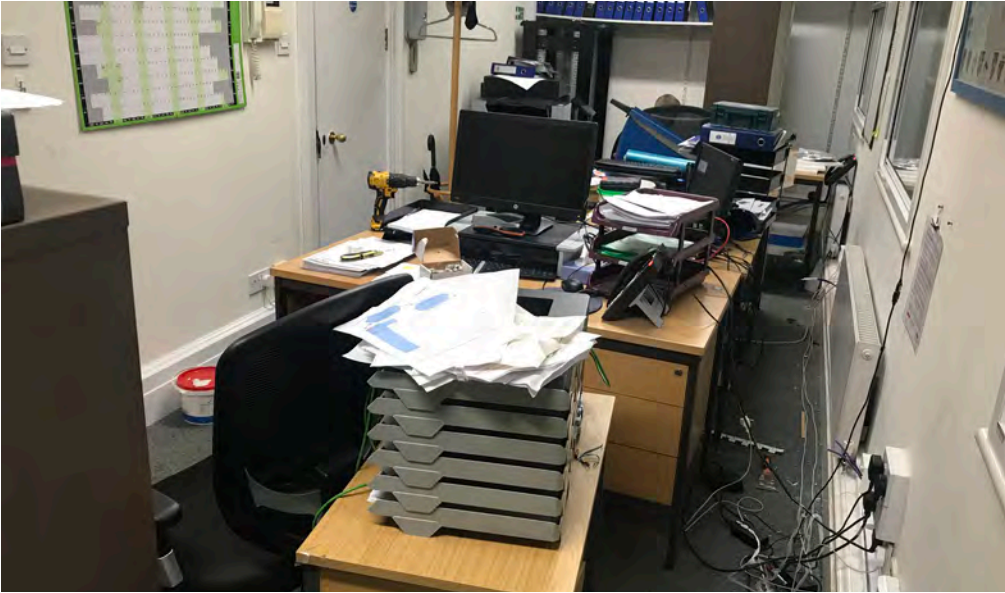


FROM THE CLERK

Looking back at the diary, the past year has certainly been a full one, though not as busy with events as we would all have liked it to be, especially for the Immediate Past Master. The Clerk's Office Friday zoom meetings with the Master are now sadly consigned to history, despite my valiant efforts to put an amusing title to each. The recurring question of "are we going to host or is it going to be cancelled" has become less frequent, but that uncertainty is never far away it seems. 2020's lockdown Christmas was certainly the quietest the Hall has seen for many decades.

Aside from the enormous work done to the Hall which is nearing the end of the first elongated phase, we struggled through floods, lift crashes, the occasional fire alarm activation when the local fire brigade invited themselves to dinner, changed the telecoms system and most importantly (for the Master's comfort), moved the whole of the telecoms and IT system upstairs from the flat to the office. These projects were long overdue but hopefully will keep the Hall safe and sound for many years to come. It wasn't until May that we saw some resemblance of our former life but it was a stutter of a start that gained traction as we were let out more freely and the Master





more than made up for lost time with a series of very enjoyable smaller events so we could at least start to re-connect with our members.

The Master's outing was held in Berkshire rather than Amsterdam as initially planned but we still managed a very enjoyable boat trip and weekend at Assistant McKenzie's excellent hotel. The Clerk vs Beadle golf match was postponed thanks to the roadworks on the M4 – something I had to pay a lot of money for to save being embarrassed by the Senior Service. Before we knew it, we were into the Installation Service and nearly back to 'normal'. Behind the scenes I have watched Rebecca calmly ensuring that all was well and observed from a short distance the enormous pleasure she showed at being disrupted every other minute by the constant flow of roof contractors in and out of her window whilst juggling about fifteen balls in the air with skill, great humour and patience which has been the eighth wonder of the world.

It has been a challenging year but we've actually had a very good one, lots of successful projects achieved, some laughs – I think at least one each. We have lost some very dear friends on the way but we strive to make new ones and we will as always. We have been wonderfully supported by the Court, virtually possible thanks to Zoom, as well as the Chairmen of our Committees, and, new variants permitting, we are well placed to have an even more successful 2022. Imagine being over in America on a business trip and zooming in for a 4am meeting UK time – that is the dedication of some of the Court. My hat is off to you all, and most of all, my thanks go to Rebecca and John as well as the Immediate Past Master as now he is. He's buying a vineyard so we're all coming over to visit on the Ducati!

**CHARLES HENTY,
THE CLERK**

**"It has been a
challenging year but
we've actually had a
very good one, lots
of successful projects
achieved"**

DIARY OF EVENTS

2021

TUESDAY 5TH OCTOBER	Installation Service & Dinner
TUESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER	Court Dinner
FRIDAY 19TH NOVEMBER	Court Dinner for the St Julian Scholars Alumni
TUESDAY 7TH DECEMBER	Clarence Beckford & Apprentices Luncheon
TUESDAY 14TH DECEMBER	William Austin & Florence Balls Dinner

2022

TUESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY	Court & Guest Dinner
TUESDAY 1ST MARCH	Court Luncheon
TUESDAY 15TH MARCH	Civic Dinner
FRIDAY 1ST APRIL	United Guilds Service & Luncheon
TUESDAY 5TH APRIL	Court & Guest Dinner
TUESDAY 10TH MAY	Company Buffet Supper
SATURDAY 21ST MAY	Inter-Livery Regatta in Cowes
TUESDAY 7TH JUNE	Court Dinner for the Master Innholders
TUESDAY 14TH JUNE	Livery Dinner with Partners
FRIDAY 24TH JUNE	Common Hall for Election of the Sheriffs
TUESDAY 5TH JULY	Masters, Prime Wardens & Clerks Dinner
TUESDAY 19TH JULY	Court Dinner with Partners
TUESDAY 2ND AUGUST	Election Court Luncheon
TUESDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER	Court & Guest Dinner
THURSDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER	Common Hall – Election of the Lord Mayor
TUESDAY 4TH OCTOBER	Installation Service & Dinner

All dates are provisional, and subject to on-going pandemic restrictions.

THE COURT OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF INNHOLDERS

MASTER:	The Rt Hon The Viscount Thurso PC
UPPER WARDEN:	Mr David Brann
MIDDLE WARDEN:	Mr Ian Mullins
RENTER WARDEN:	Mr Tom Richardson
SENIOR PAST MASTER ON THE COURT:	Mr Peter Denley
IMMEDIATE PAST MASTER:	Mr Keith Harrison
SENIOR ASSISTANT BELOW THE WARDENS:	Sir James Wates CBE
COMPANY ALMONER:	The Reverend Cannon Bill Christianson FNI
SURVEYOR OF THE COMPANY FABRIC:	Mr Jason Essenhigh
PAST MASTERS:	Mr Ian White
	Mr Timothy Mellery-Pratt
	Mr Tony Brighton
	Mr Graeme Groom
	Mrs Julia Sibley MBE
	Mr Charles Attlee
	Mr Nicholas Rettie FIH MI
ASSISTANTS:	Mr Andrew McKenzie FIH MI
	Dr Richard Wylde FREng
	Mr Chris Chaplin
	Mr David Morgan-Hewitt FIH MI
	Mr Nigel Fox
	Mr Sean Molony
	Mrs Beth Aarons FIH
SHORT TERM ASSISTANTS:	Mr Edmund Brandt
	Mrs Alice Jeffs
CHAPLAIN:	The Very Reverend Andrew Nunn
CLERK:	Mr Charles Henty
ASSISTANT CLERK:	Dr Rebecca Tomlin
BEADLE:	Mr John Cash MBE



WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF INNOLDERS 2021