

2020



The Mace-Bearer



Magazine of the Guild of Mace-Bearers



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Welcome to the 2020 edition of 'The Mace-Bearer'. This year has, without doubt, been one of unprecedented times. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic has changed everybody's life beyond recognition, and we're still not through it yet.

Many of our guild members have either experienced the virus themselves or have known somebody close to them who has. This, on top of recent political turmoil in the news and the uncertainty of the last four years Brexit negotiations, is more than most of us can bear.

During the 'Lock Down' period, most Mayoral activities came to a sudden and grinding halt. I'm sure very few of our treasured maces have seen the light of day from their secure storage places, save perhaps the occasional cleaning sessions. We have seen a growing trend in 'virtual' Mayoral visits, Civic meetings and Mayor-making ceremonies. I myself, in full ceremonial dress, carried our mace into an empty civic chamber with nobody there but the cameraman filming it.

But what we must always keep in mind, is that we **will** one day get through all of this and business **will** one day return to the 'normal' that we will all recognise and welcome. In the meantime, we must pull together as a nation, put aside our political gripes and opinions, and look after each other, our friends and our neighbours.

I hope you are all staying safe and keeping well. I look forward to meeting up with many of you in the inevitably brighter, and hopefully not too distant, times ahead.

Neill Tully QPM – Guild Editor

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THE GUILD OF MACE-BEARERS

OBJECTS

- To uphold and preserve the customs of the civic and corporate life of the Country and Commonwealth and to advise thereon.
- To collect and disseminate information that will assist members in the performance of their duties.
- To uphold the position and dignity of the office of Mace-Bearer within the civic and corporate domain.
- To promote the spirit of comradeship and co-operation amongst its members.
- To encourage a degree of uniformity in civic and corporate ceremonial without infringing the peculiar and characteristics customs of individual Towns and Corporations
- To assemble its members periodically to discuss matters of professional interest.

IDEAL

The Guild shall be strictly non-sectarian and non-political and shall not seek the status of a Trade Union.

MOTTO

Semper Fidelis (Ever Faithful)

The Guild Council

Prime Warden	Adam Tregoning J.P.	primewarden@macebearer.com
Renter Prime Warden	Derek Scott	renterwarden@macebearer.com
Guild Clerk	Chris Hobbs-East	clerk@macebearer.com
Guild Bursar	Alan Spencer	bursar@macebearer.com
Guild Training Officer	Derek Scott	training@macebearer.com
Guild Editor	Neill Tully QPM	editor@macebearer.com
Guild Welfare Officer	Richard Strudwick	welfare@macebearer.com
Guild Web Master	Peter E Legg	webmaster@macebearer.com

Area Representatives

North and North Wales	Geoff Johnson	north@macebearer.com
Scotland	Willy Patterson	scotland@macebearer.com
South East	Paul Mayhew	southeast@macebearer.com
South West and South Wales	Heather Hill	southwest@macebearer.com

From The Prime Warden



Dear Colleagues,

What a year we find ourselves in!

Firstly, I was humbled and honoured to be elected as Prime Warden at the Annual Conference & Training in Southend-on-Sea and want to thank you all for your support and friendship in making it such a memorable event. It was a fabulous three days which saw Mace-Bearers from across the UK come together. It was great to see many familiar faces but also to welcome new members to the fold. Thank you to all of you and especially those that travelled some considerable distance to be there. It was even more poignant as almost immediately afterwards we went into lockdown due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. So close was the conference to lockdown, in fact, that the Scottish contingent almost got locked down in Southend!

I hope you all enjoyed your time in Southend-on-Sea and felt the Training element was constructive & worthwhile and that you left with fond memories of our amazing Borough.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to Derek Scott, London Borough of Havering, on his election as Renter Prime Warden and I look forward to working with him throughout our year in office in the promotion of the Guild.

And then...

The following months saw us all severely restricted in our normal day to day business. Our Civic heads years were suddenly curtailed. Many of us may have found ourselves redeployed to different roles within our Authorities. A truly testing time for everyone!

At the time of writing restrictions are slowly starting to be eased and tentatively we look to how we move forward. There are a myriad of alternative arrangements to look into in order for us to safely continue in our roles. I am sure as a collective we will share new ways of working between us as we look to safely continue. Please do contact your area representatives if you need any advice or if you have anything to share. The website message board is also a fantastic tool in which to do this. Huge thanks must go to the Webmaster, Peter Legg, for all his work in updating the website.

The traditions and heritage that we are the custodians of stretch back many hundreds of years. Much has happened during that time and yet as a nation we have evolved and we have carried on. We will get through this, as our forebears have before us, with resolve, ingenuity and dignity.

I look forward to seeing you all again at the next Conference & Training meeting but in the meantime do feel free to contact me at any time if I can be of any assistance.

Take Care & Stay Safe!

Semper Fidelis

Adam Tregoning JP

Mayor's Officer & Mace-Bearer
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council





Derek Scott
renterwarden@macebearer.com

RENTER PRIME WARDEN

I was extremely honoured to be installed as Renter Prime Warden at the annual conference in Southend-on-sea and would like to express my thanks to all who attended. The Prime Warden, Adam Tregoning JP arranged a fantastic conference and I thank him for his hard work, dedication, and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council for making it such a special occasion

It is a huge pleasure to be able to represent the Guild and I will do my utmost to promote the Guild to the wider Community.

Lastly, I hope that you are well and safe and look forward to seeing you soon.

With kind regards

Del



Neill Tully QPM
editor@macebearer.com

GUILD EDITOR



Welcome to the 2020 edition of The Mace-Bearer magazine, and to my first year in the role of Editor.

My first duty is of course to thank my predecessor, Alan Spencer, for his fantastic work over the last 10 years. He has really been instrumental in turning this magazine into the high quality publication that it has become. I am the first to admit that I 'stand on the shoulders of giants' in the knowledge that I certainly do have big shoes to fill.

As with anyone taking over a longstanding project, I hope to bring fresh ideas to enhance it even further. But having said that, I'm a firm believer in the phrase "*if it aint broke, don't fix it*", so will not be making changes for changes sake. Yes, I have some ideas of my own, but I will be implementing them gradually. My goal is to ensure the magazine remains an enjoyable and interesting read for all our members.

Those who know me will know that I am passionate about the Guild and I hope that this will shine through this, and future issues.

My best wishes to you all for a successful and, above all, healthy guild year.



Chris Hobbs-East
clerk@macebearer.com

GUILD CLERK



Has it already been another year!

I hope this finds all our members safe, well and coping with the ever changing world that we live in.

I'm glad to report the conference in Southend-on-Sea was a great success and held just in time before lockdown was enforced. Well done Adam!

It has been a difficult year for us all and as the country gets back to some kind of normality please do not hesitate to ask the Guild if you have any questions. Some things in your council may have to change but we don't want it to affect the protocols too much. Also don't forget to join the Facebook page as it is a great way of sharing and gaining knowledge and it's great to see what our members have been up to.

The Guild online shop is going from strength to strength and if you have any ideas for different merchandise that you would like to see then please do let us know.



Alan Spencer
bursar@macebearer.com

Hi All

I write to you from the confines of self-isolation and hope that I find you all well.

Thankyou for your trust in electing me as Guild Bursar. I am just beginning to get my head around what this involves but would like to report that the Guild is in a pretty good financial state. Full accounts will be available at the next AGM.

I attended the AGM in Southend and would like to congratulate Adam on becoming Prime Warden and putting on such a good event.

I would also like to congratulate all the other new Guild Council members and look forward to seeing them at our next Guild Council meeting.

You may be interested to know that, having given up Mace-Bearing full time at Portsmouth City Council and undertaking the role of Town Crier for Southampton City Council, I have been asked to represent Southampton CC as their Guild Representative. This will involve Mace-Bearing on an ad-hoc basis. I am very grateful to the Mayor's Office at Southampton City Council for enabling me to continue with Mace-Bearing.

I look forward to seeing members old and new at the next AGM.

GUILD BURSAR





Derek Scott
training@macebearer.com

TRAINING OFFICER

The Guild year started with a great Conference in Southend-on-Sea. Thanks must go to Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and congratulations to our new Prime Warden Adam Tregoning JP for arranging a superb conference that was enjoyed by all who attended.

The conference is always a great way to meet colleagues new and old and to learn and share from the vast knowledge that members always bring. Certainly, at Southend-on-Sea, this once again proved to be the case.

I hope that those who attended found the training informative and I would like to thank Paul Mayhew South East Rep for his contribution.

In these uncertain times, it is difficult to know how to begin to plan our personal and working lives with government restrictions changing.

At the time of writing this report, due to the uncertainty we live in, I am unable to supply details regarding training 2021. As things currently stand, it is unlikely to go ahead. I can only apologise for this and hope you will understand.

In the meantime, I hope you are all well and remain safe. I look forward to seeing you all again soon in better times.

Kind regards

Del



Heather Hill
southwest@macebearer.com

SOUTH WEST ENGLAND & SOUTH WALES

Coalface work as Mace-Bearer in Portsmouth has, like all of us, been very much on the back burner. For many of us it has been a worrying time as we look towards the future of our individual appointments as employed or volunteer Mace-Bearers.

With help from my residential FoG, I have set out a plan to contact all Local Authorities in my Region, construct a list of all who have a Mace-Bearer and compare it to our Membership. Any LAs not represented will be contacted with an invitation to join us and any inactive asked to renew their interest.

I think we are looking at an opportunity to renew and increase interest nationwide and help bring our communities together using The Mace as the local, focal, rallying symbol of our Councils and their elected Mayor. "Local Focal" We have work to do.

Best wishes to you all,
Heather.



SOUTH EAST ENGLAND

Paul Mayhew
southeast@macebearer.com

 Read Paul's Story on Page 35

I really enjoyed the conference and AGM at Southend-on Sea. My congratulations must go to the Prime Warden, Adam Tregoning JP, and his team for such a fantastic event, both from the training perspective (I would say that!) and also the social side of it. It was nice getting to know you all better during the evening, following on from meeting you all and interacting with you during the training sessions. It was an honour to be appointed your South East Representative during the AGM..

As we are coming out of lockdown and things are starting to journey to the new 'norm' (whatever that may be), please remember that it's your Guild and it's up to all of us to shape it, keep it moving in the right direction and current. Please do, therefore, forward any suggestions, ideas and thoughts you have in this regard to me, so that I may represent them at council on your behalf.

I look forward to catching up with you all at next years AGM

Stay safe

Paul



NORTH ENGLAND & NORTH WALES

G Geoff Johnson
north@macebearer.com

During this year we have celebrated many events in the North.

To mention just a few, we had the pleasure of the Tour de France passing through Ripon in April, and the Cities Four Hornblower's being presented with their own horn; the usual Mayor-making ceremonies in May, where the Royal Engineers paraded through the city to exercise their Freedom right; a 21 gun salute in York (the only saluting station in the North) marking special events for the Royal family, and RAF Leeming exercising their right of freedom, accompanied by the Central Band of the RAF and a spitfire fly-past.

I'd like to mention former Prime Warden, and Sergeant-at-Mace Jim Vauvert, who retired from civic duties earlier this year. The Guild wishes Jim a long and happy retirement.

I hope that you are all keeping safe too and I send my best wishes to all in the Guild

Geoffrey W Johnson



SCOTLAND

Willy Patterson
scotland@macebearer.com

Firstly I would like to thank Adam and his council for hosting an excellent conference. The Hospitality was second to none from his Mayor and his good Lady. It was also nice to have the entertainment this year and would like it to continue in this way at future conferences. It is extremely quiet here north of the border as, like everywhere, we are in lockdown and don't know when duties will resume. Hope everyone has escaped the virus.



Richard Strudwick
welfare@macebearer.com

WELFARE

At the time of writing (St George's Day 23rd April) I report that Jimmy Malone, former Scottish Council Officer for Falkirk, Master and Prime Warden of the Guild (1986/7) who joined in 1971 has resigned his membership for health reasons. On behalf of the Prime Warden & Members I conveyed our best wishes to Jimmy and his wife, Cathie.

It is my sad duty to report the death of Geoff Robbins, the former Mace-Bearer of Burnley, Lancs, who died on 23rd April following a long period of ill-health. Geoff, a Master of the Guild, was in his mid 80s and was Prime Warden in 91/92. A memorial service will be arranged when the COVID-19 lockdown is lifted. We convey our sincere condolences to Heather who was married to Geoff for 62 years.

Our condolences also got to Mr Bill Surringer's family. Bill, who was an honorary member of the Guild, passed away in January of this year.

Mrs Gillian Weatherhead, Mrs Barbara Berridge, Mrs Margaret Coxon, Mrs Veronica Smoothy, & Mrs Ann Banton each of whom were suffering from bouts of ill-health, received bouquets of flowers with the best wishes of the Prime Warden and all the Guild Members.

The Guild Charity Fund at the time of writing stands at £1211.92. I record my appreciation to the FOGs who raised the amazing sum of £425 for the Fund at the Conference Dinner.



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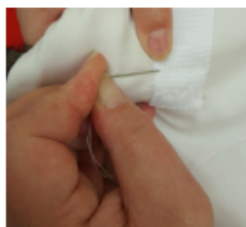
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Badges & Accessories



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Town Crier Uniforms



State & Ceremonial Funeral Wear



Wig Cleaning & Repair

Why Join the Guild? – What's in it for me?

If you carry a mace, take part in civic or university processions or ceremonial events, then the Guild is for you.

Our members have a wealth of experience in protocol matters such as: Who should be in a procession? What order should dignitaries be in? How should a procession be marshalled and announced?

At less formal occasions the rules of protocol can be just as tricky. Should the Mayor wear his chain at a funeral? Can the Mayoress attend events in his stead? Does the Chancellor always enter last? Who should sit on the host's right at dinner?

All of these questions and many more are in the domain of the mace-bearer and the Guild of Mace-Bearers is where you can get real answers from experienced colleagues.

Membership allows you a wealth of support from fellow members. You will also receive the 'Manual of the Mace' – A pocket sized hand book which is a complete road map to success for any new mace-bearer.

It includes sections on Mayoral protocols, correct forms of address, correct mayoral attire and example formats for all kinds of civic visits and events.

Membership also includes your copy of the 'Mace-Bearer' yearly magazine. Packed full of useful articles, stories and pictures, details of regular training opportunities, and reports from the Guild Council. In addition, membership gives you full access to the 'members only' area of the Guild website and on-line shop.

A Warm Welcome to all

the New Members who have joined us in the last 18 Months...

Jon Bartholomew - Hastings Borough Council

Kenneth Bond - Birmingham City Council

Stephen Booth - Kirklees Metropolitan Council

David Bourne - Wolverhampton University

Heather Britton - Lyme Regis Town Council

Kennedy Brown - Sandwell Metropolitan Council

Christoph Bull - Gravesham Borough Council

Tim Cloke - Great Torrington Town Council

Claire Crumpton - Glastonbury Town Council

Stephen Dawber - Kirklees Metropolitan Council

Katie Farnworth - Queen Margaret University

John Ford - Harwich Town Council

Don Gramlich - Barnstaple Town Council

Paul Hennessy - Sefton Metropolitan Council

David Johnston - Exeter City Council

Trish Judson - Pendle Borough Council

John Jordan - Tiverton Town Council

Basil Jones - Oakhampton Town Council (Rejoin)

Diane Jolivet - House of Lords

Louise Lecky-Thompson - Barnstaple Town Council

Melvin Manning - Hackney London Borough Council

Robert McCarthy (Snr) - Worcester City Council

Robert McCarthy (Jnr) - Worcester City Council

Zoe McLaren - Basingstoke & Dean Borough Council

David Milnes - Doncaster Borough Council

Alan Moffett - Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council (Our only member in N. Ireland)

Stephen Parsons - Beccles Town Council

Ian Piggott - Havering London Borough Council

Colin Price - Wells City Council

Charles Townsley - Aldeburgh Town Council

David Turner - Wallingford Town Council

James Watling - Blandford Forum Town Council

Julie Wilson - Sheffield City Council

Nicola Windell - Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

Konrad Zielinski - Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

Guild Conference 2020 Southend - on - Sea

11th—13th March

As is customary, everybody met and registered on the Wednesday evening and enjoyed refreshments. This year it was hosted at Porters Civic House. A building that dates back to the 15th Century.



The members were treated to an excellent tour of the building, which once hosted a visit from Benjamin Disraeli, who stayed there from 1833—34. It has been the Mayors Parlour for Southend-on-Sea since 1935



The incoming Prime Warden Installation Ceremony took place the following morning at the Park Inn Palace Hotel. The ceremony was opened by The Worshipful the Mayor of Southend-on-Sea, Cllr John Lamb.



After the photo call in front of the famous pier, the members listened to very informative talks on 'Civic Offices in the 21st Century', by members Derek

Scott and Paul Mayhew, and 'Care and Maintenance of Civic Robes', by Mr Michael Stopford of Michaels Civic Robes.



In the evening it was the Guild dinner held in the hotel ballroom. A sumptuous dinner was served, followed by speeches and the members then relaxed as they danced the night away to the evenings entertainment.

The final part of the conference, the Guilds Annual General Meeting, took place back at Porters Civic House the next morning.





With a new Guild Editor taking the helm of the magazine, the FoGs thought it would be a good idea to have a dedicated section just for them. If this makes it into the magazine then the Guild Editor thought so too!

Let's start with a little bit of history. The Friends of the Guild (FoGs) was formed from an idea in about 2012, but officially came into being in 2013 at the conference in Royal Wootton Bassett



The Guild Council meet about six months before the Guild Conference to discuss, amongst other things, the forthcoming conference. The partners that accompany the Guild Council members do not take part in their meetings so have to find something to do for an hour or two.

Inevitably, the partners end up somewhere having a cup of tea and a slice of cake! On one such occasion, we jokingly suggested that we should form our own group. Several names were suggested but Friend of the Guild, commonly known as FoG, stuck.

Founding members were Geoff Hobbs-East (FoG Two) and the late Cynthia Smith (FoG Three). Yours truly became Fog number one simply as a consequence of being the one who designed the application form — well you have to have some benefits!!

FOGs On Tour 2020

Whilst Guild members were attending the conference in Southend-on-Sea and taking part in the training session, guests were treated to some trips out.

In the morning, we all piled into a mini bus and visited the local museum. where we were greeted by the very knowledgeable and enthusiastic Robert Sharp. Robert gave a brief history of the East Saxon Kingdom and the Prittlewell Prince Burial Chamber. The exhibition, although small, was very interesting and I would recommend any in the area making a visit.



After lunch, it was back in the mini bus and a trip along the coast to Leigh-on-Sea. Leigh, as it is commonly called, is a small fishing village mentioned in the Domesday Book.

FoGs had a look at the museum and a recreation of a fisherman's cottage before having a guided tour of Leigh. A few also made a stop at the local seafood stall for a taster.



Our final 'jaunt' was a trip on the train down to the end of Southend Pier. We stopped for the obligatory cup of tea before joining the train for the 1.34 miles (2.16 km) trip back.

Here we almost managed a first by losing a FoG after one of the group decided to make the journey on foot.



To become a FoG, either complete the application form on the website or come along to the conference and we'll sign you up there and then.

Susan Spencer (aka FoG One)

A feature on Brentwood Borough Council's Mace-Bearer & Guild South East England Representative.

Paul Mayhew

At the time of writing this article I'm 41 years old, married to my beautiful wife Claire and have 3 wonderful children.

For the first 15 years of my working life I was employed by a construction company that worked for London Underground and Network Rail. In 2011, I joined Woodlands Schools, two independent preparatory schools in Brentwood as their Estates Manager. I am now the Head of Facilities and Health and Safety which keeps me very busy, I really enjoy my job, work with some great people and no two days are ever the same.

In 2004 I joined Brentwood Borough Council as Chauffeur for the Mayor. In 2010 there was a restructure of the civic offices and, together with the Mayors of that year, the ceremonial traditions and protocols associated with the office of the Mayor were reintroduced to the borough.



It was then that I became Chauffeur & Mace-Bearer, joining the Guild in 2012 and in 2018 became a member of the executive committee for NACO (National Association of Civic Officers). At the 2020 annual guild conference, I was honoured to be appointed the South East Representative.

Being a member of both organisations, at the level I am, has given me a greater insight into how both the civic office and chauffeur / mace-bearers support each other in their respective roles and, in turn, support their civic heads.

I very much look forward to Supporting and answering queries from members, promoting the guild where I can and encouraging new members. I may not always have the answer to hand, but we have a wealth of knowledge and experience within the membership and guild council to tap into and share.



Website News

Peter E. Legg
Guild Website Officer

June 2020



WELCOME TO THE 21st CENTURY!

Members can hardly have failed to notice the changes that have been afoot with the Guild in the last year. After a monumental effort to sort out the membership list (which had fallen into disrepair under the previous Bursar), all members and friends of the Guild were added onto the automated membership renewal system which fired off subscription invoices on 1st January. It's fair to say I was expecting a few teething problems, but it actually went as well as could be hoped.

There were the expected number of queries – “Can you resend the invoice to my council”, “I haven't been a member for years”, “Where do I send my cheque?” for example. But I think the best I received was from the lady who told me her husband had left her 15 years ago and she wondered why we kept sending her magazines!

Eventually everything was sorted, so we now have a definitive membership list which only contains the details of those who have paid their subs for the year. We crossed off a lot of ‘members’ from the list, as I've always argued, members who haven't paid their subs aren't members!

As part of the modernisation process, I contacted everyone who we didn't have a live email address for. As a result we now have just eight members who are not contactable electronically and who will receive everything through the post. Next January, hopefully subscription renewals will run even more smoothly.

During the last 12 months we have had a steady influx of new members, all completing the online application form and paying the due fees. Their memberships will run for 12 months from the date of joining rather than the traditional Jan-Dec. This avoids the issue of charging someone a full years membership fee for just a few months membership if they join in the summer. The only problem we have had with new joiners is that we ran out of copies of the 2019 magazine and had to resort to sending them a back-issue in their membership welcome pack.

This did give me the incentive to sort through the old magazines and you will find that many recent back issues are now available to purchase from the online shop. Therefore, if you are missing a copy, or just need a duplicate, head to the shop at www.macebearer.com/shop with your payment card handy.

It seems ages since we had anything new to sell and the Prime Warden, Adam Tregoning JP, charged me with designing a new badge to compliment the collar and jewel that many of us wear. It seemed like an easy task until the production of the badge at a factory in China was hit by the outbreak of COVID-19 which closed them down months. Unfortunately, when the badge finally arrived it was the wrong colour due to a mistake by the manufacturer reading the pantone colour chart! Suffice to say, the correct coloured badges were first on the production line when China reopened its factories and we now have a badge to be proud of. You can buy one for just £4.99 (+p&p)



Finally you might like to know that membership as at 1st July 2020 stands at 173.

- 130 Full Members (includes 2 Masters of the Guild)
- 26 Honorary Members (includes 3 Masters of the Guild)
- 3 Associate (overseas) Members
- 11 Friends of the Guild
- 3 Freemen of the Guild

The membership is made up from the following regions:

- 8 in Scotland
- 35 in The North & North Wales
- 62 in The South West & South Wales
- 65 in The South East
- 3 from overseas

Apply on-line via the Guild website. You can be assured of a warm welcome.

If you know anyone else who might like to join, either as a Member or a Friend, simply direct them to www.macebearer.com/membership-and-subscriptions-join-now/

Please do visit the site at www.macebearer.com and let me know what you think – I'm open to suggestions of what you would like added or changed on the site and if it's within my capabilities – and time permits – I'll see what I can do.

Peter E. Legg

Guild Website Officer

Modern Technology Comes To The Rescue Again

It would seem that the new improved Website is not the only modern advancement within the Guild. The restrictions around COVID-19 meant that the regular Guild Council meetings could not take place in their usual format.

They too, used modern technology and we all met from the comfort of our own homes via an online meeting app.



Your Guild Shop

Guild Merchandise



Guild Collarette
£30.00



Guild Lapel
Badge £4.99



Gold Lapel
Badge £4.99



Cloth Blazer
Badge £6.99



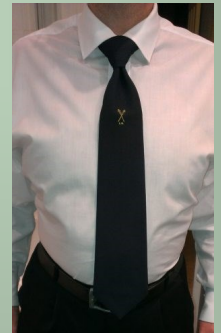
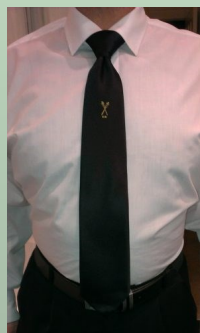
Silver Mace Badge
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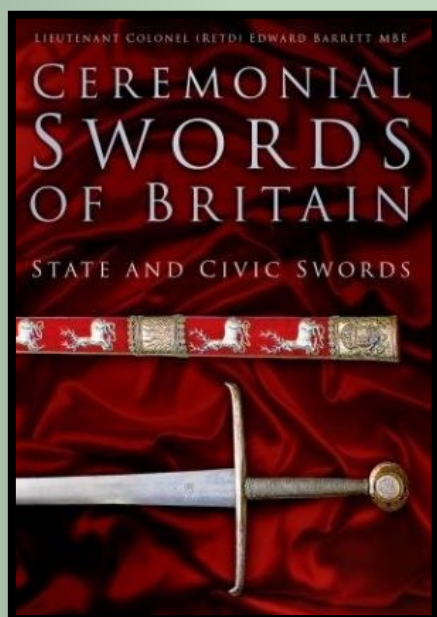


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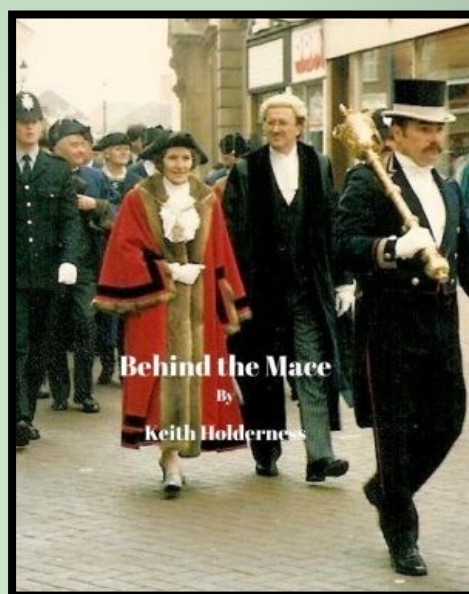


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Guild Tour of the Houses of Parliament

In the summer of 2019, before the nightmare of COVID-19 hit our shores, I had a chance encounter with one of the House of Lords Doorkeepers and Mace-Bearers. The lady in question happened to attend one of our local Citizenship Ceremonies and, as such, showed a keen interest in the Mace I was carrying. I gave her the well rehearsed history lesson and when I mentioned the Guild, she asked if a group of the members would like to go on a guided tour of the Palaces of Westminster. I snatched at the chance and in September that same year, a group of us waited in anticipation outside the gates for our guide to arrive.

The tour was very in-depth and informative. We were led through various parts of the building including the House of Lords, House of Commons, Central Lobby, Members Lobby, The Queens Robing Room and Westminster Hall. The tour also included the Broom Cupboard where Emily Wilding Davidson hid during the 1911 Census.

Unfortunately, the Maces were unavailable for us to view during our visit on this occasion, but we were given a brief history about them, the wording of which is shown on the opposite page.

The day was an excellent one and is one we would like to repeat from time to time. Watch the Guild Website for future trip dates.



The History of the House of Lords Maces

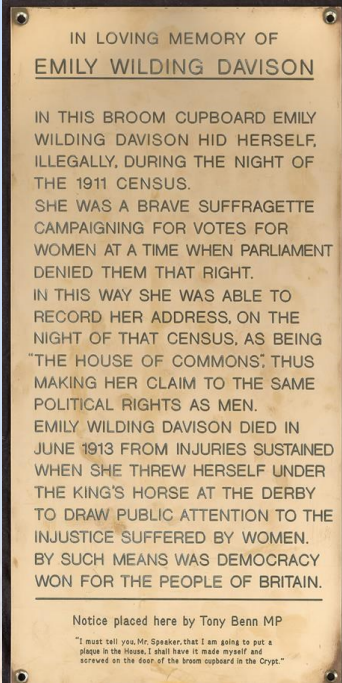
No.1 Mace

This is a mace of the time of William III (1689—1702) made by one Francis Garthorne, a silversmith of London who enjoyed much Royal favour under William III. The initials of George I (1714—1727) G.R. which appear on the head, have been added later. The mace itself much resembles many of the others amongst the maces of the Sergeants at Arms, eight of which are at the Tower and one at the Commons

No.2 Mace

This much resembles the last, but is a little older, being of the reign of Charles II (1660—1685) like the House of Commons mace. It has Stuart arms on the head. It is not marked at all, so the name of the maker cannot be decided. This and the House of Commons mace seem the oldest of the eleven maces, all of which, however, are of the latter half of the seventeenth century. Four of them bear maker's marks well known at that period, but I have not examined the four kept in the gilt birdcage at the Tower; only the four which are kept there in an outer case.

Signed WILFRED CRIPPS Talbot Sergeant at Arms 5 May, 1891



The Guild would like to extend its thanks to Diane Jolivet and James Cameron-Wood for making this visit possible.



Maces Galore !



THE WALLINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL MACE

(Article submitted by Wallingford Government Officer Tracey Collins and Wallingford Town Mace Bearer Dave Turner)

The Wallingford Town Council Mace was made in 1650 during the time of Oliver Cromwell and was used during the reign of His Majesty King Charles II, who ascended to the throne in 1660.

The head forms the shape of the crown, which also carries the Orb surmounted by the Cross. The Crown, Orb and Cross being symbols of Royalty. Embossed around the head of the Mace four times, are the initials C.R.

Interspaced between the initials are four emblems – the Rose of England – the Harp of Ireland – the Thistle of Scotland – and the Fleur-de-Lys of France, the letters C.R. standing for Charles Rex. At the base of the Mace is engraved the Portcullis and the Seal of the Borough, the Knight in Armour.

Tradition suggests that the Wallingford Mace was used as a copy for the Mace of the House of Commons. An entry in the ledger states...



Dave Tuner bearing the Wallingford Town Mace



"The weight of this new mace for the Burrough is ninetie-eight ounces and fourteen pennyweights, at seven shillings per ounce, wich comes to thirtie seven pounds, three pence, unguilt. The guilding of the mace cost nine pounds, the engraving of the armes of the towne upon the mace cost 5 shillings. Also ye case for the mace, with locke and keye to it cost ten shillings. Ye carriage of the mace from London to Wallingford cost three shillings and threepence. Making a total cost of £46-18s-3d."



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The Cinque Ports

A Brief History by TERRY REENE
Hythe Town Sergeant and Town
Mayors Secretary.

As many of you may know, the Cinque Ports date back to the 11th Century and were a forerunner to the Royal Navy. As such they are often referred to as the 'Cradle' of the Royal Navy. During the 13th Century, when the Crown lost Normandy, it was realised that the defence of the English coast could not be left to a group of ill-disciplined local custodians and it needed to be centralised. A system of local wardens did not meet the needs of the Crown, so the post of "Constable of Dover Castle and Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports" was formed. Starting with Stephen de Pencestre (1252-92) to the current Lord Warden, Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce KG GCB OBE DL.

The Cinque Ports originally consisted of Hastings, New Romney, Hythe, Dover and Sandwich. They were later joined by the 'Antient' Towns of Rye and Winchelsea (why Antient and not Ancient I do not know, that is for others to tell). When you look at the coast of the South East, you may wonder why these towns were selected. But nine hundred years ago the coastline was very different. The demands placed on these towns far exceeded their capabilities and so, to meet the commitment, they recruited other towns (or 'Limbs') to support them. Tenterden, Lydd, Folkestone, Deal, Faversham, Ramsgate and Margate joined them. Together these are regarded as the 14 Corporate members of the Confederation of Cinque Ports.

They were afforded special privileges, which included freedom from certain taxes, exemption from the control of certain courts, the right to hold their own courts, to punish offenders and to levy taxes. Being a Cinque Port also afforded them the right to dry and mend their nets and to organise a herring fair at the mouth of the River Yare in Norfolk.

They were also very proud to have been bestowed with the honour of carrying the canopy over the head of every new Sovereign during the coronation. The Cinque Port Mayors were traditionally made Barons for the day and wore Baron's robes for the occasion, (all at their own expense I might add!). This, however, will not happen at the next coronation. Like so many of the ancient customs and with the modernisation of the Royal Family, this one has faded into history.



The Town Sergeants Dinner 2020

With so many boundary and local council changes over the centuries, it is commendable that such an organisation does still exist, but it remains purely ceremonial. However, it certainly is quite a pageant when we all come together and celebrate our fraternity.

We start the year off with a Cinque Ports Town Sergeants dinner (and more recently Cinque Ports and South East Town Sergeants, drivers and friends). This is something that we try and move each year to enable each of the Ports to host. Over 60 people attended this years dinner in Tenterden.

Editors Note— The Cinque Ports are steeped in amazing history, but their representation within the Guild is low. It would be fantastic to welcome more members from this fabulous region.



The formal calendar year starts in January with the Blessing of the Seas at Margate.

This town has a large local Greek community and each January they hold the event which starts in the local



The Blessing of the Seas—Margate 2020

Greek Church, followed by a procession along the seafront to the famous Margate sandy beach. Here the service continues until a cross is thrown into the sea and then retrieved by a local Greek boy. Regardless of the often bitter cold, it is considered an honour to be selected to do this. Following the proceedings on the beach, the group then retires to the Winter Gardens Theatre for a very welcome hot toddy and lunch.

The Blessing is one of the few occasions in Kent when over 20 Mayors, Town Sergeants and other dignitaries all come together to process. Brightlingsea, which is in Essex, is a limb of Sandwich and whilst not included in the 14 towns previously listed, it has a proud heritage and they always send a large delegation to Margate each year. Brightlingsea had a large ship building industry and of course, this was exactly what the Ports needed. I'm not sure why they are not included in the official listing of the Cinque Ports but as I understand it, they have never been a Borough and that may have had a bearing on it. It may also be that their affiliation was lost over the years. I would certainly welcome more information regarding this.

Each year the Head Ports take it in turn to "Lead" the Cinque Ports with their Mayor being invested with the title of 'Speaker of the Cinque Ports'. The 'Speakership' moves along the coast between Hastings and Sandwich. Most recently it passed from the the 'Right Worshipful' Mayor of Winchelsea to the 'Right Worshipful' Mayor of Rye. The title '*Right Worshipful*' is another ancient privilege of being a Member of the Cinque Ports. The 14 towns come together and process through the host town with each town represented by the Town Mayor, The Town Clerk and of course the Mace-Bearers.

Every year, the Lord Warden occupies his residence at Walmer Castle and the Speaker joins him for dinner. The following night, all the members and other dignitaries are invited for cocktails on the battlements, usually to the music of the Hythe Town Concert Band. It is also told that the past Mayors meet on the local beach for a 'Rusty Chains' party too!. I've yet to witness this as I am generally with the other Town Sergeants in the local fish and chip shop!

The Royal Navy ship HMS Kent is a Type 23 Duke Class Frigate and, military commitments permitting, comes into Dover each year where all the Cinque Ports Mayors and other dignitaries are invited aboard to enjoy a guided tour, followed by a drink or two.

I have been a Mace-Bearer for ten years. Quite a newcomer compared to many of my colleagues, but in that short space of time I have seen many changes. So what of the future? That is too big a question for me to answer, but with society changing as quickly as it does today, it falls upon us all in the Cinque Ports, to keep the flag flying, the Maces carried at every opportunity and to keep the level of awareness of The Confederation of the Cinque Ports at its highest level.



Lord Warden with the Mayor and Town Clerk of Hythe



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All Civic Insignia repaired/restored. 47 years as a goldsmith. Still enjoying every day

What a year its been—Just before lockdown started, I travelled to inspect a Mace in need of attention. It was a wonderful 17th century silver Mace with 1970's base metal handyman additions and "repairs". This took me a whole day to attend, measure and discuss. It took another day to write up my findings, report and give three alternative estimates. These ranged from less than my cost for the time it took me to carry out the assessment, right up to the cost of changing the brake discs and pads on a Ferrari. The following week, lockdown happened and to date, I still haven't received any responses to my estimates. It's always nice to know when quotes arrive but, I guess, some offices have simply just ground to a halt. I sometimes have estimates brought into play, as much as twenty years later without a single word having passed in the interim. But the same question is always asked, "will it be the same price?"

I had three Mayoral chains of office booked to come in for repairs, re-chaining, enamelling etc, but suddenly everything has just gone quiet. All the materials are sat here awaiting their arrival, but they have not arrived. A contract is still a contract, but as always with precious metals, their values change rapidly. There has been a 50% rise in the price of silver and a 30% rise in gold since February, so there might be a shock or two in store when the final jobs are completed!

The people who make our ribbons haven't answered their phones for four months and I have several 'Past Mayor' jewels and a Mayoress chain, sitting here awaiting their relevant ceremonies. A few successful Mayor-Making events have been carried out on-line so they've not been needed as urgently. Others may well now be re-purposed or re-engraved where this year's recipient is carried-over to next year.

Nevertheless, I have still been working non-stop throughout the lockdown. Whilst I haven't got close to catching-up yet, the workshop is re-lit, the workbenches are all refurbished and the new shop counter, cabinet lighting and till-stock control system is on order. We have had new '3D design software' installed along with new enamelling equipment. Hopefully the Web shop will be up and running by Christmas. A new casting kiln has also been installed and I've now taken on an apprentice too.



Many of the Maces I work upon were actually made back during the time of the Black Death, the Bubonic Plague, and during The 'Maunder Minimum' (Little Ice Age) when the Thames froze-over, crops failed and there were floods. The King had recently been beheaded, and the country was at war with itself. There then followed the Great Fire of London in September 1666. It was a time of upheaval and crisis in our capital city. It is believed that 6000 died in the fire.

Hatton Garden, London's jewellery quarter, wasn't burned. But most of the workers didn't live there, they lived outside the city in wooden shanty towns, already decimated by the plague. Those remaining workers would probably have been very worried about the potential destruction of London Bridge. Fortunately, it escaped the worst of the flames because a house had burned down on it thirty years earlier. This left a gap which prevented the fire from spreading along it. The loss of the bridge would have been devastating for the City and Hatton Garden.

In spite of COVID-19, life for me, still goes on. Joseph, my son has made a batch of ten silver miniature mace brooches (The price remains unchanged at £100). My daughter Sarah, whom many of you know, has given birth to Chloe her third child, but I still haven't had the chance to hold her and she's now six months old!

Whatever the new 'normal' turns out to be, I'm definitely planning on a future and that includes a place for all your historic pieces of real working jewellery. Perhaps we could have a COVID-19 symbol added to chains?

I've already had enquiries regarding Civic awards for 'Good Citizenship' type medallions for outstanding service etc during this trying time, and one of the above mentioned jobs along with a mace is finally coming in next week. Maybe things are finally starting to look up?

Keep Cheery and safe.

Ged & Family

PS—A series is being screened on BBC2 at the moment (well worth a watch). It is called 'Harlots', Here is a Mace from the opening scenes



Best Foot Forward

Whether your role is exclusively bearing a Civic Mace, or if your day to day duties includes chauffeuring for your mayor, think about it... The first part of you the public see coming through the door (or out of the car) is your foot! So, whilst making sure your attire is perfect at the start of the day, your shoes should feature highly on your list of priorities.

When you've lived a uniformed (in my case both police and military) background, old habits tend to die hard. I now find it difficult to wear a uniform, or indeed just a suit, with anything less than a mirror shine on my shoes. This has often been commented on by colleagues in both a complimentary way, and in light-hearted jest. The most frequently asked question I get however, is "How on earth do you get them that shiny?"

Ask any armed forces personnel and they will say 'Spit and Polish and lots of elbow grease', which is essentially true, but there is a little more to it than that. Whilst techniques have developed and refined over time, the process is still pretty much the same and is called 'Bulling'. There may be slight variations on the physical methods selected and some products used are said to be superior to others, but it is all still the same basic system.

For those who've watched Trooping the Colour and have marvelled at the glistening black diamonds worn by the marching guards, here's my step by step guide on how to attain a version of it ...

Shoes - You'll need shoes – Sounds obvious, but not all shoes are suitable. They needn't be top quality, but they do need to have leather uppers. A mid-range black lace-up Oxford shoe will do it.

Polish – A decent black shoe polish is required. From personal experience, I find those that claim to give a 'Parade' quality shine can contain turpentine and are quite smeary on application.

Cloth – A good quality lint free duster or silver polishing cloth works best.

Beeswax – These come in blocks from any good army surplus store and are inexpensive. They are supplied in either black or in natural colour. Either works well.



way with polish and brushes.

Then you will need to coat the toe-caps in the beeswax. To do this the wax needs to be melted with the hot air gun directly onto the shoe. Do this by applying direct heat to the block to melt it as you rub it across the whole surface of the shoe. Beware, this process is messy, so do it outside!

(Note - If you are using all leather shoes, stuff them with wet newspaper. This will keep their shape. Also remove the laces so they don't scorch or melt.)



Water – Clean and cold (We don't tend to use spit any more).

You will need an electric hot air paint stripper gun (or blowtorch), and you will also require shoe brushes and a pocket penknife.

First clean the shoes in the normal



Applying the wax will get more difficult as the beeswax block gets smaller and the heat nears your fingers. So a handy tip here is to insert a cocktail stick into it as a makeshift handle!

The beeswax will flow and run over the shoe. Try to get it as smooth and even as possible, but don't worry too much about small runs. Continue to do this until the wax stops soaking into the leather. This normally takes one or two blocks per shoe.

Let the shoes stand until dry. You will be left with a matt finish, which may appear pitted and uneven. You will probably find that the wax will have formed runs and filled up the shoes welts (the lip around the edge of the sole) but this is normal.



In order to rectify this, I tend to use a pocketknife to scrape the excess wax off. Any runs on the surface can also be gently scraped and smoothed with the flat of the blade. You are looking to achieve as flat and smooth surface as possible.

Next comes the polishing. This is the time consuming part. The shine is achieved by applying layers of polish and cold water with the cloth, with an even pressure and in small circles.

First apply a thicker coat of polish only and let it dry.

Then with a clean part of the cloth wrapped around your finger, dip it into a tiny bit of polish and dip it into the cold water. The water needs to be as cold as possible. I achieve this by putting an ice cube into the water dish.



Then gently rub the polish and water mix onto the area using the small circular motion. Refresh the polish and water mix frequently. After a while you will start to see a deep shine begin to appear. This may take a little practice and experimentation at first, but you will soon get the idea and the shine will start to come through.

Continue to apply layer after layer and with each one the shine will become deeper and more 'glass' like.



Eventually you will become the proud owner of a pair of 'Black Diamonds' of your own that will look amazing.

The good news is that, although this process appears to be a lot of hard work and effort, once the shine is achieved, it is very easy to maintain. Any scuffs can be quickly removed by applying another quick 10 minute layer to return them to their former glory.



Neill Tully—Guild Editor



The Axbridge Maces



Fig. 1. King James I from the Royal Charter capital

Axbridge is situated in Somerset, just west of its better-known neighbour, Cheddar. In the Domesday Book it had thirty-two Burgesses and it grew wealthy through the wool trade, acting as a local control centre

On the 25th June 1623, during the reign of James I, Axbridge acquired its third Charter of Incorporation (**Fig. 1**), whose primary objective was to extend the jurisdiction of the courts of Axbridge into an area which was effectively a suburb of the new Borough of Axbridge.

To enable this to happen efficiently, a new office was created to assist the Bailiff in collecting fines imposed by the Justices, who were noted to be the Mayor, the Recorder and the Alderman. The Bailiff and the officer, named as the Sergeant-at-the-Mace, were to be the officers of both the Court of Record and of the Sessions of the Peace that were held within the Borough of Axbridge and they were to—*“carry and bear before the Mayor of the Borough [of Axbridge] for the time being and his successors, gilt or silver Maces engraven and wrought with the sign of the arms of us, our heirs and successors, in all places within the Borough and the Liberties and Precincts of the same.”*

Two maces were made at this time, both bearing the same date as the charter. One of the maces was made larger than the other and has a number of minor differences of style. Measurements of both reveal that the larger, to be carried by the Bailiff, who was elected annually, is 31½ inches long (80 cm), whilst the shorter, to be carried by the Sergeant-at-the-Mace, who was elected, after nominations, for an extended period, is 28¼ inches long (72 cm).



Fig. 2. Agnus Dei on foot of mace

Both maces have an engraving of the Agnus Dei on their domed foot (**Fig. 2**), which has been the symbol of Axbridge since at least the medieval period.

In 2008 concerns about the poor condition of the Axbridge Maces led to them being taken to a specialist (Michael Henderson of MCHR in Axminster, Devon) who repaired them and offered advice about their continued use. He also provided a specially designed box (**Fig. 3**) to hold the Maces in an upright position, instead of laying them on their side, as their earlier Victorian boxes had done. This ensured that no pressure was placed on the most sensitive parts of the maces.



Fig. 3. The maces today in their custom-built case



Fig. 4. Head of mace

The cup carries a “cast silver crown topped by a small orb and cross. It is the four strap supports linking the orb to the crown’s rim that have sustained major damage and consequent repairs over many years” (**Fig. 4**). Henderson identified the breaks which happened over the life of the maces, finding fifteen repairs on the straps of the larger Mace and thirteen on the smaller Mace (**Fig. 5**).



Fig. 5. Strap damage

Two factors contributed to this sorry story. One was the repeated heating necessary to solder repairs, which tended to harden the straps and make them more brittle. This was allied to the fact that the straps, along with the crown (though not the orb and cross) are made of what may well be an alloy of silver and, unlike the cup and body, are not set onto an iron core rod and can, therefore, become very brittle.

His final recommendation states, ***"it is our professional opinion that, due to the structural repair problems...together with the age and historical importance of the artefacts, the Trust should consider ceasing to use them on ceremonial occasions. MHCR would advise placing them with a local...museum, within a secure display case which would provide the best long-term protection and allow access by the public."***



Fig. 6. Raised reliefs on quadrants

additional royal symbols adorn the other quadrants, a Tudor rose, which had become the rose of England, and a Fleur-de-Lis, representing the claim of English royalty to French territory. The charter states that James is King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland). In addition, on the quadrant which contains the 'J' there is an engraved script, which states, 'Axbridg the 25th of June 1623' (the 'e' of Axbridge is missing on the original. (Fig. 7).



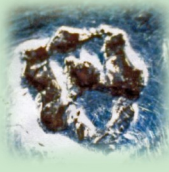
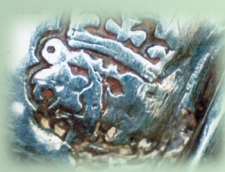
Fig. 7. The date as shown on both maces

Fig 8

Fig 9

Fig 10

Fig 11



There are four hallmarks on the base of the cup of the smaller Mace, which have been "almost obliterated by frequent polishing." Michael Henderson tentatively identified two of these marks. He mentioned "in the rose

quadrant one assay mark as the 'Lion Passant Guardant' (i.e. 92.5% pure silver) (Fig. 8) and its companion, the town mark of the London assay office, the crowned leopards head, in use from 1478-1821" (Fig. 9). He could not identify the marks in the 'J' or 'R' quadrants, but it appears that the first of these may well be an 'j' (Fig. 10), which is the correct date letter for 1623. The latter should, therefore, be the one item that is otherwise missing, that is, the maker's mark, though it appears to be a single 'C' (Fig. 11). This is unusual, as makers usually use two or three letters to identify themselves (perhaps the remaining letters have been totally obliterated).



Fig. 12. The Crown

Henderson says he believes that "all of the above silverwork is of the highest craftsmanship. However, the 'crown' itself is of a different quality. It is of cast silver, a slightly different colour to the main body and fitted very unevenly to the cup's top rim" (Fig.12).

He is "tempted to suggest" that the crown is a later addition, which could be a replacement for a lost original. It has a lower rim which is studded with mock jewels, which are set between 'rope' borders. This rim is in three pieces which have been cut and curved to fit the circumference of the top of the cup. Above

this is a series of Greek crosses intermixed with fleur-de-lis, though, where the straps join them, the sequence does not always work out precisely.

Continued...

Inside this rim is a covering, stretched across the top of the cup, which is secured by pointed teeth folded down from the crown, and contains the royal coat of arms. A traditional English lion is the supporter on the left, whilst a new emblem appears as the right supporter. Formerly this was a dragon, representing Wales, but with James being James I of England as well as James VI of Scotland, the unicorn of Scotland has now replaced the dragon (Fig. 13).



Fig. 13. Coat of Arms

Similarly, the coat of arms between them has been extensively modified by adding the arms of Scotland and also, for the very first time, the arms of Ireland.



Fig 14. Tudor Coat of Arms

Fig. 14 shows the Tudor Royal Coat of Arms, which is quartered with fleur-de-lis in the first and fourth quarter and the triple lions passant in the second and third quarter. The new coat of arms uses the whole of this Tudor form in the first and fourth quarters, but adds a lion rampant in the second quarter, which derives from the Scottish royal coat of arms and includes the Irish harp in the third quarter.

Above the straps and held by them, is an orb and cross, neither of which are cast. Both stems are hollow and the foot can be unscrewed revealing an inner iron support rod which, presumably, continues throughout the length of the stem and must screw into the base of the cap.

The Government rescinded the previous Corporation in 1883. A new charity known as the Axbridge Town Trust was formed to manage the Maces and many of the other assets which remain in their care.

Following Henderson's report, the Axbridge Town Council and Axbridge and The Town Trustees will withdraw the two Maces from their Civic duties following the Remembrance Day Service in November 2020. It is planned that they will be on permanent display in a specially designed case in King John's Hunting Lodge Museum in Axbridge. King John's Hunting Lodge is owned by the National Trust, who maintain the fabric, but the Axbridge and District Museum Trust rent it from them and run the museum.

Thanks to John Page, Axbridge Town Trustee.



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The Shortest Peerage in History?

Son of former Mayor holds tragic record

Josiah Charles Stamp, was born in Hampstead, London on 21st June 1880. He was the third child of a family of seven. His family moved to Catford when he was 14 where he later met and married Olive Marsh in 1903. Between 1904 and 1917 they had four sons Wilfred, Trevor, Maxwell and Colin .



Baron Josiah Stamp 1880-1941

In between the two world wars he became a very well known figure . An Industrialist, an Economist, the Director of the Bank of England and Chairman of the London Midland Scottish Railway (LMS), one of the biggest companies in the world.

In 1935, he became the first Mayor of Beckenham (Now part of the London Borough of Bromley).

As a result of his work he was to receive many investitures such as CBE, KBE, GBE and was raised to the peerage on 28 June 1938 as First Baron Stamp of Shortlands.

Sadly, it was during a night of bombings on the 16th April 1941 that tragedy struck. Lord Stamp, his wife Olive and his eldest son Wilfred were in their air raid shelter at their home in Shortlands Beckenham, when it took a direct hit, killing all three of them.

This left

the question of the Peerage. In English law there is such a thing as 'Legal Fiction' which, in the event of the order of deaths being indeterminable, the elder is deemed to have died first. That meant that for the merest 'nano-second', Josiah's son Wilfred inherited the title of Second Baron Stamp, before it instantly past to his younger brother Trevor, the Third Baron Stamp (who had the good fortune of being elsewhere on that fateful night) .

The final sting in this sorrowful tale is that, because the elder brother had momentarily inherited the title, the family had to subsequently pay two lots of death duty!



Sir Josiah Stamp , First Mayor of Beckenham in 1935 alongside the Mayoress and the Mace-Bearer carrying the 'Beckenham Mace' which was adopted and is still carried to this day, by the London Borough of Bromley



News Watch Quiz

With all that's been going on in the 12 months since our last issue, have you been keeping an eye on the lesser known headlines news?

Here are 12 quiz questions. One for each of the past 12 months...

September 20 th	Which comic book character celebrated being 80 years old on this day?
October 25 th	Leicester City beat Southampton by the biggest ever away score in an English top flight league, but what was the score?
November 23 rd	What was the significance regarding the death of 'Iman', a Sumatran rhino, who died of cancer in Malaysian Borneo on this day?
December 14 th	Who lifted the Glitterball Trophy in the BBC 2019 Strictly Come Dancing Final?
January 31 st	What monumental historical UK event took place at midnight on this date?
February 11 th	On this day, and for only the second time in a century, what natural occurrence happened in Baghdad?
March 31 st	Hampshire pensioner, Mr Robert Grant Pitts 'Bob' Weighton entered the Guinness World Records on this date. Why?
April 5 th	What was the name of the British Actress who played 'Pussy Galore' in the 1964 Bond movie 'Goldfinger' who sadly died on this day aged 94?
May 17 th	An autographed item of clothing belonging to NBA superstar Michael 'Air' Jordan was sold on an on-line auction this day for \$560,000. What was it?
June 20 th	On this date, in Verkhoyansk Siberia, the highest ever temperature was recorded within the Artic Circle. What was the temperature?
July 27 th	Which household name officially became the largest 'Tech' company to commit to having its employees working from home?
August 8 th	On this day, which music mogul broke his back riding an electric bike?



Answers on page 38



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Since 1995*

UK Manufacturers of Civic Wear & Regalia

Michaels Civic Robe are a proud UK manufacturer of Mayoral & Civic wear. Working closely with Civic Officers and Members of the Democratic services, Michaels have created a long-standing reputation of quality, reliability and customer service.

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Focus on New Guild Member

Diane Jolivet—House of Lords Doorkeeper

I had the great pleasure of meeting Diane at a Citizenship ceremony in the summer of 2019.

As I carried our Mace into the Civic Chamber and approached the Mace stand I noticed, to my horror, that the stand had been set up facing the wrong way. At that late stage, having just one hand free, and in full view of the participants and guests, I figured I had three options...

1. Rest the mace the correct way round on the incorrectly set up stand. Which would have meant it would have sat at a very jaunty, unstable angle and liable to roll off at the slightest touch.
2. Rest the mace facing the wrong way (unthinkable!) and hope that no-one notices, or
3. Try, with my one free hand to rotate the stand the correct way round before resting the Mace.

I chose option three, which was unfortunate, because the Mace stand is hinged in the centre so it can fold away for storage. It therefore folded in half as I lifted it and one of the end brackets dropped off! I was now sliding rapidly deeper into the 'incident pit'.

Fortunately, as I stood with the Mace in one hand and the folded collapsing stand in the other, the registrar noticed my predicament and rushed to my rescue.

I thought I'd got away with it relatively unscathed until, at post ceremony refreshments, I was approached by a lady who showed great interest in the Mace and the proceedings. Imagine my shame when she informed me that, not only did she chuckle at my Mace juggling antics, but that she was a Mace-Bearer at the House of Lords too! We both saw the funny side of it all and during the conversation that followed, not only did a guild visit to the Houses of Parliament take shape (See pages 20-21), but she showed a great interest in joining the Guild too.

I was therefore very pleased to see her name among the 'new members' list and I would like welcome her to the guild. Here is her story...



Diane at her Citizenship Ceremony

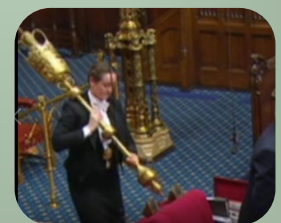


"I was at university studying to be a paramedic, and I moved to the UK ten years ago. I worked for the Ambulance Service for two years and I was looking for a full time job when I saw the doorkeeper post in the House of Commons advertised. At first I was not sure, I was put off by the title of 'Doorkeeper', as I thought a doorkeeper was the role of a bouncer. Although they do have a security role, they also have ceremonial roles as well. A Doorkeeper is the official term used for people who can hold open the door for Her Majesty the Queen.

I was employed to be in the first new Doorkeepers team in the Commons, where I worked for two years gaining experience and understanding parliament and parliamentary procedures. I was one of the lucky Doorkeepers from the Commons to get the opportunity to work in the Lords during the State Opening of Parliament. I then thought this was the right time to progress my career from a non-badge Doorkeeper in the Commons to a badged Doorkeeper in the Lords. I am the youngest female Doorkeeper and the youngest Doorkeeper since the end of World War 2 in the recorded history of Lords doorkeepers. I'm the fifth female to have taken the job so far. When moving on to continue

my career, I was the first female Lords Doorkeeper to Carry the Mace.

I was involved with the first commercial film to be shot in Parliament, and had the privilege of helping with actors and guests for the filming of 'Suffragettes in Parliament'.



Diane Jolivet—House of Lords Doorkeeper & Member of the Guild of Mace-Bearers

Where Next?



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL GUILD MEMBERS

THESE PAGES OF THE MAGAZINE ARE NORMALLY RESERVED FOR THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE/TRAINING WEEKEND BOOKING FORMS.

UNFORTUNATELY, DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND THE SUBSEQUENT GOVERNMENT LOCKDOWNS, THE GUILD COUNCIL HAVE HAD NO OPTION

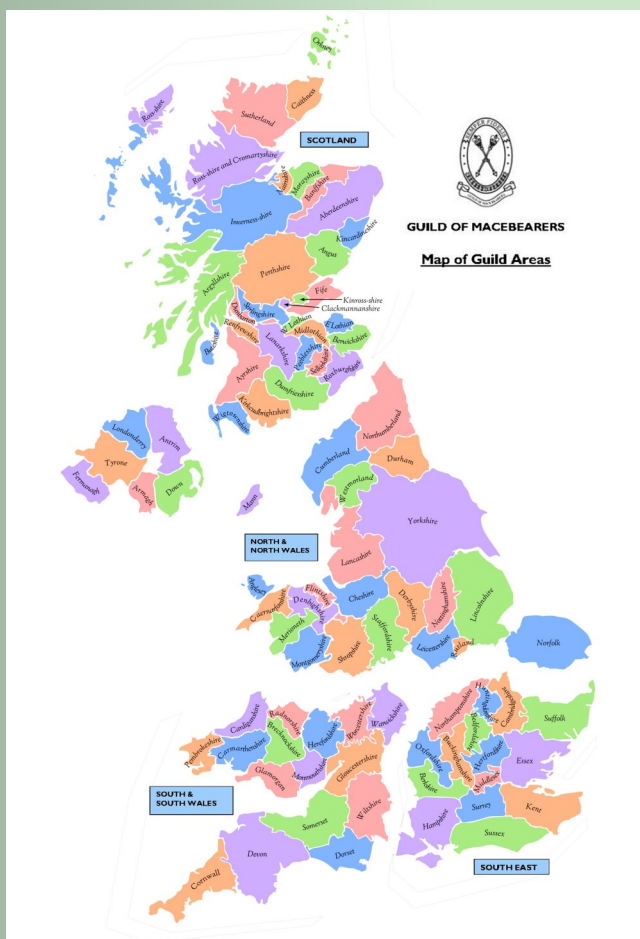
BUT TO SUSPEND THE TRAINING/CONFERENCE WEEKEND FOR 2021.

DUE TO THESE UNPRESIDENTED TIMES, IT HAS ALSO BEEN DEEMED NECESSARY TO POSTPONE THE INSTALATIONS OF THE NEW PRIME WARDEN AND RENTER PRIME WARDENS UNTIL 2022.

THE GUILD COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS ITS SINCERE APOLOGIES FOR THIS.

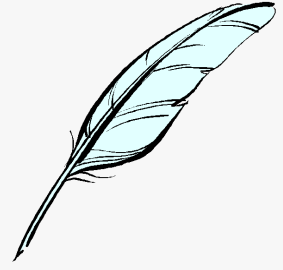
FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE ISSUED IN DUE COURSE.

THE GUILD COUNCIL



A Plea from the Editor...

Please Start Writing



The readers of this magazine are an interesting bunch. With all the various historical facts, stories and traditions, it is a potential gold mine of interesting reading .

I'm sure that each and every member of the Guild has a story to tell, whether it be an educational one , a serious, historical one or just a comical experience that you've come across in your day to day lives. Why not share it with the Guild?

We are always searching for interesting articles to fill these pages, so why not give it a go. You do not have to be a literary genius, and your article doesn't have to span several pages. It can be as long or as short as you wish and about any subject you feel would make an interesting read.

Don't worry about spelling, grammar, format or any other presentation issue. I will make sure it all looks and reads OK before it goes to print.

You can send your article to me in whichever format you wish, I am happy to receive it on a scrap of paper if necessary.

The Editor

editor@macebearnews.com



News Watch Quiz—Answers

September — Batman	October — 0-9	November—He was the last of his species and the Sumatran Rhino was declared officially extinct	December—Former Emmerdale Actor Kelvin Fletcher and Dancer Oti Mabuse	January— The UK officially withdrew from the European Union.	February—Snow fell	March—He became the worlds oldest living man. (He died on 20th May aged 112 years and 60 days)	April—Honor Blackman	May—A single basketball training shoe	June—a sweltering 38° C (100° F)	July— Google	August— Simon Cowell
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JOINT PATRONS

The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor of London
The Speaker of The House of Commons

The Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament
The Presiding Officer of the National Assembly of Wales

PAST PRIME WARDENS

1947-1952	Cmdr John Poland RN (Rtd.)	City of London
1953-1954	Cpt. W.F. Floyd	Northampton
1954-1955	H. Gregory	City of Chester
1955-1956	R.H. Strong	Middlesbrough
1956-1957	A. Johnson	Paisley
1957-1958	R.C.F. Leppard	Dover
1958-1959	A. Broadhurst	Nuneaton
1959-1960	W.R.H. Thompson	City of Edinburgh
1960-1961	J.W. Foreman	Norwich
1961-1962	W. Wood	Goole
1962-1963	J. Currie	Ayr
1963-1964	W.G. Webber	Gravesend
1964-1965	H. Giliver	Bolton
1965-1966	J.P. Slater	Dumfries
1966-1967	R. Pote	Bedford
1967-1968	T. Lewis	Bury
1968-1969	J.R. Moffat	Falkirk
1969-1970	G.T. Eadie	City of Bath
1970-1971	C.F. Clifton	Barnsley
1971-1972	C. Macrae	Inverness
1972-1973	G. Busby	Sandwich
1973-1974	W. Lambert	Harrogate
1974-1975	W. Allen	Hawick
1975-1976	J. Eaton	Taunton
1976-1977	J.W. McKiernan	Tyne & Wear
1977-1978	D. Aitkin	Kirkaldy
1978-1979	C. Watts	Southampton
1979-1980	J.C. Robinson	City of York
1980-1981	G. Paul	Renfrew
1981-1982	V.A. West	Woodspring
1982-1983	F. Purcell	City of Kingston
1983-1984	R. Scott	Hamilton
1984-1985	D. Trafford	Banbury
1985-1986	R.T. Strudwick	City of Leeds
1986-1987	J. Malone	Falkirk
1987-1988	G.D. White	Barnstaple
1988-1989	A. Milner	Pendle

1989-1990	D. Megarry	City of Belfast
1990-1991	T.T.F. Harding	Peterborough
1991-1992	G. Robbins	Burnley
1992-1993	G. Milligan	Roxburgh
1993-1994	I.E. Warner	Stevenage
1994-1995	K.M. Carson	Charnwood
1995-1996	D. Morrison	Western Isles
1996-1997	A.M. Hughes	Northampton
1997-1998	P. Nendick	City of Kingston
1998-1999	T. Cobban	City of Aberdeen
1999-2000	G. Weatherhead	City of Wells
2000-2001	L. Love	South Ayrshire
2001-2002	D. Jardine	Blandford Forum
2002-2003	G. Adams MBE	Caledonian University
2003-2004	P. Hyde	City of Manchester
2004-2005	R. Buckle	Colchester
2005-2006	W. Paterson	East Dunbartonshire
2006-2007	D. Knight J.P.	Poole
2007-2008	P. E. Legg	Charnwood
2008-2009	A. Jenkins	St. Helens
2009-2010	S. Dennis	City & County of Swansea
2010-2011	J. Smoothy	St. Ives, Cambs.
2011-2012	P. Townsend	London Borough of Croydon
2012-2013	J Caruana	Hertford
2013-2014	O Collier	Royal Wootton Bassett
2014-2015	R Crabb BEM	Exeter
2015-2016	A Spencer	Portsmouth
2016—2017	R Trigger	Yeovil
2017—2018	J Vauvert	Ripon
2018—2019	K Simpson	LB Hammersmith & Fulham
2019—2020	C Hobbs-East	Deal
2020—	A Tregoning J.P.	Southend-On-Sea

Mace-Bearer

Noun:

an official, as of a city or legislative body, who carries a ceremonial mace before dignitaries.

Origin:

1545-55, mace + bearer

SEMPER FIDELIS

