



WCCSA NEWS

Keeping our members and friends in touch...

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WELCOME!

Keith Povey, Clerk

Welcome to the June newsletter and hopefully we are starting to see some good weather at long last.

Much has been happening as you'll see within the newsletter. I was particularly intrigued by a great presentation we had on the meaning of 'integrity'. Sounds simple, but our perception of integrity is built through our own personal experiences, so we may each have a different idea of what it meant! Food for thought!

In July we will be holding the traditional Elections Court where Liverymen will be elected as Master, Wardens or Court Assistants for the year beginning October 2024.

In the last newsletter we did ask for anyone who wished to be considered as a Court Assistant to contact the Clerk. As a membership organisation we rely on members to help guide us, either on the Court or on one of our various committees. We are always looking to learn from new members or to embrace new ideas. Do get in contact if you would like to assist.

We are now working on Christopher Edge's final formal event as Master so do come along and enjoy the Summer Service and Royal Charter Luncheon.

We hope to see you there.

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WCCSA NEWS

School Governance Webinar 3 - Wednesday 10th July, 6 - 7.30pm



The third in the Education Committee's sponsored series of webinars with the aim of improving school governance and developing the theme of 'service with integrity' takes place at 6pm on Wednesday 13th July.

Speakers will include our Immediate Past Master James de Sausmarez and Emma Hawker (pictured), Vice Chair of the Trust Board for Southend East Community Academy Trust. The webinar will be moderated by Liveryman Dr Anne Punter.

There is no charge to attend, but registration is essential [HERE](#) please, where you can also find out more about the speaker.

Summer Service and Royal Charter Luncheon - Wednesday 17th July 2024

As already advised, our Summer Service and Royal Charter Luncheon will take place on 17th July 2024. The church service will be held at Saint Vedast Foster Lane (or Saint Vedast-alias-Foster), 4 Foster Lane, London EC2V 6HH, commencing at 11.30am.



Following the service, our Royal Charter Luncheon will take place just around the corner at Saddlers' Hall. Saddlers' Hall is of course the old home of the WCCSA office, so many know it well!

The reception will start at 12.30pm (hopefully in the courtyard, weather permitting), with lunch being served at 1pm. Carriages will be around 3pm.

There is no charge to attend the church service, but for the Royal Charter Luncheon after, the cost is £120 per person. Registration for the lunch is now open [HERE](#), where you will also be able to view the menu that the Master has selected.

Please book your tickets asap and we look forwards to seeing you there!

If you will be attending the church service only and not staying for lunch after, please do let [Karen](#) know as it would be helpful to have an estimation of numbers expected on the day.

Sheep Drive & Livery Fair Sunday 29th September 2024

As previously mentioned, the annual Sheep Drive will be taking place again this year on Southwark Bridge.

Final numbers have to be submitted by Thursday 25th July, so if you haven't already, please let [Karen](#) know as soon as possible if you would like to take part.

A very successful Annual Livery Banquet!

The 2024 WCCSA Banquet took place at the fabulous Fishmongers' Hall on 21st May. A heavy downpour of rain just as the reception was starting (typical!) meant some people arrived in a rather damp state, but that didn't spoil the evening at all.

As is usual at our Banquet, the West Ham Sea Cadets provided an impressive carpet guard to welcome guests and guide them to the reception.



During dinner, the Master welcomed and congratulated three new Freeman: Debbie Aldous, Giles Clark and Karen O'Donnell, two new liverymen: Monica Bolley and Gary Cheung and two new Honorary Freeman: Brigadier Andrew Griffiths and Professor Roger Kirby. All had their ceremonies carried out ahead of the reception.

After dinner we were entertained by Gabriele Brasaite, the Company Musician for Master Christopher Edge's year in office.

There was much entertainment to be had at our attempt to undertake the traditional Loving Cup ceremony, albeit we were still using wrapped chocolates instead of wine – it seems we are a little out of practice! Finally, Alderwoman and Sheriff Dame Susan Langley, representing the Lord Mayor, gave us a lively speech, before the evening was rounded off nicely with a stirrup cup.

Photographs from the event are ready to view and download from our photographer's website at www.markwitterphotography.com. Once there, please select 'Galleries' from the main menu, then 'Client Galleries' from the drop-down menu You'll then see our gallery on the top row with a thumbnail image of the Master.

When challenged enter the password: CSA101.

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

West Ham Sea Cadet Unit wins national award

West Ham Sea Cadet Unit (TS Thunderer) with whom WCCSA have an association, has won the McBeath Trophy at the National Annual Awards, the first in the Unit's 80-year history. The trophy was founded by Rear Admiral John McBeath, who was honorary Commodore of the Sea Cadets between 1958 and 1975 and is awarded to a unit in the corps that has shown particularly meritorious performance over the previous year.

The trophy was presented by Mr Rowlie McBeath at the beginning of May in a celebratory event attended by numerous dignitaries including Vice Admiral Andy Kyte CB FCILT, Captain Neil Downing RN, plus distinguished officers. WCCSA Master Christopher Edge also attended.



The Unit was praised for overcoming a challenging 2023. Despite not having permanent premises in which to meet and a withdrawal of land offered by GLA, with tremendous expense and loss incurred, it continued to provide plenty of opportunities for its cadets aged between 10 and 17. It was through the kind offer of Monsignor John Armitage that West Ham Unit eventually secured a home. They now plan to expand and will continue to offer the best Sea Cadet experience to new recruits.

Gary Brodie, Petty Officer SCC, said: "I'm really proud of our chairperson, Maggie Redington, cadets, staff and committee for all the work they did last year. This prestigious award is a great recognition of what we have done for cadets and all the effort that has been put in by staff over the year in keeping the unit going. To be recognised really is an honour. It was fantastic to have such support at our event and a special mention to Commander Byrd who was a cadet with TS Thunderer in his youth and went on to become a commander of the Royal Navy."

"Sea Cadets offers so many opportunities to both adults and young people. It is important to remember that we are an independent charity that relies on volunteers in the local community to help make a positive different to the lives of so many young people in your area. If you think you could help us, please get in touch. Likewise, if you are between the ages of 10 and 17 and are interested in becoming a Sea Cadet, we would love to hear from you."

West Ham Sea Cadets (TS Thunderer), which is part of national charity Sea Cadets, gives young people a new perspective. They broaden horizons and create possibilities. Working across the UK with 14,000 young people between 10 and 17, they help them see the world with confidence, gained through the challenge of nautical adventure and a Royal Navy ethos. Their aim is to help more young people to see the future that they want – and make that future happen.

The unit parades on Thursdays from 18:30-21:15 at St Margaret & All Saints' Church, 79A Barking Road, E16 4HB. Plus, Boating Season from May to July at Sea Cadet Boat Station, Royal Docks on Tuesdays, 18:00-21:00. Visit: www.sea-cadets.org/westham to find out more.

Forwarded for publication by Liveryman Trevor Partridge

Rokeby Sheriffs' Challenge Team at the Old Bailey.

In a new departure for 2024, members of the Rokeby Sheriffs' Challenge team were among the guests of the Sheriffs at the Old Bailey on 11th June.

The purpose of the evening was to celebrate their participation in the competition, to further inform and inspire them about the City of London and the Judicial system and enable them to learn how others had achieved success in their various professions.

A range of stalls contained information about local opportunities for young people and the legal profession, including some exciting virtual reality experiences.

Presentations were made by an entrepreneur, a magistrate and by the most recently appointed Judge at the Old Bailey, Her Honour Judge Judy Khan KC. She spoke about the challenges of entering the legal profession as a working-class lady of colour and how she had coped with the prejudices that she had encountered. Questions were answered from the pupils, including one from the Rokeby team.

The boys were also given a tour, and stood in the dock of, No 1 Court where notorious murderers had been tried and convicted. The commentary had quite an effect on the audience, including the statistic that the average age of defendants was just 22!

How good then to be focusing on the positive things that young people are able to do that will not only enhance their prospects of a fulfilling professional life and career, but also make the world a better place.

This picture shows Sheriff Alderman Bronek, Isatou Cates, English teacher at Rokeby who trained the team and their Livery Mentor, Past Master David Lock with team members Adrian Avendano, Oluwatimileyin Idowu and Gabriel De Oliveira. More pictures and the boys' account of the evening can be seen in the [Rokeby Recorder](#).



The students, in appreciating the evening and the experience of participating in the competition, concluded by 'strongly recommending that students in Y10 next year should take part in the Sheriffs' Challenge.'

Past Master David Lock

Bayes Business School - Meet the winners.

Our Company provides two prizes for the students of the Strategy, Diversity and Governance module of the Charities Masters Programme at Bayes Business School, City, University of London. The winners in 2024 were Miriam Deakin and Glen Jones-Smythe. The Clerk, Keith Povey, and Past Master David Lock, who is the Company's link with the Bayes Business School, had the pleasure of meeting virtually with the winners on 17th June to congratulate them on their success.



Miriam was Director of Strategy and Policy at NHS Providers - the membership body for NHS Trusts in England which she has helped to grow to a charity now staffed by over 100 people. She is now Director of Development and Engagement overseeing engagement with its membership, income generation strategy, events, networks and support for Boards. She is also a trustee for a disability charity offering mobility equipment and supporting young people into education and employment.

After 15 years working in the banking industry, Glen decided to pursue a career transition into the charity sector in 2023. He applied for the Masters course in Charity Accounting and Financial Management at Bayes Business School. He has undertaken voluntary work for a UK registered charity: The Charitable Trust for the Tongabezi Trust School. The school's mission is to provide a free, quality, and holistic education to underprivileged and vulnerable Zambian children in the rural area of Simonga. In November 2023, he began his first paid role in the charity sector working as Interim Global Financial Controller for a sustainability organisation called 'Forum for the Future'.



Miriam's essay addressed the task of creating a board paper outlining the future approach to be taken by the board to; developing an organisational strategy, ensuring effective management of diversity, equity and inclusion initiative and establishing good governance. Glen's addressed the elements of organisational success in the non-profit sector, including the integration of good governance, a clear strategy and the management of diversity and inclusion.

An enjoyable discussion ensued which featured references to values and culture and the Company's own research project and effective engagement with stakeholders. Both Miriam and Glen were congratulated on their success and invited to stay in contact with the Company with a view to joining in due course.

The high quality of the essays and the calibre of students which the Bayes' Course attracts make it a pleasure for the Company to engage with the programme and the prize winners.

Past Master David Lock

Quarterage 2024/25 - PLEASE ADJUST YOUR STANDING ORDERS!

As previously advised, the new quarterage rates for the year commencing 1/7/24 will be:

- Full Liveryman or Freeman - £370.00 (£30.85 monthly or £92.50 per quarter - July, October, January and April please)
- Freeman or Liveryman over the age of 70 - £295 (£24.60 monthly or £73.75 per quarter)
- Overseas-based Freeman or Liveryman - £175

For those of you who pay by direct debit, the annual call on funds will be made on 1st July 2024.

If you pay by standing order, either quarterly or monthly, could you please ensure that you adjust your payment amounts to those shown above from 1st July 2024.

Karen - Assistant Clerk

COMMITTEE AND GROUP UPDATES

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Sylvia Tutt Award

The deadline for applications is looming, Friday 12th July!

If you know anyone studying governance at masters level or in the first 5 years of their governance career, do please encourage them to submit an essay - there's £1000 of professional development with CGIUKI to be won - all the details can be found on the website here - [Sylvia Tutt Award](#)

Do please attend and/or promote the 3rd schools governance webinar on Wednesday 10th July as per the details above in the WCCSA news section

The Education Committee at times requires support for judging competitions (schools and university level), supporting administration of such competitions, support in identifying speakers for webinars and other activity. If anyone has a background and/or interest in education and professional development in governance do please email education@wccsa.org.uk and we will approach you as and when there is a requirement for involvement in the work of the education committee

Court Assistant Sheila Lumsden OBE - Chair Education Committee

ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Our next monthly networking drinks at The Golden Fleece, 9 Queen St, London EC4N 1SP is Wednesday, 10th July 6pm onwards. Please do come along and bring a colleague! This is a six month trial, SECOND WEDNESDAY of the month, last one Wednesday, 11th September. Buy your own drinks. We are located in the alcove at the far end of the bar as you enter from Queen St. If you are coming please advise membership@wccsa.org.uk to ensure we have sufficient space!

Our next coffee morning meetup is Friday, 28th June 9.30am onwards. Those living a little further away might like to combine this with a visit to RHS Wisley Gardens, 5 miles further down the A3, or Painshill even closer! This is a six month trial LAST FRIDAY of the month, last one Friday, 27th September. Spouse/partners welcome. Buy your own drinks. Ample parking. If you are coming please advise membership@wccsa.org.uk

CGI Awards 2024 - Tuesday 5th November 2024 at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, Hyde Park, London.

WCCSA plan to take one or more tables. If you would like to join a WCCSA table please email membership@wccsa.org.uk and we will then contact you when bookings are released by CGI, no commitment required at this stage. This is a great opportunity for those not part of a larger team attending the event to join with WCCSA colleagues and celebrate excellence in governance at this CGI flagship event. Pricing to be advised when announced by CGI.

We also look forward to seeing you at the CGI Conference on 3rd and 4th July – please drop by and say “hello”!

Junior Warden Shirley Creed – Chair Engagement Committee

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

A visit for Liverymen has been arranged to RAF High Wycombe, where the RAF Headquarters Air Command is based, on Wednesday 25th September 2024.

The day will start at 9.30am and will consist of a number of briefings about the RAF, with a particular focus on the administration and support functions, and will finish with a tour and lunch in the Officers Mess.

Further Information and details on how to book will be provided in the next newsletter.

Court Assistant Paul Sylva

FROM OUR MEMBERS

WCCSA Liveryman and the Lord Mayor’s Abseiling Challenge!



Congratulations to Liveryman Suzanne Davison who, on 7th June, along with 99 other participants, including the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, completed a 215m charity abseil down the "Cheesegrater" building in Leadenhall Street in the City of London. She is pictured here, with MTS Abseil instructor, Martina, in position, about to make the descent (*photo by Purelight Photography*).

Suzanne agrees with the view expressed by the Lord Mayor in his account of his abseil given to the Press – that this stage is the most hair-raising part!

Fancy dress abseiling was permitted provided the chosen costume did not impede movement and she was followed in her descent by a gentleman dressed as Elvis!

The event was restricted to over-18s, but there was no upper age limit, and at least three octogenarians took part

If you missed the opportunity to contribute before the event, Suzanne’s “Just Giving” page [HERE](#) will remain open **until 28th June**, enabling you to add to the £860 she has already raised in aid of the Lord Mayor’s Appeal. The amount raised by all those who completed the abseil is thought likely to reach at least £70,000.

OTHER NEWS FROM THE CITY & THE LIVERY

Letter to Liverymen: Mayoralty and Shrievalty - 2024 Aldermanic Appraisal Process

Following the meeting of the Nominations Committee of the Court of Aldermen which took place on 14th June, please click [HERE](#) to read a letter outlining the decisions taken at that meeting in relation to the Court of Aldermen's position on those who will be supported for progression to the Shrievalty and Mayoralty over the next several years.

Please note that this information will also shortly be made available on the [Livery Committee website](#).

First Annual Pollinator Count - 1st July 2024

Supported by the Rt Hon. the Lord Mayor, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli, the Pollinating London Together (PLT) Annual Pollinator Count will be a day dedicated to recording and observing the vital insect populations that pollinate our plants, including bees, butterflies, moths, and insects in the City of London.

Why participate?

- Contribute to science: your observations help track pollinator populations, which is crucial for conservation efforts.
- Learn and discover: gain knowledge about different pollinator species and their roles in our ecosystem.
- Create: new networks for positive action, change, and influence.

Find out how to get involved and contribute on the day [HERE](#).

PLT also invites you, with your family and friends, to a PLT Family Day at Historic Royal Palaces Hampton Court Palace and learn about 500 years of gardening on Monday 29th July. Join them for a blooming adventure as they explore the exquisite gardens and embark on a pollination journey like no other. Take your family and friends for a day out with the chance to learn about the importance of pollinators in London's ecosystem.

Find out more and book tickets [HERE](#).



City Beerfest - 11th July in Guildhall Yard

City Beerfest is back this summer for its 10-year anniversary and it's bigger and better than ever! Offering an irresistible choice of over 35 different beers from some of Britain's finest Brewers and more, tasty street food and fantastic live entertainment — all in the historic setting of Guildhall Yard to raise money for three worthy causes.

Go and raise a glass in support of the three charities championed by The Lord Mayor's Appeal.

[Book your tickets](#) online in advance and receive a 10% discount!



Spirits Tasting - 23rd July 2024 at Vintners' Hall

The World Drinks Awards has teamed up with the Worshipful Company of Distillers to present more than 200 country and world winners from their 2024 Awards tasting. Returning to the stunning Vintners' Hall on Tuesday 23rd July, this is the only event in the world where such a range of spirits will be brought together to taste under one roof.

The ticket price for the event which is invariably a sell-out, is £50.00 per head (including VAT). All bookings must be made via [Eventbrite](#).

Please note the Dress Code, which is strictly Business Attire/Smart casual (no shorts).

The Distillers' Inter-Livery Pétanque - 1st August 2024



The Distillers' Inter-Livery Pétanque will take place on Thursday 1st August 2024, 5.0pm at The London Pétanque Club (LPC), Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens.

If anyone is interested in forming a team and representing the WCCSA, please contact Distillers' Past Master, Chris Porter at chris.porter500@ntlworld.com. The final date to register a team is 17th July 2024.

Inter Livery Tennis - Queens Clubs - 18th September 2024

The Worshipful Company of Feltmakers' Inter Livery Tennis Competition is to be held at Queen's Club on Wednesday 18th September 2024. The Competition is open to all Livery Companies and each Company may enter one or two teams of mixed doubles of which at least one member in each pair must be a member of the Livery – Liveryman or Freeman.

If anyone would be interested in entering and representing the WCCSA, please complete the attached [entry form](#) (with your name and contact details) and return to [Adrian Gubby](#).

Do let us know if you are applying for either of the above events!

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3rd & 4th July - CGI Annual Conference 'Governance 2024'

10th July - Education Webinar (details above)

11th July - City Beerfest, Guildhall Yard (details above)

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

18th-21st July - The Master's Weekend (details provided previously)

20th September - Sheriff's Ball Guildhall

25th September - WCCSA visit to RAF High Wycombe (details to follow)

29th September - Annual Sheep Drive and Livery Fair (details above)

30th September - Common Hall - Election of the Lord Mayor

9th October - Annual Assembly and Installation Dinner, Saddlers Hall

5th November - CGI Awards

8th November - Admission of Lord Mayor (Silent Ceremony)

9th November - The Lord Mayor's Show

11th December - WCCSA Carol Service

