

# THE Fueller

*The official journal of The Worshipful Company of Fuellers*

Issue 64 December 2021



## Welcoming the new Master

Carrie Marsh accepted the position at the Installation Court

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### Accelerating the move to clean alternatives

The Earl of Wessex Future Energy Conference

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### A helping hand

Trying to address Fuel Poverty



## Contents

- 3 Welcome from the Master
- 5 Installation dinner
- 9 Industry insights
- 11 Helping those in need this winter
- 12 Event highlights
- 14 From the Clerk
- 15 Diary dates
- 15 Merchandise

# Editor's note

Lynn Postle FICME, Editor

In the last issue I talked about “changing times” and here we are again embracing changing times. As I write, the “change” refers to our ability to once again convene in groups to enjoy our careers, our hobbies, and our passions in a collective manner. I do hope that by the time you are reading this, and we are preparing for our festive celebrations, that the times are not changing again.

The pages of this issue highlight the pure joy and satisfaction of being in venues together, sharing pleasant and uplifting experiences with like-minded people and, quite frankly, regaining our lives. Long may this continue.

To say that the subject of energy, in particular future energy, is the topic of “heated” (excuse the pun) debate at dinner tables, on public transport, in the pub and on the terraces, in lecture halls and in the school playground is to understate the momentum the subject has gained in recent months. In the shadow of COP26, which brought the focus to the foreground, we all have an opinion of how we will play our part in shaping our future energy needs. I am currently one of those travellers learning to temper my “range anxiety” fears as

I embrace a charging point in my garden and a dashboard of (really do I need that much information?) in front of me when I jump into my husband's car. He's welcomed the new world at a greater speed than I have, but I am intrigued and keen to learn from his experience.

Indeed, learning from the experience of trailblazers was very much the order of the day at the Earl of Wessex Future Energy Conference in November; you can read all about this fascinating and thought-provoking opportunity in this issue of *The Fueller*.

I look forward to working with our new Master in the coming months and I would like to thank Past Master Doug Barrow MBE CC for reporting on the Installation Dinner and all our contributors to this issue – your insights and enthusiasm are to be commended.

*Best wishes for the festive season and here's to an event filled 2022.*



## Join the conversation

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# Welcome from the Master

Carrie Marsh was installed as Master at the Installation Court on 11 October at Fishmongers' Hall

What a busy start to the year, fresh from the installation of the new Lord Mayor Alderman Vincent Keaveney, a good six-mile march through the City for the Lord Mayor's Parade, attending St Paul's Cathedral for Remembrance Sunday and rounded off by the Earl of Wessex Future Energy Conference the next day. Very much in contrast to most of 2020/21 during the height of the pandemic.

Was it really two years ago that we were all together at Installation Court, looking forward to a year of events under the watchful eye of our Master, His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex, supported by Deputy Master Averil MacDonald? On behalf of myself and the whole Company, I would like to thank them for seeing through a difficult 24 month 'year'!

**Life as a downstream Fueller in a small family business has changed somewhat over the last couple of years. Our domestic fuel supply company was founded in 1902 and, so far, we have survived two World Wars and two pandemics. I hope you may get to visit our little corner of the world on my Master's weekend in May next year when we will be celebrating our 120th anniversary of Marsh Fuels — where you may spy that rare accessory of 'his and hers' oil tankers.**

I first joined our business as a boiler engineer on April Fool's Day 1997, not a good day to start a job it turned out, but soon I was firmly "one of the lads"

Carrie Marsh, Master Fueller



servicing boilers until the lure of the oil tankers called. As only the second female truck driver in Newbury at the time, it was a little challenging. And who can forget those early days of health and safety training? Sitting around in a less than salubrious working men's club, trying to learn some first aid only to hear: "if you

need to elevate the limb you would use something like a toolbox, of course you could use your handbag"! Luckily, those days are well behind us.

As time went on, my father retired, and I took over the running of the business. During those years, the late Jane Ayre

would often call into the office, in later years to twist my arm to see if I would join the Court. I am sad to say that I could never give Jane the answer she had hoped for at the time. Just getting married, then just having children, but one day I ran out of excuses and took the plunge. And so here I am!

I have also discovered the fascinating world of tradition in the City of London which in part inspired my theme for the year, **Nurture**. Having my roots in a traditional family business that has had to embrace the new world and technology to continue to survive (our analogue telephone and 1960s Olympia typewriter still come out in a power cut to keep us going at work). I see the similarities with our Fuellers Company and the City. We can nurture the old and embrace the new to find a blended way forwards, such as occasional hybrid meetings for Company business as well as those in person. After all, you can't really share chocolate biscuits online!

**Our history is based on strong relationships which I intend to nurture with our military affiliates and other livery companies, particularly the Carmen, who are putting the finishing touches to their fabulous new hall, which we will also be able to call home.**

**We also look to the future at a time when our climate is in crisis and new solutions must be found. As seen at our recent conference, the world of future energy is effervescent and never has there been a better time for the next generation to come forward and lead with solutions. For this reason, I look forward to working with our partner charities and STEM students.**



I hope that you have enjoyed following my blogs since I took office and that you will continue to support our Company over the next year. I look forward to seeing you at future events.





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# The installation dinner

11 OCTOBER 2021

A rosy glow and a “buzz” in the room



**Past Master, Doug Barrow MBE CC**

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**11** October, such a great day in history, Pope Leo X bestowed upon Henry VIII the title “Defender of the Faith” in 1521. 2021 and members of the Company and their guests headed to Fishmongers’ Hall, not to commemorate that, but to witness and celebrate the Installation of the new Master Fueller, Mrs Carrie Marsh. The pandemic, which impacted virtually all of us on the planet in so many ways, was responsible for delaying this joyous occasion by a year, and our thanks to the Master and Officers for holding the fort for that extra time.

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We assembled in the grand setting of the Fishmonger's Court Room for the Installation Court, surrounded by the gilded Coats of Arms of Past Prime Wardens, an apt location for His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex to oversee his last meeting as Master.



LEFT: His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex oversees his last meeting as Master. RIGHT: The Master, His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex, presents Mrs Mira Joshi with the Freedom of the Company by Presentation.

The Master conducted the ceremony in a relaxed style with the Court up and down and up and down! Firstly, he presented Mrs Mira Joshi with the Freedom of the Company by Presentation for supporting the Company as Consort to Past Master Shравan Joshi. Then it was the enrobing of the Master Carmen, Mr Peter Cordrey, as an Honorary Liveryman maintaining the strong association between our two Companies. Next was the turn of three new Freemen to be admitted – Zoe Holder, Shaun Ince and Jordanne Underwood before Paul Middleton, Peter Nelson, Simon Parsons, Gian Piero Placidi and Bob Wilkins were enrobed as new Liverymen. A credit to the Company to continue growing our numbers, even during these most recent, difficult times.



LEFT: Three new Freemen – Zoe Holder, Shaun Ince and Jordanne Underwood. RIGHT: New Liverymen – Bob Wilkins, Gian Piero Placidi, Simon Parsons, Peter Nelson and Paul Middleton.

Before passing on the baton, he reflected on his term of office on behalf of the Wardens in his self-effacing style, thanking many, but giving special mention to Iain Beveridge whose huge efforts behind the scenes allowed the Company to operate so well with its many virtual meetings and events throughout the long lockdowns.





From left to right: Mr Peter Harrison – Senior Warden, Mr Derek Mann – Master Watermen, Dr Peter Blair-Fish – Master Engineer, Mr Colin Bramall – Master Fan Maker, Father Peter Harris – Master Lightmonger, Professor Anne Curry – Master Fletcher, The Master – Mrs Carrie Marsh, HRH The Earl of Wessex – Immediate Past Master, Mr Peter Cordrey – Master Carman & Honorary Liveryman, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli, Principal Guest – Mrs Elisabeth Mainelli, Captain John Voyce RN – Freeman, Mr Peter Hall – Master Water Conservator

**Finally, the moment to hand over the trappings of office – the mace, the Tudor hat, the gown and the collar of office to our 37th Master, Carrie Marsh, in the presence of the Court, many of the Company as well as her friends and family. Her first duties included installing as Senior Warden, Mr Peter Harrison, and, sadly, in absentia, as Junior Warden, Mr James Cripps who, because of Covid, was unable to attend the Court. After words of welcome from the Master, the Court concluded, the Officers withdrew and off to another part of the Hall.**

**N**ow to relax and enjoy a champagne reception using the Court dining and drawing rooms with opportunity to congratulate those newly installed and catch up with old friends, many of whom we had not seen in person for a long time. The views over the Thames were spectacular, especially with the setting sun lighting up the rooms with a rosy glow.

Before long, dinner was announced, and we took our places in the splendour of the banqueting hall before the Master, Officers and guests processed in traditional City style. Starting a new tradition, the Master lit a candle, allowing us to remember those Fuellers who had passed away and those who were unable to be with us in person. We could reflect on our good fortune before the Hon Chaplain

said Grace when we could sit down to dine. The tables were in the form of a large horseshoe with a central sprig and were beautifully decorated courtesy of the Master and her am dram chums! Thanks also go to SBZ Corporation for their extreme generosity in sponsoring the dinner.

We feasted on chicken and ham terrine, a most delightful truffle stuffed guinea fowl concluding with a plum tarte tatin and ice cream. Needless to say, all accompanied by fine wines. The buzz in the room was noticeable as Fuellers and their guests enjoyed themselves. The chefs were to be complimented and the service was good, efficient and friendly. The Fishmongers had done the Fuellers proud.

**T**he music for the evening was provided by The London Banqueting Ensemble who concluded with a fantastic rendition of the Post Horn Gallop led by Steve Fletcher – to the amusement and enjoyment of us all.

Traditional toasts were followed by the Senior Warden's introduction of the Company guests – Masters, Consorts and Clerks of the visiting Liveries – Fletchers (39), Fan Makers (76), Carmen (77), Engineers (94), Lightmongers (96) Water Conservators (102), the Company of Watermen and Lightermen and our principal guest, Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli accompanied by his wife, Elisabeth, concluding with Members of the Company rising to toast all our guests.

**Michael regaled us with an amusing and informative speech, referring to his recent, unusual, two-year stint as Sheriff of the City of London, being based in the Old Bailey and of his own historic links to the energy industries going back a few years. He took the**

**opportunity to give us some insight as to how the City had responded to the pandemic and the role that technology has played, especially regarding the Liveries. He then took up the Master's theme for the year of "Nurture" looking at the three "Cs" – commerce, community and charity – and how the City was adapting and responding to the changes it faces. Finishing on a lighter note, he then proposed the toast to the Company.**

And so, to the response from our Master. Some reflections on the recent past before welcoming all our new Freeman and Liverymen. It was then an opportunity to learn of the life of a "downstream Fueller" and her family links going back to her grandfather, Fredrick Mash, one of our founding fathers in 1984! Our Livery is blessed with an extremely wide range of expertise across all sectors of the energy industries, from renewables to nuclear

and it was fascinating to hear something of the history of her family business that celebrates 120 years next May, as well as our Master's own journey within the firm leading to her installation. She focussed on examples of how she intended to nurture some of our facets – military affiliates and other Livery companies, use of technology to improve the reach of the Company and the Fuellers' Charitable Trust Fund. She concluded with an invitation for all to the next event in our calendar, Fuellers' Sunday at Winchester Cathedral before inviting those assembled to join her in a stirrup cup prior to wending our way home.

In conclusion, a great evening. It demonstrated the friendly nature of Fuellers coming together again after so long apart. It was an enjoyable time to be remembered by all and, as we headed off on to London Bridge, some going north and others going south, we could reflect on what a great time we had enjoyed and that we were nearly back to normal!



LEFT: Steve Fletcher of The London Banqueting Ensemble. RIGHT: Mr Peter Hall – Master Water Conservator, Mrs Satoko Matsuda, Mr Haruhiko Matsuda.



LEFT: Miss Thea Macdonald, Mr Seb Thery, Miss Phoebe Macdonald. RIGHT: Mr Jim Bellew – Hon Court, Mr Jordan Bellew, Mrs Claudette Bellew-Rebaud, Mr Patrick Helly – Liveryman, Mr Iain Beveridge – Liveryman.





# Industry insights



## The Earl of Wessex Future Energy Conference 2021

Accelerating the move to clean alternatives – PRACTICAL, POSSIBLE, COMMERCIAL

Lynn Postle FICME

Holding people to account, more research on the circular economy, the creation of networks that have the customer and zero-carbon at their heart with licencing and regulation to match – just some of the comments to be aired during the Fuellers' The Earl of Wessex Future Energy Conference.

Held on 15 November at The Royal College of Physicians, the conference continued the theme created for the inaugural Future Energy Conference in 2019, to address the priorities for future energy and how they will be delivered in an ethical and sustainable way.

The event was opened by Past Master His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex, who emphasised the importance of coming together to debate our future energy needs.

It became apparent throughout the day that there is no single solution when debating alternative fuels, a vast array of alternatives and suggestions are possible as outlined by the presentations and Q&A sessions, which served to highlight the enormity of the scale of the challenge.

Indeed, it was pointed out that to achieve the last 20 per cent of getting to net zero would require growing an entirely new industry with huge implications for the design of the grid. The different critical priorities for those parts of the world less fortunate than ours, most notably the global south, came to the fore with the realisation that whilst we talk about funding for electricity systems, they are talking about saving lives. There was a general agreement amongst the speakers and panellists that financial support was required for many countries to achieve

the required targets and halt the impact that climate change is having on the most vulnerable people and regions of the world.

**Experts debated the incentives for transition to net zero during the morning panel session where topics included: the support that would be needed for the supply industry to scale up hydrogen as a move towards addressing systems challenges; the improvement of digital tools to ensure an agile energy system; and the acceptance that decarbonisation not only requires many new innovations and novel thinking but also effective decision making.**



LEFT: Winner of the Future Energy Competition, Nkechi Nwankwo, is congratulated by His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex. RIGHT: Sam Humphry-Baker, Thomas Davis and Steven McNamara of Imperial College London receive the runner up prize from His Royal Highness The Earl of Wessex.



Whilst legislation is a clear driver to accelerate the move to cleaner energy options, much debate centred on the lack of incentives for internationally exposed companies to build in Europe if they can build in regions with fewer restrictions. Carbon border adjustment mechanisms, the UK Emissions Trading Scheme, EU Emissions Trading System and voluntary carbon markets were all touched upon. It was also noted that obtaining a fair measurement of embedded carbon in goods crossing borders is not impossible but it is difficult. All the aforementioned provided food for thought and much to debate about over coffee and pastries.

**One powerful message that hailed from the day was the notion of what an exciting time it is for young people to be coming into the energy sector. This was particularly noted through the submissions for the Future Energy Competition where five shortlisted finalists presented their ideas and innovations to a panel of esteemed judges led by Honorary Liveryman Dame Mary Archer DBE.**

With just five minutes to present and five minutes for questions from the panellists, each of the finalists took to the stage for their 10-minute slot in front of an enthusiastic audience. They didn't have long to wait – just one networking lunchbreak – before the results were announced by an exhausted panel who had toiled throughout lunch to choose the winner from an excellent selection of innovative and thought-provoking ideas. The winning entry was Nkechi Nwankwo with her presentation, *'Development of decision support system for sustainable energy transition in the oil rich Saharan Africa economy'*. She spoke of the need to offer solutions in a country where a huge proportion of the population has no access to modern energy options.

The runner-up position went to Sam Humphry-Baker, Thomas Davis and Steven McNamara of Imperial College London for their presentation, *'The spherical tokamak fusion power station: a new opportunity for UK leadership.'*

The rest of the afternoon consisted of two further panel sessions: Energy storage – technologies and economies, and Technologies on the horizon – niche or significant contributors? Followed by an insight into the economic outlook for energy by Spencer Dale, Group Chief Economist at BP.

**It was specifically heartening to hear from those presenters who had hot footed it from COP26 in Glasgow that the mood at the international climate change conference signalled that the business sector is supporting the ambitious net zero targets rather than “being dragged along”. The understanding that decarbonisation is good for business thanks to increased kudos with customers, thus a positive effect on profits, offers confidence for the future.**

However, the warning was that the last 10-20 per cent of the journey to net zero is a “sticking point”. Maybe power will not be as easy to decarbonise as claimed, but it is being customer driven so answers must be found that will see us moving towards an energy system that requires constant optimisation.

**The energy sector achieves great things and is used to adopting new technologies we were told, but currently this future need is a guessing game – what will be niche and what will be major? The answer we were teased lies in what is practical, possible and commercial.**

*The Future Energy Conference was held on 15 November at The Royal College of Physicians and supported by UK Power Networks. A supporting exhibition showcasing the work of the Fuellers' Charitable Trust Fund ran alongside the conference and a drinks reception was held after the event to enable the discussions to continue and to offer more networking opportunities.*



# Helping those in need this winter: Fuellers Fuel Payments for Fuel Poverty

**The Charitable Trust Fund launched a November 2021 campaign for donations for a newly designated fund for work in the fuel poverty sector.**

The Fuellers' Charitable Trust Fund is currently working with Community Energy London to support their efforts in the relief of Fuel Poverty. The demands on this sector are set to increase dramatically this winter following the large increases in energy prices. The Trustees decided to launch a campaign to increase the funds available to them to support the work they carry out in the fuel poverty sector.

Fuellers will be aware that if they were born before 26 September 1955, and are resident in the UK, they automatically receive a Winter Fuel Payment of at least £200. The sum, usually paid in November or December, is normally split equally between eligible couples in a household. This payment is a tax-free sum, no application is required, and the recipient may or may not need it.

**If you're in receipt of the Winter Fuel Payment, and it doesn't constitute income that you need to maintain your normal standard of living, the Trustees ask you to consider donating some or all of the amount to the Charitable Trust Fund. Donations would qualify for Gift Aid and the total amount the Trust could raise could be well into four figures. Your donations could help those in need this winter.**

Donations from Fuellers who do not receive a Winter Fuel Payment would be equally welcome. To support this appeal and enable the Trustees to target the benefit of this Government payment to those who need it most please email the [clerk@fuellers.co.uk](mailto:clerk@fuellers.co.uk), in the first instance, whilst the donation page is under construction.

## Supporting our future

The Fuellers' Charitable Trust Fund is continuing to support a wide range of specific projects, many of which focus on supporting the education of young people, primarily from disadvantaged backgrounds, in London and across the UK. Several of the projects provide opportunities for students to consider further education in the energy sector or energy careers. They are our future.

**You can donate to any of these projects; to discover more visit the [Fuellers' Charitable Trust Fund page](#) on the website and email the [clerk@fuellers.co.uk](mailto:clerk@fuellers.co.uk) to find out how to donate.**

# Event highlights

## A round up of Fuellers recent events

### Fuellers Sunday 2021

Sunday 7 November

On a crisp November morning with the sun glowing brightly, a group of Fuellers assembled at Winchester Cathedral for Fuellers Sunday. It was a lovely turn out of some new faces alongside some of our regular attendees. Winchester is our Master's Diocese and attendees, including the Master's family, were greeted by the Reverend Canon Christine Dale, from the Master's village church. Fuellers took their places in the front row pews that had been reserved for us. The organ stirred as the sun streamed through the vast stained glassed windows.

The ministry, in green and white vestments, and the choir, in scarlet, provided a colourful backdrop to the service. The Gloria and Eucharistic prayers that were sung and filled the air, sounding wonderful. It was especially lovely that the congregation could once again join in with the hymns in rousing voice, mask-free in their seats. The Fuellers were welcomed by name, and brought into the very heart of the service, thanks to the reading given by the Master, Carrie Marsh. Indeed, the sermon concentrated very much on energy with mentions of COP26, the responsibilities lying with Fuellers and the hopes for the healing of the world ahead. The prayers also incorporated the Company, including support for our Charitable Trust Fund and its Trustees. We were also invited to partake in communion, minus the sharing of wine.

Before long the service was over, and we were invited to partake in refreshments including tea and chocolates! It was lovely to take a moment to chat to those present who showed a real interest in the Livery and were keen to know more about the Fuellers. Soon, it was time to move on to lunch at The Old Vine pub.

A hearty meal welcomed us all in our own dining area, the ambiance more like a family celebration. The time passed quickly in convivial conversation, and the refreshment gently flowed. In danger of nodding off by mid-afternoon, it was time for one last stop. As some of the party departed, the remaining group headed to Wolvesey Castle.

In what seemed like no time at all, it was time to head home with memories of a special day spent with fellow Fuellers getting out and about like the old days.

### Visit to 152 (North Irish) Regiment RLC on Exercise Austere Crusader

Sunday 14 November

Military Affiliates are an important element of livery life and our association with 152 (North Irish) Regiment RLC is no exception. With the Master and Clerk on Civic and Remembrance duties in the City, it fell to the Master's Consort, Dave Marsh, and the Chairman of the Charitable Trust Fund, Chloe Andrews-Jones, to accept 152's invitation to join them on exercise at Kinloss Barracks, a former RAF station on the Moray Firth in the north of Scotland. Now home to 39 Engineer Regiment, it used to be the main base for the RAF's fleet of Nimrod MR2 maritime patrol aircraft.

Austere Crusader, a theatre and port enablement exercise in October/November has tested the Army's ability to open a port from scratch, blending all things Army – maritime, diving, ship to shore fuel, engineering, and logistics. 152's specific role was to establish, maintain, and decommission a primary bulk fuel installation, and to transport and distribute bulk fuel across the exercise.

We were able to take an up close and personal look at a close support tanker (capacity 20,000 litres) before embarking on a trip round the airfield aboard a unit support tanker (capacity 7,000 litres). Both vehicles are six-wheeled, the CST being articulated, and have great off-road ability with adjustable suspension and tyre pressure to account for different terrains and weather conditions.

Having handed in our mobile phones (safety first), we were escorted to the PET area which encompassed the control point and laboratory testing tent, where they physically test the quality of the fuel both in and out of the tankers and storage facility. It transpires this is a splendid place to work, because due to the testing regime the tent is always warm and heat for a quick brew is readily available!

A quick stroll down to the Primary Bulk Fuel Installation; a Royal Engineer constructed BUND surrounding the fuel storage area, capable of storing up to 300,000 litres of diesel to fuel 152's own tankers and vehicles, and those from other units. A hydraulic generator drives a pump that can deliver up to 800 litres per minute. The overall capability of 152's equipment is very impressive, offering superb operational flexibility in the field.

Of course, an Army marches on its stomach, so as the Highland weather closed in, we were ushered into a tent, which had previously been lashed down and sand-bagged against the Scottish autumn and proceeded to cook our own lunch, using Army stoves and mess tins of hot water.

A fantastic day, wonderful highly skilled soldiers taking pride in their work and revelling in taking the opportunity to demonstrate their skills – both interpersonal and technical.





Master Carrie Marsh accompanied by her consort and banner carrier, Dave Marsh, and Senior Warden Peter Harrison ensure they are equipped with good walking shoes.

## The Lord Mayor's Show

Saturday 13 November

It was such a delight to see this annual spectacle back on the streets of London.

Starting with breakfast on the pavement at Piccolo Café off Gresham Street hardy Fuellers gathered, up bright and early to see the entries. This year we were entry 9 on the parade, near the front, so a nice slick march around London! It was not hard to spot our usual bus and the rainbow of Livery robes next to the Basket Makers hand woven Gog and Magog.

Plenty of smiling, waving, cap doffing and high fiving with the kids ensued as we headed through the streets, waving to greet the new Lord Mayor as we passed the first corner by the Mansion House, plus our Honorary Liveryman, Sheriff Alison Gowman. And it is confirmed that we made it onto the BBC this year, a fleeting flash of Fuellers robes for a few seconds but still an accomplishment.

The second half was somewhat delayed as environmental protesters tried to disrupt proceedings. In total Fuellers notched up around six miles over the day according to our Senior Warden's pedometer!

To round off the day, duties complete, afternoon tea was called for at the Royal Horseguards Hotel, washed down with a sneaky glass of bubbles.

## Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 14 November

The Livery assembled in the south transept of St Paul's Cathedral for the Service of Remembrance, attended by Their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Michael of Kent. The Lord Mayor and the Aldermen also attended amongst others.

**The cathedral was full of uniformed personnel of all backgrounds and a sight to see as the choir sang the most angelic psalms and anthems. The Lessons were read by Lance Corporal Kitty Connolly, City of London Academy of Islington (Honourable Artillery Company) Combined Cadet Force and Alderman Vincent Keaveney, The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor.**

During the address, The Very Reverend Dr David Ison ([Dean of St Paul's](#)) highlighted the names inscribed on the various walls of the Cathedral and, quoting Pixar's animation 'Coco', impressed on us to keep remembering those who gave their lives to keep their memories alive. When somebody is no longer actively remembered, due to time continuing on and those who remember passing themselves, their names live on through the memorials.

At 11am exactly, the Last Post had just been sounded and we stood in silence for two minutes while listening to the strike of the Cathedral bells to mark the hour. Having kept the silence, Reveille was sounded and followed by prayers. Soon it was time to conclude and, after the Lord Mayor and Royal Party had left through the Great West Door, our own Clerk and one other led the procession of Livery Masters and Clerks into formation to march to the London Troops War Memorial outside the Royal Exchange. Aldermen and Common Councillors lined the steps of the Royal Exchange and we were joined by Old Comrades, Cadets and members of the Regular and Reserve forces who laid wreaths after the Lord Mayor and Prince Michael.

Read the full coverage of our recent events at [www.fuellers.co.uk/news](http://www.fuellers.co.uk/news)

To catch up on all past events please visit [fuellers.co.uk](http://fuellers.co.uk)

# From the Clerk

Alex Maclean Bather

## Back in Business!



I had assumed that I would be able to start by saying how much I had enjoyed seeing so many of you at our Carol Service and Christmas Supper afterwards, but as is the way with so many plans at the moment I tested positive that morning and so found myself starting ten days isolation instead... I was extremely sorry to miss this great event but delighted to hear how enjoyable it was and in particular to see a recording of the Master's Potted Panto topping off another great Fuellers evening!

Looking ahead to next year, our Election Court and Lunch on Wednesday 13 April will now be held at Mansion House and promises to be a spectacular event. We then head to Watermen's Hall for our Mid-Summer Court and Dinner on Monday 6 June, and return to St Olave's and Trinity House for our annual Thanksgiving Service and Affiliates' Lunch on Monday 4 July. Very advance notice is that the Installation Court and Dinner will be held at Drapers' Hall on Thursday 13 October. Please put these dates in your diary now and also keep checking the calendar on the website for other events that we are holding or are supporting in the City.

It has been extremely pleasing to see a steady flow of membership applications continue to come through. Many of these come on the back of attendance at an event, so please keep inviting your friends and colleagues – and remember that the more members we have and the more thickly spread we are across all areas of the energy industry, the more powerful our voice will be in the City and beyond.

We are slowly working our way through the backlog of ceremonies and so if you are waiting then the next occasions will be at the Election, Mid Summer and Installation Courts – please email Geliya Chukmarova, our Honorary Membership Secretary, and myself so that you can be booked in. Please remember that in order to be eligible to become a Liverymen you must first be Free of the City, which I will guide you through – but it is not a quick process.

In what I hope will be the last of what at one time threatened to become a long-running series, an update on Carmen Hall: as I write the electricians have been working in the meeting room and there is now carpet throughout, including a rather brave shade of yellow on the stairs which is worth a visit in its own right! Most importantly, the office room now has a plumbed-in sink and a fridge/wine fridge – depending on your view of Clerks.

We are also in discussions with the Carmen to hold a Woodmongers Dinner in the New Year. This is likely to be a relatively small event to test-drive Carmen Hall's catering ability. Going forwards we are looking to make these annual, stand-alone events – so watch this space.

Finally, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Fuellers New Year!

Alex Maclean Bather – Clerk  
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## Dates for your diary

### January

Wednesday 12 January

#### **New Year Court**

Guildhall

### March

Friday 25 March

#### **The Master's Charity Event**

Read Theatre College, Reading

### April

Friday 1 April

#### **United Guilds Service**

St Paul's Cathedral

Thursday 7 April

#### **The 2022 Lord Mayor's Platinum Jubilee Big Curry**

Guildhall

Wednesday 13 April

#### **Election Court and Lunch**

Mansion House

### May

Friday 20 May – Sunday 22 May

#### **Master's Weekend**

Vineyards Hotel, Newbury

### June

Monday 6 June

#### **Mid Summer Court and Dinner**

Watermens' Hall

### July

Monday 4 July

#### **Thanksgiving Service and Affiliates Lunch**

Service at St Olave's followed by the Affiliates Lunch at Trinity House

### September

[date tbc]

#### **Ezra Lecture**

Thursday 29 September

#### **Common Hall Election of Lord Mayor**

### October

Thursday 13 October

#### **Installation Court and Dinner**

Drapers Hall

## Fuellers merchandise

### Merchandise

As we embrace the festive season why not 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](#).

