



LA FLÈCHE



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The magazine for the Worshipful Company of Fletchers





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From the editor



Welcome to the latest edition of *La Flèche* covering various activities within the Fletchers' Company. My thanks to former editor Liveryman Carol Kisby who, for nine years, was involved with the magazine working alongside PM John Dumbrell and more recently as its editor.

Preparation has meant learning more about the background history of the Company. 'On 12th October 1467, William Hawkeslowe, Clarenceux King of Arms, granted armorial bearings to the Worshipful Company of Fletchers, namely 'sable, a chevron gold, three broad arrows of the same, garnished silver'. In 1486, Sir Thomas Holme, Clarenceux King of Arms, granted the Company a crest: 'On a wreath or and sable an angel proper, vesture and wings endorsed or, feathered of many colours, holding with both hands a bundle of arrows, also or, headed and feathered with a band sable', mantling, 'sable doubled or'. The Fletchers' motto, 'True and Sure', was adopted at a specially convened Court Meeting on 25th November, 1872.

Now in 2024 The Fletchers' Company is delighted to support *The Ulysses Trust* which, through outdoor challenge, adventure and exploration, enables young people to gain confidence, resilience, self-awareness and values. Having signed the Armed Forces Covenant in 2023, it shows our continuing support.

My appreciation to those Fletchers who have written articles and proof read, without being under duress, bringing us closer together as a Livery Company.

Best wishes
Liveryman James James-Crook



Burns Night Supper 30th January 2024

After a gap of several years, the Burns Night Supper swept back onto the Fletchers' calendar in January, and what a fabulous event it was.

We heard the skirling, welcoming tones of the bagpipes before we'd even rounded the corner onto Cloth Street and saw the Piper, and what a great opener to the evening that was.

After being greeted by the Stewards we were received by the Master, Upper Warden and their Consorts and then enjoyed the Drinks Reception and the opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones. It was sad to hear that several Fletchers couldn't make the event due to the wretched train strikes. Others were only able to get to Farmers' and Fletchers' Hall after considerable ingenuity!

The Master and his Consort were resplendent in Fletchers' tartan, with lots of other tartans on display in various forms: kilts, plaids, trousers, dresses and even a flat cap making the Hall particularly colourful. It was a pleasure to meet Margi (Margaret Ann) Lawson from the Ministry of Tartan, who designed the Fletchers' tartan. Other distinguished guests included the Master Solicitor, Master Founder, Master Innholder and Master Upholder.

After a delicious starter of cullen skink (smoked haddock soup), Piper Jeff Tannasee addressed the haggis with a blood-curdlingly fabulous delivery, easily the best I'd ever heard. All eight verses were delivered with gusto and much dagger-waving, almost enough to make me feel very slightly sorry for



Above: Liverymen and guests assembling for Dinner.

the poor wee haggis, but 'Auld Scotland wants nae skinking ware!'

The 'great Chieftan o' the puddin-race' was then paraded around the Hall preceded by the Piper, and we subsequently consumed it with gusto, along with the obligatory neeps and tatties. It was the first time I'd ever eaten the traditional dessert of cranachan (cream, raspberries, oats and whisky) but it definitely won't be the last. A wee dram of whisky completed the meal, along with port.

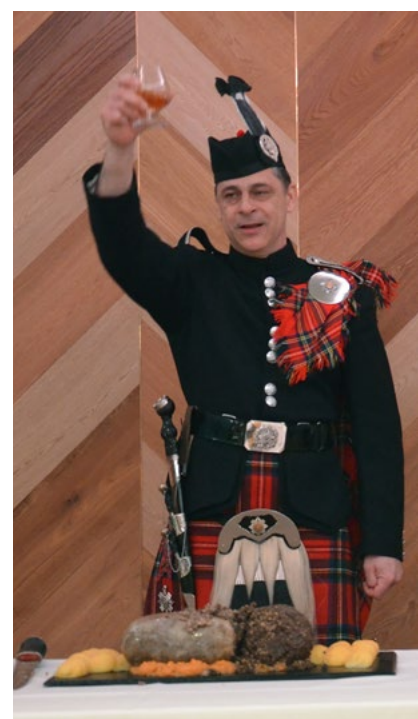
Major (Retd) David Wilson made the Toast to the lassies, followed by an entertaining response from Consort Fletcher Melanie Trapnell that had everyone laughing. Liveryman Gordon Sharp then inspired us with the Toast to the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns.

We finished the formalities with a very rousing rendition of Auld Lang Syne, written by Robert Burns in 1788 but based on an older folk song. After further opportunity to catch up over coffee we left for home, full of food, fellowship, fun and happy memories to add to our stock of... well, Auld Lang Syne – 'Times Long Past!'

Liveryman Josie Gowler



Above: l to r: Ian Mullins Master Innholder, Dr Rebecca Tomlin Clerk to Innholders, Nicholas Butterworth Master Founder, CA Jon Avern.





2024 Inter-Livery Ski Championships

In January a small group of just four Fletchers consisting of the Upper Warden Tim Sanders Hewett, the Clerk Col Debs Taylor, Past Master Adrian Scott Knight and myself Celia Campbell, attended the Inter-Livery Ski Championships in Morzine, France.

We all met on Tuesday 23rd to sort out our ski passes, boots and ski hire. A Team Captains' meeting was arranged for early evening where I met up with various Team Captains from the Goldsmiths', Ironmongers', Shipwrights', Carmen and Farmers' among many others.

Whilst the rest of the Fletchers' Team enjoyed a relaxing aperitif at l'hôtel La Bergerie, I received the instructions for the next few days. Afterwards I joined them for the short walk to the restaurant Le Clin d'Oeil where I had arranged for us to join the Farmers, for dinner. This was an excellent and very successful evening. We made many new friends in the Farmers' team and the Fletchers were seen skiing around the mountains together with them during the days that followed.

An early start the next day to ski Avoriaz and Les Portes du Soleil region. Then back over to Morzine for 14.20pm to support our Clerk in the Snow Camp Team Triathlon. We were lucky with fantastic weather conditions for the event. There were 116 participants, 29 teams of 4 made up of Livery Company Skiers, guests, and sponsors. Teams took on a Giant Slalom, followed by a Biathlon, followed by a Snow Shoe

Hike, scoring points for their times in each element.

Our Clerk made up a mixed team consisting of a Fletcher, a Farmer and two Air Pilots called True Bread of Heavens. They put in some excellent times with Col Debs Taylor showing her skill under pressure with a rifle in the biathlon. Haberdashers' Mountain Goats won overall; True Bread of Heavens came in 16th. There was a serious side to this competition to raise money for Snow Camp, an excellent Charity which helps young people to turn their lives around through skills they learn while skiing. It costs £1,000 to sponsor one young person and the Livery Companies that took part raised over £57,000. If you would like to know more about the Charity have a look at snow-camp.org.uk.

Following the hard work at the Triathlon we all skied down the mountain for a well-deserved drink at the après-ski party at l'hôtel Le Tremplin, organised by Snow Camp. Those Morzinois among our readers may know that James Timpson (CEO of Timpson Group) and his wife Roisin have bought Le Tremplin. James spoke about Snow Camp and how the Charity aligns with their own in supporting those less fortunate. He also informed us about their plans for Le Tremplin. They will be demolishing it in April as it does not meet current energy performance standards and rebuilding a new hotel with a larger après-ski terrace, a large restaurant

Below: PM Adrian Scott Knight and Debs Taylor enjoying the winter sunshine during a day's skiing.





downstairs and a roof top bar. The project should take two years to complete.

The following day, Thursday, saw the serious business of racing start. We all collected our racing bibs and made our way up to the start gates for the qualifying parallel slalom. There is nothing quite like racing side by side to bring out the competitiveness in even the most relaxed skier. Adrian Scott Knight was at the start of all our races to cheer us on with words of encouragement as we left the start gate, those words were much appreciated and carried us as we hurtled past the gates, hoping above all to lower our bib number for the main race the next day.

The Clerk was our best achiever with a starting bib of 198 and she improved this to 131 in the main race and finished 95th out of 204 racers in the final race.

Unfortunately, the same could not be said for my own performance which seemed to add digits at an alarming rate. The day finished with more socialising with the other Livery Companies at the drinks reception at l'hôtel Le Crêt.

Friday saw us all bright and fired up for an early start for the main race. We were not the only ones as we recognised many competitors queuing for the first lift up the hill, the competition was on. I am pleased to report for anyone considering joining us next year that the course was lovely, easy, and accessible to all abilities. There was also a lovely restaurant at Nyon overlooking the racecourse where we all gathered for coffee, hot chocolate and croissant while waiting our turn.



Above: CA Celia Campbell, UW Tim Sanders Hewett and Debs Taylor, Fletchers' Clerk.

After the racing was over, I felt my team deserved a well-earned celebratory lunch which I arranged with the Coopers', although they had a bit more to celebrate than us coming in 1st, 3rd and 11th. Hopefully some of their luck might rub off on the Fletchers'. We were also joined by the Leathersellers' and the Haberdashers' which made it a lively occasion.

The final event was the prize giving dinner at Hôtel Club Le Crêt, where former Lord Mayor and current

Master Grocer, Sir Charles Bowman, gave out the prizes. Despite the best efforts of the Actuaries' to age adjust and fiddle all the scores the Fletchers' went home empty handed but richer for all the new friendships we made.

NEXT YEAR'S DATES are 22nd - 24th January 2025. Please put them in your diary. I would love to see more Fletchers there.

Celia Campbell.
Fletchers' Ski Team Captain.



Livery Admissions to the Company in January and February 2024

Colonel Christopher Head MBE MC commanded the First Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers in Tidworth from January 2019 to April 2021.

He has completed numerous operational tours of duty to Iraq and Afghanistan. On return from Operation TELIC (Iraq) as a Platoon Commander in 2003, he was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry in the face of the enemy. Colonel Head is a graduate of the UK Advanced Command and Staff Course and has earned both a Master of Science degree in Leadership and Management and a Master of Arts degree in Defence Studies.

Mr Steven Townsend is a Director and owner of a Financial Advisory firm working primarily in London (The City) and the Thames Valley. He is a Finance professional with 28 years' experience. His interests are in the Arts, music, cricket, golf and travel. He is a football supporter and real ale appreciator.

Admission to Freedom:

Mr Borge Andreassen is a Director and Shareholder of Prospectus Ltd, a highly successful recruitment business. Outside of work Borge has served on several boards, including a local Citizens Advice Bureau in Wandsworth and he is a Governor of the Scandinavian School, London.

Livery Admissions to the Company in February 2024

Mr Austin Grenville Burn RVM (Silver) is a retired member of The Royal Household having spent almost 20 years in service to HM Queen Elizabeth II, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, and other members of the Royal Family, before being medically retired in 2012. Austin was decorated with the Royal Victorian Medal Silver (RVM) by The Queen for personal service to the Sovereign. He has since worked as an advisor to the Constable and Governor of Windsor Castle and has also been Private Secretary to a peer in the House of Lords.



Above: l to r: Col Christopher Head, Steven Townsend and Borge Andreassen with the Master at Wax Chandlers' Hall.



Above: Mr Austin Grenville Burn RVM (Silver).

Admissions to Freedom:

Mr Andrew Ryde attended Dame Alice Owen’s School which was supported by the Worshipful Company of Brewers and so from a young age Andrew experienced the great charitable work of the Livery Companies. Throughout his professional career, he has actively supported charities, youth organisations and good causes through financial or practical help. As President of The Rotary Club of Edmonton, he raised £30,000 to provide a play area at Noah’s Ark Childrens’ hospice.

Dr Robin Eagles MA, D.Phil (Oxon), FRHistS is an historian of Parliament with a longstanding interest in the history of London and its Livery Companies. For several years he was one of the Hon. General Editors of the London Record Society. His most recent project has been writing about the

life of the radical MP and Lord Mayor of London, John Wilkes (1727-1797), who was deeply involved with the life of the City and its companies. He is also particularly interested in the history of Leicester House, which was for many years in the 1700s occupied by the two successive Hanoverian Princes of Wales but in its latter stages was the base for what became the Royal Toxophilite Society.

Mr Stephen Johnstone, born and raised in Clapham, joined the British Army at the age of 16 and served a total of 12 years in the Infantry. On leaving the Army he joined the HM Prison Service, as a Prison Officer, and was promoted through the ranks to become a Governor. Stephen’s current role is Head of Repatriations for HM Prison Service. Stephen became aware of Livery Companies and the Charity work they do, through the Charity ‘No Going Back’. Stephen wishes to give something back to the Community through supporting charities which make real

differences and he sees the Worshipful Company of Fletchers, a Warrior Company, as a natural affiliation with his veteran status.

Mr Peter Probert is a security-cleared and operationally focused Remote Pilot and manager, originally trained by the RAF as a fixed-wing pilot and then as an Imagery Analyst. Pete completed 18 years total in the RAF Intelligence Branch and the Army Intelligence Corps. An active archer who has represented Sussex County since 2016 in both Target and Field Archery, Pete is also a five-times County field champion. As a Level 2 Development Coach he has trained archers to be selected for the County Team and prepared the GB&NI Team for the World Transplant Games 2019.



Above: Renter Warden Baron de Styrcea, Andrew Ryde, Dr Robin Eagles, Master Fletcher Andrew Trapnell, Stephen Johnstone, Peter Probert, Upper Warden Tim Sanders Hewett.



The Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Craft Guild of Traditional Bowyers and Fletchers

An extraordinary meeting of Court was held on 7th February 2024 at the Farmers & Fletchers' Hall to decide the way forward for the Royal Charter Company followed by a Drinks Reception with canapés in which we witnessed the Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Traditional Craft Guild of Bowyers' and Fletchers'.

This historical event was open to the whole Company as we celebrated cementing our commitment to keeping the Heritage Crafts alive.

The pen used for the Signing is made from the arrow footing woods of ebony and purpleheart retrieved from Mr Hugh Som's workshop; the pen and box were made by Mr Marc Grady, Warden, Traditional Craft Guild Bowyers' and Fletchers'.

We now have two sets of 'Masterpiece' Arrows that Craft Master Fletchers had to make to demonstrate that they had the requisite skills. One set was made by Alan Rogers and the other made by Hon Freeman Mick Manns. Mick was Alan's Apprentice, so in effect we have the original Master's work and then the Apprentice work when he too became a Master Fletcher.

Right: Presented to the Worshipful Company of Fletchers in London on the occasion of the signing of the Charter Agreement with the Craft Guild of Traditional Bowyers & Fletchers. 7th February 2024. The pen used for the Signing is made from the arrow footing woods of ebony and purpleheart retrieved from Mr Hugh Soar's workshop; the pen and box were made by Mr Marc Grady, Warden, Craft Guild of Traditional Bowyers and Fletchers.

Subsequently, the Master wrote to all members of the Livery to explain the situation with the Royal Charter Company.

At that extra meeting of Court we welcomed a number of new Members: Liveryman Austin Burn; Freeman Peter Probert, Andrew Ryde, Stephen Johnstone and Dr Robin Eagles.



Above: Colonel Jane Davis OBE OS/J QVRM TD DL, Craft Warden of the Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths, Lieutenant Colonel Michael White TD VR, Clerk, The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths with the Master.



Above: The Master signing the Memorandum of Understanding with Mr Marc Grady, Warden of the Craft Guild of Traditional Bowyers and Fletchers.



A Celebration of International Women's Day

On Thursday 7th March 2024 a group of Fletchers and their guests gathered at a drinks reception in Farmers & Fletchers' Hall to celebrate International Women's Day.

The themes this year included gender equality, a world free of bias, stereotypes and discrimination: a world that's diverse, equitable and inclusive where differences are valued and celebrated.

It was wonderful to see so many talented ladies all together; there was a real buzz and a positive vibe

in the room. We were fifty in number, mostly women but also a good number of men too. Many professions were represented and amongst the ladies in our midst were Civil Servants from the Department for Education; Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Defence; Olympic Archery Judges from Archery GB; Historians and many others from the Charity, Finance, Legal and Corporate sectors, and a young entrepreneur.

We were delighted to host Colour Sgt Lynn Reynolds from Royal Regiment Fusiliers 135 Battalion, our affiliated Cadet Detachment

who brought with her two young female Army Cadets, Amelia and Hannah. We were also honoured to have with us two female Past Master Fletchers, Lesley Agutter and Professor Anne Curry also the Master's Consort Melanie Trapnell.

The Master Andrew Trapnell, Past Master Emeritus Professor Anne Curry and the Clerk Col Debs Taylor all spoke about the history of the Fletchers' Company which amazingly had women members in the 15th Century.

CA Celia Campbell



Above: Dr Ismini Pells, English Civil War Historian, PM Emeritus Professor Anne Curry, Nicola Turton, Archaeologist Battlefields Trust, and Professor Catherine Clark, Chair in History of People, Place & Community Institute of Historical Research.

Top right: PM Lesley Agutter.

Right: The Master Andrew Trapnell is pictured with members of 135 Det Balham Army Cadets Cpl Graham and LCpl McDonald the Officer in Charge, Colour Sergeant Lynn Reynolds and Officer Commanding, 13 Company SW London Major Kaz Lorimer.





The 80th Service of the United Guilds of the City of London

The 80th Service of the United Guilds of the City of London took place on 15th March 2024 at St Paul's Cathedral.

This spectacular event attended by the Lord Mayor and the Bishop of London is one of the few occasions that members of all Livery Companies and Guilds gather together. Whilst it is the largest such Service during the year, it only dates back to 1943 when it was held as a coordinated response to the challenges faced by the City of London following the Blitz as well as a reminder of the religious origins of the Guilds.

The Service started with the Procession. Firstly the Masters of the Great 12 Livery Companies and then by a selection of other Livery Masters followed by the City dignitaries and the Court of Alderman; The Choir; various members of the Clergy; The Bishop of London; The Lord Mayor's party including the Swordbearer and finally The Lord Mayor.

Livery Companies are seated in order of precedence with the Great 12 at the front. The Fletchers, being 39th in the order, may sound lowly on the list but today there are 111 Livery Companies. The Fletchers therefore are well into the top half. Whether you have been a Liveryman for many years or whether you are new to the Company, the Service is a great opportunity to see the Livery movement at an event.

A Lesson was read by The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor Alderman and Professor Michael Mainelli, the 695th Lord Mayor of the City of London. The Sermon was given by the Dean of St Paul's, The Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett, and the Blessing was given by the Bishop of London, The Right Reverend and

Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullally DBE.

As I walked the mile between St Paul's Cathedral and the Armourers' Hall, I could not help thinking about the Great Fire in 1666. Old St Paul's was destroyed; however, towards the north of the City the



Above: The Master and Consort in front of the Great West Door, the ceremonial entrance to St Paul's Cathedral. It stands 27 feet high and is opened for special services and the arrival of important visitors, such as the Monarch.

Top right: The magnificent interior of St Paul's Cathedral

Right: The Armourers' Livery Hall with its unique features and treasures.





Great Fire stopped at No 80 Coleman Street and miraculously didn't reach the Armourers' Hall at No. 81 Coleman Street. St Paul's was rebuilt by Christopher Wren and completed in 1710.

And so we arrived at the Armourers' Hall. The Armourers' and Brasiers' are 50 years older than the Fletchers' but they have been on the same site in Coleman Street since 1346. King Henry VI presented the Armourers with their

first Royal Charter in May 1453. It was the first time that the Armourers' Company had invited other Companies to Lunch after the United Guilds Service and we, the Fletchers', led by our Master, Andrew Trapnell and a group from the Information Technologists enjoyed an excellent lunch in the historic Hall.

PM Court Assistant Adrian Scott Knight





Outgoing Master's Speech to Common Hall

Wardens, Court of Assistants, Liverymen and Freemen.

You will have heard me say this on a number of occasions, but I wanted to reiterate, what a great honour and pleasure it has been to serve in the office of Master of this ancient Company. I have not yet had a chance to add up all of the events, but there have been a lot!

Thank you and all members of the Company for your encouragement and support during my year.

As I mentioned last year, the requirement to have Common Hall, as an annual event at which to communicate formally to the Livery and to those with the Freedom of the Company, is set out in our new Royal Charter of Incorporation. Work on our structure was one of the areas of focus for my year and as I communicated in my letter in February, with effect from 1st March 2024, all of our members

are members of both the existing Worshipful Company of Fletchers and our Royal Charter Company, and so this Common Hall will cover both of our entities. We will continue to run both in parallel for the time being, the existing entity very much as an operating entity. It is our intention to work towards having our Royal Charter Company as the single Worshipful Company of Fletchers entity when that is advantageous to us.

I have had one question submitted to Common Hall which pertains to the Royal Charter Company, and so I will deal with that question now.

The question asked, 'What is the rationale for the new Royal Charter Company?' The main rationale is that, as a corporate entity, albeit an unusual one granted by Charter rather than more usual shareholder-based structures and in an increasingly complex world, the Royal Charter Company will enable us to operate more effectively in the

future with fewer challenges caused by the unincorporated nature of our existing entity. For example:

1. While we manage our risks and maintain robust insurance the Royal Charter Company, as a corporate entity, will offer additional limited liability protections.
2. It will be easier to manage our finances, for example the opening and management of bank accounts, where we can rely on the legal status, rather than historical circumstance.

I hope that answers the question. The Court today approved the restarting of our Strategic Plan Committee which has been in abeyance while we worked through the structural questions on our two Worshipful Company of Fletchers' entities. I will be chairing that Committee, and we will continue to focus on the question of how we run our two entities in parallel.

The Worshipful Company of Fletchers Wellbeing Liaison Team

As the world and the Worshipful Company of Fletchers start to fully emerge from the effects of lockdown and the pandemic the Master, Deputy Master, Wardens and Court have considered how they can continue to best keep in contact with members of the Company who may be feeling unwell, isolated or unable to join in with the Company in the manner to which they were accustomed.

The team aims to keep in contact with members and to know if they are, for example, unwell or facing any difficulties about which they would like the Company to be aware. In fellowship, the team consists of Past Master Lesley Agutter, Court Assistant Peter Beard and the Clerk.

For any concerns or for some support please email either Lesley lesley@corfa.co.uk or Peter

peterbeard2@gmail.com in the first instance. The Clerk is available at clerk@fletchers.org.uk

The Master, Deputy Master, Wardens and Court hope that this will help all Fletchers feel connected and part of the Fellowship of the Company which we all hold dear.



Looking at the other areas of focus for my year, we have been very busy indeed. I know many of you will have been at our events this year, but I was very pleased indeed on behalf of the Company to:

1. Sign the Armed Forces Covenant, recognising our connection to and support for our Military, and not least to support our Clerk Debs who, when not working for the Fletchers, is a serving Army Officer.
2. Sign an Affiliation with the Oxford University Officer Training Corps (OTC), formalising a link we have had now for several years. We have also agreed to similarly formalise our long-standing relationship with the Balham Fusilier Cadets with an Affiliation document.

3. Sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Craft Guild of Traditional Bowyers' and Fletchers' to support the craft of Fletching.

There was also a focus on continuing to grow our membership in which we have been very successful. Three new members took Freedom oaths today on their way to becoming members of the Livery. I was also very pleased today to bind a new Apprentice. Hannah Taylor, daughter of our Clerk Debs, becomes our first Apprentice since my son Robert was apprenticed to John Owen-Ward. Hannah, you are most welcome to the Company.

I hope we also had some fun!! We had our usual events: an extra 'Family' Archery Day; a Burns Supper and we were able to rejoin our fellow local Livery Companies

for Carols at St Bart's in addition to maintaining our tie with the Fusiliers at their Carol Service in the Tower of London. My holiday to Porto was very enjoyable as was representing the Company at many events, including our Archery shoots supporting those with disabilities, and presenting medals or gifts at the IBSA World Blind Games and British Blind Sports National Indoor Archery Championships. Too many things to mention here but please do look at both the last edition of *La Flèche* and the next one for all the highlights.

Thank you all once again for your support and kind words during my year. I am tempted to finish with another poem following my success at the Banquet but, then again, I am not sure I could top that it's always best to finish on a high!! Thank you.'

The Worshipful Company of Fletchers' Champagne Lottery

Get ready to embark on an exciting journey where you could win a case (6 bottles) of Champagne with the purchase of a ticket, or multiple tickets. The funds raised from the lottery will pay for the prizes and excess funds will be used to support the Worshipful Company of Fletchers for another 650 years.

The Champagne Lottery is only open to members of the Worshipful Company of Fletchers. You have to purchase a ticket prior to the draw taking place and funds must be in the bank.

Why you should participate:

- Chance to win prizes.
- Supporting your community in the Worshipful Company of Fletchers.
- Strengthening the bonds of fellowship and having fun.

How to participate:

Purchase your tickets by completing the online below.

The tickets are £25 each per annum (4 draws). Each purchase of £25 will buy a permanent number (the Clerk will notify you by email). The ticket number will remain yours for as long as you wish to take part.

The Master will hold a live draw (virtually) in which all will be invited to attend. The winning ticket will be pulled from the hat and the prize sent to the lucky individual.

T&Cs of the draw are in the Members' area of the Fletchers' website and available in the Clerk's Newsletter.





The Anniversary Banquet

This year's Banquet to celebrate the 653rd Anniversary of the Fletchers' was held on Monday 11th March 2024 at the Haberdashers' Hall, as described on their website, 'an oasis of calm in the heart of London'.

The Haberdashers' are one of the twelve great Livery Companies. On arrival Liverymen and guests entered via the wrought iron gates through to an amazing Orangery and Courtyard Garden.

We were depositing our coats when a power failure occurred just as some guests were checking their makeup. Thank goodness for torches on mobile phones! Collecting a copy of the evening's programme we were then ushered upstairs to the Gallery to be presented to the Master and other distinguished Liverymen. Champagne was served whilst a 5-piece Brass Band of The Royal Marines Association Ensembles played a selection of melodies. Cadets from 135 (FUSILIERS) Detachment based in Balham and part of South West London Army Cadet Force were invited to form a Carpet Guard.

The Beadle, on this occasion Mr S Henderson, is the one office holder which is common to both the City of London Wards and to its many Livery Companies. The role of Beadle probably grew out of the ecclesiastical role of Verger, and to this day the Verger of St Paul's Cathedral wears a gown which is of the same general design as that

worn by Livery Company Beadles. Indeed it is the role of the Beadle to ensure the smooth running of Freedom ceremonies.

And so, we were summoned by the Beadle to Dinner in the Banqueting Hall where we welcomed the Master and the top table guests with the traditional handclapping. The Master subsequently presented a cheque of £1,500 to the Rt Hon The Lord Mayor Alderman and Professor Michael Mainelli, the 695th Lord Mayor of the City of London for his charities and also a limited edition print of *Practice at the Butts* by Matthew Ryan. The Honorary Chaplain, Fr Taylor Wilton-Morgan said Grace with an interesting fact that it was Lent!

The Stapleton Silver used for formal occasions, comprising an exquisite Victorian silver centrepiece with two oak trees and stags also six other smaller epergnes decorated

with oak trees and stags were originally designed to hold fruit or flowers, graced the Banqueting tables. We were lucky enough to be close to one of the pieces and see the excellent craft work. The meal was splendid accompanied by some delicious wines and conversations with our fellow guests. There was an excellent Musical Interlude as The Royal Marines Association Ensembles played a selection of Regimental Marches and finishing with an amazing rendition of the Post Horn Gallop.

Before coffee and port, we were invited to join in the Ceremony of the Loving Cup. The silver or silver gilt cup is traditionally filled with spiced wine, immemorially called 'Sack' but this time was filled instead with chocolates! This was then followed by the Loyal Toast to the Sovereign Monarch then to other members of The Royal Family; The Lord Mayor and the



Above: l to r: PM Clive Coward, Sheriff & Alderman Bronek Masojada, The Lady Mayoress Elisabeth Mainelli, Master Tobacco Pipe Maker Elise Rasmussen, The Lord Mayor Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli, PM Sir David Wootton, Master Fletcher Andrew Trapnell, PM Lesley Agutter, RW Baron de Styrcea, Liveryman & Consort Melanie Trapnell, Sheriff Alderwoman Dame Susan Langley DBE, Hon Chaplain Fr. Taylor Wilton-Morgan, Clerk Colonel Debs Taylor.



Left: 5-piece Brass Band of The Royal Marines Association Ensembles.

Below: The Lord Mayor presenting Colonel Debs Taylor VR, Fletchers' Clerk, with a Challenge Coin and a traditional Clerk's Spoon in pewter.

City of London Corporation. The Renter Warden, Baron de Styrcea, proposed the Toast to the guests and commented favourably on the diversity of those who attended.

The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor Alderman and Professor Michael Mainelli, toasted the Worshipful Company of Fletchers and in his speech he told us of his mission "Connect to Prosper" linking the Scientific, Academic and Business worlds. The Lord Mayor then presented the Master Fletcher with a Micrometer a measuring instrument that can make extraordinarily precise measurements. Most are designed to measure within one one-thousandth of an inch! He spoke about the importance of the Livery Clerks before presenting the Fletchers' Clerk, Colonel Debs Taylor, with a Challenge Coin fashioned in glass with a purple design and a traditional Clerk's

Spoon in pewter with the Lord Mayor's name engraved on the back.

The Master responded by officially welcoming the Lord Mayor of London, the Sheriffs and their Consorts. He also welcomed the Ambassador of the Republic of Kosovo, His Excellency Mr Ilir Kapiti; also the Master Tobacco Pipe Maker Elise Rasmussen and Past Master Carmen Andrew Turner. The Fletchers', one of the five Warrior Companies including the Cutlers', Armourers & Braziers', Bowyers' and Gunmakers', are the first Warrior Livery Company to sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant. The Fletchers' Livery Company has also signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Craft Guild of Traditional Bowyers and Fletchers. After apologising for giving long speeches, he recounted his year of office in the form of a lyrical poem.



At the end of the Banquet, we were invited to take a Stirrup Cup with the Master and meet more guests. A big thank you must go to all those involved in the organising of this event especially the catering team, The Royal Marines and the Cadets. And not least to our Clerk, Debs Taylor and also the Stewards who attached labels to the programmes and sorted them into alphabetical order. No mean feat bearing in mind there were over 130 guests.

Susan and Arthur Dransfield





Master's Banquet Speech 11th March 2024

'Warden, Lord Mayor, Your Excellency, Sheriffs, Visiting Master, Liverymen, Ladies and Gentlemen.

My Lord Mayor, thank you for your kind and thoughtful words, for proposing the Toast to the Company, and to you, the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs and their consorts for gracing us at our Banquet this evening.

I have recently commissioned a piece of artwork from the Historical artist Matthew Ryan, reflecting on the traditional practice of 'Archery at the Butts', under the watchful eye of a Master Fletcher. I would like you to have a Limited Edition signed print of the artwork as a small memento of your joining us here today.

A second piece of artwork was donated to the Company marking our 650th Anniversary also by Matthew Ryan and showing a Master Fletcher with young apprentice. A print of that artwork is in front of each of the Sheriffs as a gift for you to take away with our thanks.

It is lovely to see you all here this evening for our Anniversary Banquet. It is now 653 years since the separation of the trades of Bowyer and Fletcher was approved by the then Lord Mayor. And haven't we come a long way since!!

I am sure you will join me in thanking the Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers for allowing us to hold our Banquet in their wonderful Hall. It is many years since I personally last dined here, and it is a great privilege to be here again.

Thank you also to our Clerk, Colonel Debs Taylor, without whom this event would not take place.

As I come towards the end of my year, I can say with true feeling what a great honour to have served as Master Fletcher.

At my Installation, I wondered what might be said of me in future years, and I speculated that if I kept my speeches short you would look back fondly and say.....'He was brief!'

Well, I failed miserably there, so please indulge me a little longer!!

We have though achieved many of those things that I highlighted at the start of the year. Many of these my Lord Mayor will resonate through your theme of Connect to Prosper. We have reinvigorated our LinkedIn profile and have been able to connect activities of the Mayoralty, the City Corporation, fellow Livery Companies and City Organisations. While still a small number we are approaching 500 followers. I wanted to thank those members of our Company who give their time voluntarily to maintain all of our inward and outward facing communications, through our website, our newsletter *La Flèche*, creating content, taking photographs and maintaining our LinkedIn page and social media. Your hard work is appreciated.

I didn't have to write my own blog this year, as I think I appeared in a significant number of the posts by the Master Tobacco Pipe Maker. Thank you, Elise!!

We have also this year signed the Armed Forces Covenant and have been speaking with our fellow

Warrior Company Liveries about doing the same, and there is real impetus for them to sign as well.

We have formalised our Affiliation with the Oxford University OTC, supporting young people with military connections. We have also agreed to similarly formalise our long-standing Affiliation with 135 Balham Fusilier Cadets, whom, I am sure you will agree provided a most excellent Carpet Guard for us as we entered Haberdashers' today.

I heard just last week that one of our Prize Arrow winning Cadets has just started Army Apprentice College in Harrogate and we are very pleased to celebrate this young person's success.

We have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Craft Guild of Traditional Bowyers and Fletchers, highlighting our commitment to perpetuating our ancient craft, particularly by supporting Masters and Apprentices to work together. I hope we have also had fun.

We had three 'Have a Go' Archery Shoots this year, two at Noak Hill and one with Guildford Archers. We shot twice at Kensington Palace (you will be pleased to know we missed.....think about it.)

One of these was our Annual Shoot against the Bowyers' (which we won this year...Hurray!!), as well as a Threeway Shoot with the Gunmakers' and Bowyers'. Two Carol Services, at the Tower and St Bartholomew- the-Great. Also visits to the College of Arms; the Tower of London for Dinner in the Fusiliers' Mess; our lovely holiday to Porto, and a fabulous Burns Supper, to name but a few.



Returning to our connections, the range and breadth of those connections has surprised me greatly over the course of the year and has facilitated activities collectively that could not have been achieved by a single organisation. For example, putting our RAF Affiliate, RAF Northolt, in touch with the Worshipful Company of Constructors in helping with the removal of asbestos from one of the WW2 heritage buildings at the Base which is to be restored. Supporting our Army Affiliate, the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, to in turn support hosting a photo exhibition commemorating the 25th Anniversary of KFOR, the Peacekeeping and Humanitarian mission in Kosovo in which the Fusiliers played a part. It was somewhat surreal to have the Worshipful Company of Fletchers mentioned along side the United Nations in supporting the event!! It was though a great honour to meet once again the Kosovan Ambassador, His Excellency Ilir Kapiti, and we are delighted that you have been able to join us here this evening.

Our Livery visit to The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, an event badged jointly by the Fletchers' and The Worshipful Company of Carmen, at which there were 30 Companies represented. As I think Andrew Turner, Immediate Past Master Carmen, who is here tonight with his Consort Tania, will agree, we both received a lot of positive Livery feedback from that event.

With Connections and the reach of communications we have a growing number of active overseas Freemen, in particular in the United States, and I am very pleased that two of our US Freemen, Colonel Mark Murawski

and the Reverend Doctor Christian Boyd have travelled to be with us this evening. It is lovely to see you here.

I have worried, that I have been too serious in my year. I don't have the singing talents of Past Master Anne Curry, or those of Past Master Philip Shears KC, to entertain us with gnus, muddy hippopotami or singing judges. I thought therefore I

would conclude with my journey to Master Fletcher in rhyme. Perhaps a mistake given that Past Master Clive Coward is...well...the Past Master of verse!!

I think I risk as Master Fletcher instead of being the Cock feather all prim and proper and guiding the arrow, perhaps ending up as a feather duster.....here goes:

'As an Apprentice long ago, I shot an arrow from my bow,
But where it went I'll never know
Because, alas, I had omitted to have the shaft with feathers fitted;
So when I let the arrow slip, its aft arrived before its tip!

It only barely missed the eye of one poor sailor passing by
Who shouted loud, in voice irrate,
You'd better (something) watch it mate!!

So after this I made a start
At studying the Fletcher's art;
Without delay I went to see
The Master of this Company;

"Dear Sir", I cried in great distress,
My ignorance I must confess.
Oh keep me on the straight and narrow
And do the same for this my arrow."

The Master smiled and said 'I will'.
Then taking out a turkey quill
He cut it up in portions three
And fletched them on the shaft for me.

From that day forth when'er I aim
At little targets or big game (rubber animals!!)
Although my shaft still hits the ground,
At least it stays the right way round.

Let us extol the Fletchers' then
Who do for arrows as for men (and women),
Correcting every imperfection
To point us in the right direction.

And now as Master of this craft
My feathers are fletched onto the shaft
And when I loose the flight is pure
To hit the target 'True and Sure'

Thank you'



Reflections of a Master – A look back at my year!



Above and above right: The Master delivering his speech at the Anniversary Banquet at Haberdashers' Hall. Liveryman and Consort, Melanie Trapnell, at the Anniversary Banquet.

I know that you have heard me say this many times over my year but thank you to the Fletchers' Company for the honour of allowing me to serve as your Master for the past year.

It has been a busy year. Melanie and I had always planned to do as many things as possible during the year, and we certainly did that. I think in total I attended 223 events (including with the Fletchers') as Master, of which about 110 involved eating and drinking. There may indeed have been food and drink at some of the others, but it was rather incidental to the event. I am rather pleased though that I finished the year at more or less the same weight as I started!!

The year started on the day after my Installation with a St George's Day Lunch at Waterman's Hall where the then Master Waterman, none other

that our own Sir David Wootton, kindly introduced me as the newest Master on the block. It ended rather fittingly the day before our Installation with a White Tie Dinner with the Scriveners' (celebrating their 650th Anniversary) in the magnificent surroundings of Goldsmiths' Hall.

There have been many highlights over the year, and it is difficult to pick out any one thing, but being a Coronation year, I was exceptionally privileged to have a number of events that revolved around the Coronation and our new King. Attending a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in the week following the Coronation; attending a Reception to hear about and see the Anointing Screen at Drapers' Hall and the magnificent Banquet at Mansion House in the presence of their Majesties The King and Queen.

Melanie and I have met so many

lovely Masters and Consorts in our year that we are certain of a long and happy connection through our Past Masters' and Consorts' Association.

I have been asked to write about or provide a copy of several things that I have done:

- My Banquet Poem.
- My speech at Common Hall prior to installing Tim as Master for the coming year.
- A Life in the Day of a Master, being an (untypical but busy) day in my year.

I will just end my reflections with a thought about connections that flow through the Fletchers'. In nearly my final act as Master I was very pleased to bind as Apprentice, Hannah Taylor daughter of our Clerk Debs. Hannah is the first Apprentice at the Fletchers' since my own son Robert was bound Apprentice to the then Master John Owen-Ward. It was thus a matter of great pride to continue this Livery tradition. Sadly, as John Owen-Ward is no longer with us, it was very poignant to receive from the Master my Past Master's badge which had previously belonged to John Owen-Ward.

Thank you again for your encouragement, kindness and good wishes to Melanie and I over the last year. It means a great deal to us both.

Andrew Trapnell
Deputy Master



Caricature of a Master – AKA A Life in the Day of the Master Fletcher



Occasionally I thought so much took place in a Day as Master it was more like cramming a Life's experience into that day. So here's an (un)typical life in the day of a Master!

Our day started the previous evening as I had decided to stay in town to make the day itself shorter. My commute was from Canary Wharf to Bank on the Docklands Light Railway. As with any good snail, the journey took longer than expected and I was carrying half the contents of my wardrobe, together with a not insignificant amount of clothes for Melanie.

First stop, the City of London Club to deposit said Wardrobe, my home away from home for the purpose of quick costume changes. A relatively short stroll followed past Bank, down Cheapside to the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral for a late breakfast and muster point for the start of the day's activities. Along with City dignitaries the vast majority of the Masters and Prime Wardens were gathering, together with Clerks of the Livery Companies.

I managed to locate Debs in the melee of Masters and Clerks, resplendent in her Military

Uniform. We were mustered in Company order for the Garden of Remembrance Service in the Churchyard, where all the Masters planted crosses at the start of the week of Remembrance.

Debs and I then made a dash for Cutlers' Hall for a Drinks Reception ahead of Lunch. The Masons' Clerk had organized the Lunch for a number of Masters and Clerks, including the Cutlers', and had arranged for a fleet of taxis to take us from Cutlers' to Buck's Club. On arrival we started our second Drinks Reception (!) ahead of Lunch in one of the private dining rooms. The Mason's Clerk had very mischievously commissioned place cards as caricatures of each Master and Clerk, hence the heading and caricature for this article. Discretion being the better part of valour I decided to depart at one of the first opportunities after Lunch, knowing I would be dining again later!!

Having dashed back to the City of London Club, there was time to change into White Tie. Melanie had already arrived at the Club as we were attending the Dinner together. I had struggled ahead of my year as Master to tie a bow tie, inevitably settling for the pre-tied version. However, not to be deterred, I found a video, 'Blue-eyed bow ties' and would play it a number of times whilst tying my bow tie, much to the annoyance of Melanie who can now also tie a bow tie having had to listen to the video interminably.

I was unable to escort Melanie to the Dinner having to leave early to attend a Service of Thanksgiving at

St Stephen Walbrook for the outgoing Lord Mayor Nicholas Lyons. You can never be overdressed for an event so, while the Service was Lounge Suit, I added a certain 'Je ne sais quoi' in my White Tie. Of course, the Lord Mayor was always well turned out!

I think there might have been Refreshments at the end of the Service though by that time I was starting to lose the plot. I needn't have worried about being late for my next event as the Lord Mayor was Principal Guest and he was still at the Service. I had agreed to meet Melanie ahead of Dinner. Luckily my walk from St Stephen Walbrook to the door of Mansion House was less than one minute. Hence I left with one minute to spare, arriving at Mansion House at exactly the time I had agreed to meet Melanie. Bad planning on my part as Melanie was early!

Our event that evening was the Banquet of the Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and we were personal guests of the Master Elise Rasmussen. I think I managed to do justice to a lovely Banquet!

Staying over in town, Melanie and I had a short walk back to the City of London Club, ending a rather busy day in the life of the Master. The next day was one with a strong sense of déjà vu, as Melanie and I attended a Service of Thanksgiving at St Stephen Walbrook, followed by a White Tie Banquet at Mansion House! It is tough, but someone has to do it!!

Andrew Trapnell (Re)Tired Master



American Fletchers in London

Freeman Mark Murawski and Freeman Christian Boyd Embrace London Tradition at Worshipful Company of Fletchers' Anniversary Banquet 11th March 2024.

As the rain-swept streets of London welcomed the arrival of Spring, two American Freemen of the Worshipful Company of Fletchers, Christian Boyd and Mark Murawski, embarked on a remarkable journey to embrace the cherished traditions of their esteemed Company. Hailing from the United States, they received a special invitation to attend the Anniversary Banquet, offering them a rare opportunity to meet fellow Liverymen and Company officials face-to-face.

Despite their longstanding membership within the Company, this marked the first occasion for Christian and Mark to engage with

their fellow members personally. To ensure their visit was truly unforgettable, the Fletchers' organised a comprehensive itinerary brimming with cultural and historical experiences.

Their adventure commenced on the evening of March 9th with a delightful "Meet the Fletchers" event in the heart of the City of London. Joined by Past Masters Adrian Scott Knight and Anne Curry, as well as the esteemed Clerk of the Company, Colonel Debs Taylor, and her family, Christian and Mark relished mingling with their peers in a convivial atmosphere.

On Monday morning, they embarked on a captivating journey through the historic streets of the City of London. Over breakfast at the prestigious City of London Club, they had the pleasure of meeting Master Andrew Trapnell and his Consort, Melanie, and Court Assistant Celia Campbell,

setting the stage for a morning filled with exploration and discovery.

After breakfast, the Master and Consort led Christian and Mark through the storied streets and alleys of London City. Their first stop was the majestic St. Paul's Cathedral, where Liveryman Mike Tadman, a knowledgeable docent, greeted them. Guided through the Cathedral's hallowed structure, Christian and Mark were captivated by Mike's insightful commentary. The tour was particularly resonant for Christian, a clergy member in the United States, whose ancestors had lived in the Blackfriars and Bell Yard areas before migrating as part of the Virginia Company of London (1612 Charter). From Nelson's tomb to the American Chapel, each corner of the Cathedral revealed new wonders, including the revelation of a secret elevator just as they contemplated ascending to the dome.

Military Affiliations

The Fletchers' Company, as one of the five 'Warrior' Livery Companies, has always been proud of its Affiliations with Military units, both Regular and Reserve as well as Cadets, and has also been sponsors of various RFCA (Reserve Forces and Cadet Association) initiatives.



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Royal Navy - HMS DEFENDER
HMS DEFENDER is a type 45 (Daring class) Destroyer. She is the fifth of the Navy's six state-of-the-art Type 45 destroyers and is the current successor to a long line of Fletcher Affiliations with RN ships which previously included HMS ARROW and HMS SHEFFIELD.



Eager to indulge Mark's passion for heraldry, the Master Fletcher suggested visiting the Royal College of Arms. There, William Hunt DL, formerly Windsor Herald, warmly welcomed them and offered an illuminating tour of the Library and insight into the intricate process of heraldic design. A highlight of the visit was the chance to view the Royal Family's signatures, a rare glimpse into history.



Above: Freeman Colonel (US) Mark Murawski & Freeman Rev'd Dr Christian Boyd

As dusk descended upon the City, Christian and Mark transformed into their finest attire, ready to join their fellow Fletchers for the grand event of the evening. Amidst the regal ambiance of Haberdashers' Hall, they were honored to mingle with the Fletchers and distinguished guests, including the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, and both Sheriffs and their Consorts, alongside the Master's guest, the Master Tobacco Pipe Makers.

the event and the Royal Marines Association Band. It should be noted that this was Christian and Mark's first exposure to the "Loving Cup." This tradition will undoubtedly be mimicked at Dinners in Wisconsin and Virginia.

anticipation for the next chapter in their journey as Liverymen of the Worshipful Company of Fletchers.

Mark, a Colonel in the U.S. Army, was especially pleased to meet Cadets from the 135th Detachment who served as a Guard of Honor for

For Christian and Mark, their transatlantic journey was a whirlwind of unforgettable experiences, from cultural immersions to newfound friendships. As they bid farewell to London's famed rain, they departed with hearts full of gratitude and

Indeed, the American Fletchers eagerly await the promise of next year's Anniversary Banquet, looking forward to once again immersing themselves in the rich tapestry of tradition that binds them to their esteemed Company.

Freeman Christian Boyd and Freeman Mark Murawski



Army - Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

The Fletchers' Company has a long association with the Fusiliers whose Regimental Headquarters at the Tower of London recognises a link with the Tower stretching back over 400 years.



Royal Air Force - RAF Northolt

Rather than a single Squadron, the Fletchers' Company is pleased to be affiliated with RAF Station Northolt. An operational aerodrome since March 1915, it has been a base for military operations for over 100 years.

Army Cadets - Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Cadets

The Fletchers' Company is also associated with 135 RRF Detachment of the Army Cadet Force, who on occasion have provided a Carpet Guard at some of our events.

RAF Cadets - 1921 (Lewisham) Squadron ATC

The Fletchers' Company has been closely associated with 1921 (Lewisham) Squadron of the Air Training Corps since early 2008. The Cadets regularly support Fletchers' events by providing Formal Guards for Livery Dinners.



Master's Shoot at Pirbright, 23rd March 2024

The final activity for the month of March was the Master's Shoot at Pirbright.

The weather was inevitably a little wet and soggy as the intrepid members of the Fletchers' were taken under instruction for a lesson on SA80 (A2). The SA80, Small Arms for the 1980s, is a British family of 5.56×45mm NATO service weapons used by the British Army. The A2 variant came to be as the result of a significant upgrade in the early 2000s by Heckler & Koch and remains in service as of 2024. The lesson was followed by a shoot at 25 metres and a lesson on the pistol (although we were not able to shoot the pistol).

At the end of the day there was a pub supper in the historic Artists Rifles Clubhouse in Bisley which,

according to their website, is far more than a shooting club. A quick look at the walls decorated with a rich regimental history confirms you are in one of the most exclusive clubs in Britain.

There was a somewhat competitive edge to the day when the Clerk offered a bottle of Champagne to the best shot based on "grouping" size. Congratulations to the winner, Liveryman Tim Johnson!



Above: CA Celia Campbell and PM Philip Shears KC.



The Lord Mayor's BIG Curry Lunch

On Thursday 18th April a group of 10 of us including the Master and the Clerk and 2 guests attended the BIG Curry Lunch in Guildhall along with The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli, many Livery Companies, other City organisations and Military Service personnel.

HRH The Princess Royal was the guest of honour, but with 1,600 people attending this special event, you needed to be in the right place at the right time to see her!

The BIG Curry Lunch first took place in 2008, hosted by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress at Guildhall. The first Lunch in 2008 attracted 700 guests and was held in a marquee in Guildhall Yard as the Guildhall kitchens were out of action at that time. Following its success, the attendance grew year on year and by 2016 the Lunch had grown to the extent that all the

principal rooms in Guildhall are used. Over the last seventeen years, the Lunches have contributed a total of over £3.3 million to help veterans of His Majesty's Armed Forces of the Crown.

There were three sittings for the Curry Lunch in the Great Hall after which the 250 Service and Civilian volunteers had their turn. A Silent Auction with a stunning range of prizes took place during the Lunch with vigorous live bidding via your smartphone relayed via large screens situated around Guildhall. Some of the lots donated included Dinner for eight with the Constable of Windsor Castle; a visit for six to Aircraft Carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth; a year's supply of Cobra beer a case of 24 bottles every month; two attending the Sovereign's Parade at Sandhurst and a day at Ascot for two. Seven Livery Companies including The Worshipful Company of Bakers,



Photo Courtesy of the 2024 BIG Curry Lunch brochure

Fishmongers and Gardeners had stalls in the Print Room. Livery Ward Club and City Club Ticket Packages included the Actuaries, Carmen and the Fletchers were in the Crypt.

It was good that a number of individual Fletchers were able to support this important City event.

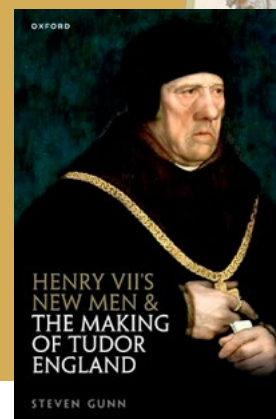
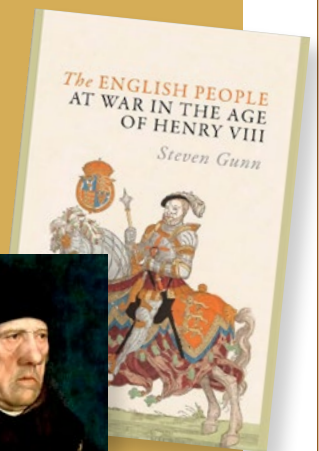
PM Court Assistant Adrian Scott Knight

Archery and Accidental Death in Tudor England

On 6th February 2024, Fletchers were able to connect to an online Lecture via Zoom by Professor Steven Gunn, a Fellow of Merton College Oxford who teaches and researches the history of later medieval and early modern Britain and Europe. He has also published in the wider fields of Tudor government, warfare, foreign policy and political culture and the comparison of the English state in this period with others in Europe. He speaks regularly to Historical Association branches and

sixth-form conferences and is currently a trustee of the Royal Armouries. He is author of *The English People at War in the Age of Henry VIII* and *Henry VII's New Men and Making of the Tudor Age*.

All Fletchers were encouraged to attend this event and send the invitation out to their friends and family for a wider audience. The Master made a request that any of those who took part were invited to consider making a small voluntary donation to the Fletchers' Trust.





National Indoor VI Archery Championships Lilleshall, British Blind Sports (BBS) Archery Section 5th – 7th April 2024

The Master, Andrew Trapnell, was invited by Malcolm Higman British Blind Sports Tournament Organiser, to attend the BBS National Indoor Archery Championships as their Lord Patron.

Normally the title is Gentleman Patron but it's not every day that they have a Master Fletcher attending!

The Master was accompanied by Liveryman and Consort, Melanie Trapnell and PM Chris Brown. The BBS Championships is the only Indoor Shoot for the Visually



Impaired and competitors came from all over the UK and one from Brussels. In years gone by there would have been a full room of Shooters but numbers have declined and unfortunately a few Archers were lost to Covid. In addition expenses of travel and overnight accommodation are increasing. Eleven were on the shooting line this time at the Wenlock Hall at the National Sports Centre in Lilleshall. The Fletchers' Trust was instrumental in launching the Championships and sponsoring the events.

Blind Archery is amazing. As with all shoots, some had Compound and some Recurve bows. The Shooting categories were VI – Open (no Tactile Sights); VI – 1 (wearing blackouts over the eyes) and VI – 2 (no blackouts). In addition, there were BBS Sight Classifications B1,

B2 and B4. In the VI – 1 and VI – 2 categories, they have a spotter and use Tactile Sighting equipment. This is set up with a bar on the ground for your heels to rest against. The bar is connected to a perpendicular tripod for the back of the left hand to rest against. In this way the alignment to the target face should be the correct shooting position. Many hang a weight from the centre of the tripod for additional stability. The left-hand rest can be adjusted up or down, left to right, in the same way as sighters on a Recurve bow to adjust for the distance to the target face and accuracy of shot.

Competitors and spotters were assembled on the morning of 6 April to receive the orders of the day and the Master was introduced and able to say a few words of welcome.



Shooting of practice arrows, still called 'sighters', led to some equipment adjustments prior to the main Shoot of a World Archery 25M round. They were soon underway with a sound of beeps to mark the beginning and end of shooting. Music played during the Shoot. Fletchers in attendance were able to speak to the supporters and organisers including Graham Rees-Evans and judges, Adam Doughty and Carlene Wright. A lone guide dog sat waiting in the corner.

When the arrows are collected, the competitor is accompanied by his/her spotter to the target face to hear the scores. The target face is marked where each arrow has landed before they are removed. The day continued with a break midmorning then later for lunch during which the targets are moved forward for a Portsmouth round. Shooting finished around 3.15pm

and prizes were awarded and presented by the Master. Many records were broken and everyone had a jolly spirit.

Some Archers journeyed home that evening but others who had stayed overnight at Lilleshall had a friendly shoot on the Sunday. It's not often they get together and there was a friendly exchange of banter.

Whilst at Lilleshall, Chris Brown took Andrew and Melanie to see the recently completed Archery Centre which is shortly to be officially opened. It's great to see how the Fletchers' Company makes a difference and how much it is appreciated. Our grateful thanks go to Malcolm Higman and his team for inviting the Fletchers' to the Championships.

Liveryman Melanie Trapnell





Baron de Styrcea Upper Warden

The Upper Warden is the Senior Warden and supports the Master on all Company occasions and sits on all main Committees. The incumbent gives a short speech before proposing the Toast to the Guests at the Installation Dinner and the Civic Toast at the Ladies' Banquet. The period of office is one year, during which the incumbent is normally elected Master for the following year.



Hilda Gibson Renter Warden



The Renter Warden is the junior warden and supports the Master and Upper Warden on all Company occasions. The incumbent is invited to attend all Committee meetings, when available. The period of office is one year during which time the incumbent is normally elected Upper Warden for the following year.

Hilda has been a member of the Charity Committee since 2019 and was appointed Honorary Almoner in April 2021. The Honorary Almoner is responsible for identifying suitable causes, assessing charitable claims and requests for assistance and advising the Charity Committee on distribution, in accordance with Charity Law and the guidelines laid out by the Court.

The Honorary Almoner establishes and maintains close links with Archery Clubs with disabled members and raises the profile of the Fletchers' Trust, thereby increasing the number of applications for grants to help stimulate a higher level of donations from Liverymen and elsewhere to increase the Trust Fund.

This summer, Hilda will be working with the Paris 2024 Sport Team to deliver successful Olympic and Paralympic Archery events.

We wish Hilda many congratulations.





Lunch to celebrate New Freemen and Fletchers on Friday 10th May 2024

On a gloriously sunny day, after the Freemen Ceremony at Guildhall, new Freemen together with the Master, members of the Court and supporters made their way to the Farmers & Fletchers' Hall to attend a Drinks Reception followed by Lunch.

Including the Master and Deputy Master along with two Past Masters, the Clerk, two Court Assistants, Liverymen, Freemen and guests sat down for a delicious Lunch comprising pan-fried sea bass with orange braised fennel followed by strawberry tart, strawberry coulis and citrus sorbet.

Amongst those seated around the Lunch table were Mr Gregory Copley AM, FRCGS, SFSS, RRSN and his wife, Mrs Pamela Copley GCSE, who had jetted in that same morning from Washington DC and, after a transatlantic flight, both looked as fresh as a daisy. By coincidence, they both knew Freemen Col (US) Mark Muwarski and the Rev'd Dr Christian Boyd.

The ceremonial silver adorning the Lunch table included the Trinder Cup, a two handled cup and cover in the early 18th century Huguenot style, presented by The Master, Wardens and Court of Assistants to

Commemorate the Mayoralty of Alderman Sir Charles Trinder, November 1968, engraved with the Company Coat of Arms and inscribed 'The Worshipful Company of Fletchers' and the Victory Cup, a large two handled cup and cover in the Rococo revival manner inscribed, Presented to the Worshipful Company of Fletchers by Sydney J Tungay, Master 1946-47. The other side inscribed, 'The Victory Cup 1946 used first by Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein upon his Admission to the Livery 12th July 1946'.

Liveryman James James-Crook





The Installation Court, Common Hall and the Installation Court Livery Dinner

On 24th April 2024, at the Farmers & Fletchers' Hall, the Company celebrated the Installation of the new Master, Tim Sanders Hewett, and Wardens along with new Freemen receiving their Freedom and Liverymen being Clothed. The event was a hive of activity as business of the Company in Court was conducted, prior to meeting the Fletchers' obligations as a Company by Royal Charter by holding a Common Hall.

Common Hall is a meeting at which all members of the Livery are invited to come and hear the Retiring Master, Chair of Trustees and the Honorary Treasurer give updates on the state of the Company. It is also the official Installation of the Master and Wardens for the coming year. For the second year running, in living memory, the Installation of the Master and Wardens was witnessed by members of the Company.

After Common Hall and with the new Master installed, the Court processed to St Bartholomew the Great, London's oldest surviving

church, to join friends and family in a Service of Thanksgiving. This was a wonderfully elegant occasion in a truly fantastic setting, led by the Company's Honorary Chaplain, Fr Taylor Wilton-Morgan, who also attended Dinner.

The new Master along with Upper Warden, Baron de Styrcea, and Renter Warden, Hilda Gibson, have a varied and event filled year ahead. There are many fixtures in the Fletchers' calendar; a new Company Committee structure to support the Company's aspirations including Heritage and History and look to the future with Strategic Plans.



Above: Hannah Taylor with her proud mother, Colonel Debs Taylor VR, Fletchers' Clerk.

The Company said its farewell to Andrew Trapnell as Master and his Consort, Melanie Trapnell. Andrew becomes Deputy Master, taking over from Philip Shears KC who now joins the Past Masters.

Court was also the opportunity to welcome new Members of the Company: Freeman Cordula Wordie, Lesley Grady and Oliver Wilderspin also a new Apprentice, bound to Master Andrew Trapnell for four years, Hannah Taylor, daughter of our proud Clerk.

The Master who was accompanied by his Consort, Clare Sanders Hewett, and members of their family sat down for Dinner with eighty five Liverymen, guests including Masters and Clerks of other Livery Companies. The Principal Guest and Speaker who replied on behalf of the Guests was The Hon Richard Lyttelton, Master Musician and a Trustee of the EMI Sound Foundation. As the only City Livery Company dedicated to the



Above: l to r: Clerk Colonel Debs Taylor, RW Hilda Gibson, Master Carmen David Pugsley, Master Musician The Hon Richard Lyttelton, Master Fletcher Tim Sanders Hewett, Consort Clare Sanders Hewett, Master Gunmaker Simon West OBE, Master Farmer Guy Brogden, UW Baron de Styrcea, Deputy Master Fletcher Andrew Trapnell.



Above: l to r: Beadle Mr Ted Prior, Clerk Colonel Debs Taylor, Master Fletcher Tim Sanders Hewett, UW Baron de Styrcea, RW Hilda Gibson, Deputy Master Andrew Trapnell, PM Hon Assistant Tony Taylor, Past Master Hon Assistant Clive Coward.

Below: l to r: Past Master Tony Taylor, Past Master Lesley Agutter, Past Master Philip Shears KC, Past Master Chris Brown, Past Master Adrian Scott Knight, Past Master Clive Coward, Clerk Col. Debs Taylor, Past Master Andrew McMillan, RW Hilda Gibson, Past Master Bob Hall, Master Fletcher Tim Sanders-Hewett, Past Master Roger Watson, Deputy Master Andrew Trapnell, UW Baron de Styrcea, Beadle Mr Ted Prior.





Performing Arts, the Musicians' Company nurtures talent and shares music through their concerts, awards and young artists' programme. The Company focuses on three areas: City, Craft and Community. Other principal guests were the Master Farmer, the Master Gunmaker and The Master Carmen.

The 'Stapleton Silver' the seven Victorian silver epergnes, originally

designed to hold fruit or flowers, comprising of a centrepiece with two oak trees and stags and six smaller pieces, also with oak trees and stags adorned the dining tables. Immediately after the Dinner, the Master and Wardens bid their guests a hearty welcome and drank to them in a Loving Cup. This Ceremony of the Loving Cup is an ancient tradition which features at many City Livery Company Banquets. At the end of the Dinner,

the Master invited everyone to partake of a Stirrup Cup.

**The Worshipful Company of
Fletchers Root and Branch, may
it continue to flourish forever
coupled with the name of the
Master.**



Right: New Freeman Cordula Wordie, Lesley Grady and Oliver Wilderspin, also new Apprentice Hannah Taylor, with the Master.



Right: The Master and his Consort, Clare Sanders Hewett, with members of their family.





A message from the Master Tim Sanders Hewett

I am delighted to be given the honour and privilege of leading the Worshipful Company of Fletchers for the year 2024-25 having entered the Livery some fifty years ago. A number of us have joined the Company through family connections and I am pleased to be continuing that tradition following among others, my Father, Pip, Master in 1967-68 and my Great-Grandfather, Robert Muirhead Hewett, Master on three occasions, the first of which was in 1925-26.

I have taken over the mantle following some busy years in the Company's history. Our 650th Anniversary; the Royal Charter Company has been formed; our membership has grown; the work of the Fletchers' Trust continues to deliver an important service. In a recent article on our website one of the grantees shares her positive story of being a recipient. I am very much looking forward to the Paralympics in Paris this summer and hope you are too.

During my year, I hope to consolidate all we have achieved as a Company during the past few years. There is a new information management system in the pipeline which will allow members to book and pay for events online. This may take some time to implement and may not suit everybody but it will be of invaluable assistance to the Clerk.

I look forward to growing the close relationship we have with the Worshipful Company of Farmers with whom we share our Hall and was pleased that the Master Farmer and Clerk were both able to attend

the Installation Dinner. We have recently agreed to extend the Hall's catering contract with Graysons reinforcing our relationship with the Farmers' as we look towards 2028 when decisions on our interest in the Hall will be reviewed. We are very fortunate to have this City facility as our home.

I encourage you to attend some of the many lunches, dinners and other events at the Hall and bring your friends so that we may grow our networks and increase our footprint in the City. Recently when someone asked why they had chosen to apply to join the Fletchers' Livery, the reason was conviviality. There will be many occasions when we visit other Halls and the Anniversary Banquet next year, our Gala event, will be held at the Grocers'.

Apart from regular events at the Hall I encourage you to take part in other City activities. Liverymen will vote to elect the Sheriffs and the Lord Mayor and these Election Days form an important part in the City calendar. I encourage all our City Freemen and Liverymen to drive sheep. Court Assistant Jon Avern will support me by organising our Company's participation in this year's drive on 29th September. I hope to see you there.

We have very active archery, golfing, and skiing Livery members and hope to organise some sailing participation. If you want to get involved, there is something for everyone. Details are available on the website and through the Clerk's Newsletter. A yearly round up will

be created in *La Flèche*. Please remember to support this important publication by supplying the Editor with reports and pictures. We are ever grateful to Liveryman and Webmaster Rob Slatem and *La Flèche* Editor, Liveryman James James-Crook, for their dedication, time and effort in providing us all with such interesting and lively information.

The Master's Holiday to Umbria in October promises to be culturally entertaining and an opportunity for Fletchers to come together in fellowship. My special thanks to Past Master Anne Curry for her support in organising this event.

The Fletchers' is an amazing, eclectic, diverse group. The drive and determination you all show in keeping this historic and traditional Livery Company going should not be underestimated. Our volunteers produce an outcome much envied by other Companies. Although we may be small, we are mighty. Our relationship with other Livery Companies, being part of the Warrior Group, and with our Affiliates, underscores our many achievements and we should be proud.

Clare and I appreciated your good wishes in the last few months. We have been overwhelmed by the support offered and look forward to giving all that we can to support this Worshipful Company of Fletchers.

Thank you, and may your arrows always find their mark, 'True and Sure'.



Worshipful Company of Fletchers' Visit to RAF Northolt 9th May 2024

A wonderfully sunny day saw fourteen Fletchers, True and Sure, pay a visit to our affiliated RAF station at Northolt, near Ruislip.

Organised by Liveryman Wing Commander John Chappell MBE, we were treated to a most enjoyable and informative day, gaining an understanding of what various units at the base were involved in. At the Officers' Mess we were welcomed, on behalf of the Station Commander, by the Officer Commanding 1 Aeronautical Information Documents Unit, along with the President of the Mess Committee.

RAF Northolt has been in existence since May 1915, and predates the RAF itself by three years. As a centre of aviation history, it is the oldest RAF airfield, and has the longest history of continuous use of any RAF airfield. It is also known as the London VIP Airport and many commercial business jets use it, including transporting celebrities, who appreciate the discreetness it provides when travelling.

With the Station kindly providing a minibus and driver we went to 32 (The Royal) Squadron, whose primary role is Command Support Air Transport. This involves the transportation of senior military officers, politicians, diplomats and, naturally, members of the Royal Family. Outside the Squadron is a replica of a Spitfire Mk IX in the colours of 316 (Polish) Squadron, in front of which our team photograph was taken. The Poles



Above: The Fletchers gather under a Spitfire Mk IX gate guardian.

flew from Northolt during WW2, and there is a memorial close by to its associated Polish squadrons. Inside the adjacent building, Flight Lieutenant Karl Cassar and Flight Sergeant Andy Marsh treated us to a briefing regarding the Squadron's activities. Equipped with two Dassault Falcon 900LX aircraft, known in RAF service as the Envoy IV CC1, they provide a substantial increase in range and efficiency over the transports they replaced in 2022. The Squadron is particularly proud of its proven ability regarding compassionate cases of service personnel. This can involve getting a Service person urgently back home to a close family member who has been severely injured or who is close to death. Each Envoy has two aircrew and one cabin crew onboard. These can be a mixture of military and civilian as the Envoy is operated in conjunction with a civilian partner, Centreline AV Ltd. A transition of the aircraft to the Military register is envisaged.

The Squadron is also equipped with a single Leonardo AW109SP helicopter which fulfils a similar function to the Envoys. The helicopter offers the obvious advantage of being able to land anywhere without a runway, and it can fly in all weather conditions by day or night. Joined by the Station Commander, Group Captain Jonathan Hough ADC MA BSc, he described the airfield at large and what we could see from our vantage point.

Moving on to 63 Squadron RAF Regiment, which is the King's Colour Squadron, we were again treated to briefings from the Officer Commanding, Squadron Leader Andrew Bull, and by Flight Lieutenant Tom Rodda who is Director of Music of the Band of the RAF Regiment. The two units are collocated as they have a symbiotic relationship regarding ceremonial duties. The King's Colour Squadron was practicing as they will have taken over from the



Welsh Guards in mounting the Guard at Buckingham Palace by the time this article is published. The Squadron provided the Bearer Party and Guard of Honour for the arrival, by C-17 Globemaster aircraft, of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's coffin to London from Scotland in September 2022. They also have a dual role capability as a regular field Squadron and have personnel actively deployed through the Middle East and Europe. Two aspects, in particular, stood out. The first is the Counter-Uncrewed Aerial Systems role, with the ever-increasing abilities and tactics used by the Ukrainians and Russians proving most informative. Squadron personnel have been trained to detect, track, identify, and defeat opposition force drones. The second is that of the Joint Terminal Attack Controller, where personnel can use laser target markers or talk aircraft on to target to deliver their ordnance, and which may be in close proximity to friendly forces. The King's Colour Squadron was awarded the Higginson Trophy for 2023. This is for the RAF Regiment Squadron which has shown the greatest achievement, leadership, and

exceptional standards and endeavours over the year.

Flight Lieutenant Tom Rodda then took us through the roles which the musicians undertake. Musically, they have Regular RAF and Reservists too, performing at a number of high-profile events each year. The Band can provide a salon orchestra, various quintets, or full ensembles for events. Recent assignments have included the Norwegian Military Tattoo in Oslo, and the 75th Anniversary of NATO in April. The musicians also have a secondary role providing medical support, and they qualify thirty personnel each year for this. We were invited to observe the King's Colour Squadron and the Band of the RAF Regiment conduct combined practice on their parade square for the upcoming Changing of the Guard.

Our final briefing for the day was at Building 27, where integrated air defence of the UK was first brought into being by Air Chief Marshall Sir Hugh Dowding GCB GCVO CMG at the beginning of the Second World War. He had ideas of how the air defence of the UK should be conducted, and used Building 27 as a trial. On one occasion during a German raid, a bomb landing nearby caused the main timber beam to collapse onto the plotting table below. Fortunately, no-one was hurt. Under the astonishing efforts of our presenter, Phil Dawe MBE, Building 27 has undergone a restoration par excellence over seventeen years. The plotting table, squadron readiness and tote boards, and communications systems are entirely redolent of the wartime era. All are in first class condition and Phil, a former air traffic controller, is an extraordinary encyclopaedia of information regarding the

building, its development, use, and ultimate restoration.

We were hosted by the Station Commander and the President of the Mess Committee for a light lunch. Preparations were also being made next door for an Operations Wing dining-in night, where the guest of honour was to be Lieutenant General Andrew Harrison DSO MBE (late PARA). With lunch over it was time to depart. Our sincere thanks to all those involved in organising and hosting. It had been a pleasure to continue the strong relationship between RAF Northolt and the Fletchers'.

Freeman Peter Probert

Fletchers' In Memoriam

Mrs Beverley Goodall, wife of Past Master Captain David Goodall Royal Navy

Liveryman Dr David Roydon Griffiths

Past Master & Honorary Assistant Major General APW (Pat) MacLellan CB CVO MBE

Past Master & Honorary Assistant Captain Tony Poulter OBE Royal Navy

Past Master & Honorary Assistant Robert (Bob) Upton

Freeman Andy Wiggins

They will be remembered and sorely missed by Members of the Livery.



Above: The Band of the RAF Regiment and the King's Colour Squadron at practice.



The Fletchers' Day for Archers with a Disability

FDAD was held at the Royal Toxophilite Society ground on Saturday 18 May 2024.

Just when the weather forecast indicated thunderstorms, we got a glorious day for the sixteen archers to quite literally shine, supported by members of the 'Royal Tox'. At the start of the event the Royal Tox President, Graham Potts, announced that they had gained the patronage of His Majesty King Charles III, confirmed by letter from the Monarch's Principal Private Secretary at Buckingham Palace, and which set the tone nicely for the day.

The competition is split into four categories:

1. Recurve archers shoot an Albion round which is 36 arrows at each of 80, 60, and 50 yards;
2. Compound archers also shoot an Albion round;
3. Visually Impaired archers shoot a Burntwood round at 30m. This consists of the first 36 arrows at a 60cm face, followed by another 36 arrows at an 80cm face, and the final 36 arrows are at a 122cm target face. This replicates the idea of the target moving closer to them but avoids the need for them to reset their tactile sights;
4. The 'Fletchers' round is shot by archers who have not been shooting very long and is 108 arrows at 30m.

There was much camaraderie in evidence along the shooting line helped, no doubt, by the very



Above: VI Archers Steve Prowse and Deb Wright shoot the Burntwood Round.

capable Royal Tox team providing lunch and tea. The winners were:

Recurve Albion round

Paul Browne.

Compound Albion round

Deborah Illman-Roberts.

VI Burntwood round

Steve Prowse.

Novices Fletchers' round

Carol Smith.

The Des Clarke Memorial Cup is awarded to an up-and-coming novice archer who would benefit from encouragement in their endeavours. This year it was presented by Deputy Master Andrew Trapnell to Deborah Illman-Roberts, whom the Fletchers have supported previously with a grant for a new compound bow and accompanying arrows. Each of the winners was presented with an individual Fletchers' pen. It was good to see that archers whom the Fletchers' have supported, both currently and in the past, were on the shooting line. The Fletchers' Trust is indebted to the Royal

Toxophilite Society and Gemma Underwood, in particular, as the Match Secretary who organises this event on the Fletchers' behalf, for their excellent hospitality and support for the event.

Freeman Peter Probert



Above: Winner of the Des Clarke Memorial Cup, Deborah Illman-Roberts, receiving the trophy from last year's winner Piangfan Naksukpaiboon.



Fletchers at Noak Hill 21st May 2024

It's that time when the Fletchers descended on Noak Hill Archery for the first engagement of the year.

18 of us, including our Master, assembled in high spirits at the Club grounds, ready to begin our day of archery.

We were positive about the weather, as it had been gloriously sunny recently, although it was indisputably overcast.

Those of us using Club equipment were quickly assessed for appropriate bows and introduced to our instructors with everyone ready to start aiming at the targets and adjusting sights accordingly as our muscles warmed and stretched. By lunchtime it was definitely raining. What had happened to the glorious weather of the last few days?

Back to the Club house for the usual delicious lunch, hot pizza, sausage rolls as well as sandwiches, warming cups of tea and coffee, then some of Kathy's renowned and quite delicious apple and raisin pies. All too soon, we were encouraged to head outside for our afternoon sport.

Suitably clad in our wet weather gear, no such thing as bad weather just bad clothing, we headed out into the wilds of the Club grounds where we discovered live deer as well as an interesting assortment of life sized foam animals lurking in the scrub and bushes! Split up now into small groups of 4 or 5 people, we headed out to our designated targets and aimed, in turn, at animals ranging from a large grizzly bear (formerly known by the Club



Above: Group photo taken just before the rain began in earnest!



Above: The Master in action.

members as Lesley, after archery Fletchers donated to buy a replacement animal when the Club suffered the theft of the previous models) to a sizeable crocodile unaccountably found in the swamps of Essex but, after the Fletchers' visit, no longer likely to trouble the locals!

Still raining and with wet hands slipping on risers, the stalwart Fletchers battled on with corpses of wildlife littering the jungle floor and the prospect of heading back to the warm and dry Clubhouse nudging ever closer, one could almost hear the kettle boiling.

Finally, everyone was back clutching a warming drink whilst indulging in a slice of Mick's homemade almond cake or his Panna cotta and raspberry muffins, equally delicious having sampled both!

Now for the prize giving at the end of this challenging day with PM



Above: Liveryman Josie Gowler with her "kill".

David Goodall winning the Men's Trophy and Liveryman Trish Lovell winning the Ladies'. With the largest ever number of participants in this, our 17th year, we look forward very much to continuing our association with Noak Hill Archers in the years ahead.

I speak for everyone in thanking Kathy and Dennis together with all the team at Noak Hill Archers for their continued hospitality; the enormous amount of hard work put in to clearing and establishing a new course for each of our visits and, most importantly, to Kathy and Glenys who work tirelessly throughout the day providing refreshments and hot drinks.

Hopefully we will have better weather for our next visit on Thursday 26th September.

Lesley Agutter
Past Master



Diary Events June 2024 – March 2025

Events marked with an 'F' are open to Freemen. Liverymen may attend all events.

Date	Day		Event	Responsibility
JUNE				
10th	Monday		Golden Hinde Reception	Charity Committee
12th	Wednesday		Joint Shoot with Bowyers' Perks Field	Clerk
20th	Thursday		The Brigantes Breakfast	Brigantes Committee
21st – 23rd	Friday – Sunday		The Master's Livery Weekend	Livery Committee (Master only)
24th	Monday		Election of the Sheriffs	Clerk
JULY				
1st	Monday		18th Inter Livery Golf Day	Livery
10th	Wednesday		Fletchers' Golf Day at Royal Ascot GC	Liverymen Mike Williams and Melanie Trapnell
16th	Tuesday		Court and Lunch	Clerk
SEPTEMBER				
7th	Saturday		Elite Day Royal Tox	Liveryman Graham Potts Freeman Peter Probert
14 – 15th	Weekend		Lilleshall National Disability Championship	Liveryman Melanie Trapnell
26th	Thursday	F	Noak Hill	PM Lesley Agutter
27th	Friday		Admission of the Sheriffs	Clerk
29th	Sunday	F	Woolmens' Sheep Drive and Livery Fair	Jon Avern
30th	Monday		Election of the Lord Mayor	Clerk
OCTOBER				
1 – 5th	Monday – Friday		Master's Holiday	Master
15th	Tuesday		Court and Affiliates Lunch	Clerk
17th	Thursday		FOFF Golf Match (versus the Founders')	PM Rainer Vogt
25th	Friday		Past Masters' Lunch Farmers & Fletchers' Hall	PM Adrian Scott Knight
NOVEMBER				
8th	Friday		Admission of the Lord Mayor	Clerk
15th	Friday		Fletchers' Golf Lunch, Farmers & Fletchers' Hall	Liveryman Mike Seaton
20th	Wednesday		Ladies Lunch TBC	Consort – Mrs Clare Sanders Hewett and Freeman Nicky Scott Knight
DECEMBER				
4th	Wednesday		Carols in the Tower with the Fusiliers	Clerk
17th	Tuesday		Fletchers' Christmas Lunch and Inter Livery Carols St Bart's	Master
JANUARY 2025				
15th	Wednesday		Court & Lunch Farmers and Fletchers' Hall	Clerk
22-24th	Wednesday – Friday		Inter Livery Ski Race	CA Celia Campbell
MARCH				
13th	Thursday		Anniversary Banquet, Grocers' Hall	Clerk