



A Message from the Master



As I write and publish this, my last Newsletter as Master, I wanted to reflect on the past few months as I prepare to hand over to Master-Elect John Garbutt on the 9th July at which I hope to see many of you there at our **Common Hall and Installation Dinner**.

In my year I have tried to raise the profile of the **Guild**, in my commercial life as well as my Civic life as an elected City Councillor.

The Guild follows the format of well-established livery companies and it is our wish to become one in the fullness of time. We still have a little longer to wait although Guild membership is strong, but we need to increase revenues (that's what the fees you pay contributes to) and raise further funds for our **Charity**: <https://www.coinvmgt.com/charitable-trust> . We have raised around £120K of a £150k target and one of the cornerstones, and USPs, of our Guild is the charitable purpose and I hope you can be as generous as you or your firms can be in supporting us.

For me the year has been about the 4 'c's: the **City** civic, **Commerce** in our fabulous investment industry, **Community** and fellowship with the livery movement and our own **Charity** and promoting them all as a shared endeavour.

I hope the following gives a good overview, thank you for your support over my year as Master and look forward to meeting at a future Guild event.

Yours, Henry
Deputy Henry Pollard CC
Master Investment Manager 2023/24

Master's Update

In May, the Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute (SWFI) embarked on an exciting partnership with the Guild of Investment Managers and Investment Managers' Charitable Trust to provide additional bursaries to young individuals, with the aim of improving diversity in the investment management industry.

A joint inaugural Charity Dinner was held at the Haberdashers' Hall to raise funds to support the Charitable Trust so it can help those without the necessary means acquire the initial financial qualifications required for a career in investment management.



In the presence of Lakshmi Narayanan, founder of SWFI, Anthony Yadgaroff, Chair of the Charitable Trust, Henry Pollard, Master of the Guild and the Representative Lord Mayor of the City of London, Alderman and Past Master

Robert Hughes-Penney, the well-attended event was a huge success, not least because it was addressed by the pivotal leader in global finance H.E. Dr. Nayef Falah Al-Hajraf, former Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council and past Chairman of the Kuwait Investment Authority, the world's oldest sovereign wealth fund.

It is hoped that this will be the first of many such initiatives to transform the reach of the Charitable Trust's activities. <https://www.swfinstitute.org/>. Members may be interested to see this article by CityWire [here](#).

Earlier in the day, I also attended the Freedom ceremony for Lakshmi Narayanan, the head of SWFI with fellow member Alderman Robert Hughes-Penney.

I was present at the Installation of the new Rector at **St James's Garlickhythe** where we held our Carol Service, and the City Church I have adopted this year; this may change with my successors. <https://stjamesgarlickhythe.org/>

I arrived late but went to the pub hosting the **FSG (Financial Services Group of livery companies) Lock in**. Good to network with other like-minded people within the livery movement. <https://liverycommittee.org/about/livery-companies-and-guilds/financial-services-group/>

I watched the Lord Mayor's **Knowledge Miles** lecture delivered by the Master of the Fanmakers' Company on energy provision. Well worthwhile having a look at the speeches already given and those planned for the rest of the year, and it would be great if the Guild can deliver one – any ideas on subject or speaker, please let us know!

<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/about-us/about-the-city-of-london-corporation/lord-mayor/connect-to-prosper>



Immediate Past Master Melissa Longley, my wife Michelle and others attended the Lord Mayor's **Big Curry Lunch** which raises hundreds of thousands of pounds for military charities. <https://events.armybenevolentfund.org/lordmayors/lmbcl-programme>

I attended a dinner hosted by the Scrivener's Company at the wonderful Goldsmiths Hall. The Scriveners are celebrating their 650th anniversary this year, and it was so good to join them as a guest of their Master John Hammond. A great evening including a classical/Brazilian guitarist for the musical interlude. <https://scriveners.org.uk/>

I attended the Worshipful Company of World Traders' annual dinner at the sumptuous Fishmongers' Hall. Interestingly the guest speaker was Mark Boggett of Seraphim and he spoke about investing in space, to a stunned audience. <https://world-traders.org/>

I helped organise and attended fellow member Sid Mehta's (of CCLA) Freedom at Guildhall (pictured right). If you would like to find out more about obtaining the Freedom of the City of London then please ask the Clerk.

<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/about-us/law-historic-governance/freedom-of-the-city>

I attended **CityHive's** birthday party for the **ACT standard** on 9th May – set up by fellow member and Court Assistant Bev Shah, I attended her celebrations for her great initiative.

City Hive launched ACT - the corporate culture standard for investment companies - in May 2022 to capture the essence of an investment management company's 'heart and soul' and provide professional investors with a framework to assess, measure and be a catalyst for change. If you would like to know more go to <https://www.investorsact.com/>



My wife and I attended Dinner at **Salter's Hall**, a delightful dinner in wonderful surroundings with a mix of liverymen and other City guests. My thanks to the Master & Mistress Salter.

I joined the **Worshipful Company of Pipe Maker & Tobacco Blenders** event held at the wonderful Dickens Museum, renovated to resemble when Charles Dickens lived there and wrote the Pickwick Papers and Oliver Twist, among other things. The Beadle in Oliver Twist always reminds me of the City's beadle community! He arrived with 3 children and went on to have 10 children with his long-suffering wife and lived there between 25 and 28. Great bonhomie with the Pipe Makers. Well worth a visit: <https://dickensmuseum.com/>

I attended various Guild Committee meetings and Court (board) meetings during the quarter – if you would like to join a committee and have an ambition to join the Court, please let us know <https://www.coinvmgt.com/our-committees>



I joined the Worshipful Company of Butchers' boat excellently helmed by John Absalom for the Inter Livery Sailing Championships at Cowes in the Isle of Wight. This is another inter livery event which displays great fellowship across a range of companies (20 companies across 30 boats).

The Leathersellers and Innholders won several trophies each which were presented by the Lord Mayor Michael Mainelli, whose yacht I joined, and may well have won the event had he entered! We are looking to arrange teams for future inter livery events, please let us know which may interest.

GIM Equity event – we held our third debate of the year, provocatively entitled Private vs Public Equity, and were joined by over 40 Members and prospective members. A great debate moderated by Tim Guinness with Marcus Stuttard, head of markets and a 30 year veteran of the London Stock Exchange, Michael Moore our new Honorary Member and CEO of the BVCA and James Thorne a UK portfolio manager at Columbia Threadneedle Investments who kindly hosted us.

As usual the questions could have lasted much longer than the time allowed, but a big thank you to the speakers and I believe the result was that the UK markets are unloved but have collectively a great opportunity ahead.



I was invited to the **Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths' Dinner** at Mansion House, great to have GIM representation on the top table of this ancient company. Many thanks to the Prime Warden Bob Tunks for his generous invitation. Our fellow member and next Lord Mayor (subject to election) Alastair King is a Blacksmith: <https://blacksmithscompany.co.uk/>

We had our Annual Review by the Livery & Magistracy Committee, which is our regulator and monitors our progress against targets and our aspirations. A positive review, but we still need to focus on our need to build Guild revenues and raise more money for our charity, the Investment Managers Charitable Trust, if you can help in any way, we would all be grateful.

We enjoyed getting together with our Royal Navy affiliation, 845 Squadron, over lunch with Commander Alex Hampson and Junior Warden Andrew Bell <https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/organisation/units-and-squadrons/merlin-mk-4/845-naval-air-squadron>



We held a GIM event at Guildhall, with a tour of the Great Hall followed by drinks – these events are great to meet fellow members and also to introduce prospective members.

I attended the Lord Mayor's Livery Masters Weekend where 108 companies were represented; a good way of meeting (almost) the entire Livery movement under one roof.

On 27th June we welcomed Hon Group Captain Sally Bridgeland (pictured left with the Master and Wardens) as an Honorary member of the Guild at a ceremony in Guildhall. We are delighted that Sally has joined our Guild!

My last event as Master will be to attend the Worshipful Company of International Bankers' reception before handing over to my successor John Garbutt on 9th July at Common Hall.

<https://www.internationalbankers.org.uk/>

Lastly, I was honoured to be part of the Deputation welcoming the Emperor of Japan to the City for the Japan State Banquet held at Mansion House on 26th June – a truly spectacular affair.



Clerk's Corner

Membership

We are delighted to welcome the newest members to our Guild:

- Mrs Dani Hristova
- Mr Jason Mitchell
- Mr John Campbell
- Mr Jock Glover
- Mr William Fisher
- Mr Andrew Thomas
- Ms Angharad Sauter
- Mr Sidhant Mehta
- Mr Simon Eedle
- Mr Chris Grant
- Mr James Crossley

In addition, we welcomed two Honorary members to the Guild: Mr Michael Moore - CEO of BVCA and Hon Group Captain Sally Bridgeland.

As ever, we are very grateful to Alderman Simon Pryke and the Membership Committee for all their hard work. We welcome you all and are proud to have you with us on our journey to becoming a Livery Company.

Your Guild now has 185 members with more in the membership pipeline and so we are well on our way to our immediate target of 200 members.

Diversity Survey

The Guild continues to carry out a survey to assess the breadth and depth of our membership, but we need more responses to make it truly representative. The survey only takes a few minutes to complete and can be found here: <https://forms.gle/zp3ZU5TUwSiAvwez9> Please do participate as the answers are key to shaping the Guild's future.

Biagio Fraulo JP - Founding Clerk



GUILD OF INVESTMENT MANAGERS

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