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Dear Fletcher

CLERK'S NEWSLETTER – October-November 2011

I know you all want to extend the Company's warmest congratulations to Past Master Wootton on his election on 3 October as Lord Mayor of London. The Hall was overflowing at the lunch following the election when 7 other Companies joined us to celebrate. There was a resounding toast to the Lord Mayor Elect. David takes office on Friday 11 November at the Silent Ceremony in the great Hall at Guildhall which a number of you have procured tickets to witness. A Deputation of Fletchers including the Master and Wardens will then be the first Livery Company to present a gift to the new Lord Mayor at the Ceremony which follows in the Guildhall Art Gallery, known as the Presentation of Addresses. The Fletchers gift will be a decanter topped with a silver archer and some wine to go in it.

The Lord Mayor's Show follows on Saturday 12 November when you will be able to see the Fletchers Float which Past Master Poulter and his team have been working on for the past 6 months. The plans look fantastic and I am sure you would like to congratulate Tony and everyone else who has worked so hard to ensure that the Company shines at the Show. Thereafter some 60 Fletchers and their guests will enjoy lunch in Hall, organised on this occasion by the Farmers Company. Many will stay on in the City to watch the fireworks on the Thames which start at 5pm.

The next events for the Company will be the December lunch on Friday 9 December and the Carol Service and Supper on Sunday 18 December. All Liverymen and Freemen and their guests are invited to both events and flyers are attached to the circulation of this Newsletter. Let me take this opportunity to remind you of the Red Cross Christmas Market which takes place at Guildhall on November 28 and 29. Gloria Neal would still be grateful for donations of stock for the stall and will make arrangements to collect. Tel/Fax: 020 8449 9012. Email: fneal96511@aol.com. Please let Gloria know if you are able to help. The flyer for the Ladies Banquet at Mansion House on 1 February 2012, which should be firmly in your diaries, will be issued shortly.

Another flyer is attached to this Newsletter too – for the special Carol Service at St Paul's Cathedral on 20 December at 7.30pm. This Service is being organised by the Barts and the London Charity as a key event for the new Lord Mayor's Appeal and David and Liz will be there. Its main focus will be to raise funds for the Trauma Unit at The Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel, and specifically for a mobile MRI unit. There will be no charge for entry but the Appeal Team hope that participants will give generously to the Appeal. Space has been reserved for David's associated Livery Companies and I have made a block booking of 30 places which I will allocate to people on a first come, first served basis, with a maximum of 2 seats per person. Please see my covering email. Extra tickets can be applied for by emailing the Charity on: fundraisingteam@bartsandthelondon.nhs.uk.

Turning to our own charitable activities you may wish to know that the Trust has agreed awards totalling £33,500 so far this financial year, of which some £10,000 has been made available for individual archers to improve their equipment so that they can compete at a higher level. At the most recent meeting of the Charity Committee the Trustees agreed funding to enable local organisations in Greenwich and Hackney to provide archery for the disabled as part of their Sports programmes. With the help of the Fletchers Trust, Archery GB is busy identifying and coaching individual archers with Paralympic potential – see their website: www.archerygb.org . Speaking of which, we have been told that we have been awarded 33 tickets for the archery finals in the Paralympics on Wednesday 5 September 2012. These will form part of an event which will be advertised in next year's programme shortly.

Can I again remind you that all flyers and the annual Programme are posted on the Company website - www.fletchers.org.uk – and I would encourage you all to check regularly to make sure that you are aware of any changes we may have had to introduce to the date or venue of events. To obtain the Password please email webmaster@fletchers.org.uk. There is an Inter-Livery events section which advertises events in and around the City.

With best wishes
Georgina

Georgina Butler Clerk