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# Welcome to the 2023/24 edition of 'The Mace-Bearer'. And what a whirlwind year it has been!

This time last year we were covering all the joyous celebrations of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. The Maces were out and our Mayors were attending street parties in great numbers.

This year I write having seen two Monarchs, three Prime Ministers and one World Cup!

The Jubilee celebrations had only just settled down when we were given the dreadfully sad news that our beloved Queen Elizabeth had passed away. A period of mourning commenced that overshadowed all Mayoral engagements and saw us Mace-Bearers engaging official Mace procedures that had not previously been used in any of our lifetimes. Many discussions, often lively, took place as to what were the correct protocols. We were on virgin territory for sure, but nevertheless, you the members did Her Majesty, and the guild, proud with your professional attitudes.

As times rolled on, the cost of living soared and the government seemed to slip into turmoil as first one and then, forty-four days later, a second Prime Minster stood down. Thank goodness the distraction of the World Cup in Qatar was there to take our minds off things!

As the bells rang in the new year, the nation looked to the future. On 6th May, a monumental event brought the nations smiles back as people round the world witnessed history in the making, the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III and Queen Camilla. The Maces were once again out (without the black shrouds and ribbons) in full splendour as, once again, the country partied in the streets.

Here's to a our new Monarch. Our prayers are with him, for a new and bright future...

God save the King!

#### 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)

Prime Warden	Clifford East	primewarden@macebearer.com
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North Wales & Northern Ireland.

South East Paul Mayhew southeast@macebearer.com

South West and South Wales Jeffery Brown southwest@macebearer.com

# From The Prime Warden

## Dear Guild Members,

In 2022, I was appointed Renter Prime Warden. The responsibility, therefore, fell to me to organise this year's Annual Conference, where I would be installed as Prime Warden for the Guild of Macebearers UK&NI.

This was a particularly difficult task as my town (Margate) is a Charter Trustees Town. Accommodation, I thought, would be no problem in a seaside town and large hotels with conference facilities would be in abundance. Unfortunately, this was not the case and arrangements had to be made for the Conference to be held in the neighbouring town of Ramsgate, which just happens to be my home town. After sleepless nights and anxious days the conference was a success. There were good facilities, informative training sessions, good guests and an excellent evening meal for those that attended.



So, this was the start of my year as Prime Warden. From February to August there were no invitations received, with my only appearance as Margate Town Macebearer at the Mayor making ceremony in Margate in May, after the elections.

After retiring from the RAF and MOD civil service I took up the position of Macebearer for Margate, following in my son's footsteps, who at the time was Town Sergeant and Mace-Bearer for Dover. Not the usual way around, I know, but nice to be able to attend functions and conferences together, whilst representing our Towns.

I await, in anticipation, for requests to come flooding in along with my own Town duties before next year's Conference, and the opportunity to hand over to whoever may be chosen to take up the position of Prime Warden.

A lot of work has gone on behind the scenes to bring the Guild into the 21st century and changes will be taking place in the coming months with further details being discussed and distributed to members.



I look forward to meeting more members, old and new at the next conference.

Clifford East—Prime Warden



# RENTER PRIME WARDEN



The position of Renter Prime
Warden is currently vacant at time of printing



# **GUILD EDITOR**



# eill Tully QPM editor@macebearer.com

#### Greetings,

It's fair to say that the role of 'Editor', has proven a bit challenging for me this year. There has been a bit of a whirlwind change in my personal circumstances. I made the difficult, but sensible, decision to retire fully last Christmas. Therefore, the Bromley Civic Centre (with all its Maces) and I parted company permanently. There was, for a brief period, a slender hope that I would be able to continue on a 'reserve' occasional basis but, sadly, this was not to be. Suffice to say, I am no longer a Mace-Bearer.

There shortly followed my second big decision of the year, and that was to up route and re-locate my home to the South West of England, having been a South London/Kent dweller all my life. As I write this, that process is absorbing all of my time.

Needless to say, with regret, that I must hand over the editorial reigns to a fresh mind at the forthcoming Conference 2024.

Whoever steps up to replace me will find that it is one of the easier jobs on the council and is also an interesting one.

I will, of course, make myself available to guide and advise that person if needed.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and friendship over my last 5 years of Guild Membership.



# dam Tregoning clerk@macebearer.com

#### Greetings!

This is my first Guild magazine communication as Guild Clerk, having taken over from Chris Hobbs-East in February 2023.

Firstly, I'd like to extend a huge thanks to Chris for all his work on behalf of the Guild during his tenure.

Secondly, I'd like to thank the Prime Warden, Cliff East for an excellent AGM & Conference in Ramsgate. It was great to see so many members there, current & new. It's also good to see that we are embracing new technologies by introducing a hybrid element to the conferences. This ensures that those members who are unable to attend in person can attend via video conferencing. This will also ensure a much larger percentage of the membership have their voices heard during any decision making at the AGM.

At the time of writing the Council have undertaken a review of the structure of the Council and the way in which we elect our Prime Warden as instructed by members at the last AGM. Much work has been done on this and more details are laid out in the article later in the magazine.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Guild and I hope to see as many of you as possible at the next AGM & Conference.

# **GUILD CLERK**





eather Hill bursar@macebearer.com

Taking on the office of Bursar for the Guild has proved a challenge but inroads have been achieved with a monthly slot now set aside to look at the sums. We continue to be healthy financially. Very many thanks to Alan, my predecessor and his Fog, Sue, for their valuable and valiant service. My Fog hates me!

# **GUILD BURSAR**







# COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Adam has a duel role within the Guild. As well as being In the Guild Clerk, he also manages to 'Communications Officer' position too.

In order to promote the Guild to as wide an audience as possible and to highlight the great work members do day-in-day-out we have the following social media presences open to all members and the public. (Please note that these sites are constantly monitored for any inappropriate content or comments).



**Twitter** 

@guildmace

https://twitter.com/guildmace



**Facebook** 

@guildofmacebearers

https://www.facebook.com/guildofmacebearers

Please do sign up to these and feel free to share your Mace-Bearing stories. They really are of interest and also help to pass on knowledge and information to other members. They also help to bring a wider understanding to those outside the Mace-Bearer community about what we do, helping to dispel myths and mis-information.

The Kings Coronation was a prime example of how these platforms can share what was going on around the country and many members made use of them. Please do not let it stop there. Keep sharing!

If you have any concerns about how to use the sites above please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be contacted via the following email: <a href="mailto:comms@macebearer.com">comms@macebearer.com</a>

# 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 '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.



Colin George - Elmbridge Borough Council

Simon Lagdon - Dartmouth Town Council

lan Barr - Llandovery Town Council

Ken MacDonald - Cambridge City Council

Bertie Green - Romsey Town Council

Andres Bolado - Axbridge Town Council

Richard Gatecliff - York City Council

Adrian Holmes - Lichfield City Council

Richard Hunt - Lichfield City Council

Garry Fuller - London Borough of Bromley

Alison Read - Lichfield City Council

**Ugbana Oyet** - House of Commons

David Brooke - Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council

Ian Humphries - Newcastle City Council

Simon Wiggins - Isle of Wight Unitary Authority

Stephen Caygill - Malmesbury Town Council

Alex Locke - Yeovil Town Council

Beverley Moody - Tavistock Town Council

Keith Murray - Hetherington JP

David Newman - Hereford City Council

lan Atkinson - Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

Derek Mumford - Hereford City Council

Ashley Winter - Hereford City Council

John Marshall - Hereford City Council

Ronald Morris - Hereford City Council

Keith Lillywhite - Hereford City Council

Mary Black - Edinburgh City Council

James Rivett - Office of the Wardens & Freemen of Malmesbury

# Conference 20







# You've got nothing better to do... Pick up that Mace!

s they used to say in the Army, "Don't stand still for too long, or you'll get given a job!"

Guild member, Peter Adams, was literally appointed as a Mace-Bearer 'on the spot', and he writes...

"I am the head of security for Thurrock council and have been looking after the mace and carrying it ceremonially now for 8 years.

This all originally came about on Remembrance Sunday, back in 2014. The mace was usually carried by a cadet, especially nominated from a local training regiment. Moments before the parade, it was apparent that the nominated cadet hadn't materialised.

Part of my duties was to set up the table ready to support the mace throughout the service, and so it fell to me to break the news to the Mayor that we didn't have a Mace-Bearer. I made my way over to him to give him the news. He immediately responded "Yes we do, I'm looking at him!" From that moment on, it became one of my regular duties and have been the Mace-Bearer for Thurrock council ever since.

Having performed the role through some high profile events, such as His Majesty's Annunciation and Proclamation. It was here that Deputy Lieutenant of Essex



Proclamation Day with the Worshipful Mayor of Thurrock, The Deputy Lieutenant, the attendant vicar and the 'Official' Thurrock Mace-Bearer Peter Adams

suggested I join the Guild of Mace-Bearers, following my explaining that I felt I was 'winging it' in my duties. Consequently I did and here I am!

I look forward to performing my duties again very soon and hopefully for the Kings Coronation."

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# FOGs News 2023



As you will have seen elsewhere in the magazine, although the Prime Warden is representing Margate we actually descended on Ramsgate for the conference in this year.

For once, we decided to travel by car rather than train. It's amazing the effect a new car has! Due to the length of the journey, we travelled up the day before thinking we'd be having dinner on our own. However, several others had the same idea so the night before conference saw a large party in the pub!

For this year, a trip to Margate was arranged for FoGs and other guests. We had ordered a couple of taxis but I think one of them got lost on the way as we had to wait quite a while for the second one to turn up. As I had the means to pay the taxi fares the first taxi had a long wait in Margate before I turned up in taxi number 2 to pay.

We started off with a visit to the Turner Contemporary Gallery. Not a lot to say about it except some contemporary art is not really my thing!

I have been a fan of Antony Gormley since our first conference trip to St Helens when I visited an exhibition of his there. So, for me, the redeeming feature was the view of the Antony Gormley Sculpture 'Another Time'. As the view from the galley wasn't brilliant I made the other FoGs wait whilst I got a close up.



From the gallery we walked to the Margate Caves. The Caves were originally dug as a chalk

mine in the 18th century. It became a popular attraction in Victorian times but closed in 2004 until the Friends of Margate Caves and The Margate Caves Community Education Trust campaigned for them to re-open.

This must be the first time we have had an underground picture of the FoGs group.

On the way back to Ramsgate, we had a quick detour to the Banksy that had appeared in Margate not long before the Conference.

Due to Alan and I going on holiday round conference time

we may not be able to make it to conference in 2024 wherever it may be. So, if I don't see you in 2024 I'll catch-up with you all in 2025 (and this article will be from a different FoG next year).

# Susan Spencer (aka FoG One)



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.

We have had 4 new 'Friends of Guild' since last year. A very warm welcome to:

Steven Jordan

Janet Wicks

Marcia Knight

Ashley Garrison-Brown

# **GUILD OF MACE-BEARER TRAINING**

In recent years there have been an increasing number of enquiries on the website from Councils requesting training for new Macebearers/Officers as they are appointed. Other than the training provided at the annual conference there has not been any structured method of providing this and it has been ad hoc at best. In order to improve our provision of training the Council have agreed that The Guild will create a list of "approved trainers" who can be booked to give bespoke training to Council's across the Country. The Guild will charge a daily fee for training plus travel expenses where appropriate and the trainers will be paid for their time with the Guild taking a small commission. It is also hoped that training modules will be available online in the near future.

These changes will help the Guild remain relevant in the 21st Century. It will help us to forge forward, embracing modern technology, whilst maintaining the heritage and customs that we all hold dear.

Any members who feel they have the skills and experience are welcome, and encouraged, to put themselves forward as trainers.





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# 

# Peter E. Legg **Guild Website Officer**

August 2023

As of 1st August the Guild had 192 Members which is 19 (11%) up on this time last year and the second year running that membership has grown by over 10%.

The increased membership brings in extra subscriptions and after two years of offering reduced renewal prices for full members, that benefit would seem likely to be continued.

The number of new members joining does mean that we are rapidly running out of printed copies of The Manual of the Mace. This, coupled with the many changes that have now been made to the book, means that we are currently looking at the options for replacing it with a new edition.

As always, if you have any queries about your membership, the website, the Manual or you just need some advice on a protocol question the easiest way to contact us is by using the webchat facility at www.macebearer.com Best wishes,

Peter Legg

All MEMBERSHIP	193
FULL MEMBERS	150
HONORARY MEMBERS	26
FRIEND OF THE GUILD	14
FREEMAN OF THE GUILD	3
Regional Locations:	
SCOTLAND	9
NORTH & NORTH WALES MEMBERS/ NORTHERN IRELAND	47
SOUTH WEST & SOUTH WALES	63
SOUTH EAST	74
GUILD MASTERS (Full Member)	4
GUILD MASTERS (Honorary Member)	3



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Guild Plaque £20.00



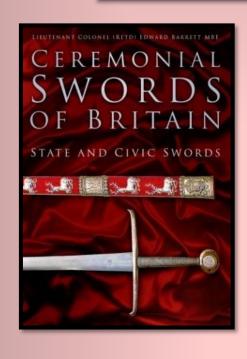


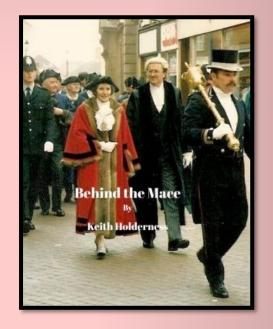




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(Ret) Edward Barrett

Behind the Mace by Keith Holderness



# A Guild Journey



# Alan Spencer, Master of the Guild of Macebearers Southampton Town Crier and Macebearer

My journey through the Guild commenced in May 2005. I was working as a Town Sergeant for Southampton City Council. A colleague who was already a member of the Guild suggested that I join. Little did I know where that would lead.

For the first few years I was unable to attend the Guild Conference so missed the joys of East Dunbartonshire, Poole and Loughborough.

However, August 2008 saw me making the long trip from Southampton to St. Helens in Lancashire. My council were unwilling to pay for two attendees to I covered my own costs. I thoroughly enjoyed my first AGM and met a great group of people. I promised that I would return the following year wherever the AGM was to be held. In St. Helen's I stayed at a cheap B&B rather than the recommended hotel – Never

again!



August 2009 saw me making my way across the border to Swansea in Wales, again at my own expense. It was almost like being at home as Swansea and Southampton Civic Centres were built to the same plans. In usual Guild fashion I somehow ended up as South East rep with little idea of what the role entailed. There were a few highlights in Swansea. We were entertained by a male voice choir ably accompanied on piano by our own Richard Strudwick. The Guild dinner ended with a cheese plate that to this day is unsurpassed.2010 had us meeting in St Ives. Not the one in Cornwall but the one in Cambridgeshire that was once the home of Oliver Cromwell. I was re-elected South

East rep so I must have been doing something right!

February 2011 saw me in Croydon. To this day I am reminded of the extortionate cost of two drinks at the hotel bar! £18 for a glass of wine and half a cider still rankles. At the AGM I befriended a new member, Chris Hobbs-East, and persuaded him that he should become South East rep in my place. I didn't escape from the council as I was elected Guild Editor (something to do with me saying I could do a better job although I had no idea how). The first full colour magazine appeared later that year.



We travelled to Hertford in 2012. One of the outstanding memories was meeting Chris Hobbs-East desperately trying to find a shop selling white socks as he had forgotten his! February 2013 was a short jaunt to Royal Wootton Bassett where Owen Collier was invested as Prime Warden. I must have been doing something right with the magazine as I was again re-elected as Guild Editor.

The following year in 2014 saw us in the lovely city of Exeter to witness the late Ron Crabb BEM become Prime Warden. I was given the honour of not only being elected Guild Editor again but elected as Renter Prime Warden. Again, a position that I was totally unprepared for despite being associated with the Guild for nearly 10 years.



2015 was my 'big' year. It was an unusual year for me as I was elected Renter Prime Warden whilst working in Southampton. By the time of the conference I had travelled down the M27 to work in Portsmouth as Macebearer/Chauffeur for the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth. This created something of a dilemma as arrangements had been made to hold the



AGM and conference in Southampton. The obvious solution was to have two Mayors in attendance. I believe this was a first for the Guild and was a great success. I was again re-elected Guild Editor so members must have been enjoying my work.

In 2016 I seemed to spend a lot of time in Yeovil as I attended a beard and moustache competition, the interim council meeting and the AGM. We certainly had gone up market to the original B&B at my first conference as we stayed in a room with a four-poster

bed. Again I was re-elected as Guild Editor.

February 2017 the conference coincided with my 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary so Susan and I spent a few days in Harrogate before travelling to Ripon. Watching the Hornblower ceremony in Ripon was a memorable experience. I was again re-elected as Guild Editor.

February 2018 saw us in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. We had a great time as usual and I was re-elected Guild editor again. A lasting memory of Hammersmith and Fulham comes when watching re-runs of 'New Tricks' on TV as many of the rooms used at conference were used as filming locations.

In February 2019, I'd had enough of being Guild Editor so when we travelled to Deal, I tendered my resignation. Thankfully my successor has done a sterling job with the magazine. Having thought I had escaped official Guild duties, I was persuaded to take over as Guild Bursar. The Guild dinner in Deal was unusual in that it was the first to be held in a fish and chip restaurant.



2020 was a memorable year for many, for all the wrong reasons. However, we managed to fit in a trip to Southend On Sea before we went into lockdown. I was re-elected Guild Bursar and little did I know when we said our goodbyes that it would be two years before we met up again. Adam Tregoning becoming the first Prime Warden to serve two years due to the pandemic.



In February 2022 we were able to meet up again. A smaller gathering was held

in Bideford with Val Morrish taking on the role of Prime Warden. An overriding memory of Bideford is of the steep hills. I was re-elected as Guild Bursar and was honoured to be presented with my Master of the Guild badge. If I haven't already said so, my thanks to all those who voted for me.

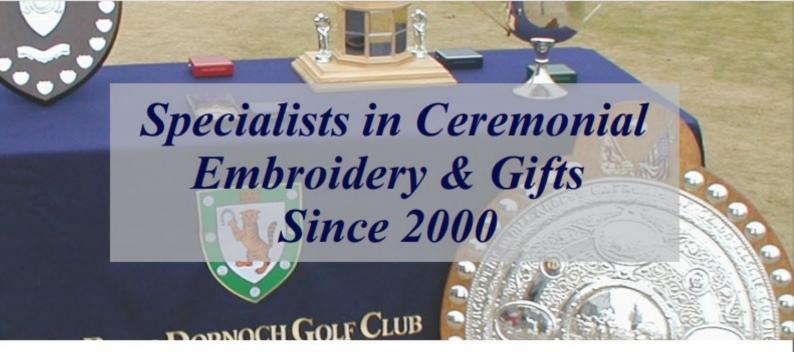
Bringing things up to date, in 2023 I decided to relinquish my position as Guild Bursar at the AGM in Margate. It was good to see a number of new members in Margate and was pleased to see many of them taking on roles withing the Guild. Although I am no longer council member it is in good hands for the future.



I have attended conferences paying my own way throughout. I will still be attending Guild conferences in future as long as health and funds permit. I would like to offer a vote of thanks to each and everyone of you who has supported me in my various roles throughout my time with the Guild.







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The 'Manual of the Mace' is a great resource for when you are faced with a situation where the protocols need to be observed. Lets face it the 'protocols' are often very ambiguous and frequently differ from area to area.

The last year was packed with major events in the full glare of the public eye. This highlighted that there are sometimes answers that we can't all agree on. I've witnessed social media conversations that got get quite heated about what is the right or wrong way to do something. The truth is though, most activities we perform will have regional variations.

A good way to find the answers you are looking for is to check the Guild of Macebearers website and social media pages. Whilst this may not give you the answer you believe is right, it will usually tell you what the majority of people are doing... but lets face it, whatever you do, nobody will challenge you if it looks smart.

Nevertheless, the guild council do have a broad range of experience and knowledge are always happy to try and answer your questions. Its often a good place to start. Here are a couple of examples ...

— We have both the Lord Lieutenant and the High Sheriff coming to open a Band stand. But where does the High Sheriff fit into the procession. Is it Before the Mayor, or with the clerk or Deputy Mayor?

— In a church, you often have the advantage of using their vergers/marshals to lead the procession in and make sure everyone gets to the right place. In an outdoor setting there is rarely anyone to help, so it often makes sense for the Mace-Bearer to lead the way. While one option is to have Juniors in first and seniors last (which means the Mayor/macebearer is always towards the back) for practical purposes we always used to have the macebearer at the front of any procession. To do this, the format for your procession would be Mace, Mayor and LL (side by side) High Sheriff, Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk, followed by others, such as councillors etc.

(Peter Legg—Guild Webmaster)

— When the Deputy Mayor is out at events, can they be robed without the Macebearer, or is it only the mayor who needs the Mace-bearer present?

— I would always send a Mace-bearer if the Deputy Mayor was in robes at an event deputising for the Mayor. Mostly for security purposes but also because they are afforded the same courtesy as the Mayor. If the Deputy Mayor is at a separate event at the same time the Mayor is at another event, then our protocols don't allow for the DM to wear their robes.

(Adam Tregoning — Guild Clerk & Communications Officer)

Discussions and questions can be posted on the Guild Website, or by joining the 'Guild of Macebearers' groups on Facebook/Twitter groups.

(See the Communication Officers report on page 8 for details)



# Long Serving Lyme Regis Mace-Bearer is Honoured on Retirement

(Article reproduced courtesy of https://lyme-online.co.uk/)

The long-serving Lyme Regis macebearer Derek Hallett has been honoured as he retires from the role.

Mr Hallett was first appointed a macebearer during Ken Dibben's office of mayor from 2001 to 2003. Since then, he has gone on the serve five further mayors, including the late Barbara Austin and Ken Whetlor, Sally Holman, Michaela Ellis and the incumbent Brian Larcombe.

He was appointed Sargeant of Mace – the lead macebearer – in 2017 following the retirement of Colin Barker.

The voluntary role of macebearers accompanying the Mayor of Lyme Regis at civic occasions can be traced back in history.

By Royal Charter, the Mayor and Corporation of the Borough of Lyme Regis were granted authority to manage the town on behalf of the king.

As a symbol of that authority, the borough was entitled to have ceremonial maces to be carried before the mayor by the macebearers, who were in attendance to protect and defend the honour of the First Citizen.

In 1757 the silver maces were presented to the borough by Thomas Fane to celebrate the appointment of his son, John, as Mayor of Lyme Regis.

To this day, the two identical George II silver maces are carried at the head of civic processions by the town's macebearers.

As well as serving as a macebearer for more than 20 years, Mr Hallett is well-known in Lyme Regis as the town's former dog warden, and he also served as a town councillor for several years before moving to Seaton.

In one of his last official duties as the Mayor of Lyme Regis, Cllr Brian Larcombe MBE paid LYME REGIS

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PROBLEM TO TOWN MAYORS

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Derek Hallett receives a town crest from the Mayor of Lyme Regis, Cllr Brian Larcombe MBE, for his 20 years as a Mace-Bearer

tribute to Mr Hallett at this week's council meeting and presented him with an inscribed town crest.

Cllr Larcombe also thanked Mr Hallett's partner Susanne Whitemore for her support and presented the couple with a voucher for dinner at the Alexandra Hotel.

Cllr Larcombe commented: "A former employee of the council, macebearer for over 20 years, Sergeant of Mace, and a former councillor – an incredible service to Lyme Regis and its council.

"His diligence as dog warden and enforcement is well-known – I'd have to say almost legendary! His nononsense approach, 'firm but fair' and steadfast was of real benefit with the cleanliness and safety of the streets and walkways of Lyme and its seafront his first priority.

"He gave the same passion and commitment to his macebearing duties, honouring tradition, and paying respect to the historic nature of the role.

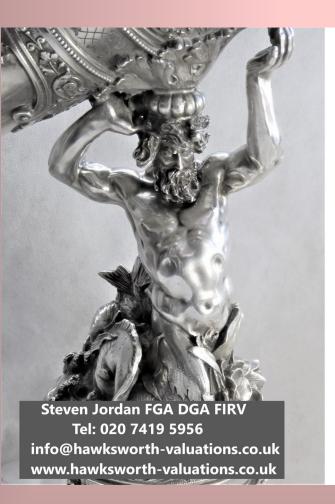
"He gave the same determined approach to his time as a councillor; a role he held with the same conviction given to his council employment and macebearing duties.

"It's a privilege to present you with these two gifts to mark the service you've given to Lyme and its council, and a personal pleasure for me and Wendy to thank you for your support and macebearing, with Susanne's input too, during our time as mayor and mayoress."

Mr Hallett thanked Cllr Larcombe and said it had been an honour to serve him and previous mayors.

Heather Britton now serves as Sargeant of Mace – the town's first female macebearer – with three other volunteers to support her at events.







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# our coronation

Richard Gatecliffe - It was an immense privilege to be the first Mace Bearer to greet a new Monarch at York's Micklegate Bar in 75 years. After the Lord Mayor let King Charles III into the city, I turned the Mace upside down so that it's Crown was below the Monarch's head. This lasted only a couple of minutes until the Town Clerk had read the proclamation to the King. Thankfully, this one photograph captured that brief moment in time.

We then had to quickly hand the Sword and Mace over to the Mansion House staff before swiftly getting the robed and chained Civic Party into the Limousine and up to York Minster before the Royal Motorcade got there. Thankfully the police made my drive a little easier.

Sadly the recent Maundy visit was scaled down for security reasons breaking a centuries old tradition.

Photography)











#### BIDEFORD TOWN COUNCIL'S CORONATION CONTRIBUTION

It was a damp morning on Coronation Day but that did not deter our intrepid Civic Party taking the Town Cryer's proclamation through the Town.

Our Town Cryer gave his cry no fewer than 6 times, from the Town Hall, to Victoria Park, finishing off outside the King's Arms – a fitting place for the King's Coronation. Our thanks go to Mike and Gaylena for adding that bit extra with their pipes!

Meanwhile, up at the Pannier Market, the Hall was being readied for the live showing on the big screen with delightful lunch boxes donated by the Town Council. Around 200 people enjoyed a great street-party style atmosphere, in the dry and we would like to thank Lucy Lowe for organising the event, and their Market Officer, Ahmet for his hard work.

The Town Council are also arranging for Coronation benches to be installed both sides of the river, a Coronation Rose Bed outside Victoria Park and a Cherry tree to be planted in the grounds of East the Water School, West Croft School and St Mary's School.





### **GUILD OF MACE-BEARERS**

## **NEW MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE**

At the last AGM the Guild Council were tasked with looking at the current management structure and how it could be improved for the future of the Guild.

Members will be aware of the difficulties in recent years in finding Prime Wardens who are able to be supported by their Councils to host the Conference and AGM. Since the COVID pandemic the way the Guild operates has also changed and this also meant that the structure of the Guild needed to be looked at to ensure that the day-to-day management of the Guild was fit for purpose.

This process of restructuring has now been completed and the following changes have been implemented:

- 1. The method of electing the Prime Warden and Renter Prime Warden has never formally been laid down in our standing orders before and has largely been based on selecting those members who have attended the most conferences in order of seniority. This has proved increasingly difficult in recent years particularly with members now having the option of attending conferences online and so the decision has been taken that in future any member who expresses an interest in standing for election shall be eligible to be elected as Prime Warden and may remain in post for more than one year should they be elected to do so. The running of the Guild business on a day-to-day basis will be delegated to a Chief Executive Officer with the role of the Prime Warden being more of a Presidential / Figurehead role. The Prime Warden will still chair the Conference and AGM but will no longer be responsible for its location or organisation. This will now be the responsibility of the CEO and Executive.
- 2. To support the Prime Warden and manage the day-to-day business of the Guild, the Guild will appoint a Chief Executive Officer from within its membership and the CEO will be supported by an Executive committee comprised of:
  - Clerk
  - Bursar
  - Comms Officer
  - Membership Secretary

All roles will be elected for a three-year term of office rotating as follows:

- Year 1 CEO & Communications
- Year 2 Clerk & Membership
- Year 3 Bursar

The purpose of the overlap means that the CEO/Clerk/Bursar should never change in the same year to ensure continuity. The Executive would carry out their defined roles and assist the CEO in the effective running of the Guild including arranging AGM/Conference etc when and where appropriate.

3. With the Guild operating nationally online the necessity of having area reps has become redundant and therefore these roles have been removed from the Guild Council. To enable wider participation by members from across the country there will be an increased number of non-executive member positions on the Council making the number of Council positions up to 5% of the total membership. These roles will not be onerous and are expected only to require a commitment of attending four quarterly online meetings per year to enable the exec committee to sound out members on topics to be discussed and shape the future of the Guild.

## **GUILD OF MACE-BEARERS STRUCTURE**

## **CEREMONIAL**

**Prime Warden** 

Renter Prime Warden (Vice President)

### **ADMINISTRATIVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**CEO** 

Clerk Bursar

Communications

Membership

## **GUILD COUNCIL POSITIONS**

EditorTrainingWebmasterWelfareNon Exec MemberNon Exec Member

Non Exec Member

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Freemen

Masters

Members

**Honorary Members** 

FoGs

All Council positions (Ceremonial & Executive) will be elected at the AGM in 2024.

# Portsmouth Mourns boutsmonth Mourns



# ...Then Rocks to Heavy Metal !!!

Another year and a busy one for the Mayoral Team's year in Portsmouth. We saw the new Lord Mayor, The Reverend Doctor Canon Councillor Hugh Mason, take his post in office at the Spring Mayor Making ceremony in 2022.

During his tenure, Lord Mayor events began to pick up speed after the relatively gentle recovery of public events following COVID and all it brought in its shadow. Perhaps the most memorable event, certainly for a Town, Borough Mayor or City Lord Mayor was the sombre duty to announce the death of our Monarch, Queen Elizabeth II. Portsmouth's Serjeant-at-Mace was probably not the only Mace Bearer, along with their back room offices, to

be caught out by this monumental event in British history.

Although there were some quiet preparations underway in the background, it was not until the last moment when 'the drill book' was opened – last consulted 70 years ago – Heather discovered the Great Mace of the City of Portsmouth was to be fully draped in 'The Black Cover.' Seven decades in storage, gradually being edged to the back of the cupboard, had not done any favours to the black baize. There was no time to supply a replacement so a simple black ribbon was tied around the base of the Crown at the top. There followed a few minutes



of practice reversing the Great Mace, upside down, in respect while the City's Lord Mayor read The Proclamation from King Charles III and recarrying it with the Crown uppermost again. A tricky drill on the City Steps, in front of several hundred people with an ancient piece of Silver Gilt worth..........

This was, indeed, a great day for memories. Sad but great and historical.

The gale of these national events blew through our City with the usual calendar days we all experience and take part in. Council Meetings, National Remembrance Sunday, the Civic Services in our Churches and Cathedrals, Christmas.

In the Spring of this year Portsmouth elected a new Lord Mayor, Councillor Tom Coles and his wife was appointed his Lady Mayoress. This was an unusual event in as much as his entrance, once dressed in his Mayoral Robes, following his Serjeant-at-Mace was accompanied by music from Metallica – Eye of the Beholder. This took itself 'viral' and travelled the world via social media. Your own, your very own Bursar for the Guild of Mace-Bearers was in the lead! Councillor Coles is a self-declared Trekkie and speaks Klingon. As anyone who was there............

Follow this link: Portsmouth mayor uses Metallica entrance music at appointment ceremony - YouTube 2023 has been very busy so far and promises to become more so with this young and engaging Lord and Lady Mayoress.

Serjeant-at-Mace City of Portsmouth and Guild Bursar Heather Hill Copyright The News Portsmouth.

# 'The Mace-Bearer' Receives Royal Thanks.

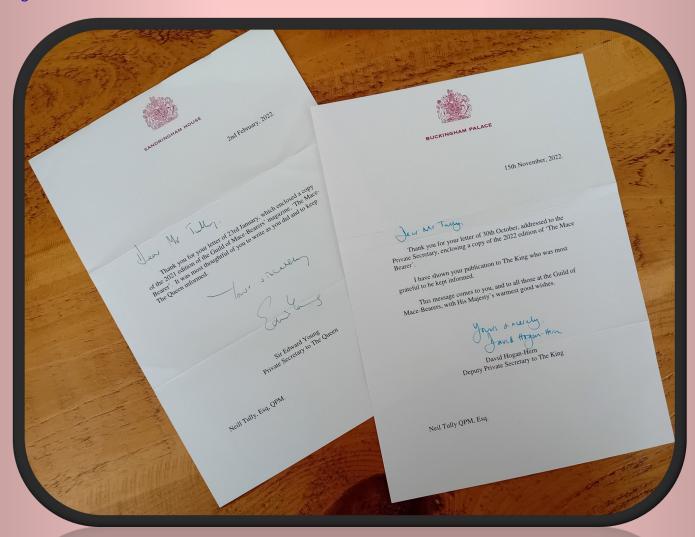
Each year, a copy of the Guild magazine 'The Mace-Bearer' is sent to Buckingham Palace, and each year a letter of thanks is received from the monarch's Private Secretary.

In the year 2022, these letters were of an historic significance. In February, we received what was to be the final letter from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, who sadly passed away at 3.10pm on the 8th September 2022, breaking a nations hearts following her 70 years on the throne.

Two months later, the Guild received a similar letter from our new and current Monarch, His Majesty King Charles III, following the sending of the 2022 edition to the Palace.

What an incredible slice of history sits between these two letters!

The Guild and all its member send His Majesty King Charles III, our grateful wishes for a long and healthy reign.



Just in case you are wondering... In addition the Buckingham Palace, copies of the Mace-Bearer magazine are also sent to The Prime Minister, The Speaker of the House of Commons, The Scottish Parliament Presiding Officer, The Welsh Parliament Presiding Officer, The Lord Mayor of London, all the advertisers, and five copies to the British Library!

Each full member gets two copies. One for themselves, and the other to leave in their local chambers or civic centres.



# CITY MACE GETS FULL ROYAL MAKE-OVER & THE GUARDS SALUTE.

# Buckingham Palace - Thurs, July 5th 2023

Camera-snapping tourists near Buckingham Palace's Changing of the Guard were left baffled as a small unit of bear-skin guardsmen carried out a curious parade saluting an antique silver Civic Mace.

And they were more confused when the Guards senior chaplain also marched forward – to bless it!

'I've been visiting London for decades hooked on the immaculate drills and pomp of the Brits', said
American Simon Michau from Reston, Washington. 'I thought I knew every Guards routine, but this one
had me totally stumped. Guardsmen are normally seen shouldering their weapons not antique silver
maces. A London policeman told me they were saluting the historic mace of Bangor which I assumed was
Bangor, Maine in the USA. I didn't know there was a Bangor in Wales!'

Welsh Guards Adjutant, Lt. Col. Guy **Bartle-Jones** explained: 'The Mace is actually the civic sceptre of **Bangor City Council** in North Wales of which the Welsh Guards are proud Freemen. We'd heard that for the last few months it had been undergoing some very intricate repair work at the King's royal warrant holders, Wartski of St. James nearby. We couldn't let it leave London back to Bangor without our parading and saluting it'.

Senior Sergeant Major Phil Deren, Guardsman Adrian Owen, Welsh Guards Regimental Adjutant Colonel Guy Bartle-Jones, Bangor City Councillor Mark Roberts (with Mace), Royal Jeweller Wartski MD Katherine Purcell, Guards Sergeant Ken Bishop and Senior Guards chaplain, Lieutenant Colonel Reverent Deiniol Morgan at the Welsh Guards RHQ, outside Buckingham Palace before the 'Changing of the Guard' background parade.

**Guards Chaplain Rev** 

Deiniol Morgan added: 'It's served Bangor well since first used in 1883 when Queen Victoria visited the city, but it's never too late to give it a blessing for many more hundred years to come. Yes, I suppose it did raise a few eyebrows among London visitors who were there to watch the changing of the guard'.

'Evidently, the city council couldn't afford the intricate work it needed, so we were delighted to step in to help', said Wartski joint Managing Director Katherine Purcell. 'Not only was our now-global business founded in Bangor, but the son of our founder, Isidore Wartski became City mayor during the last war so it has particular connection with us'.



**Bangor Councillor Mark** Roberts, was at the Guards Wellington Barracks to receive the Mace back. He said: 'It's a bit like Winnie-the-Pooh or Paddington Bear journeying to London, being pampered by the King's personal jewellers, saluted by the King's guards and paraded near Buckingham Palace. I had half expected to find a marmalade sandwich stuffed into its wooden case like Paddington's adventure when meeting the late Queen for tea'!

The Mace receives it's blessing from Senior Guards chaplain, Lieutenant Colonel. Reverent Deiniol Morgan

Between council meetings and occasional civic parades, the town and city council Maces

are normally locked away in the Town Clerk's office. But not the 140-year-old meter- long silver mace of Bangor City Council, North Wales.

Six months ago it was deemed to be in such a bad state of disrepair, it would be unsafe to process it beyond being taken out of its box to sit carefully before the Mayor of Bangor at formal council meetings.

Royal warrant holders, 'Wartski' of St. James's Street, London heard of its plight. Wartski, who since the reign of Edward VII, have been jewellers and goldsmiths to Britain's monarchs and senior royals. They created the wedding rings for both Charles and Camilla and the Prince and Princess of Wales and for decades served the late Queen. 'Send it to us', they said, 'and we'll repair it!'

Three months later after intricate repairs and delicate adjustments to its various parts, the mace was ready to be collected. In addition to its repairs it had been professionally buffed to its original 1883 shine; the year Queen Victoria bestowed Bangor its Royal Corporation status.



The Mace is handed to Senior Sergeant Major Phil Deren by Welsh Guards Regimental Adjutant Colonel Guy Bartle-Jones.

But it's trip to London wasn't over...

The King's footguards, the Welsh Guards, heard that the Bangor mace was in London and insisted that before it left, it be taken over to their Regimental Headquarters at Wellington Barracks to be paraded and saluted by a unit of Guardsmen, led by their Regimental Adjutant, Lt. Col. Guy Bartle-Jones. 'The Welsh Guards are privileged to be Freemen of the City of Bangor', said Col Bartle-Jones, 'so it was our great honour to receive their mace at our headquarters and pay it our highest respect... The salute'!

And after the ceremonial 'salute' there was one more surprise for the Bangor Mace. The most senior chaplain to the Household Division, Lt. Col. The Rev. Deiniol Morgan stepped forward to 'Bless' it. 'The mace and I are old acquaintances', said the Rev. Morgan. 'In my early priesthood I was minor canon at

Bangor cathedral and remember the mace well from Civic Sunday events when I would place it on the altar. Nice to team up with an old friend again', he said.

So what was the King's warrant holding jewellers, Wartski connection? Cllr. Mark Roberts, who was in London to escort the mace home, said, 'we had nowhere near enough money to professionally restore the mace and then I remembered that Warski was founded in Bangor in 1885 and have never lost sight of their roots. Research showed that at the outbreak of WWII, Mr. Isadore Wartski was the Mayor of Bangor and



Senior WOII Sergeant Major Phillip Deren escorted by Welsh Guardsmen sets off to parade Bangor City Council civic mace before troops at the Changing of the Guard, Buckingham Palace.

would have processed behind the very same mace. Wartski's current family were fast to agree to repair it. A magnificent and generous gift'.

Bangor City Directror, Dr Martin Hanks said: 'We now find that the total cost of repairing the restoring the Mace was in excess of £9,000 which would have been totally unaffordable. The royal jewellers donation of their time and effort was incredible'.

Mark Roberts—Bangor Mace-Bearer



# A DAY AT THE MACES







'Mr Curiosity',



I don't know if I've ever told you, but every year, from about October 15<sup>th</sup> Christmas lands severely upon us, and lasts with feverish and increasingly ferocious intensity, until around 4.30pm on Christmas Eve (if we're lucky enough to finish on time).

Three days before last Christmas Eve, I got a phone call from Bolton Town Hall asking if I remembered seeing their Town Hall key fifteen years earlier and could I possibly make a replica?

I remembered taking a seeing the key all those years ago and replies 'yes, if they brought it in, I could make a replica'. It arrived the next day, and my intention was for it to sit in the safe until I returned to the workshop, fully rejuvenated, on around the 15<sup>th</sup> January. I am, after all, now a pensioner and rejuvenation takes a while longer at my age.

However, the replica key was nagging at me and I only managed to stay away until the day after Boxing Day when I escaped the turmoil of the Christmas party house for the solitude of the workshop.



The plotting of the key job began and by day three I had managed to go through a series of differing techniques to come up with the winning formula (back to rubber moulds and wax). I was now in a position where I could respond with the affirmative and say I could definitely do the job successfully.

I knew it was to be a ceremonial key and would be presented to someone, but I had no idea of whom the recipient would be or, when the ceremony was to take place.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> January, with the key now successfully cast, I was told it must be hallmarked, fully engraved, boxed and delivered fit for a presentation to the new King within seven days. That was when I realised I wouldn't be continuing my planned Christmas break.

The key was a replica of the one used by the Prince of Wales to open Bolton Town Hall door during its official opening ceremony exactly 150 years ago. The new key was made in exactly the same way as the original but more detailed and accurately lasered by my apprentice, Sam.



Remembering our beloved Queen Elizabeth was another theme of the year. I researched her favourite flowers and designed and made a series of commemorative medallions to be added to past mayoral jewels. I'm sure these medallions of our Queen surrounded by Lilly-of-the-valley will forever be recognised as a fitting memento-mori.

This year also saw us re-visit several town hall civic collections, some of which we had not visited for twenty years.

Mothballed town halls have left few staff with any knowledge of the collections or where to find items missing from our valuation documents of decades ago. I'm presently stalled on one, after seven days work a whole roomful of items has still not been found as per my original documents. It has turned into a treasure hunt.

Mayoral chains often vanish for short periods of time and have to be collected from mayor's homes when I've arrived at the town halls to carry out a valuation. I was, therefore, probably less surprised than most to hear that the British Museum staff are guilty of not knowing exactly where everything is at any one time too.

I must admit that the valuing and re-valuing of 'ferret breeding' and 'roller-skating' trophies, countless boring old silver salvers, and trays and ashtrays that have no artistic, historic or even practical merit, can seem pointless sometimes. I could suggest that some of these items are scrapped off to raise funds to maintain the important and relevant items in the collection, but it is up to the committees to make the final decision and sometimes that can take years to come to fruition.

My last exciting news is that I have been honoured with the task of making a mace for the Guild. I was first asked if I would consider it back in 1991 and now, 32 years later, we have the go ahead. My next episode will be the full story.

Although the commission has come at a busy time of year I've managed to make a start with the design and planning for what I would like to do.



Presently in my safe are two very early maces filled solid with lead and rotting to the core. Made in 1603 they have been retired to the display cabinets of Wootton Bassett council

for over a hundred years, deemed irreparable after many ill considered operations. By the end of the year, one of them will finally be restored to a useable condition. By the way, the decision to have these two maces restored took over seventeen years of consideration!

One day I should write a book about the strange things I've found in maces over the years. I have a bounty of stuff including paint-tin lids, Tupperware, 15mm copper piping, cardboard and cow gum, lead glue and stuffings of all sorts apparently put there by 'professionals'. Then there are the dead spiders and living insects, rotten food ingress and plenty of printed matter which often leads to us carefully removing and reading scribbled notes from previous repairers (most of whom should leave apologies for being forced to do such shoddy work). We often find snippets of newspapers from the time with tales of racist attacks, intriguing murders etc.

From the frantic start to the year, we've all tumbled along, getting busier and busier. Whilst managing to keep up with the work, one thing I do struggle to do is keep up with the invoicing, so occasionally I will be sending out invoices a year after work has been completed.

This year, a mayoral chain came back into the workshop to have work completed on it, a whole five years since I'd been asked to carry out a temporary make-do-and-mend job on it. Unusually, the town council had taken over ownership of the chain and there had been three different town clerks, a change of staff at the previous city hall, COVID, retirements, deaths and the closing of the museum where it had laid on display. All this added up to the delay.

However, the mayor's chain is now a few grams of 18ct gold heavier and will not break in that particular place, ever again. The rise in gold price, the fuel crisis and increase in wages meant the cost of the repair had doubled in the intervening years.



Let's hope that this winter isn't too cold and that all the wars just stop. The world seems to be throwing enough at us all as a species for us to have a single aim and stop squabbling.

And finally, this coronation year allows the King's head to be included on all hallmarks.



In my opinion, his profile isn't as flattering as his mother's. But then again, neither is mine!



# Precious Metals

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gedcollins@rocketmail.com

# Where Next?





# **Members please note:**

Recent changes in Guild Council positions and a restructuring of administration has caused a delay in arrangements for next years conference.

Unfortunately, we are unable to publish details at the time of this years magazine going to press.

Full details will be circulated to all members in due course via another media platform. Please look out for the email.

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Editor



# **Guild Subscriptions**

Once again we are pleased to be able to offer a discount on annual renewal for Full Members.

12 month subscription:

New Members £35 (Renewal £10)

Honorary Members £6

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

Join online at www.macebearer.com



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 8 <sup>th</sup>	Our nation mourned the loss of our beloved Monarch, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. But where did she spend her final days?
October 20 <sup>th</sup>	The UK Prime Minister resigned on this day, but what was the record she set?
November 8 <sup>th</sup>	When told the news that 'Peoples Magazine' had proclaimed this American actor the 'Sexiest man alive', he responded "Well, my Mom will be so happy!". Who was he?
December 18 <sup>th</sup>	In the Lusail Stadium in Qatar, Argentina beat France to win the FIFA World Cup, but what was the final score?
January 10 <sup>th</sup>	Prince Harry released his much criticised and controversial book revealing personal information about his life within the Royal Family. What was the book called?
February 12 <sup>th</sup>	Who appeared live for the first time in six years to sing during the half time interval of the NFL Superbowl?
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Which footballer and TV pundit got suspended by the BBC for comments on Twitter, comparing UK immigration policies to those of 1930's Germany?
April 4 <sup>th</sup>	Which European country became the 31st member of NATO, thereby doubling the NATO boarder with Russia?
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	On this day it is estimated that over 400,000,000 people worldwide watched an event happening in London. What was the event?
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	Which English star of Stage and Screen, OSCAR, BAFTA, EMMY award winning actress, and who later went on to become a Member of Parliament from 1992—2015, died on this day?
July 7 <sup>th</sup>	To celebrate his 83rd Birthday, Former 'Beatle' Ringo Starr had his voice recorded on a message that was beamed across the universe via the Deep Space Network. What was the message?
August 6 <sup>th</sup>	Greta Gerwig became the first solo female filmmaker to pass \$1 Billion at the Global Box Office. For what movie?



NEWS!

Answers on page 42



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# News Watch Quiz—Answers

August — Barbie

July "Peace and Love"

June—Glenda Jackson

May—The Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla

April—Finland

March—Gary Lineaker

February—Rihanna

Jaunary — Spare

December — Argentina 4 France 2 in penalties (3-3 AET)

November—Chris Evans (Avengers 'Thor')

October— Liz Truss became the shortest ever serving PM at only 44 days in office.

**September** — Balmoral

## PATRONS AND PRIME WARDENS

# 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
2021—2022	A Tregoning J.P.	Southend-On-Sea
2022—2023	V Morrish	Bideford
2023—	C East	Margate

# **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**

