



THE GUILD OF ARTS SCHOLARS, DEALERS AND COLLECTORS

Summer 2008

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Mark Bridge

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Brian Haughton

John Hudson

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Stephan Ludwig

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Kevin Smith

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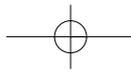
Clemens Vandervan



Nicholas Somers and Christopher Claxton Stevens enjoy a rare moment of relaxation with one of the exhibits from the Guild's contribution to the Wizardry in Wood exhibition at Carpenters' Hall. See page 5

Issue No 7





THE GUILD OF ARTS SCHOLARS, DEALERS AND COLLECTORS

FURNITURE MAKERS' HALL, 12 AUSTIN FRIARS, LONDON EC2N 2HE

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Jonathan Horne OstJ FSA

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The Rev Roger Hall MBE

Chaplain, H.M. Tower of London



Could you speak for the Guild?

A number of Livery Companies have their own historical societies, and as such are looking for speakers who would be able to lecture on specialist subjects.

It has been suggested that our Guild might like to chair a group who would be interested in sharing our specialist knowledge. This would improve our standing in the City, give a service to other companies and perhaps make money for our charities.

A meeting will shortly be arranged with the other interested parties and a circular will be sent round to make a list of Guild members who would be willing to speak and share their knowledge.

It will be a dinner to remember

THIS year's annual dinner will be on November 27 and we have Dr David Starkey as our guest speaker.

Last year we were over-subscribed and some were disappointed so please send in your returns as soon as possible.

This will be a glittering occasion held at Girdlers' Hall. This hall is not normally available for hire, but through the efforts of the immediate Past Master, the Girdlers have very generously offered us the use of their newly refurbished premises.

Above: all those who visited the Bishop of London at his official residence at the Old Deanery in April were overwhelmed by the warmth of the welcome he and his wife Caroline extended to members of the Guild.

Not only was this a rare chance to enter a fine late 17th century town house in sight of the imposing facade of St Paul's, but the Bishop made full use of the Deanery's collection of portraits to introduce some of his more colourful predecessors.

*See also **New Deacon** on page 6.*

Armed forces link

MOST Livery Companies have a link with the Armed Forces and for some time we have been trying to find an association that we could relate to.

One of our members, Julian Radcliffe, director of the Art Loss Register, is still a serving colonel in the TA with a distinguished military career.

In the light of recent conflicts in the Middle East and the damage and theft inflicted on ancient monuments and objects, the government has asked Julian to form a cadre of senior officers who know the world of decorative arts, architecture etc to give practical advice at the sharp end of a conflict and protect vulnerable sites.

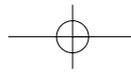
This is all very new and the unit has not yet been given a name but it seems exactly the sort of work that we should support and encourage.



London's greatest treasure? See page 5

This newsletter is sponsored by **Cadogan Tate**, Cadogan House, 6 - 12 Ponton Road, Nine Elms, London SW8 5BA
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It may be a dream but we've worked very hard for it

Dreams do come true. I can hardly believe that I am now Master of a Guild that only five years ago was just an idea on the back of an envelope. It has been the joint effort of many people that has achieved our position today. I can't emphasise enough all the hard work and effort that has propelled the Guild forward.

The support of all our members is most appreciated but I would like to mention just a few names. Adrian Barnes was one of the original gang of four who helped set up the embryo Guild. As the former City Remembrancer, he was the right man at the right time and guided us through the corridors of power within the City, speaking to the right people and pushing the right buttons. We are also very grateful to Alderman and Sheriff Ian Luder, and Lin Luder who have given such major support to the flourishing Guild.

Congratulations go to the new Wardens, Upper Warden Geoff Egan, Middle Warden Mark Bridge and Renter Warden Philippa Glanville. Congratulations are also due to our new Clerk, who has already done so much for us as Deputy Clerk.

When I first suggested the idea of forming a Guild, I made inquiries into how much time would be needed in an average week in organising such a venture. The general opinion was about one and a half days a week. That estimate has been proved grossly inadequate and it has turned out to be more like three or four days a week. There were desperate moments and I was borrowing typists from all-over and rapidly losing friends.

Luckily Georgina appeared in the nick of time and immediately took on the heavy burden of administration. I can truthfully say that the Guild would not be where it is today without Georgina. She has given us all tremendous support and always with a smile.

The Guild is like a growing child which needs constant attention and feeding without which it would wither away. This of course has been provided by your Court who have selflessly given their time and effort to the cause, and who in their turn rely on the membership for support.

Our unsung committee chairmen have done sterling work. Christopher Claxton Stevens and Nic Somers have both given outstanding service. Ralph Gough has taken on the post of treasurer and has transformed our finances from something kept in a shoebox to fully audited accounts and, with the legal advice of Withers, has been instrumental in setting up our charitable status, which is what it is all about.

And so to the future. Geoffrey Bond has set a cracking pace which we must all keep up. The Guild is not a dining club, but a working charity. And although it is fine to have a good time in



the process, we have a mission and have targets to meet. The first of these is to be made a Company without Livery which is technically feasible by March/April next year but we need £150,000 cash in the bank and therefore have to raise a further £65,000. In September this year, the next Lord Mayor goes before the livery in Guild Hall for their approval. What I can say is that our sponsoring Alderman and Sheriff Ian Luder is the favoured choice and we wish him every success.

How many companies can claim a Lord Mayor? Some not for decades, some not for centuries, and some not at all.

We have a busy and exciting year ahead. Usually events are supported by the same 20 or 30 people and it would be nice to see more of our membership participating.

Remember, the more you put in the more you get out.

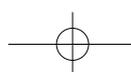
Jonathan Horne OstJ FSA, Master

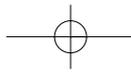
We're in the Lord Mayor's Show

IN November this year, the Guild will be entering a float in the Lord Mayor's show. The cost of this exercise is expected to be around £10,000 of which about £4500 goes directly to the Lord Mayor's charities. We have recently received a very generous anonymous gift of £5000 which has made our target a little less daunting than it was. We are looking for helpers, photographers, banner bearers etc so if you would like to lend a hand or get involved please let the Clerk know. If you are not actually taking part in the show then please come and line the route with your flags and whistles.

Future Events Diary

Monday, September 8th	Evening tour of Old Bailey
Tuesday, October 7th	Lunch at Watermen's Hall
Thursday, October 30th	Annual lecture – Pirates of the East End
Saturday, November 8th	Lord Mayor's Show
Thursday, November 27th	Annual Dinner – Girdlers' Hall
Sunday, November 30th	Advent Service, Tower of London
Wednesday, February 18th	Evening visit to Geffrye Museum





GUILD EVENTS



A mystery on Folgate St

On a wet January evening Guild members accepted the invitation of the late Dennis Severs to enter the world of his imagination at 18 Folgate Street, E1 where his legacy is a theatrical recreation of a house once home to the Jervis family of Huguenot silk-weavers.

Moving from damp basements to leaking attic, an audience of experts accustomed to analysing objects were constantly admonished to stop looking and start feeling.

And if the smells and sounds of bygone eras were not enough, there

were written reminders from Mr Severs whose motto was "You either see it or you don't".

From the charged atmosphere of the candlelit Severs House, the evening continued at the nearby St John restaurant with a menu of traditional yet largely unfamiliar English fare. A rare procession of dishes began with potted hare, crab toast, chitterlings and kale, with a diversion to Wales for laver bread, followed by cold Hereford and bone marrow, speckled face and sprout tops, skate, brown butter and capers.

You either eat it or you don't!

Left: sampling the atmosphere on Folgate Street.

Guild adds magic to Wizardry in Wood

In 2004, The Worshipful Company of Turners celebrated their 400th Anniversary with a special three-day exhibition at Pewterers' Hall titled 'Wizardry in Wood'. The exhibition was so successful it was decided to hold similar exhibitions every four years.

The venue for 'Wizardry in Wood 2008' was the magnificent Carpenters' Hall in Throgmorton Avenue in the City. Over the three days 2000 people came to see and buy from 24 professional turners, including Katie Abbott who gave working displays of turning chair legs on her pole lathe. There were loan displays from both private and public collections.

The centrepiece was the 'Angel's Lathe' loaned by the University of Leuven (Belgium). This had been recently reconstructed by three members of the Guild of Flemish Woodturners based on a print published in Antwerp in 1627.

A selection of 17th and 18th century treen from the Pinto Collection at Birmingham Museum was also on show, the first time any Pinto items have been on show in London.

Our Guild was invited to participate and we were provided with a magnificent space adjacent to the main hall.

Right: a corner of the Guild's exhibition at Carpenters' Hall.



Christopher Claxton Stevens, who kindly curated the Guild's display, managed to bring together a fascinating collection of turned chairs from the 16th to the 20th century.

The star piece was an early triangular 'turner's chair', borrowed from a private collection. Also in our display were two show cases, one with early treen and unusual turned items in ceramics, silver, brass, bone, ivory and horn, while the other housed the Nicholas Somers Collection of contemporary turned bowls.

A 17th century longcase clock, circa 1685, by William Raynes of York created a lot of interest with visiting Liverymen as it

was inlaid with the arms of the Worshipful Company of Joiners.

The Guild would like to thank the following for their generous sponsorship and support; David Needham and AON for arranging Insurance; Kim Tassell and James Fielden of K Pak for storage and cartage; Samson & Horne Antiques and Stuart Linford - Furniture Maker, for the loan of exhibits; Norman Adams Ltd for loan of pedestals and all those who kindly loaned items for, or assisted with the display, and last but not least a special thanks to our Clerk, who gave up her time to act as honorary security officer!

See also www.wizardryinwood.com.



‘A tangled heap of jewellery came tumbling forth...’

Hazel Forsyth, Senior Curator of Post-Medieval Collections at the Museum of London, reviews the history of the City's most spectacular treasure and looks forward to the first ever exhibition of the whole hoard in 2012.

A stranger to London, or someone familiar only with the modern city, would probably scurry along Cheapside without giving it much thought, except perhaps, to note its length and width and the magnificent vista of St Paul's Cathedral which is now revealed in all its splendour for the first time since the Second World War.

Overshadowed by large office developments and for much of its length a building site, modern Cheapside is distinctly unremarkable, and yet for many centuries it was the principal market and thoroughfare of the City, running from St Paul's in the west, to Lothbury and the Walbrook at its eastern end.

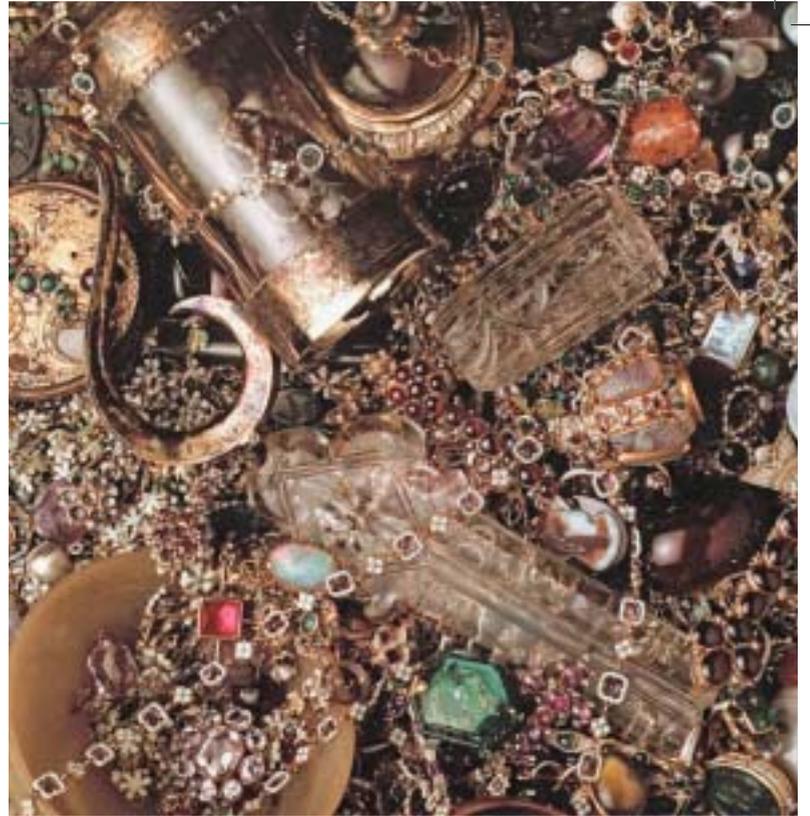
Cheapside was one of the glories of Medieval and Renaissance London. It was the ceremonial route for Royal and civic processions and it was renowned for its 'fair inns', elaborate fountains, merchants' mansions and luxury shops.

From the early 14th century Cheapside was the commercial and retail centre of the goldsmiths' trade, and the dazzling displays of gems, jewels and 'inexpressibly great treasures' attracted the admiration of visitors from home and abroad. A Venetian visitor to London in 1498 was astonished to find 'fifty-two goldsmiths shops so rich and full of silver vessels, great and small, that in all the shops in Milan, Rome, Venice, and Florence put together [would not] be found so many of the magnificence that are to be seen in London.'

The heart of the goldsmiths' trade was on the south side of Cheapside between Bread St and Wood St, and it was in this locality that an astonishing discovery was made. On June 18, 1912 workmen entered 30-32 Cheapside to tear down timber-framed buildings that had survived from the 17th century.

One of the labourers started to break up the brick-lined cellar floor and something caught his eye. Quickly scraping the chalky soil aside, he realized that he had struck the remains of an old wooden casket, and to his immense delight a tangled heap of jewellery, gems and other precious objects came tumbling forth. He had uncovered what is now known and celebrated as 'The Cheapside Hoard' the greatest cache of Elizabethan and Jacobean jewellery in the world and one of the most remarkable and spectacular finds ever recovered from British soil.

The treasure includes an agate cameo of Elizabeth I; an exquisite gold watch set in a massive emerald from the Muzzo mines of Colombia; sapphires, diamonds and rubies from India, pearls and opals, as well as classical and Byzantine glyptics already 16 centuries old when the Hoard was buried in the 17th century.



The Hoard was acquired by the London Museum in 1912, and with the exception of one item in the Victoria and Albert Museum, and twenty-five pieces at the British Museum, it now forms part of the Museum of London's collection.

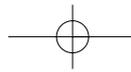
From the moment of its discovery the Hoard has attracted worldwide interest and remains the most important source of our knowledge of the London jewellery trade in the Elizabethan and Jacobean period. Such is its rarity and interest, that almost every publication on the early modern period includes some reference to the collection. Yet despite its international fame, the entire collection of just over 500 items has never been comprehensively catalogued and has never been exhibited en masse.

The year 2012 will be the centenary of the Hoard's discovery and we are hoping to mark the occasion with a major publication and an exhibition. The research will draw together artefactual, documentary, literary and pictorial evidence and will use state-of-the-art analytical techniques. The project will also create a comprehensive digital archive on the London jewellery trade between 1550 and 1700.

Additional evidence will be drawn from archaeological investigations on the site itself, and the current re-development of Cheapside provides an unparalleled opportunity to look at the pre- and post-fire buildings in Goldsmiths' Row and learn more about the goldsmiths who occupied these properties and their working practices.

Museum of London archaeologists have been working on the site for the last three months. Alas, no more jewellery has come to light, but they have uncovered another brick-lined Tudor cellar and have retrieved a number of domestic artefacts from adjoining cesspits and wells. The footings of the Tudor and Jacobean buildings are clearly defined, and for the very first time it will be possible to bring together, documentary, literary, topographical and physical evidence to create 3-D reconstructions of west Cheapside and Goldsmiths' Row in the early modern period.

The results of this work will feature in the exhibition to give visitors a better sense of the 17th century shopping experience and the original splendour of London's principal thoroughfare: its 'jewel in the crown.'



A Past Master looks to the future

THE last 18 months have been a very exciting time for me as the first elected Master of the Guild, a rare privilege for any person and one that I have very much appreciated.

What has been inspiring is the support I have had from so many people, in particular from Jonathan Horne the former Clerk and the Assistant Clerk, now Clerk, Georgina Gough, together with the members of the Court and our Beadle Geoff Fairfax.

We have had also the support of our sponsoring Alderman, Sheriff and Alderman Ian Luder who has been a source of good advice on City matters. Our Founder Master Lord Brooke has been hugely supportive and it must be a great pleasure for him and Jonathan Horne, the two architects of the Guild, to see it come into existence and begin to make progress. We are all deeply indebted to both of them for the Guild.

Our lawyers Messrs Withers (Pierre Valentin) and our accountants Mercer & Hole (Andy Crook) have given us the necessary legal and financial advice required to establish ourselves as a Guild. I am indebted also to the Remembrancer Paul Double who has guided us from time to time on matters of protocol.

I was determined to leave office with £100,000 in our bank account and I am pleased to say this has been done and I look forward to our achieving the other required targets. I have written a draft fund raising strategy for the fund raising working group which will be settled shortly and which brings into focus how, I believe, we can be successful in raising monies we require and beyond. The targets set are well capable of being achieved.

With regard to the future, I have an admirable successor in Jonathan Horne who so richly deserves to take on this role and a Court with working committees which will help shape the future of what is fast becoming a novel and well respected Guild.

I have asked that we have an audit of our talents. I believe that the wide range of subjects in the decorative arts on which our members can speak with authority could be an advantage to other Livery Companies who may wish to have speakers from time to time on these subjects. Such an activity will give the



Above: after chairing his last Court meeting as Master, Geoffrey Bond officially appointed Georgina Gough as Clerk.

Guild notoriety in the best sense of the word and help strengthen our ties within the Livery movement.

I believe we shall be consulted on many matters on the decorative arts and may even become a voice for the sector.

With the growth of funds, in addition to the travel bursary, I believe we shall see an increasing number of education-based sponsored activities meeting one of the most important of our objectives. It is important we engage with young people and those in higher education as well as life-long learning. Our programmes should reflect diversity and in particular the diversity of our great City.

The Guild is unique in the City as although there are Companies devoted to Goldsmiths, Painter-Stainers, Armourers, Pewterers, Furniture Makers, Stained glass etc, there is no one organisation such as ours which represents the decorative arts, collectors, archaeologists, the auction houses, shipping, insurance and associated activities.

The first annual lecture given by Tim Schroder was outstanding and I believe for years to come a ticket to our annual lecture will be much sought after. With our wide range of knowledge in the decorative arts we shall be able to make a considerable contribution to the cultural City, all confirming our charitable status.

I wish the new Master and his Court every continuing success, the Guild has a bright future and an important role to play as a City based charity.

Geoffrey Bond OBE DL FSA

Advent Service

THE Advent service at St Peter's ad Vincula in the Tower of London will be on November 30 this year.

Just to visit the chapel is an experience and last year's service was quite breathtaking. As the Master said at the Installation dinner: "Truly the hair on the back of my neck stood on end."

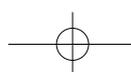
Pirates of the East End

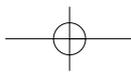
THIS year's annual lecture, *Pirates of the East End*, on Thursday, October 30 will be given by Frank Meddens who will explore the archaeological evidence of families of pirates living in London off their plundered loot in the 17th and 18th centuries.

The lecture will relate to an exhibition on the same theme at Sampson & Horne.

New Deacon

CONGRATULATIONS to Simon Stokes who took a week away from his desk at Blake Laphorn Tarlo Lyons in June to complete his ordination as a Deacon in the Church of England. He was one of 34 candidates welcomed into the Church by the Bishop of London at St Paul's Cathedral on June 30th.





THE CLERK'S COLUMN

Your enthusiasm is infectious

As I take on new duties as your Clerk, I can only say that my predecessor will be a very hard act to follow. If it had not been for the sheer determination and occasional bloody mindedness of Jonathan we would not have got this far. A big thank you to him for being such an encouraging and diligent Clerk to the Guild during its formative period. We now welcome him as our new Master and I look forward to the coming year.

It is a pleasure to be associated with such a cross-section of people all of whom have such enthusiasm for the historical and decorative arts and I hope our informal lunches continue as a forum for good discussion and occasional light-hearted disagreement. A meeting has been arranged with members of some of the City's Historical Societies when I hope we can build on our friendships and promote further research within the City.

Although we are not yet able to make much of a contribution financially, we do have to keep up to date with various projects that require funding – of which there are a great many – and the Livery Companies' charitable contributions are amazingly diverse and generous. The arts tend to suffer when there is a downturn in financial fortunes and I hope that the Guild will be able to assist in keeping some heads above water.

Geoffrey Bond has been a terrific Master with his knowledge of

the workings of the City, his connections and his encouragement. Having relinquished his badge of office, he has agreed to chair our Fund Raising committee. Tribute, too, to all the members of the Court who have given up much of their time to promote and support the Guild as have the members of our sub-committees.

We now have a website (www.artsscholars.org) which has been compiled by Mark Bridge and his team at the Antiques Trade Gazette who should be congratulated once more on producing our great newsletters. This year the newsletter is being sponsored by Cadogan Tate, the fine art shippers and I am very grateful to them for their support.

It has been wonderful to see so many new faces at recent Guild events. A warm welcome to our 24 newest members whose details are given below.

May I take this opportunity to recommend the excellent Briefings organised by the Livery Committee to introduce the work of the City of London Corporation and its relationship to the Livery Companies. These events run from 5 to 8pm and are aimed at all those new to the City. Wives, husbands and partners are all welcome and the evening includes an excellent finger buffet with wine. The next available Briefings are on February 18 and May 5. Please let me know if you would like to attend.

GG

Georgina Gough, Clerk, 12 Austin Friars, London EC2N 2HE

New Members

Anita Anderson – dealer in English and Continental silver and adviser to the Salters' Company.

John Andrew – collector of coins, jewellery, Fabergé and post-War and contemporary British silver. Author on Fabergé.

Harry Apter – a family member of a long line of dealers specialising in English furniture and a member of the British Antique Dealers' Association.

Dr Adam Bowett – consultant on English furniture history and woods to museums and the antiques trade.

Penny Brittain – with experience in the salerooms, now a Cambridge-based consultant, specialising in textiles, embroidery and furniture and a face on the Antiques Road Show.

Helen Carless – Managing Director of the auction house Lawrences based in Crewkerne.

Roderick Caxton-Spencer – a Freeman of the City. Runs Besso Insurance and collects oils and watercolours.

Roger Cline – retired City Patent Attorney and Archivist of Horners' Company.

Collector of maps and reference material on London.

Simon Cottle – glass specialist at Bonhams. Former Keeper of applied Art at Laing Art Gallery and the Burrell Collection.

Tara Draper-Stumm – fund-raiser and events co-ordinator for Heritage of London. Collects early Chinese and 'Shipwreck' ceramics.

Christopher Eimer FSA – a specialist and writer on commemorative medals, advising many museums.

Ted Few – eclectic dealer whose knowledge covers a wide area of works of art.

Adam Golder – CEO Morgans Insurance and Liveryman of Worshipful Company of Insurers. collector of classic cars.

Robin Harcourt-Williams – the Archivist at Hatfield House.

Giles Houghton – the new generation of team Houghton who specialises in British and Continental ceramics.

James James-Crook – auctioneer with Lyon & Turnbull, based in their London office.

David Little and his partner **Julia Gillott** – collectors of oak, pewter and early silver. David is a Liveryman of the Pewterers' and the Framework Knitters' Companies.

William MacDougall – Chairman of MacDougall, auctioneers of Russian art.

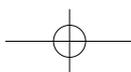
Nigel Raffety – clock dealer and member of the British Antique Dealers' Association. A Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers.

Robyn Robb – a dealer specialising in 18th century English porcelain.

Claire Scott – past Chairman of Broad St Ward Club and Freeman of the City. Runs the History Store.

John Spanner – a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Glovers and a collector in many fields.

Sebastian Whitestone FSA – a dealer specialising in clocks. Trustee of Spencer House and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers.



Master's Installation

ON May 19 the new Master, Wardens and Clerk were installed at Watermen's Hall. Seasoned observers declared that the relaxed robing ceremony of our young Guild was "unique and refreshing" and a good time was had by all as members old and new gathered for a memorable dinner.

The new line-up. Left to right: Geoffrey Bond – Immediate Past Master, Jonathan Horne – Master, Geoff Egan – Upper Warden, Georgina Gough – Clerk, Mark Bridge – Middle Warden, Philippa Glanville – Renter Warden.



Dianora Bond, Georgina Gough and Rachael Horne.



Brian Rolleston, Harry Apter and Nicholas Brett



Peter Clayton, John Andrew and Francis Grew



Alderman Nicholas Anstee, Sophie Wootton, Clare Anstee, Lin Luder and Sheriff and Alderman Ian Luder



Geoff Egan, Melanie Cuchet and Alastair Dickenson



Mark Dalrymple, David Needham, John Nolan and John Barber

All pictures by Peter Holland 020 8977 3164