

2021



The Mace-Bearer



Magazine of the Guild of Mace-Bearers



www.macebearer.com

Fattorini

Artist-craftsmen
since 1827



By Appointment to
Her Majesty The Queen
Manufacturer of Insignia, Honours and Awards
Thomas Fattorini Ltd
Birmingham

Thomas Fattorini Ltd has designed and made a wide variety of insignia for councils both large and small for many years; our experience and expertise is unrivalled and so, we believe, is our craftsmanship, value and efficiency.

We are always glad to supply designs and estimates without charge. This means that fully costed proposals may be placed before you.

If you wish to discuss your ideas for insignia or badges - don't hesitate to contact us...

Thomas Fattorini Ltd.
Birmingham
+44 121-236 1307
London
+44 207-264 2171
www.fattorini.co.uk
sales@fattorini.co.uk

Welcome to the 2021 edition of 'The Mace-Bearer'. It's almost as though time has stood still since I last wrote this column and in some ways is literally has. It is incredible to think that the country had recently gone into 'Lockdown' back then and, as I come to write this a year later, here we are still managing the effects.

As restrictions gradually start to lift, we can begin looking forward to the light at the end of this long, dark, tunnel getting brighter by the day. Dare I say that next years column could be written in more normal circumstances... whatever 'normal' is?

Most of the members I've spoken to are only now just starting to emerge to mace-bearing duties. During the last 18 months our treasured maces have been hibernating inside dark safes and strong rooms for the whole duration, with no live events taking place.

Putting together a magazine in these circumstances has been challenging to say the least. There has been no annual conference to report on, or pages to publish the advance details for next year's event either. To make matters worse, the lack of events means a lack of stories to fill the pages. This year's edition could quite easily have been a very slim version.

However, following an appeal sent to all the members for your stories and articles, an array of pieces now fill the pages. Thank you all for your submissions I do hope you enjoy reading them.

I hope, with confidence, that we can all look forward to meeting up again, in the now not too distant, times ahead.

Neill Tully QPM – Guild Editor

WHAT'S INSIDE

The Objects, Ideal & Motto of the Guild of Mace-Bearers4

The Guild Council Reports

The Prime Warden.....5

The Renter Prime Warden.....6

The Editor.....6

The Guild Clerk.....7

The Bursar.....7

The Webmaster.....18

The Area Representatives

Scotland.....8

The Welfare Officer8

Join the Guild? – What's in it for me?.....9

New Members.....9

Peter White—Town Cryer for Seaford.....10/11

When is a Town Cryer not a Town Cryer?.....12/13

FOGs on Tour.....14

Keeping it in the Family.....15

With Jed Collins.....16/17

The Guild Shop.....20/21

The Mayor may be boss but.....22/23

Jack of all Trades & Master of Ceremonies.....24

My First Day—Out in Deal.....26

Margate Charter Trustees AGM27

Who brings a Mace to a Bun Fight.....28/29/30

Historical Associations of Ceremonial Mace &

Bedels in Universities.....32/33

How Times Have Changed.....34/35

Guild Fees.....35

Ate's Tales.....36

Feature on New Member.....37

Where Next?.....38

Conference Booking forms.....39/40

News Watch Quiz.....41

Editors Plea & Quiz Answers.....42

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)

Prime Warden	Adam Tregoning J.P.	primewarden@macebearer.com
Renter Prime Warden	Valerie Morrish	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,

I my send warmest greetings to you all and hope that each one of you are safe and well in these most trying of times!

After a very curtailed year of duties as Prime Warden, after my installation in 2020 due to the Global Pandemic I was honoured to be permitted to carry on for a further year until we could come together again in 2022 to elect a new Prime Warden. Details of when and where this will be are to be included in this edition of 'The Mace-Bearer'.

With the ever-evolving situation regarding the pandemic I have not been able to attend as many events as Prime Warden as I would have hoped, but I have ensured wherever possible that I have used Social Media to promote the Guild. I have laid wreaths on behalf of the Guild at all Remembrance events in Southend-on-Sea and was very humbled and honoured to do so.

Once lock down eased we, in Southend-on-Sea, were back to normal duties as soon as possible and have been busier than we were pre-pandemic. I am sure many of you have been the same although there has been a constant, underlying hesitancy in the air as people adjust to new ways of working or just come to terms with how to deal with the ever changing restrictions.

Unfortunately, in October 2021, Southend-on-Sea was thrust into the National spotlight as we dealt with the atrocious murder of our Member of Parliament for Southend West, Sir David Amess. This horrific act shocked and saddened the whole community, but the Borough did pull together as they united in grief. Sir David was a great supporter of the Guild and on the announcement of my installation as Prime Warden took the time to write to me offering his sincerest congratulations. He knew what an honour it was, not only for me personally, but also for Southend-on-Sea generally. I signed the book of condolence in Southend-on-Sea on behalf of the Guild and offered our sincerest and heartfelt sympathies to his family on the tragic loss of such a fine man. In Sir David's memory HM The Queen conferred City Status on Southend-on-Sea and therefore we now have the most fitting lasting legacy of his many years of dedicated service.

It was also then I learnt of the passing of Past Prime Warden, Joe Caruana and I attended his funeral in Hertford on the 14th December 2021. Joe had been a loyal Macebearer in Hertford for many years and a dedicated member of the Guild. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Rosemary and his family and friends. He will be sadly missed by us all.

At the time of writing I have been invited to the annual dinner of the Town Sergeants, Macebearers and Drivers of the Cinque Ports in January 2022 which I am very much looking forward to attending. It will be so good to be able to get together with other members of the Guild for the first time in way too long.

I hope to see many of you at the next Annual Conference, Training & Installation of the new Prime Warden.

Take Care & Stay Safe!

Semper Fidelis

Adam Tregoning JP
Mayor's Officer & Macebearer
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council





Valerie Morrish

renterwarden@macebearer.com

RENTER PRIME WARDEN

I was greatly honoured to be approached by the Guild Council to become Renter Prime Warden and look forward to becoming your Prime Warden at the Annual Conference in March. In this the 70th year in the history of the Guild and our beloved Queen's Platinum Jubilee, it is indeed a great privilege for me to become only the second woman to hold this prestigious position. I look forward to welcoming you to my home town of Bideford in North Devon where I have served as Macebearer and Beadle for the past thirteen years.

My best wishes to you all for the coming year, and more importantly, stay safe.



Neill Tully QPM

editor@macebearer.com

GUILD EDITOR



Well 2020 came and went, with not a lot happening in the Mace-bearing world. As any editor will tell you, you can't edit what isn't there, and this year has not produced anything to write about.

Fortunately, the members came to my rescue. I sent out a plea for your stories and articles, and the response was tremendous. Without your help this magazine would have been a mere 'leaflet'.

Little has changed in the magazines format. However, there are new features that may become regular pages. One such feature, 'Até's Tales', is a light hearted look at mace-bearing mishaps. Submit your humorous stories for future editions.

My goal is to ensure the magazine remains an enjoyable and interesting read for all our members. I do hope you enjoy it.

My best wishes to you all for a successful and, above all, healthy guild year into 2022.



Chris Hobbs-East
clerk@macebearer.com

GUILD CLERK



Hello and I hope this finds you well? Is this not how most communications have started over the last year or so? But I sincerely hope this does find all our members well and coping with the new normality, whatever that looks like where you live.

As for a report is concerned, as you all know not much has been going on in general and that equates to the Guild as well.

However I do want to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Guild Council members who have been working hard behind the scenes to make sure the Guild still ran effectively and consistently throughout, whilst also having their own lives, jobs and difficulties to deal with.

But also to you members for your continued support and dedication to the Guild. I hope with new times ahead we can see you at future conferences and share the experience and skills that we have sorely missed using over these unprecedented times.



Alan Spencer
bursar@macebearer.com

Hi All

No longer in self isolation but, like others, taking precautions where necessary. I am lucky to have both vaccinations now which puts me in a better positions than some younger than me. I hope all members have come through this strange year unscathed and I look forward to seeing you all in person as soon as we can.

Due to there being no Conference in 2021 there as been no real demand on Guild funds. The Guild Council did agree to a reduction in fees for members so Guild funds continue to look healthy. Full accounts were made available to the Guild Council and will be available at the next AGM.

Despite not being able to meet the Guild membership continues to maintain numbers and we have welcomed new members over the last year. I look forward to seeing members old and new at the next AGM.

GUILD BURSAR





Willy Patterson

scotland@macebearer.com

SCOTLAND

Hi There,

I hope you and yours are well. All fine in Bonny Scotland. Its been a difficult time for everyone during the past year or so but looking as we are coming out the other end. There's been absolutely nothing on the civic side at all. I've been kept busy as I'm caretaking a new building that Falkirk Council has bought and lots of contractors are in each day. I'm busier than ever as I'm working Saturdays and Sundays. Hope all is well with all the Macebearers and their families. Hope we can begin to meet in person again soon. Take care Willie Paterson



Richard Strudwick

welfare@macebearer.com

WELFARE

It is my sad duty to report the death, in late 2020, of our colleague **Mike Davy** who held the post of Mace-Bearer to the Town Council of Bideford for 15 years. The Guild was represented at his funeral by Valerie Morrish, who also represented her Town council and, at the request of the family, a Guild donation of £50 was sent to the 'Little Bridge house' children's Hospice in Barnstable, Devon.

Sadly, I must also record the passing, in April 2021, of our colleague **Stephen Smith**, who held office with Salford City Council. With his late wife Cynthia, Stephen was a founder member of the FoGs.

It is also with great sadness to report the death of **Stan Weatherhead**. Husband of Gill Weatherhead, Freeman of the Guild. Stan collapsed whilst pushing Gill and never recovered. The funeral took place in Wells Cathedral. and the Guild was represented by member Colin Price.

With great sadness that I record the passing of **Joe Caruana** in December 2021. He was Mace Bearer for Hertford Town Council for twenty years. And retired from that post in June 2013. Joe was Prime Warden of the Guild 2012. He was an outstanding person, always kind and helpful to all, mild and courteous and a pleasure to be with and sadly missed.

May they all rest in peace.

At the time of publication, I have not been notified of any COVID related deaths among our members and with the relaxation of restrictions, we hope and pray that the worst is behind us.

In lieu of a detailed financial statement, I record that the current balance, at time of writing this report, of the Guild Welfare Funds stands at £1111.92.

Richard T Strudwick

Guild Welfare Officer

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?

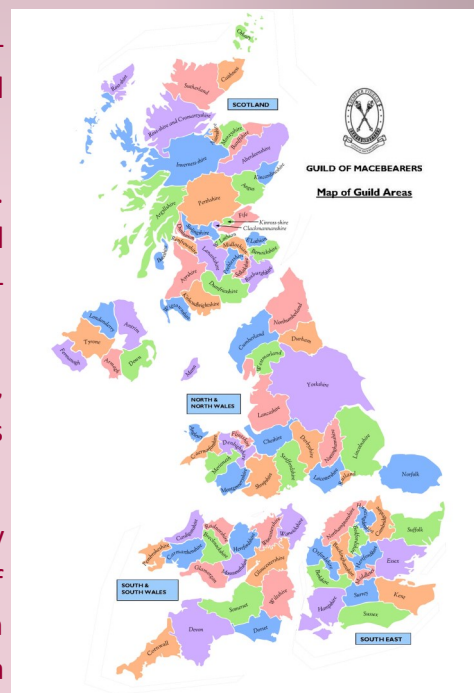
At less formal occasions the rules of protocol can be just as tricky. Should the Mayor wear his chain at a funeral? Can the Mayoress attend events in his stead? Does the Chancellor always enter last? Who should sit on the host's right at dinner?

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...



Alan Newsome—Tiverton Town (16/11/2021)

Chris Hull—Fareham (29/10/2021)

Nick Chapman—Ludlow (22/10/2021)

Peter Rawlinson—Brackley (14/09/2021)

James Patterson—Belfast City (25/08/2021)

David Jones—Wakefield Metropolitan (26/07/2021)

Paul Goring—Rye (23/05/2021)

Jane Ware—Hackney (17/05/2021)

Paul Danbury—Reigate & Banstead (27/04/2021)

Vivienne Cumming—Chard (19/03/2021)

Keith Harris—Weston-super-Mare (21/01/2021)

Ian Davies—Beaumaris (11/01/2021)

Judy Rogers—Hastings (09/10/2019)

John Voss—Barry (30/09/2019)

Peter White

Town Crier for Seaford, Sussex

Peter White has been the Town Crier for Seaford, Sussex since 1977. Seaford has a proud history being a Limb of the Cinque Port of Hastings between the 13th and 19th centuries. It was governed by a Corporation of a Baliff and 24 Jurats. It had the right to return 2 Members of Parliament, and three of these were Prime Ministers.



His Majesty King Henry VIII, awarded it its Borough status, but it decayed into being a 'Rotten Borough', the fiefdom of the Pelham Family (Dukes of Newcastle) and was disenfranchised in 1832.

Much later, it became an Urban District. After the 1974 reorganisation it took until 1999 to assert its right to be a Parish/Town with a Mayor and Council. But it clung on to the Mace bestowed on it by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth I in approximately 1580. This Mace, believed to be solid silver, is all of 15½ inches long, and bears Queen Elizabeth's Royal Arms.



As Town Crier, Peter was disappointed that the Mace rarely made its way into Council Meetings, let alone to outside events. So in 2012, he applied for the post of Serjeant at Mace to be reinstated. He wrote the job description, and was duly appointed. Since then the Mace has been more prominent at Civic occasions. It nearly went to their Twin Town in Germany, as Peter is their Stadtausrüfer, but as it would have to have been assayed and hallmarked with a 21st century mark on its return it was decided to leave it at home.



Crier and retained it when appointed Serjeant. It is based on that of Town Serjeant William Woolgar who wore the uniform from 1856 to 1901 (date of picture), and also covered for his Town Crier cousin on occasions.

Seaford's other claims to fame include include having a GP who coined the term dyslexia, a balloon maker who held the world altitude record from 1860's to 1920's, having a large Canadian War Graves section to its cemetery, and a listed railway station with 2 machine gun emplacements!

Seaford's Town Criers were elusive or camera-shy between 1865 and 1951 so Peter wore the Serjeant's uniform (recreated firstly by the Archbishop of Canterbury's tailor, and then by Royal Warranted Tailor G D Golding) as Town

William WOOLGAR
Sergeant of Mace



William WOOLGAR was born in 1828 and for many years was the Sergeant of Mace for the Town and Port of SEAFORD.

The Sergeant at Mace was responsible for leading formal processions through the town such as the declaration of a new Town Bailiff. He would lead a procession of town officials from the Town Hall in South Street to West House. He is seen above in a photograph taken on 22nd January 1901, carrying a ceremonial silver baton carrying the arms of Elizabeth the First.

William died in 1914 and is buried, with his wife Sarah, close to the main entrance to Seaford Parish Church. There have been Woolgars in SEAFORD since Elizabethan times and the family still live in the town.

Kevin Gordon – Seaford Museum
Source: John Odam (Seaford Story)

When is a Town Crier not a Town Crier?

When they are a Macebearer or a Sword bearer.— By Alan Spencer (Guild Bursar)



On becoming a Town Crier, one of the first things I did was to join both the Ancient and Honourable Guild of Town Criers and the Loyal Company of Town Criers. The editor of the Crier Magazine, Christian Ashdown, knowing that I had fulfilled the role of Guild Editor in the Guild of Macebearers, asked me to put together an article on Macebearers who were also Town Criers or, if you prefer, Town Criers who were also Macebearers. I hope you enjoy the following.



Having been a Macebearer for over 15 years, starting in Southampton before moving down the motorway to Portsmouth, and being a member of the Guild of Macebearers I had occasion to come across other GMB members who also doubled up as a Town Crier. I was encouraged to become a Town Crier but at the time this did not fit in with my full time role. Also, I wished to be Town Crier of the City of Southampton but this role was already occupied.

You are no doubt aware of the history of Town Criers but here is a little about Macebearers and their ilk. The definition of a macebearer is an official, as of a city or legislative body, who carries a ceremonial mace before dignitaries. The term macebearer can trace its origin to around 1545. The mace was originally a weapon that has developed, over the centuries, into the ceremonial maces seen today. It may interest you to know that, technically, the ceremonial maces are actually carried upside down.

Fast forward to me reaching 65 and retiring as Chauffeur/Macebearer for the City of Portsmouth. Finding time on my hands, I attended the Mayor Making in Southampton as a member of the general public. I realised that Southampton did not have their own Town Crier following the passing of the previous incumbent. Having previously worked for Southampton Council as Town Sergeant/Macebearer I knew many of the Council officers so I approached some of them to see if they would consider me for the role. A short interview followed and I was duly appointed.

You may recognise some of the individuals in this photo taken at my installation as Prime Warden of the GMB.



Bruce Trigger, seen in the photo at the front, is Town Crier for Yeovil. He was also Prime Warden for the GMB. Here are two clearer pictures showing him resplendent in the two roles..



Another, who fulfils both roles is, Peter White from Seaford. Peter has been Serjeant at Mace since 2012. Peter is currently writing his biography which, if we are lucky, he will share snippets with members in a later edition .

Jon Bartholomew from Hastings is another. Jon was appointed last year as The Admiralty Sergeant of the Cinque Ports and custodian/bearer of the Admiralty Silver Oar of office for The Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports (pew a long title!).

Mike Kean-Price is from Tewksbury. In 1974, Tewksbury changed from a Corporation to a Town Council and Tewksbury Borough Council was founded'. The council took over all the maces. Mike, as Sergeant demanded use of one of the 1660 maces for the Town Mayor Making event. This was, reluctantly agreed to, so once a year he carried one of the maces paid for by the good folk of the Town 400 years before the present Borough Council was thought of. Mike was appointed in October 1998 and still going strong.

On Royal occasions Mike may be seen climbing 185 feet up Abbey Tower to proclaim the loyal greeting to our Queen. It is claimed they are the only Town in the whole Commonwealth that has this custom.

Chris Brown of Wimborne, Town Mayor's Sergeant & Crier of Wimborne Minster. Wimborne does not have a mace or sword but is commissioned to protect the Mayor and the Town Council. He even has a Town Militia, also called The Wimborne Militia, to call upon. Wimborne Militia are comprised of local volunteers armed with sword and musket (far more effective than a single sword or mace bearer!) and based upon the Dorset Militia of the late 17th Century which evolved into the Dorset Yeomanry.

The Town Crier and Town Sergeant for the Ancient Town of Rye is Paul Goring. Paul bears one of the town's two maces. Rye has two pairs of maces, an embarrassingly large Georgian pair (which the official



mace for the Canadian Parliament is a copy of) and a much smaller Elizabethan pair.



Last, but by no means least, , Owen Collier, is Town Crier and Sword Bearer for Royal Wootton Bassett.





FOGs News 2021

Well, when we all met in Southend in 2020, who would have thought it would be so long before we all met up again?

With no meeting in 2021 the FOGs couldn't visit new places whilst the Macebearers were busying themselves in their training. To make up for a lack of new places to visit we will have to make do with remembering some of the previous visits we have done. Fellow FOGs, how many of these do you remember?



2015—Southampton



2016—Yeovil



2017—Ripon



2019—Deal

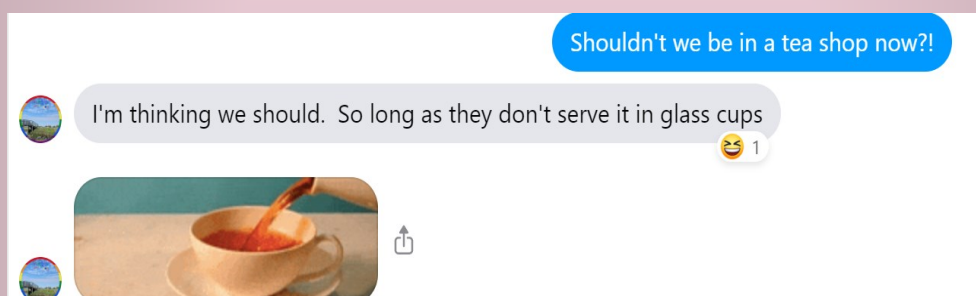


2020—Southend On Sea



2018—Hammersmith & Fulham

As well as the Guild Conference, I often get to visit the Conference location six months before. Obviously, this didn't happen in 2021. However, the Guild Council did meet over Zoom in August 2020. As, I'm sure it's been mentioned before, myself and other Fogs visit a local tea room during these meetings. Fellow FOG Geoff Hobbs-East and I couldn't let the fact it was a virtual meeting get in the way of such a tradition!



I hope everyone is well and dealing with the lockdowns and restrictions as best they can. With luck we will all meet again in 2022. Until then, take care.



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

Susan Spencer (aka FoG One)

Keeping it in the Family



The role of Mace-Bearer is quite an unusual one. It's a job that not too many people know about, let alone get to perform. So, to have a father and son in the same role is rare.

This has happened to Robert J and Robert D McCarthy in 2010. Robert (Junior) has been a Mace-Bearer in Worcester City since the 1990's, when in 2010 the full-time post was changed to a more 'casual' role. The revamped job was given to Robert (Junior) and it included the further duties of Chief Ceremonial Officer. These changes also created the need for another Mace-Bearer.

Robert (Senior) was retired at the time and worked part time at the Guildhall so, when the job was advertised, he jumped at the chance. His application and interview were successful, and

he was offered the job with an unusual proviso that, 'the uniform must fit'. He says "It all fitted perfectly, apart from the hat. I have a small head, so had to employ the use of some newspaper! But it all looked great". Eleven years on, and both Robert Junior and Robert Senior are still in the roles.



Robert McCarthy Senior says, "I have met some wonderful people. Royalty, Generals, and very interesting forces veterans. Its been great to attend 'Freedom of the City' banquets, and the three choirs festivals, held in turn at the three cities Gloucester, Hereford and Worcester. I love all the pomp and hope to carry the mace for many more years".

Strangely... Its been a very busy Year!

OK, so the big news for this year was the arrival of the virus and continual arrival of variants still to be coped with. The two jabs saved my 96 year old mother from almost any symptoms when she acquired Covid *in hospital* a few weeks back. She came home fit and well yesterday. Luckily I haven't succumbed yet; we're all still praying. I hope you are all well and hopefully jabbed where possible. We've all lost loved ones so don't want to lose any more.

Here's an updated picture of me, still drilling maces with a cordless drill after all these years! During 2020 I took time to repaint, refit and re-equip the workshop, preparing it for the next twenty years' work ahead (after-all I'm only 65). Sarah taking time-out to make babies has necessitated that I train-up a goldsmith. Sam graduated from the Central Jewellery School in Birmingham (yes the one from ALL THAT GLITTERS) obtaining a BA in clock making, a perfect set of skills to bring to the fold. I now have 3D scanning to add to the 3Dprinter and 3D software to enable copying/re-sizing of items which were once all die-struck.



This year has seen many civic jobs come-in and one especially unique job, a seventeenth century great mace which had seen the attentions of plumbers lead and handymans' adulterations, the addition of brass components and paper washers (some of which make a good read, but more on that in my next episode).



Sam's first object in silver was a new silver orb and cross for the top of the crown hoops; a fantastic achievement. By using a series of "new" technological skills alongside ancient techniques he was able to



design and 3D print the wax nuts, bolts and a new foot. From these he made moulds to lost-wax cast them in silver and build to hold the mace together. My contribution was plugging and riveting over forty holes in the ancient shattered crown hoops and making a removable inner crown to protect the integrity of the now repaired original (the same trick I used back in 1990 on the Grantham maces). So my 2021 hallmark has now joined the original from 1669. It's a great honour to have my stamp alongside the original hallmark of such a highly competent craftsman.



Back in 1990 ,at the annual meeting of the Guild, I mentioned how soon the technology would be upon us to re-create pieces or at lease facsimiles of them for a reasonable cost. Well it's taking longer than I first envisioned but we're very nearly there.

Although it is now fully possible with the technology, the hardware costs are still slightly prohibitive but should continue to fall as technology does.



We will always need to have the full set of Goldsmithing hand-skills but some jobs are actually better done with modern machinery, leaving the best bits for us humans.

Here's a picture of Sam proudly showing off his excellent work the some repaired and some re-made parts. The re-gilded mace was delivered back to a very appreciative Council within the time frame and under estimate. Many thanks to John Dawson who has had a tough year.

Meanwhile my son Joseph, now 15, is attending the Goldsmiths Centre in London next week to learn enamelling. Remember, please keep employing true working goldsmiths to do goldsmiths work, not mere agents. You can always tell who we are by looking at our hands.



Ged Collins

Goldsmith

Precious Metals.

Craft & Design Workshop

4 Burnley Road,

Brierfield.Lancashire.

BB9 5HS

01282 698872

gedcollins@rocketmail.com

kraftwork-gallery.co.uk



All civic insignia repaired/restored. 42 years as a goldsmith , still enjoying every day.

Website News

Peter E. Legg
Guild Website Officer

July 2021

Like so many members, for the last year I have had no civic duties at all but the business of running the Guild website, the online shop, our email network and the membership system has rolled on regardless, keeping me busy on a weekly basis. I know from the many comments we received how many members have appreciated the discount on the full membership subscription renewal that our careful managing of the funds over the years has enabled us to offer this year. As I write this in mid-July we can only hope that things will begin to pick up a bit in the coming months. The Guild membership numbers have taken an inevitable hit with many members finding themselves redeployed, furloughed or otherwise laid off and our sympathies are with them all but, at the same time I am pleased to report that despite everything we have still a few new members to welcome again this year and you will find them listed later in the magazine.



As at the 5th January 2021 our membership figures are:

ALL MEMBERSHIP					160
FULL MEMBERS					122
HONORARY MEMBERS					24
FRIEND OF THE GUILD					11
FREEMAN OF THE GUILD					3
					160
SCOTLAND MEMBERS					7
NORTH & NORTH WALES MEMBERS/ NORTHERN IRELAND					35
SOUTH WEST & SOUTH WALES MEMBERS					54
SOUTH EAST MEMBERS					64
					160
GUILD MASTERS (Full Member)					2
GUILD MASTERS (Honorary Member)					3

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



MICHAELS

Civic Regalia

*Civic Outfitters
Since 1995*

Manufacturers of Civic Regalia, Gifts & Awards

Michaels Civic Regalia are a proud manufacturing specialist in Regalia and Badges

Michaels have created a long-standing reputation of quality, reliability and customer service.

*Since 1995, The Michaels Civic Brand are pleased
to have worked with every Local Authority & Council in the Country.*

*As we hope you will discover, pricing is extremely important to us and we
guarantee that you will receive high quality products, that are great value for money.*

Our Products

- Past Mayor Badges
- Past Mayoress / Consort Badges
- Past Chaplain Badges
- Honorary Alderman & Freeman Badges
- Civic Award Badges
- Civic Pin Badges
- Mayor's Awards
- Commemorative Coins
- Shields & Plaques
- Civic Gifts & Awards
- Ribbon Collarets
- Bespoke Backing Cards



Suite 1 Ashfield House
12 Ashfield Road
Cheadle
Stockport
SK8 1BB

www.civicrobes.com
info@civicrobes.com
Office: 0117 909 9988
Michael: 07738 172011

Windsor Lodge
56 Windsor Street
Burbage
Leicestershire
LE10 2EF

Your Guild Shop

Guild Merchandise



Guild Collarette
£30.00



Guild Lapel
Badge £4.99



Gold Lapel
Badge £4.99



Cloth Blazer
Badge £6.99



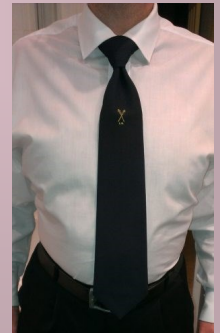
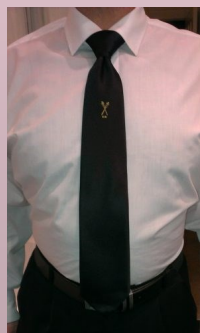
Silver Mace Badge
(Butterfly Pin or
Brooch Pin) £8.50



Gold Mace Badge
(Butterfly Pin or
Brooch Pin)



Guild Plaque
£20.00



Guild Ties in Black/Blue/Maroon/Navy—£9.50

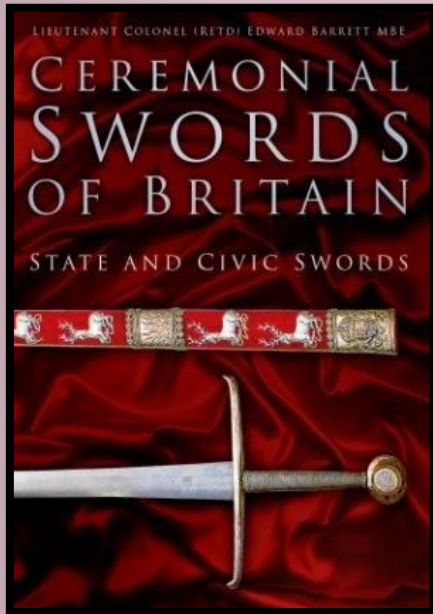


Anti Bacterial Robe Spray

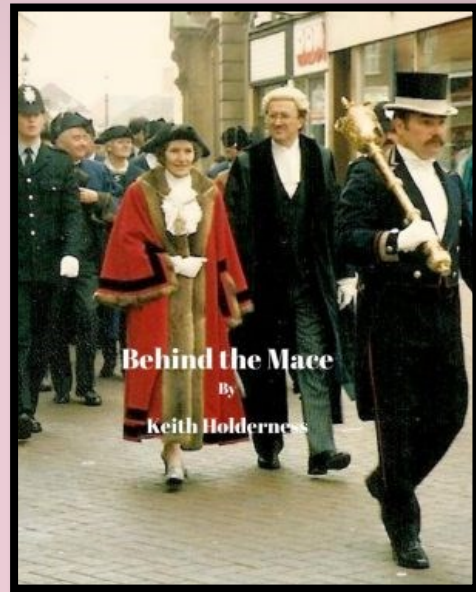


All items are available on the
easy to use online mail order
service.

Visit the Guild Shop online at
www.macebearer.com/shop/



Ceremonial Swords by Lt Col.
(Ret) Edward Barrett MBE
£25.00



Behind the Mace by Keith
Holderness



Various Magazine Back Issues - £2.50 Each

The Mayor may be the Boss... But the Attendant is in charge!

Some Mayors arrive with previous experience in the role, some may receive training, but most arrive without either. Regardless, they will always look to their Attendant or Town Sergeant for advice and guidance throughout their term of office.

I find it an advantage to leave a copy of the following letter on the back seat of the car, the first time the new mayor gets in. I tell them that it is a 'work in progress' and that I would welcome their views. I've found that all of them read it and the majority will adhere to everything in it.

I've yet to find one who has not been appreciative of it and you'll be surprised how much easier that makes life for you. Please feel free to copy and adapt it for your own use if you wish and I welcome your comments or suggested amendments.

Dear Mister or Madam Mayor (Elect),

May I first congratulate you on your selection as Mayor for the forthcoming year.

To assist you, I have taken the liberty of listing a few points and protocols from the perspective of the Mayoral Attendant. New Mayors may or may not already be aware of them at the start of their term, so I have taken it upon myself to make them known. I hope you will find them useful.

I have sourced these from two mayoral publications, which are in common use across the country. The first is 'Civic Ceremonial - A Handbook, History and Guide for Mayors, Councillors and Officers' by Paul Millward, and 'The Manual of the Mace - The Official Handbook of the Guild of Macebearers'.

Travelling in the Mayoral Car

Whilst, under the definition of Road Traffic Act, as driver, the Mayoral Attendant is 'in 'Control' and 'in charge' of the vehicle. However, I do like to inform the Mayor that they are in control of the vehicles interior. Please do let the attendant know if you would like the internal temperature adjusted or if you would like the entertainment system on etc. Your comfort and enjoyment is paramount.

Protocols dictate that arrival at a Mayoral event should be as near to (but in any case no more or less than 4 minutes outside of) the specified arrival time. I endeavour to hit this target every time and have a very good record of doing so. Journeys and routes to mayoral events are therefore always carefully pre-planned by the attendant to achieve this. This is the attendants job, and no matter how well intended suggestions of 'alternative routes' are, they are not always helpful. Often, when good progress has been made, it can be necessary to take short detours to avoid embarrassing the event organiser by arriving too early. Routes taken therefore, may not always appear logical or direct. Please relax and leave it all to the driver.

Sometimes, due to traffic and reported road works etc, pick up times can be altered, and I will let you know this, if this happens, with as much notice as possible.

Protocols and tradition also dictate that the Mayor should sit in the offside rear passenger seat of the vehicle (behind the driver). However, should this for any reason not be to your liking, this rule is not 'set in stone'.

When getting in and out of the car, there are again strict protocols in place. The Mayor always gets into the vehicle first and exits the vehicle first. This is always before the Mayoress or Consort does so. The Mayor, Mayoress or Consort, should never open or close the doors themselves. This is always done by the attendant. Sometimes there may be a requirement for the Mayoral party to remain seated in the vehicle for a few minutes on arrival at a venue, whilst the attendant locates the person receiving the Mayor. That person will then be brought to the vehicle door on the Mayors side and the Attendant will open the door and make the introductions. Only after the Mayor has exited the vehicle, will the attendant go around and open the Mayoress or Consorts door.

Please rest assured that the driver should be considered as 'not being present' in regards to any meetings or conversations held in the car. I consider myself fully professional and can be relied upon for total discretion.

Mayor/Mayoress/Consort at Events

Mayoral events, by their nature, are often very public events, at which the local media are also present. These can occasionally attract political activists, drunk members of the public and other 'undesirables' who can sometimes see it as an opportunity to make a staged political statement or try to embarrass the Mayorality or council in some way. It is very much the attendant's job to watch out for this and, where necessary, to deal with it.

It is always a good idea to avoid being photographed whilst holding a drink. The contents of the glass may or may not be alcohol, but this isn't always clear in a photograph. The Mayor is usually very busy engaging with people at most events, so may not notice a camera aimed at them. Therefore, should I suddenly ask to hold your glass for you, this will usually be the reason, please comply.

Likewise, the Mayoral safety is paramount. Should I notice that a situation is developing that could be either be dangerous or cause embarrassment, I will make a suggestion that we leave the venue straight away. The situation may be one that is developing out of view, so please do not question the request if it is made. A full explanation will be given once the Mayor is in a place of safety. Please rest assured, this would be an extremely rare occurrence and would only happen, if absolutely necessary.

When attending events, especially those social events that involve music, drinking and dancing etc, it is generally agreed that Mayors should freely enjoy themselves. But there should also come a dignified time for them in which to make their goodbyes and leave. It has been suggested that this could allow the non-mayoral guests to relax a little and enjoy their function. On these occasions it could be considered inappropriate for a mayor to be the last person to leave. The exception being, of course, is if the Mayor *is* the host!

There may also be the occasion where a Mayor may decide they wish to leave earlier than agreed time but where it may appear impolite to do so. A very good idea in this situation is to have a 'pre-agreed' signal to the attendant who, upon seeing the signal, will approach and inform the Mayor that there is an 'urgent matter that requires the Mayors attention' . This will give the mayor the excuse to make their apologies and leave.

Ceremonial Events

Most mayoral events should be carried out in chains only. Event organisers often request robes but the protocols around the wearing of them is quite strict, so most requests should be politely declined. Generally, they are only worn on Ceremonial occasions, Civic Events, Full Council and Remembrance days. It has been locally accepted that they may be worn for school visits. These should normally be confined to primary schools, and those visits which are specifically 'by the Mayor' (i.e. to talk about the Mayorality etc). General school prize giving events, open days and unveilings etc, shouldn't normally require the wearing of robes.

The wearing of medals on the Mayoral robes is also only allowed on Remembrance Day and Battle of Britain Day services.

Robes should also be changed into and out of, somewhere that is out of sight of the public and indoors. Most venues should supply a room for this purpose. It may often be better to change into/out of robes at home (or at the civic centre) prior to travelling to an event.

When processing into a venue with the Mace, the Mayor must always walk directly behind the Mace-bearer. No person is allowed to walk in or across the space between the two. If an attempt is made, the mace-bearer will challenge that person. That said, my peripheral vision does not extend to what is happening directly behind me, so it assists greatly if the Mayor stays close behind the Mace-bearer at all times in order to keep that space to a minimum, and avoid the temptation for somebody to 'just nip across' !

Whilst providing security for the Mayoral Insignia, driving the Mayoral car and carrying the Mace for the London Borough of Bromley are major parts of my role, I am mainly there to provide assistance to the Mayor in any way I can. I should be the first point of contact should the Mayor experience any problems, issues or breaches in protocols during any Mayoral event. Please just speak to me and let me deal with it

Finally may I take this opportunity to wish you a most successful and enjoyable Mayoral year.

Neill Tully QPM

Mayoral Attendant for the London Borough of Bromley

Jack of all Trades & Master of Ceremonies

Downtime due to Lockdown provides an opportunity to reflect on the enjoyment and privilege of 15 years with the City of Bath as Macebearer, Swordbearer, Mayor's Officer and Master of Ceremonies.

David Hogg was at a Civic reception in the Mayor's parlour 16 years ago and enquired about the robed people carrying maces and sword in the pictures near the display cabinet containing the city regalia; naively wondering how he might join their ranks.

After a cursory glance at his apparent stature, and sensing his genuine interest, the clerk to the trustees immediately recruited him!

Starting out as a Macebearer, over the years he has eagerly taken the opportunity to carry the city sword, lead processions as a Mayor's Officer, assist with Civic receptions in the Mayor's parlour (where it all began!) drive the Mayor's car when the chauffeur was on holiday and (prior to lockdown) has acted as Master of Ceremonies at the annual Mayor-making ceremony in Bath Abbey.

He is now eagerly looking forward to resuming his duties when circumstances allow: *Semper Fidelis*.

1. Macebearer
2. Sword Bearer
3. With Sir Bobby Charlton
4. Civic reception
5. Mayor's Officer on parade
6. Master of Ceremonies

1.



2.



3.



5.



4.



6.





WALTERS OF OXFORD

ACADEMIC • LIVERY • CIVIC GOWN MAKERS

Ceremonial Robes & Gowns

Walters & Co have for many years enjoyed the custom of many of the Livery Companies in London and other City Councils through the UK, supplying robes for Aldermen, Freeman, Councillors and Lord Mayors and their household including Mace-Bears and Town Clerks.

Gowns and Robes are made in our own workshops, in many different qualities of cloth enabling different price points to be achieved.

Gowns and Robes start from as little as £250 +VAT.



REPAIRS AND REFURBISHMENT

We would be delighted to give free estimates on the repairing and refurbishing of any Gown or Robe. Please contact Adrian Palfreyman for further information.



WALTERS OF OXFORD

10 Turl Street, Oxford OX1 3DN • Tel: 01865 241848

email: adrian.palfreyman@shepwood.co.uk

www.walters-oxford.co.uk

My First Day - Out in Deal

By TERRY REENE

Hythe Town Sergeant and Town Mayors Secretary.

Back in 2011 I attended my first function as the Mace Bearer for the Cinque Town Of Hythe, and my ...was that eventful! I



nearly managed to lose the Maces. I had only been employed by Hythe for a few months and I was still without my Mace Bearers uniform. However, I had a smart new Town Sergeants uniform and even though I was used to public engagements, being my first day, I was a little apprehensive, but proud to be there.

I duly arrived in Deal for their Charter Day which was to include a procession down the High Street. I dropped the Mayor and her husband off at the refreshment point and went and parked the car. I returned to them with the case containing the Chain accessories (The Mayor was wearing the Chain) and the case containing two very valuable and very old (1744) Maces. I also had the Mayoral robe, hat and Jabot. Have I forgotten anything....no I think that was everything.

Off we went, a nice dry day, lovely see breeze, but quite mild. Me duly carrying the maces preceding my Mayor and a little behind the Mayor of Dover and her newish Town Sergeant, Chris Hobbs-East, processing down an old Deal High Street, a little uneven in places. Without any warning the Mayor of Dover in front of me went crashing to the ground, she evidently had caught her foot in one of the many furrows in the road. I didn't know what to do. I was first aid trained and it looked like a heavy fall but I had a Mace in each hand. Do I put them down? Do I perform first aid? Clearly I could not do both. I made the very quick decision that there were many people who could look after the stricken Mayor, but I was the only person qualified and duly responsible for the Hythe Maces, so I hung onto them and watched. Chris was more than capable of looking after his Mayor and with the assistance of a few others, she was taken to the local hospital for treatment.

My Mayor said I had made the right choice, I was there to bear the Hythe Maces and their security should take priority.

The procession was duly completed and we all retired to the refreshment point to disrobe and put the maces away. I put my Maces back into their briefcase and laid it alongside the others on the table. I then realised I needed to move the car as I had only parked it for two hours. After consulting my colleague Dennis from Broadstairs, who reassured me the Maces would be safe where they were, I returned to my car with the robes and other insignia. I then moved my car to the car park where I saw the other Town Sergeants had parked. In fact I bumped into the Town Sergeant from



Folkestone. It turned out I had worked with him 38 years before. He had been a van driver and I was his van boy, I was only 15 at the time. Anyway after swapping pleasantries I returned to the disrobing location. As I was walking back down the High Street, I saw the Bishop from London and his cleric walking back up the road carrying a few briefcases. I nodded to them and as I walked past I had a sudden thought, I recognise that bag. I spoke to the Bishop, pointing to one of his cases and said excuse me, "Have you picked up the wrong bag?" Sure enough the Hythe Maces were nearly on there way to London.

I am sure there is a moral somewhere in this story. As you can imagine, I learnt several lessons. The Maces come first, don't let them out of your sight and don't listen to other Town Sergeants. If Mayors fall over, they should have been looking where there were going and if you meet an old friend, don't stand around all day gossiping. I wouldn't say it has made me a little paranoid about the security of the insignia but since that first day, the security has always come first.

Margate Charter Trustees AGM



Its been a long time since the Chains, Mace and Robes were out in Margate, but the venue this year was St John's Church. The AGM included the Mayor making ceremony, and it was the third year on the trot for Councillor Mick Tomlinson.

We all hope that COVID-19 restrictions are lifted for next January's Annual sea blessing when one of our largest gatherings of Mayor and Mace bearers once again are able to meet up again.



Who brings a Mace to a Bun Fight?

"I do!" says Nigel Luker (Mace-bearer of Abingdon-on-Thames). He writes...

The Great British Eccentric is a well known trait and comes in many guises such as Beau Brummel & Dame Vivienne Westwood in the world of outlandish fashion, the great Alan Turing who would cycle to the office wearing a service gas mask to keep the pollen off as he was a hay-fever sufferer & would occasionally run forty miles to meetings in London and in more recent times Sir Richard Branson happy to send himself up in his constant quest for publicity.



What then of an entire town that embraces in a tradition that is both eccentric and entirely unique with it's origin lost in the mists of time?

What brings the Mayor and other dignitaries to the top of the tallest and most photographed civic building in the town to project some 4000 currant buns to the population waiting eagerly below trying to catch them?

Abingdon can lay good claim to being England's oldest town as confirmed on BBC2's QI programme and has what has been described as the grandest free standing hall in the country designed in the Baroque style by Christopher Kempster who trained with Sir Christopher Wren on St. Pauls Cathedral .

The hall stands on large pilasters with a sheltered area beneath for use as a market or other municipal functions and was erected between 1678 & 1684 and at that time was the County Hall when Abingdon was in Berkshire



as well as the county town, somehow this position was lost to Reading and we've "moved" into Oxfordshire.

It housed a courtroom for the assizes until 1867 and now houses the Abingdon museum which is home to the town mace where it has pride of place with some other important artefacts including those that survived the ravages of the civil war.





When growing up in Abingdon On Thames, my birthplace, I was aware of the tradition of bun throwing but as a child only experienced it once in 1966 to celebrate Abingdon International Week, my grandmother who was another lifetime Abingdonian had a crumpled brown paper bag which contained several currant buns adorned with various motifs that had been carefully varnished in an effort to preserve them for posterity, a surprisingly successful tactic, proof of her involvement of this bizarre custom!

So when and how did this all start and most recently find me throwing a bun which struck my granddaughter on the head? No injuries where inflicted I should add.

On the 22nd September 1761 George III was crowned and celebrations ensued nationwide , Abingdon was no exception to this and as tradition dictated cakes and ale were distributed in The Bury and some bright spark had the idea to throw buns to the crowd from the top of the market house to the crowd below and thus the idea was apparently born.

Quite how this idea grew and evolved into the distribution being from the top of Abingdon's architectural jewel is not clear but it is now organised by the Town Council usually as a gesture of loyalty and goodwill to the monarch and mainly associated with royal events.

Bun throwing does not take place every year only when there is a special event to celebrate and on agreement by the town council, the last occasion being in 2018 as a commemoration of one hundred years since the end of the First World War.

I became Mace-Bearer for the town in 2015 and escorted the Mayor and assorted dignitaries from the civic offices to the museum and was honoured to be included in the bun throwing party for the celebration of the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen's 90th Birthday.

I was initially puzzled as to why so many people were on the roof but then saw what 4000 buns actually looks like and having been given the signal to commence throwing by the Mayor as she cast the first edible missile I set about my task with gusto and soon realised why cricket players have to practise a lot and how hard it is to get any sort of distance with something so light.



Like my fellow projectionists I was somewhat tired after the twenty minutes of arm swinging which is the time it took to despatch all the buns including the one aimed towards my granddaughter with some lucky accuracy which she failed to catch.

The second throwing I was involved in being in November 2018 & was a somewhat soggy event but as always the crowds still turn out for this sporadic event with the next scheduled at this time for the platinum jubilee of Her Majesty's accession to the throne, lets hope it's a sunny one.

...From previous page.

Who brings a Mace to a Bun Fight?

Abingdon Bun Throwing Timeline:

- 1761 Coronation of King George III
- 1810 Golden Jubilee of King George III
- 1821 Coronation of King Georg IV
- 1831 Coronation of King William IV
- 1837 Coronation of Queen Victoria
- 1856 Declaration of Peace at the end of the Crimean War
- 1863 Marriage of the Prince of Wales to Princess Alexandra
- 1887 Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria
- 1897 Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria
- 1902 Coronation of King Edward VII
- 1911 Coronation of King George V
- 1935 Silver Jubilee of King George V
- 1937 Coronation of King George VI
- 1946 VE Day
- 1953 Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II
- 1956 Visit of Queen Elizabeth II to Abingdon
- 1966 Abingdon International Week
- 1974 End of the Borough of Abingdon
- 1977 Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II
- 1980 Queen Mother's 80th Birthday
- 1981 Marriage of the Prince of Wales to Lady Diana Spencer
- 1986 Marriage of the Duke of York to Sarah Ferguson
- 1987 40th Wedding Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II
- 1990 Queen Mother's 90th Birthday
- 1995 50th Anniversary of VE Day
- 1997 50th Wedding Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II
- 2000 Millennium
- 2000 Queen Mother's 100th Birthday
- 2002 Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II
- 2006 450th Anniversary of Abingdon Charter/Queen Elizabeth II's Official Birthday
- 2006 450th Anniversary of Abingdon Charter/Visit by Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal
- 2011 Marriage of Prince William to Catherine Middleton
- 2012 HM Queen's Diamond Jubilee
- 2016 HM Queen's 90th Birthday
- 2018 Commemoration of the end of the First World War

MICHAELS

Civic Robes




*Civic Outfitters
Since 1995*

UK Manufacturers of Civic Robes, Headwear & Accessories

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

Since 1995, Michaels are pleased to have worked with every Local Authority & Council in the Country.

Michaels have traditional but modern in-house facilities and an experienced team of seamstresses and tailors. Michaels also offer Alterations, Specialist Cleaning of Civic Gowns & Robes and Free Inspection for Robe Refurbishment



Our Products

- Lord Mayor Robes
- Mayor & Deputy Robes
- Past Mayor & Alderman Robes
- Macebearer Robes
- Macebearer Tailored Livery
- Macebearer Tricorns & Top Hats
- Councillor Robes
- Town Clerk Robes, Wigs & Accessories
- Bicorns & Tricorns
- Jabots, Sleeves & Gloves
- Civic Mourning Products
- Town Crier Livery

Suite 1 Ashfield House
12 Ashfield Road
Cheadle
Stockport
SK8 1BB

www.civicrobes.com
info@civicrobes.com
Office: 0117 909 9988
Michael: 07738 172011

Windsor Lodge
56 Windsor Street
Burbage
Leicestershire
LE10 2EF

Historical Associations of Ceremonial Mace & Bedels in Universities

Ancient mace heads found around the world, which date back at least 5000 years, indicate that maces have been given as gifts and used for ceremonial purposes long before their use in universities.

Little is known about how they first came to be used in universities,

although during the beginning of the twelfth century, when

universities were establishing themselves in Europe, maces or

mazza were carried before Cardinals and being used by papal messengers. They were also carried before monarchs and used symbolically to represent “**the collective dignity and privileges of institutions and corporations**” (Thorne, 1990). During the same

period, maces were also a popular weapon of war. Nowadays, no longer deployed as weapons of war, they are still in use around the world in universities, seats of government, and other civic bodies.

Whilst we know maces were used for ceremonial purposes at early medieval universities in Europe, it is likely they had other functions too. For example, keeping order and when they were used to symbolise a university’s authority to dispense justice.



Ancient University Maces of Bologna

Photo reproduced courtesy of Alma Mater Studiorum
University of Bologna – Sistema Museale di Ateneo –
MEUS- Museo Europeo degli Studenti.



Medieval Mace, University of St. Andrews

Photo reproduced courtesy of the University of
St Andrews

Examples of medieval maces are still in regular use at universities in Europe today. Amongst these are the three ceremonial maces used during matriculation ceremonies at the University of Bologna in Italy, which reputedly date back to the fourteenth century, and the three medieval maces carried in graduation ceremonies at the University of St Andrews in Scotland, which date back to the fifteenth century.

The medieval maces at Bologna and those at St Andrews do not appear to resemble early English university maces, which

developed from the military mace; rather, they have more ecclesiastical connections, which in pre-reformation times would have reflected and magnified the head of the universities [Rector’s] position as a member of the church.

The Office of Bedel in Universities

The office of bedel (beadle, bedell) is one of the oldest in higher education. There are records of bedels in attendance at inception ceremonies, the medieval precursor to graduation ceremonies, with a 'mace to hand'. Like the ceremonial mace, bedels have also been involved in other settings outside higher education. During the medieval period, cardinals in procession would often be preceded by 'mazzieri' [macebearers] carrying 'mazza' [mace], and for centuries since, macebearers have acted as intermediaries on behalf of courts, cities, feudal lords, monarchs, and parliaments.

At the early universities of Oxford and Cambridge there were two types of bedel carrying maces at ceremonies: the esquire and yeoman bedel. The esquire bedel was tasked with supporting the administration of the university, acting as an intermediary between town and gown, and was often custodian of ceremonies. They wore robes of a higher quality and status than yeoman bedels at ceremonies and were usually MA's (Master of Arts) and prominent figures in university towns (Jackson, 2016). Esquire bedels attended inception ceremonies as well as masses, funeral processions, and congregations (Cobham, 1999, p.48). The yeoman bedels had a more modest function in the university. They publicised when meetings of the Chancellor's Court would take place, helped resolve disputes, served writs and collected fees on behalf of the university. They were also well known in university towns and required to attend ceremonies at their university in full ceremonial attire. The yeoman bedels at Oxford and Cambridge wore plain stuff gowns (Jackson, 2016). The terms 'yeoman' and 'esquire' were traditionally ranks within the gentry.

Nowadays the term 'bedel' is used less frequently, those carrying ceremonial maces in universities are more often referred to as 'macebearers'. The medieval mace still in use in universities today have spawned countless others at higher education institutions around the world over the centuries since, and they continue to reflect and reinforce a university's authority to award degrees.

Dr Sandra Wearden FBS - June 2021

References

Account of the Maces of Scottish Universities, *Archaeological Journal*, Vol. xli, Pp. 370-373, (1892),

<http://www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk> accessed 16.11.16

Cobham, A. (1999) *English University Life in the Middle Ages*, UK, UCL Press

Peter Thorne, *The Royal Mace in the House of Commons*, (1990, p.1-4), London, HMSO, Parliamentary Copyright House of Commons 1990.

Jackson, N. (2016) *Ackermann's Costumes of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge*, Published by The Burgon Society, UK, <http://www.burgon.org.uk>

Ordo Cencius, (Virgarii in Chapter 40 of the Order of Cencius), Liber Censuum, financial record of the real estate revenues of the papacy from 492-1192. Held in the archives at the Vatican Library, See Catholic Encyclopaedia (1913) Volume 9, 'Mace' by Joseph Braun

How Times Have Changed !

When I took over the role of Magazine editor, I was handed a large carrier bag of, what can only be described as, the 'Guild Magazine Archives'.

Copies of early editions from the pre-computer, hand typed early versions, through the single A4 sheet photocopies (stapled together at the top corner!), to the glossy print versions we have today.

Looking back at some of the prototypes, it was interesting to see some of the names who are still involved today.

In a faded and yellowing 1985 edition, a certain Mr Richard Strudwick featured heavily in its type faced pages. The then Renter Prime Warden, going onto Prime Warden writes an interesting bio.

He still serves the guild to this day in the role of Welfare Officer,





Coincidentally, Richard sent me some old Black and White photos of himself, as a dashing young man of 38, for publication within these pages.

They were taken in May 1979 at the Leeds Lord Mayors parade. I can only wonder what the event was about and what great traditions they had back then !

I have no doubt Richard was simply comforting Little Bo Peep on the loss of her sheep.?

He assures me that his wife, Gillian, was present at the time!!!



Guild Fees 2022 / 2023

12 month subscription:

New Members £35 (Renewal £10)

Honorary Members £6

Friends of the Guild £6.00 (Plus joining fee of £6.00)

ATÉ'S TALES

(Até - The Ancient Greek Goddess of mischief, folly, rash action and reckless impulse)

Welcome to a brand new feature in Mace-Bearer Magazine. We've all been there. We've all done it. We've all performed that foolish action much to the humorous delight of our watching colleagues. Here is your opportunity to share those light hearted moments with those of us who missed them!

Please send your stories to editor@macebearer.com for inclusion in the next issue. All parties will be remain anonymous, although I'm sure you will know who you are...



Stone Bonker!

I'm informed of a sorry tale regarding a certain City Beadle from a cathedral town in mid South of England.

The story goes that he was in the procession waiting to move on to the church, proudly bearing a large wooden stave, atop of which was a sturdy brass knob. He tells me it is purely ceremonial and was traditionally used in the days before the establishment of Police Forces to ward off potential attacks on the Mayor and Aldermen.

Whilst endeavouring to sort out the processional order, he propped it against the wall (although not very carefully as it would turn out) and turned his attention to the job at hand. He later turned back to retrieve it, only find it had gone!

A quick search located it now laying across the concrete floor, with the Mayors Chaplain standing next to it, clutching a handkerchief to a cut on the side of his head. He had been innocently minding his own business, when the item in question had succumbed to the force of gravity, rolled along the wall and gave the Chaplain a blessing he wasn't expecting!

Whilst many people would have uttered a choice expletive or two in these circumstances, the Chaplain remained true to his faith and exercised commendable restraint in the spirit of forgiveness.... And that M'lud concludes the case for the defence!

Get out and walk Mr Mayor

Another woeful tale reached my inbox concerning a certain North London Mayoral Attendant, who set off in the Mayoral car with his Mayor and Mayoress on-board, to attend an engagement in South London. Having arrived very late, eventually the reasons for his tardiness were extracted.

As the event was only just 'over the water' into South London and therefore not too far from his home borough, the attendant decided that, rather than plan a route on map, he would just 'trust the Sat-Nav'. Sadly, when those ultimate words "You have reached your destination" were heard, the attendant looked around, but failed to locate the venue!

When enquiries were made, it was "on the other side of the river mate", 1km away (through the Greenwich foot tunnel) from his current location on the Isle of Dogs!

Keep them coming! editor@macebearer.com

Focus on New Guild Member

Kenneth Bond VR Asyl S.A.C.Dip

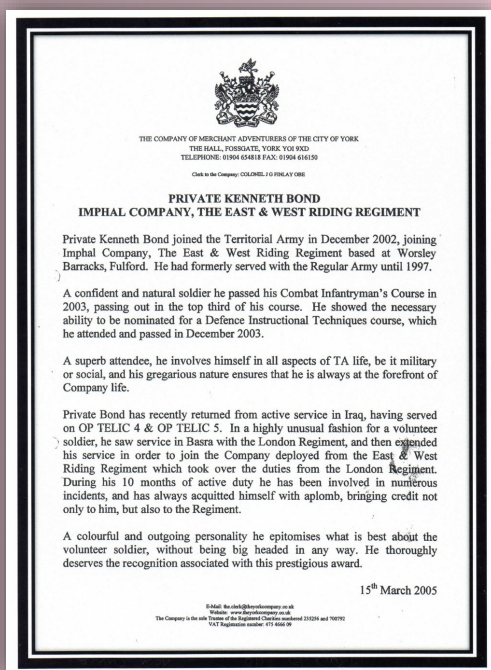
New Guild member Kenneth Bond is the Attendant, Macebearer and Chauffeur to the Lord Mayor and Leader of Birmingham City Council. He is also a member of The Guild of Professional Chauffeurs (GoPC). As part of this role he is the Ambassador for the West Midlands area.

Kenneth was born in the British Military hospital in Rinteln Germany as his father, a fusilier was stationed there at the time. Kenneth himself has led both a military and security life.

He joined the army which was a career that took him to many different countries around the world on exercise, such as Albania & Kenya. He saw service in Iraq twice in 2004 & 2005, where he was a force protection lead convoy driver. During this time he received a coveted Citation for Service.

When he returned to the UK, and whilst still in the military, he continued to chauffeur for the Colonel of his Regiment and also drove the previous Duke of Westminster.

Since leaving the military, he has utilised his former skills and experience, transferring them to driving regional political leaders, Ambassadorial figures and a British Commonwealth games star.



He is a member of the Security Institute, a ROSPA advanced driver, a qualified Personal Protection Officer (Bodyguard), an Emergency First Aid at Work and is Paediatric first aid qualified.



Kenneth is married with seven children. I am very pleased to see Kenneth's name among the 'new members' list and I would like to welcome him to the guild.

Where Next?



The Guild of Mace-Bearers formerly invites you to attend the 2022 Annual Conference and Training event, hosted within the delightful Town of Bideford.

Bideford is an historic port town on the estuary of the River Torridge in North Devon, South-West England.

It is the main town of the Torridge local government district.

We do hope you are able to attend this event and we look forward to welcoming you in such beautiful settings.



ACCOMMODATION

Nearest hotels

The Royal Hotel, Barnstaple Street, Bideford EX39 4AE.

Premier Inn, Clovelly Road, Bideford, EX39 3QU

The Corner House B&B 14 The Strand, Bideford EX39

Other local guesthouses are available.

Annual Conference

&

Training

Friday 11th March 2022

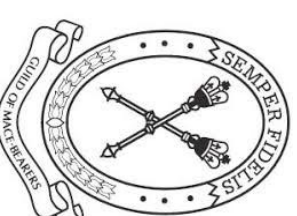
Bideford Town Hall,

4 Bridge Street,

Bideford

Devon

EX39 2HS



Programme

Below are details of the formal training. However, members also benefit from the informal discussions with members from across the country.

Friday 11th March

Members

10.00 Welcome by Mayor and registration

10.30 Installation (In uniform)

11.00 A.G.M

12.00 Buffet lunch

13.00 Training Session in CPR by a Health Care Professional

14.00 Tea/Coffee break

14.30 Training Session Dementia Friends by Mayoress Mrs Philippa Ratcliff

15.30 Conference closed by Prime Warden

18.00 Informal dinner at a local restaurant (not compulsory)

Guest Programme

10.00 Welcome by Mayor and registration

10.30 Installation

11.00 Free time/shopping

12.00 Buffet lunch

13.00 Talk on Bideford's history by local historian and author Cllr Peter Christie

14.00 Tea/Coffee break

14.30 Free time or Dementia Friends talk

15.30 Conference closed by Prime Warden

18.00 Informal dinner at a local restaurant (not compulsory)

The annual conference of the Guild of Mace-bearers, featuring the 2021 Guild training and Annual General Meeting will be held at the Bideford Town Hall, 4 Bridge Street, EX39 2HS, on Friday 11th March 2022.

The programme has been carefully planned so that priority is given to training. Please show this programme to your line manager and discuss with them the benefits of you attending. The better trained and more knowledgeable you are, the better you will serve your Mayor and your Council.

Accommodation and parking will be the responsibility of the individual member.

The agenda for the meeting is as printed in the Manual of the Mace.

Members attending are encouraged to bring their Mace-bearing uniform. This is worn for the installation ceremony and for the official photograph.

There is a separate programme of events for spouses and other guests.

COSTS

The cost of the one day Conference and Training is being covered by the Guild Funds.

The costs of the voluntary 'Informal Dinner' and any Accommodation fees are the responsibility of each attending guest.

Visit the website www.macebearer.com to book



News Watch Quiz

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

September 6 th	Which World #1 tennis player was sensationally disqualified in 4th round of US Open, on this date, after hitting a ball in frustration and striking a line judge ?
October 11 th	On this day, British Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton won Eifel Grand Prix at Germany's Nürburgring to equal Michael Schumacher's record of how many Formula 1 victories ?
November 13 th	Which singer on this day, became the first woman ever to top the UK album chart over five consecutive decades with her album "Disco" ?
December 10 th	Which British 'Carry On' actress and Dame , and former 'Queen Vic' landlady ,died on this day aged 83?
January 7 th	On this date, who became the world's richest man, worth \$186 billion, overtaking Amazon founder Jeff Bezos ?
February 7 th	Which NFL team won the Super Bowl LV, on this day at the Raymond James Stadium in Tampa Florida, beating the defending champion Kansas City Chiefs 31-9 ?
March 23 rd	What happened on this date to cargo ship 'Ever Given', a 400m container ship, that caused repercussions around the world?
April 25 th	At the 93rd Academy Awards, which film won the Oscars for best film, best director (Chloé Zhao), and best lead actress (Frances McDormand)?
May 22 nd	How many points did the British entry to the Eurovision Song contest sung by James Newman, attain on this night?
June 12 th	Which Danish star soccer suffered an on-field cardiac arrest during Euro 2020 game with Finland in Copenhagen and who was successfully revived with a defibrillator?
July 7 th	At 21.16 mts high (69.4 feet), and weighing nearly 5,000 tonnes, what world record breaking structure was completed on this day in Blokhus, Denmark?
August 3 rd	Which famous jazz/swing singer celebrated his 95th birthday with a performance alongside Lady Gaga in the first of 2 "farewell" concerts in Radio City?

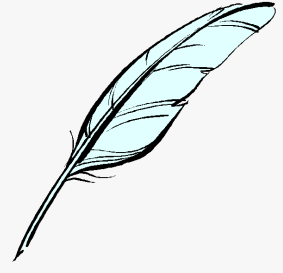


Answers on page 42



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@macebearcwr.com



News Watch Quiz—Answers

September — Novak Djokovic
October — 91
November—Kylie Minogue
December—Dame Barbara Windsor
January—Elon Musk
February—The Tampa Bay Buccaneers
March—it got stuck in the Suez canal, Egypt and blocked world shipping for weeks on end.
April—Nomadland
May—Zero
June—Christian Eriksen
July—Windsor Great Sandcastle
August—Tony Bennett

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—2021	A Tregoning J.P.	Southend-On-Sea

Mace-Bearer

*“A Sword. A cup of Maintenance. A Mace
Great and well gilt, to do the Town more grace
Are borne before the Mayor and Aldermen,
And on festivities or High Days, then
Those Magistrates their Scarlet gowns do wear
And have six Sergeants to attend each year”*

John Taylor 1622

Noun:

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

Origin:

1545-55, mace + bearer

SEMPER FIDELIS

