

THE Fueller

The official journal of The Worshipful Company of Fuellers

Issue 63 September 2021

A welcome return for Fuellers

Reunion Dinner and Affiliates Prizegiving goes ahead

Influencing our 'green' future

Livery Climate Action Group takes shape

The City comes together

Lord Mayor's Service of Reflection and Hope





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Editor's note

Lynn Postle FICME, Editor

It seems that "the times they are a-changing". We have a new Clerk, a new Editor of *The Fueller* (yours truly) and we are now able – indeed encouraged – to meet in person to enjoy talking about the fact that "the times they are a-changing". As we emerge from our zoom-filled lives and step foot into the outside world, I wonder how many of the enforced changes of the past eighteen months we will retain, those that made us pause for thought, or will we merely drift back into the pre-covid heightened state of social and professional urgency? Our hurried lives have been calmed, of course at a great price, but at least enabling us to drill down into what is truly important at home and in the wider world.

Without doubt one of the most significant priorities is the ongoing battle to stem the impacts of climate change. As I write this, my first editorial for *The Fueller*, wildfires are raging in Greece, Turkey, parts of Spain and Italy, the west coast of the United States, Canada and Siberia. If Siberia is ablaze, then we know we have a problem of great magnitude. Thankfully, there is a great deal of publicity on the matter now and our Livery is very much a part of the charge to not just raise awareness, but to effect strategies to help meet the City's net zero commitment. Collectively, we can inspire and achieve, and I urge you to note the Livery Climate Action Group call to action on page 10.

There is much to do, but together we know we can make a difference. Fuellers have been doing such for many years and our work through the Fuellers Charitable Trust Fund highlights how we can build for the future without damaging the present.

I am thrilled to be included as a part of the communications team at the Livery and I am thankful for the huge amount of support and advice available to help guide me on this journey. I would particularly like to thank Past Master Shравan Joshi for metaphorically 'holding my hand' (I think we can shake hands now) throughout this handover period and Alex Maclean Bather for his much appreciated assistance. Also, a huge thank you to Past Master and Hon Almoner Jan Harrison for stepping in and saving the day with an insightful and captivating account of the Reunion Dinner and Affiliates Prizegiving. I am sure you agree, Jan's enthusiasm whets the appetite to encourage attendance at future events.

I hope you enjoy this special edition of The Fueller, produced specifically to celebrate the easing of restrictions enabling events to take place, and I look forward to meeting members of the Livery in the coming months.



Join the conversation



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Fuellers reunion dinner and affiliates prizegiving goes ahead

Jan Harrison – Past Master and Hon Almoner



Principal guest, Commodore Rob Bellfield CBE ADC RN addresses the crowd

Excitement and perhaps a little apprehension was felt as Fuellers and their guests dressed in their finery, finally managed to attend in person, the Fuellers Reunion and Affiliates' Prizegiving Dinner on Monday 26 July 2021. After many delays and cancelled Fuellers events due to the COVID pandemic, causing several lockdowns from March 2020, we gathered at the historical Armoury House, headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company, for the event, which was kindly sponsored by SBZ Corporation. This was also the first opportunity for many of us to meet our new Fuellers' Clerk, Alex Maclean Bather, in person and not just on Zoom!

We commenced with a special admissions Ceremonial Court meeting. The Deputy Master, Prof Averil Macdonald OBE; Senior Warden, Carrie Marsh; and Junior Warden, Michael Shirley, all resplendent in their gowns accompanied by their Consorts, Alun, Dave and Jill entered the room and took their places. Our gowned Clerk led those awaiting to be admitted and welcomed to the Company.

The Deputy Master conducted the ceremony for nine new Freeman: Patrick Benham-Crosswell, Yeoman Stuart Casey, Reg Disley, Jai Ferguson, Robin Lloyd, David Loveday, Stephanie Palmer, Andrew Willis and David Wilson.

Followed by the enrobing of two new Liverymen, Geliya Chukmarova and George Paton, and a personal welcome for Freeman Richard Wassell.

Finally, the Deputy Master invited two new Honorary Liverymen to be enrobed – Alderman and Sheriff-Elect, Alison Gowman and our Fuellers Past Clerk, Commodore William Walworth CBE.



The Court members and guests in the room heartily applauded and congratulated the new Freeman and Liverymen.

Then on to the drinks reception, the room was full of chatter and laughter as old friends were reunited and new friends made. A very warm and enjoyable atmosphere.

Dinner was announced and we entered the magnificent Long Room with tables beautifully decorated for close to 120 hungry guests while listening to relaxing harp music played by Katy Salomon.

Our Deputy Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden, accompanied by their consorts and principal guests were

traditionally received as they entered and took their seats.

A very poignant grace was said by our Honorary Chaplain, Rev Nick Mottershead FCA, with comforting and uplifting words for our future. We then commenced our delicious three course meal.

Soon we were standing for the loyal toasts to the Queen and the Royal Family listening to the National Anthem played by the harpist and a toast for the Lord Mayor and the City of London Corporation and Sheriffs.

The Affiliates prizegiving then commenced. The new Chairman of the Fuellers Charitable Trust Fund (FCTF), Past Master, Chloë Andrews-Jones, invited each

of the six Affiliate Prize Winners from 2020 and 2021 who were present, to stand while she congratulated them as she read a précised version of their citations; after which we showed our great appreciation acknowledging all their admirable achievements, particularly during this pandemic period.

Each prize winner receives a certificate and a small payment from the FCTF for their chosen charity.

Chloë advised us to look on the Fuellers [website](#) for the full version of each Citation or use the QR code below.



Prize winners

RFA Wave Knight & RFA Wave Ruler

2020 – CPO (Steward) Anthony Rennie

2021 – Chief Engineering Officer Captain (E) Nigel Sim

HMS Sultan

2020 – Warrant Officer Andrew Swash RN

2021 – Mr Maurice Oliver

152 (North Irish) Regiment RLC

2020 – Staff Sergeant David Johnson

2021 – Warrant Officer (Class 2) Les McClements

10 Squadron RAF

2020 – Senior Aircraftwoman Rachel Moran

2021 – Sergeant Rob Phair

RAF Tactical Supply Wing

2020 – Senior Aircraftsman (Technician) Lorely King

2021 – Acting Sergeant Scott Exelby

Defence Strategic Fuels Authority

2020 – Squadron Leader Richard Newton

2021 – Flight Lieutenant Greg Curtis



Chloë Andrews-Jones, Chairman CTF; Capt Peter Selby RFA, Representing Cmdr David Eagles CO RFA; Cdre Rob Bellfield CBE ADC RN, Principal Guest; Prof Averil Macdonald OBE, Deputy Master



Chloë and Averil with Cdr Niall Whitehouse RN, HMS Sultan; Mr Maurice Oliver, HMS Sultan 2021 Prizewinner; Cdre Rob Bellfield CBE ADC RN; Mrs Karen Oliver





Chloë and Averil with Lt Col Colin Sykes CO, 152 (N Irish) Regt RLC, Hon Freeman; Mrs Amparo De Lamo Ramrio; WO2 Les McClements, 152 (N Irish) Regt RLC 2021 Prizewinner; Cdre Rob Bellfield CBE ADC RN

Following on from the prizegiving, the Deputy Master asked our new Freeman and Livyemen to stand so we could all welcome them.

The evening progressed with Carrie, our Senior Warden and excellent Fuellers ‘blogger’, welcoming our guests in her usual convivial style, with her opening line: “it’s a delight to welcome you all on one screen at the same time....oops I muted myself”!

She added her congratulations to the prize winners and also welcomed the senior representatives of each unit. Our principal guests should have included: the Master Carman, who had been ‘pinged’ and regrettably couldn’t join us, so Immediate Past Master Carman, Col Simon Bennett TD VR, kindly stood in for him.

During our Royal Master’s year, the FCTF has been fundraising for several educational charities and two were represented at our dinner. From the Smallpeice Trust, CEO Dr Kevin Stenson and from Generating Genius, Dr Tony Sewell CBE, Chair of the Trustees. Carrie told us more about all the remarkable educational work these charities carry out. They encourage students, some from disadvantaged backgrounds, to focus on studying STEM subjects leading them into careers in the energy and engineering sectors. She also explained about the other educational charities we are supporting – City University, TeenTech and Platanos College.

Carrie finished her speech with a welcome to our Principal Guest, Commodore Robert Bellfield CBE, Commander of Naval Regional Command Eastern England; a role that saw him engage with civil society, industry, business, veterans, the maritime sector and UK Military.

Her speech concluded with members of the Fuellers standing and raising their glasses to toast the guests.



Chloë and Averil with SAC Lorely King RAF, Tactical Supply Wing 2020 Prizewinner; Cdre Rob Bellfield CBE ADC RN



Chloë and Averil with Flt Lt Gregory Curtis RAF, Defence Strategic Fuels Authority 2021 Prizewinner; Cdre Rob Bellfield CBE ADC RN



New Freemen



Carrie Marsh, Senior Warden (left); Prof Averil Macdonald OBE, Deputy Master (centre); Michael Shirley, Junior Warden (right) with newly elected Freemen Stephanie Palmer, Andrew Willis, Reg Disley, Stewart Casey, Robin Lloyd, Patrick Benham-Crosswell, Jai Ferguson and Dave Wilson

Two new Liverymen



Carrie Marsh, Senior Warden (left); Prof Averil Macdonald OBE, Deputy Master (centre); Michael Shirley, Junior Warden (right) with new Liverymen George Paton and Geliya Chukmarova

Two new Honorary Liverymen



Carrie Marsh, Senior Warden (left); Prof Averil Macdonald OBE, Deputy Master (centre); Michael Shirley, Junior Warden (right) with new Honorary Liverymen Alderman Alison Gowman and Cdre Bill Walworth CBE

After receiving a tremendous applause, it was time to hear from our principal speaker, Commodore Robert Bellfield CBE ADC RN. What an absorbing, amusing and entertaining speech it was. He talked about his career spanning over 30 years spent largely at sea, commanding Type 23 frigates and serving as Second in Command of the aircraft carrier HMS Ark Royal for her final commission before retirement in 2010. He also served as Chief of Staff at UK Maritime Headquarters and Commanding Officer of HMS Raleigh, providing initial naval training for all Naval Ratings. Whilst talking about food supply statistics for the new Queen Elizabeth aircraft carrier, he asked us to guess how many eggs, beans and sausages are consumed on the voyage. We all underestimated the reality – it was a massive amount! As he finished his speech he asked the guests to stand and raise a glass to toast the Fuellers.

After the applause had finally died down, The Beadle invited our Deputy Master to speak. Averil thanked our speaker for his really enlightening and amusing speech. She said she was delighted to see us all and reflected on how she had not envisaged her Deputy Master's one year of now 24 months to mostly be on Zoom. Due to the change of date for the dinner regrettably our Royal Master, HRH The Earl of Wessex KG GCVO was unable to be present, however he had sent a message to his very diligent Deputy Master to read out.

The Earl of Wessex wished to convey his heartiest congratulations to everyone overcoming the uncertain and confusing life we had been living, to actually be able to meet. He passed on his congratulations to all the prize winners who were finally being recognised, particularly those who had been waiting to receive their prize for a year. He continued to say that as a Company we are immensely proud of our Affiliations, both military and civilian. He pointed out that over the past



eighteen months we have been reminded of the spirit, initiative and fortitude that we so admire in our armed forces, this has also been demonstrated in our communities. He felt that we wished we could increase the number of prizes to recognise the many who have gone above and beyond but that made these prizes more valuable and important. He asked us to acknowledge the particular challenges all those in authority and leadership have had to cope with during this period and demonstrate our appreciation towards the Commanding Officers and Chief Executives of our Affiliates. We diners had no hesitation in demonstrating such appreciation to all our Affiliates. He finally wished us all a very enjoyable evening and said he hoped to see us in the near future.

The dinner over, we stood and again, traditionally clapped our Master, Wardens, Consorts and principal guests out of the Hall and joined them for a stirrup cup. A chance to share the uplifting spirit of the evening.



SAC Lorely King RAF, Tactical Supply Wing 2020 Prizewinner; and Fg Off Daniel Tindall RAF, representing Wing Co Jon Smith, CO Tactical Supply Wing, who was isolating



Prof Alun Vaughan chats to Liveryman Saradhi Rajan



Dr Tony Sewell CBE of Generating Genius



Miss Anastasia Oderstone; Mrs Elena Oderstone, Court Assistant; Miss Liliana Oderstone



Past Master John Ingham, Chairman of GPC; Liveryman Mrs Elinor Goldsmith; Court Assistant Prof Michael Kennedy; Hon Court Assistant Roger Cloke



Deputy Master, Prof Averil Macdonald OBE enjoys the evening with her daughters, Miss Thea Macdonald and Miss Phoebe Macdonald

Copies of Reunion Dinner images can be accessed [here](#)



The Lord Mayor's Service of Reflection and Hope

St Paul's Cathedral, 22 June 2021

Carrie Marsh, Senior Warden



Past Master Shравan Joshi and Senior Warden Carrie Marsh – happy to be attending Fuellers events again

The mood was one of relief at being back in the City as I entered the courtyard at Apothecaries' Hall where the Livery Masters were to process from. There was a buzz in the air at finally catching up in person, but a sombre note as we were all too well aware why we were attending. The Lord Mayor's Service of Reflection and Hope at St Paul's Cathedral.

Upon the allotted hour we processed to the cathedral where we obediently lined up for the tracking and social distancing procedures. While waiting in line, which took some time, it was an opportunity to see the vast variety of people represented from the City. Different faiths, emergency services, doctors and health workers, those working with young people, the military and many more. Indeed, the point of this service was to take a moment in which to pause and reflect on the coronavirus pandemic and those lost or still coming to terms with it, as well as look forward to the future with a spirit of optimism.

Having taken our socially distanced seats in the North Transept, The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor duly arrived, and the service began. One could not help but notice that although spread out across the cathedral, due to the space between all the seats, it felt a much more intimate gathering and likewise the service was very touching. While we were unable to join in with the hymns, the voices of the choir rang out around the cathedral and





Dr Will Ricketts, Consultant Chest Physician at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, gave a poignant reading

filled the space. Following the welcome from The Very Reverend Dr David Ison, Dean of St Paul's, a short silence was observed to honour those who have died as a result of the pandemic, accompanied thereafter by a beautiful anthem sung by the choir.

There were several people who read, including the Lord Mayor himself, but the most notable of these was Dr Will Ricketts, Consultant Chest Physician at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London. A humble man who found himself very surprised to have been asked to share his experience but obliging with such detail that we felt we had been on his journey with him. From fairly small numbers on a normal day to the sudden wave of cases that came in and had to be dealt with. The Intensive Care Unit (ICU) alone was expanded by 300 per cent to try and cope. Beds were brought in, as were yet more staff. Specialists from other fields, those usually behind a desk, those retired returned to help. From dermatologists to IVF specialists, they came to the hospital wards, gowned and gloved to help where they could, and this quiet man before us was one of those who tried to give them support as well as prioritise and help those around them. He became "used" to losing about 25 patients each night, a number he found hard to comprehend. He also recalled one lady who he remembers well to this day. She was always "number two" being the second to the front of the queue for an urgent bed in ICU. Unfortunately, every time there was a bed free, a more urgent case overtook her. Finally, she passed away still second in the queue, still waiting for that bed. An air of stillness descended when Dr Ricketts quietly and calmly clarified that there was only one way a bed ever became free...

In the spirit of the service, Dr Ricketts did also share with us some positives that he carried from the experience. Normally a specialist would be more removed from his team, checking in here and there. But in this instance he became fully submerged with his team from retired volunteers to those he would normally work with and all levels in between. He recalled how they regularly sat to eat two donated meals a day together and found it a time to catch up, de-brief and support each other, bonding as a team regularly under the gaze of a 13-foot bright orange tiger where they found themselves eating in a children's area.

The choir gently broke the air with an anthem while we digested what we had just shared. I cannot imagine how anybody had a dry eye through the service. Including the Right Reverend and Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London. Though out of sight from where we were seated, she painted a picture that reminded us just how empty the streets became in the early days of lockdown.

Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London, was a Nightingale Scholar before her ordination and also the Chief Nursing Officer for England.

Traffic noises replaced by skateboards, hearing birds singing which would normally be drowned out by traffic. She reminded us how London is built on a history of plague and disease which we have overcome and learned from. Indeed, there is a statue of Florence Nightingale in this very cathedral which was used to remind us of her discovery that the water was spreading cholera and enabling the City to install new plumbing systems and recover. This led us on to hope of overcoming the dark days and working our way back into the light. As the City slowly awakens, to hear its beating heart and for us to all come together to breathe life back into it with renewed hope for the times ahead.

In closing the service, the representatives of the Jewish, Muslim and Christian faiths present were invited to join The Dean in an act of commitment, dedicating themselves to supporting the bereaved and honouring the memory of those who have died; to restore lost hope and, with creativity, compassion and patience, resolve to work together for the good of this city. We then joined in, as invited, to affirm the same. At the conclusion of the service, the choir sang the National Anthem and then the Lord Mayor departed. During the few moments silence that followed, we all reflected on the last hour while waiting to head out to the sun on our faces, the preciousness of which I certainly now appreciate much more.



The Livery Masters keen to embark upon the procession to St Paul's Cathedral



Industry insights

Fuellers and the Livery Climate Action Group

Deputy Master, Prof Averil Macdonald OBE

The City of London Corporation has adopted a radical Climate Action Strategy* which, it states, will break new ground and sets out how the organisation will achieve net zero, build climate resilience and champion sustainable growth, both in the UK and globally, over the next two decades.

As part of the City Corporation's ambitions for COP26 in Glasgow in November 2021, Alderman Alison Gowman, enrobed as Honorary Liveryman of the Fuellers at the Affiliates' Prizegiving event on 11 July, has spearheaded The Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG).

The LCAG aims to support the City of London Livery Companies in identifying how they can manage their impact on the environment and on climate change by reducing carbon emissions and through responsible use of resources, and how Livery Companies can, subsequently, influence their associated trades, professions, schools and other organisations in the City, and beyond, to do the same.

In addition to a COP26 'event' (probably undertaken virtually courtesy of Fueller Iain Beveridge's famous REMO platform!) the LCAG plans a website of resources to enable livery companies in their endeavours.

The Fuellers are playing a major role in the LCAG, not least as one of the first Livery Companies to step up and commit financial support for the development of the group's website. CA Ashutosh Shastri and DM Averil Macdonald are active members of the LCAG with the Deputy Master leading the Knowledge Exchange element of the website campaign.

The Fuellers' commitment to educating and enthusing the next generation, through sponsoring STEM Days run by our partner charities (Smallpeice Trust and TeenTech), and The Fuellers *Earl of Wessex Conference on Future Energy* in November are also enjoying significant profile and recognition across the City through our involvement with the LCAG. There's a plan that short videos of these will feature at the COP26 event.

Already Fuellers have been primed to think about articles they can contribute to the website with suggestions ranging from carbon trading, ethical investments, maritime, domestic heating, transport, renewable resources, hydrogen and many more. Further ideas welcome!

The launch of the LCGA website and the growth of this initiative is proving to be an excellent springboard for all Livery Companies – with Fuellers leading the way!

* Climate Action Strategy – City of London www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/environmental-health/climate-action/climate-action-strategy



From the Clerk

Alex Maclean Bather

That's a wrap!



It only took 98 days and a last minute change of date and location before I was finally able to deliver a first Fuellers dinner for you – an interesting baptism of fire. The ‘pingdemic’ claimed a few casualties in the run-up to the day, leaving a hundred and twenty of us to gather in the Long Room at Armoury House on a gorgeous evening, which I am sure that all Fuellers and their guests will remember with fondness as the first Fuellers’ dinner after ‘The Great Lockdown’!

We were also able to admit some extremely patient new Freemen and Liverymen, which included two well deserved Honorary Liverymen: Alderman Alison Gowman, newly elected Sheriff and who will shortly be giving the 16th *Ezra Memorial Lecture*, and my predecessor Bill Walworth who despite retiring (again) continues to provide great assistance to myself and to the Company.

A quick update on our move to Carmen Hall: we are now in, but the builders are not yet out so it won't be fully operational until October. The eagle-eyed will also have noticed that Master Carman was not robed as an Honorary Liveryman in July and I can assure you that we are still on friendly terms with them – he just hadn't turned his bluetooth off and got pinged!

With live events now back on I look forward to seeing you all at Haberdashers' Hall on Wednesday 15 September for the 16th *Ezra Memorial Lecture*, which the Master is presiding over, and then at our *Installation Dinner* at Fishmongers' Hall on Monday 11 October.

Alex Maclean Bather – Clerk
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Dates for your diary

September

Wednesday 15

16th Ezra Memorial Lecture

To be given by Honorary Liveryman Alderman Alison Gowman
Haberdashers' Hall – 17:45 for 18:15

Wednesday 29

Common Hall Election of Lord Mayor

10:30 for 11:45 Tickets for Liverymen (only) available from the Clerk

October

Monday 11

Installation Dinner

Fishmongers' Hall

November

Sunday 7

Fuellers Sunday

Winchester Cathedral

Saturday 13

Lord Mayor's Show

Sunday 14

Remembrance Sunday

Trinity House

Monday 15

Earl of Wessex Future Energy Conference

Royal College of Physicians

Wednesday 17

Festival of St Cecilia 2021

St Paul's Cathedral (Tickets available from 6 September)

December

Monday 6

Carol Service

St Vedast Church



Installation Dinner 2021

Fishmongers' Hall

Monday, 11 October

We are delighted to announce that the Installation Dinner will be held on Monday, 11 October 2021 at Fishmongers' Hall.

The Installation Court will precede the Reception during which we will also formally admit new Freemen and robe new Liverymen.

Please join us for the chance to come together in glorious surroundings with friends and welcome our newly admitted Freemen and Liverymen. We are delighted to be able to hold events in person again and as highlighted in this issue of *The Fueller*, this enables us to banish the socially distanced living of recent times and celebrate together, which is very much an important aspect of the Company.

The Installation Dinner is sponsored by SBZ Corporation and we thank them for their generous support.



The deadline for booking tickets is Monday, 29 September.

Further information and the booking form are available on the [website](#) or use the QR code below.



Fuellers merchandise

Merchandise

Please take a moment to check out the Fuellers Shop in the Members Area on the website. Notebooks, ties, umbrellas are just some of Fuellers merchandise that is available.

Visit the shop to place your orders [here](#).

