



WCCSA NEWS

Keeping our members and friends in touch...



FEBRUARY 2024 | ISSUE 43

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WELCOME!

Keith Povey, Clerk

2024 has certainly started with a bang as far as the Company is concerned. Much has happened in the six weeks since we celebrated the New Year with much still to do.

As you'll see below we started the year with the traditional January lunch, which this year also included a celebration of Sylvia Tutt's 40th year since becoming the first female Livery Company Master. That may not sound remarkable, until you hear that another company is this year celebrating their first ever female Master. The Chartered Secretaries, as is often the case, led the way.

To mark this anniversary further, the Court has agreed to establish an annual prize 'The Tutt Prize' - details to follow.

Before the lunch we held a Court meeting, at which seven new Freemen were elected, and one Freeman became a Liveryman (our congratulations to our 'youngest' Liveryman Elisabeth Anderson).

The Court also discussed a number of key items of business. While we have had a solid process for attracting new members to the Company, there was a view that more focus needed to be given to all our members, at whatever stage of membership they are at. And so, the decision was taken to disband the former Membership Committee and to form a new Livery Committee with a wider remit (the name yet to be finalised), which would help ensure we give all members equal attention. This new Committee will be chaired by Junior Warden, Shirley Creed. Please see a note from Shirley below, re helping this new Committee.

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The Chair of the former Membership Committee, Sharon Constançon, has been asked by the Master to lead another important project for the Company. We would like to pay tribute to Sharon for her dedication to the role and, as noted by the seven new Freeman installed, for the significant results she's achieved. Thank you Sharon!

The Tutt Lecture is fast approaching and the subject is very topical. As you may have seen FRP Advisory, of which our Speaker is CEO, has been appointed as the administrators to The Body Shop. I am sure Geoff Rowley will bring some unique insights into 'Governance in Turbulence'. Do come along!

For those interested in our research project into Values, an interim report is being drafted. It is hoped that output from this will be included in one of the Lord Mayor's Knowledge Miles events and at the annual CGI conference.

I was incredibly sad to hear that Court Assistant David Parry had passed away after a long illness. He was a great friend to the Company and will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Not wishing to end on sad news, I am also pleased to note that Karen Sylva's title has changed from Executive Assistant to Assistant Clerk. With the establishment of a grouping for Livery Assistant Clerks, it was obvious that Karen had a wider role than most other Assistant Clerks, and so it was felt appropriate to bring her title in line. Congratulations Karen!

WCCSA NEWS

The Tutt Rivers Lecture and Supper - 26th March 2024

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF CHARTERED SECRETARIES AND ADMINISTRATORS



2024 TUTT RIVERS LECTURE GOVERNANCE IN TURBULENCE

The Master Chartered Secretary and Administrator, Mr Christopher Edge, invites livery members, the City Civic, governance professionals and others interested in this topical subject to be our guests at the Company's annual Tutt Rivers Lecture given by Geoff Rowley, Group Chief Executive Officer of FRP Advisory.



Even in stable times good governance of an organisation is not guaranteed. But what happens when things get 'rocky'? How do people react and how do they view established principles?

These and other questions about organisational turbulence will be addressed by Geoff Rowley, CEO of FRP Advisory, the leading independent business advisors. Geoff draws on his deep experience of organisational and management behaviour to address these issues.

The Lecture will be held at Plaisterers' Hall on 26 March 2024. The evening will commence at 6.30pm with the lecture followed by a drinks' reception at 7.30pm. Both of these are free to attend, but registration is essential.

The Master will also be hosting a small supper afterwards for those who wish to remain, for which there will be a charge. Guests will need to register for either the lecture and reception only, or lecture, reception and supper. Full details are provided in the link below

REGISTER AT [HTTPS://WCCSA.ORG.UK/EVENTS/](https://wccsa.org.uk/events/)

Our 2024 Tutt Rivers Lecture will be held on Tuesday 26th March at Plaisterers' Hall where we will be joined by Geoff Rowley, CEO of FRP Advisory. Geoff will speak about Governance in Turbulence.

The Tutt Rivers Lecture is held annually and carries the names of two of the most distinguished members of our profession, Sylvia Tutt, the first lady Master of a Livery Company, and Peter Rivers.

Join us for what promises to be an interesting and stimulating evening.

The lecture and drinks are free to attend, but you do need to register please [HERE](#).

There is also an optional two-course supper afterwards, for which there is a charge of £90 per person.

We hope to see many of you there!

Education Committee Webinar Series - Improving School Governance

The Education Committee will be hosting a Worshipful Company of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators sponsored series of webinars, with the aim of improving school governance and developing the theme of 'service with integrity'. Read more about this [HERE](#).

Webinar 1 'What is good and effective governance of schools?', will take place on 14th March 2024, from 6 – 7.30pm.

The aim of this 90-minute webinar is to explore why good governance is necessary, the fundamental principles of governance, the expectations of head teachers and what is expected from members of governing bodies.

The webinar will be moderated by David Lock, Past Master WCCSA and Secretary General of the Magna Charta Observatory

The webinar is free to attend but registration [HERE](#) is essential please.

Please also SAVE THE DATE of another Education Committee webinar (not part of the series), planned for 6pm on 4th June. This will be titled 'Service with integrity' - what does it mean to you? and registration details will be circulated in due course.

The 2024 Master's Weekend

The 2024 Master's weekend is now set for Thursday 18th July to Sunday 21st July. It is to be held in and around Durham City with one excursion away from the City.

The agenda is nearly complete and is being costed. Details on how to book will be provided soon.

Consort Events

The Master, Mr. Christopher Edge, has asked Mrs. Edge to organise some events for the consorts of members of the Company!

Provisional arrangements have therefore been made for:



- On Thursday 2nd May 2024 at 1pm, a guided tour of the Chelsea Physic Garden.
- On 5th September, in the evening, a Bat Walk at the Barnes Wetland Centre.

The intention is to keep the cost low and of course, WCCSA members themselves are not excluded! If any partners, wives or members would be interested in attending one or both events, please send expressions of interest directly to [Mrs. Edge](#).

New Livery Committee

At the Court meeting on 23rd January 2024, the Court agreed to establish a new Committee (provisionally called the Livery Committee but likely to change) which would have a wide remit involving all membership-related activities. As a result, it was agreed to dissolve the Membership Committee from the date of the Court meeting. It was also agreed that the Junior Warden, Shirley Creed, be asked to Chair this new committee. The new committee will continue to work on attracting new members and will also organise professional and social activities for existing members.

Shirley is looking for members to join this new committee, which will be a great way to get to know other members. If you are interested and would like to know more, please [contact Shirley](#).

WCCSA Charitable Trust

The Company's Charitable Trust is looking for new Trustees.

If you are interested, please contact the Chair of Trustees, [PM Julie Fox](#), or Secretary to the Trustees Liveryman [Erica Lee](#).

One of the roles available is that of Treasurer.

January Livery Luncheon held 23rd January 2024

A successful Livery Luncheon was held at Drapers' Hall on 23rd January 2024, where we also celebrated the 40th anniversary of Sylvia Tutt becoming the first female livery company Master.

Past Master Christina Parry gave a fitting recount of Past Master Tutt's life and Mastership of our Company. She was followed by our Guest Speaker Gwen Rys.

The photographs from the Livery Lunch are ready to view and download from our password protected gallery on the photographer's website.



To access the images please go to www.markwitterphotography.com and select Galleries from the main menu and Client Galleries from the drop-down menu. There you'll see our gallery on the second row down.

When challenged enter the password: CSA101

Full instructions for viewing and downloading the digital images free of charge, or for ordering professional quality prints are in the gallery.

Recording of Professional Networking Webinar 'The New UK Corporate Governance Code 2024'



If you were unable to join this webinar on 24th January, the recording is now available on our [YouTube](#) site.

David Styles, Director, Corporate Governance and Stewardship, Financial Reporting Council gave feedback on the changes in the Governance Code that was to be released in January 2024. This will be a dramatically watered down Code in comparison to the Consultation Paper that was initially presented in April 2023 and was subject to robust business feedback in September 2023.

WCCSA and the 2024 Sheriff's Challenge



Teams from both Rokeby (pictured left) and Mulberry Academy Shoreditch took part in the 2024 Sheriff's Challenge competition on 7th February.

The question this year was "Should the City of London do more to improve learning and career opportunities for those from less privileged backgrounds?" Teams of up to six students had just eight minutes to address the topic.

As you might imagine, the topic had real meaning and relevance to the participants who really engaged with it. Researching it was a team endeavour and produced presentations with multiple perspectives which were communicated clearly and with passion. The quality and persuasiveness of some of the speakers was well ahead of their years.

Unfortunately, neither of WCCSA's teams won the heat this year (both have done so previously) but both teams enjoyed the experience enormously. They enjoyed meeting up with the teams from other schools.

Detailed feedback is awaited from the judges but the standard this year was described as being higher than before.

Past Master David Lock mentored the Rokeby team and Past Master Ted Nicholl and Liveryman Angela Squire mentored the Mulberry team (pictured right).



Although it was just one night in their lives, the experience of participating in the Challenge will live with the students for years and the skills they learnt will help them both in their studies and careers. WCCSA is to be commended for supporting the competition and the teams.

Past Master David Lock

Liverymen get-together, December 2023

Before Christmas, a cross-section of senior WCCSA Liverymen were guests at a private lunch organised to share their experiences and meet the Master informally. The focus was intentionally on Liverymen who have not served on the Court yet have given the Company loyal and extensive support over many years, as well as honouring Francis Bergin, the Company's senior Past Master.

Five Liverymen were holders of the Company's meritorious award, a distinction granted by the Court for members who have not been on Court but have given immense time and effort behind the scenes. Trevor Partridge leads Company liaison with the West Ham Sea Cadets; Brian Sole was Company archivist for many years; James Eringa organised events for us; John Robertson played a leading role in producing our invaluable Company history book; and Graham McVey organised the Bursary Scheme as a trustee of our charity. They were joined by Clive Drake, who has loyally attended Masters' weekends and functions for years, and David Gracie, a governance professional, particularly involved with the educational outreach of the Company. A number of other distinguished Liverymen were unable to join the party, and their service was gratefully noted in absentia.

This was very much a meeting of old friends, with lots to catch up on. And the group were able to give the Master feedback about the way the Company was shaping up to the challenges of current times. They seemed to think the Company was in decent shape, and with some great ideas and dynamism. Scheduled to end at 3.30pm, we left the dining room around 4.45, as the conversation and fellowship mellowed - like the copious quantities of alcohol that put us in seasonable mood. Many thanks to the Master for his hospitality.

Christina Parry, Past Master and Almoner.

(It fell to me in my role as Almoner to make the arrangements and join the very jolly occasion.)

In Memoriam

Court Assistant David Wyn Parry (1946 - 2024)



The Master and Past Master Lock represented the Company at the funeral of Court Assistant David Wyn Parry at St Nicholas Church, Newbury, on 6th February. David passed away on January 16th.

The service, which David had largely specified, was a thoughtful collection of appropriate Christian music and readings which reflected his beliefs and the motivation for his achievements. There were tributes from his daughters and son and from Roger Brown, Vice-Chancellor of Southampton Solent University with whom David had worked.

The tributes included David as a family man, a missionary in Papua New Guinea, his contribution to the development of quality in the UK's universities, his chairmanship of the Leprosy Mission in the UK and internationally, his membership of our Company and contribution to its education work, his love of music and his leadership of local community projects, for which he received civic awards.

David's coffin was draped in the Company's Pall which has the legend 'Service with Integrity' along each side. Those words and David's life aligned perfectly. Some 200 people were warmly welcomed for refreshments after the service and his family greatly appreciated the presence of the Company.

David is survived by Jill, his wife of 55 years, 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

FROM OUR MEMBERS

Attending the January Luncheon

It had been a very long time since we attended a Livery function, as we now live in Norfolk, and it has become more of an effort to travel, but when personally invited to do so by Past Master and Almoner Christina Parry, as it was a very special occasion marking the 40th anniversary of Sylvia Tutt becoming the first Lady Master of a Livery Company, we decided to attend. This we felt we couldn't miss. As Sam is now in a wheelchair, we had a lot of help with arrangements, which made the whole afternoon stress free, so thank you to everyone.

The Drapers' Hall is beautiful, and a fitting venue as Sylvia had held her Ladies dinner there. The only problem as I see it, is that some doors are not wide enough for wheelchairs! Thankfully there are ways to get around this small problem, so we did manage to get to the table to eat! The food was delicious and the wines excellent, and it was good to speak to Livery members whom we hadn't previously met.



The speeches were excellent too and appropriate, and those of us who knew her and remember her year as Master of the Company, know how much she would have appreciated the day.

We both enjoyed the day immensely so thank you very much for the invitation.

Liz and Sam Hodgson (Liveryman)

OTHER NEWS FROM THE CITY & THE LIVERY

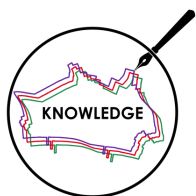
United Guilds Service at St Paul's Cathedral - 15th March 2024



This year's United Guilds Service will take place at St Paul's Cathedral on 15th March 2024 and tickets will be released to us later this month. We will receive a limited number of reserved (for Liverymen) and unreserved (for Liverymen's guests) tickets, which will be allocated on a "first come first served" basis so please let [Karen](#) know as soon as possible if you would like one. Liverymen should wear their livery tie or brooch and badges on this occasion.

We have secured a table for eight WCCSA members at the lunch following the service, at Wax Chandlers' Hall. Booking is now open for this [HERE](#) and tickets are priced at £80 inclusive of vat. Early booking is advised due to the limited number of spaces.

Knowledge Miles: The 695th Lord Mayor's Lecture Series



Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli will be Lord Mayor of the City of London until 10 November 2024. Michael's working theme is 'Connect To Prosper - The Knowledge Miles In The World's Coffeehouse': to celebrate the many Knowledge Miles of The Square Mile.

"Knowledge Miles: The 695th Lord Mayor's Lecture Series" is an online webinar series that explores the connections of the Square Mile and its roles as "The World's Coffeehouse" addressing diverse global challenges. Please see the [website](#) for the forthcoming lectures but do pay particular attention to the one on 22nd April 'Governance To Prosper: The Importance Of Integrity, Values, And Policy', which will be given by IPM James de Sausmarez, Past Master David Lock and Liveryman Sharon Constancon on behalf of the WCCSA.

[Register at no cost](#) to attend what should be an interesting lecture.

31st inter Livery Clay Shoot - West London Shooting School 15th & 16th May 2024

It's only fourteen weeks to the Inter Livery Clay Shoot in May and if anyone wishes to apply either as a team or an individual, please do so at your earliest convenience as entries are now beginning to fill up.

More information can be found and the application form at their [website](#).

Inter-Livery Rifle Shooting Day SAVE THE DATE

Save the Date for the Inter-Livery Rifle Shooting Day, which will be held this year on 7th June. This is the tenth year that the event has been held. Read more [HERE](#).

Order of the British Empire

In January "The Times" published an announcement about a service of dedication to be held in St. Paul's Cathedral for members of the Order of the British Empire, at 11.00am on 15th May. Members, and up to one guest per head, should apply by 28th March to "www.centralchancery.org.uk" for a ticket. Holders of the BEM are eligible to attend.

Past Master Col Mike Dudding intends to apply and in one of the last such services, pre-Covid, there were five or seven WCCSA members present, who all met up afterwards for lunch. Because of this he wonders if there are members who might be interested to do the same this time.

If anyone would like to meet up or just discuss the event with PM Dudding, please let [Karen](#) know, who can pass on your details.

New Brigantes Website - City of London Liverymen in the North

For those interested. The Brigantes have a new website, which you can view at <http://www.brigantes.org.uk/>.

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14th March - WCCSA Education Committee Webinar Series, Webinar 1 (details above)

15th March - United Guilds Service, St Paul's Cathedral (details above)

21st March - Company Concert, Oxford and Cambridge Club (POSTPONED - RESCHEDULED DATE TO BE ADVISED!)

26th March - The Tutt Rivers Lecture and Supper, Plaisterers' Hall (details above)

May (date tbc) - Visit to the Oval for the First Match of the Season (Master's Event - details to follow)

7th May - Clergy Support Trust Annual Festival Service - St Paul's Cathedral

21st May - The Annual Livery Banquet, Fishmongers' Hall (details to follow)

4th June - WCCSA Education Committee Webinar (details to follow)

24th June - Common Hall - election of Sheriffs

17th July - Summer Service and Charter Luncheon, St Vedast Alias Foster and Saddlers' Hall (details to follow)

18th-21st July - The Master's Weekend (details to follow)

30th September - Common hall - election of the Lord Mayor

