

The Welsh Livery Bulletin

of the Worshipful Livery Company of Wales



Issue No: 2

May 2019

CHAIRMAN OF THE CHARITY COMMITTEE AND CELEBRATED MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF BARBER SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH



Mr Simon D H Holt MBE MA MB BChir FRCS

Having spent 6 years at Cambridge and University College Hospital to become Doctor Holt, Simon then spent the next 6 years studying surgery to pass the Royal College of Surgeon's exams to regain the title of Mister. The history of the Edinburgh Guild of Barber Surgeons explains why. Two groups of practitioners were in competition to provide medical services, the Apothecaries who provided medicines and the Barbers who usually did minor surgery as well as cutting hair and shaving beards, but the distinctions were blurred and the guilds often in competition for trade.

In the late 13th and early 14th centuries the two guilds came to a mutually beneficial accommodation in which the Apothecaries earned

the rights to see all patients first and to provide medical treatments but in return they promised to refer on any patients needing surgical treatments to the Barber Surgeons.



The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh

On the 1st July 1505 the Seal of Cause and Charter of Privileges was issued to the Guild of Barber Surgeons by the Town Council of Edinburgh which provided that anyone admitted by the Masters of the Craft had to be experts in their craft. Being able to read and write and the study of anatomy were key requirements. Each surgeon had the right to receive the body of an executed prisoner each year for dissection and demonstration which significantly improved anatomical understanding. The Guild received further recognition with its Royal Charter from King James VI of Scotland on 13th of October 1605 who was himself a practicing surgeon and dentist.

Over the last 500 years the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, as it became, has overseen the training and examination of surgeons and dentists who practice in the UK. Without a Fellowship of one the Colleges of Surgeons (there are also colleges in London, Glasgow and Dublin), doctors cannot practice surgery in the UK.

One consequence of this 500-year-old arrangement between the Apothecaries and the Barber Surgeons is that surgeons could not call themselves “doctor”. These days no surgeon can practice without first obtaining a basic medical degree but on receiving a fellowship from the Royal College of Surgeons after completing about 8 years of further training, they are expected to revert to the title “mister”.

A second important consequence remains. Even now a surgeon is prevented from seeing any patient without first being referred by their General Practitioner whose origin is in the Guild of Apothecaries. This is one of the reasons the National Health Services is one of the most efficient in the world.



The museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh

MASTER'S COLUMN



Welcome to my contribution to the latest Welsh Livery Bulletin. If you have visited our website, you may have read my blog which lets you know about the busy March and April I have enjoyed at events

where I have been able to promote the Worshipful Livery Company of Wales. I will continue to do so at every opportunity in the coming months.

One of the real highlights in my programme for this year was the Concert in February by Treorchy Male Choir at St German's Church, assisted by 3 students from St John's College Cardiff as soloists. It was a superb event enjoyed by an audience of over 180 people although disappointingly, only a small number of Liverymen.

It is a shame that, for whatever reasons, more Liverymen do not support the wide-ranging events arranged for their benefit in providing opportunities to socialise in pleasant surroundings.

However, there are still several events during the year, and I hope that they may attract support. Please look out for the Calling Notices.

It was a pleasure to install Senior Court Assistant Stuart Castledine as Treasurer at Court in April, he has been in post for some months, and he has worked closely with Dr Claude Evans and new Clerk Christopher Dale to improve our understanding of Company finances. A number of new initiatives will take place (some have already) to ensure that we aim for balanced accounts within the next 18 months, if not before.

I am grateful to those Liverymen who have paid their quarterage early and we are hopeful that this source of income will improve this year.

Membership is increasing slowly – four new Liverymen in April and two more due in July with several more in the pipeline.

It is with regret that I announce the resignation of Canon Roy Doxsey as Chaplain after 12 years of excellent service to our Company. His gravitas at our services and good humour at social events will be greatly missed and we hope he will continue to attend our future events.

Finally, the Silver Jubilee Fund continues to grow and will provide opportunities to expand our Awards Programme for young people in Wales. It is not too late to make a donation payable to the Worshipful Livery Company of Wales Trust.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK



Firstly, thank you to Liverymen who sent me their best wishes as I start my role as Clerk, I shall endeavour to maintain the traditions of all past Clerks in giving quality service to the Worshipful Livery Company of Wales.

We have started by issuing invoice notification emails to all Liverymen to make payments for the Livery year 2019-2020. I am pleased to report that we have had considerable success in obtaining pre-invoice Quarterage payments from many members.

I also sent out reminder emails to those Liverymen who had not paid the previous year's Quarterage. I thank those members for responding so quickly in bringing their accounts up to date.

If you are still waiting for a Quarterage payment invoice before you make payment, this will be with you over the next month or so. However I would encourage you to make payment prior to its arrival. The membership Quarterage for 2019-2020 is £160.

Those members who have paid already, you will shortly receive an invoice showing payment made. We are updating our financial competences in line with new HMRC guidelines and as part of that we have transferred all financial transactions to Sage

Accounting programme. This is taking longer than anticipated. However, I hope to have the matter completed by the end of June. This will enable us to issue member invoices and make payments in a more structured manner which should allow the Auditors to have a clearer understanding of the financial position of the Company.

I look forward to meeting as many Liverymen as I can over the coming months as I settle into this unique role. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of any assistance in any Livery matters.

THE WORSHIPFUL LIVERY COMPANY OF WALES

Master	Mr Geoff Hughes
Senior Warden	Mr Peter Coleman
Junior Warden	Dr Kathy Seddon
Deputy Master	Professor Gillian Davies

Treasurer	Mr Stuart Castledine
Beadle	Mr Bipin Pitrola
Chaplain	Canon Roy D Doxsey
Clerk	Mr Christopher Dale JP
Assistant Clerk	Mrs Angela J Parry MBE

Awards Committee

Chairman	Mrs Madeleine Bidder
Secretary	Mr Christopher Dale

Charity Committee

Chairman	Mr Simon Holt MBE
Secretary	Miss Norma J Jarboe OBE

Public Relations Committee

Chairman	Mrs Agnes Xavier-Phillips JP
Secretary	Mr Henry Gilbert

North Wales Committee

Chairman	Mr R Andrew M Richards
Secretary	Professor J Solbé MBE

The London Group

Chairman	Dr Keith C Williams
Secretary	Miss Victoria Provis

TREORCHY MALE CHOIR IN CONCERT

The internationally celebrated Treorchy Male Voice Choir has enchanted audiences around the world for more than 130 years. From their Royal Command Performance for Queen Victoria to their appearance at the Royal Variety Show more than a century later, the Choir continues to entertain to celebrated packed houses.



Mehak Sakhuja, Flute
Marco Aldrige, Clarinet
Jade Jang, Piano



The second half of the programme had a much lighter Americana theme, including songs like *You Make Me Feel So Young*, *Can You Hear Me*, a *Medley of Nat King Cole Songs*, *Come Fly With Me*, *Don't Fence Me In* and *New York New York*.

Finally, as the concert concluded, we were most privileged to be called upon to accompany the choir in their fabulous, spine-tingling rendition of the Welsh National anthem, which was sung with gusto by one and all, almost raising the ancient roof from its rafters. Not a dry eye was left in the house.

So it was on Saturday 23rd March, when the Choir gave an enthralling performance on behalf of the Worshipful Livery Company of Wales in front of a packed house at St German's Church, Cardiff.

Keith Arnold

March 2019

The Choir was skilfully led by its Musical Director, Jeffrey Howard BEM, ARAM, B.MUS. His witty quips delighted the audience throughout the evening and his choice of music was inspiring. The Choir was most ably accompanied by Helen Roberts B.MUS.

CARDIFF MUSIC SCHOOL BURSARY - AWARD WINNER

The first half of the programme was dedicated to good old Welsh Favourites, including *Cwm Rhondda*, *Sosban Fach*, *We'll Keep A Welcome*, *Nearer My God To Thee* and *Calon Lan*. The audience was encouraged to join in the chorus for the more well-known songs.



Iestyn Griffiths, Award Winner, 2018

At intervals throughout the concert, we were also delighted to be entertained by three talented young soloists, each of whom attend St. Johns College and have been previous winners of the Livery Company Awards.

As you can see from the picture, the money I received from the Livery Company of Wales has been invested in the purchase of a top-of-the-range stage piano.

Being able to acquire a high specification keyboard opened so many doors for me as I journeyed from student to professional musician, opportunities that I was only be able to grasp with the professional equipment to match. Having finished my MA in piano performance and receiving a distinction in 2018, I have gone on to perform in many functions and events with my cover band, "What's The Fuss?", as well as in many other events as a soloist. Performing at a wedding whilst the bride was walking down the aisle was pretty nerve-racking!

Where I seem to be spending most of my time is performing in Musical Theatre. This has always been the area of music I have been most passionate about, and where I have always wanted to end up working in. Thankfully, largely down to the kind donations from the WLCowW, many opportunities have come my way.

In the short space of time since finishing my degree, I have used my new keyboard whilst performing in various musicals across South Wales – *Sister Act*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Legally Blonde*, *Starlight Express*, and currently a quality production of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, which includes the real car itself!



Connections I have built from these successes has led to some more amazing opportunities that are coming in the future. I have recently been appointed Musical Director for Wales' oldest Musical Theatre Company, Carmarthen Amateur Operatic Society. As well as this, I am due to start work as the répétiteur for another theatre company in Cowbridge in the next few weeks.

Having the right equipment is essential to any success within the music industry, and I am well aware that without the kindness of the company I would not be having the fortune that I am currently enjoying.

WESTERN MAIL REPORTS ON WLCowW'S NEW AWARDS AND BURSARIES FOR LEARNERS

Extra awards and bursaries will be available to learners in Wales from money raised to mark the Silver Jubilee of the Worshipful Livery Company of Wales. Scholarships worth £40,000 are offered to learners in Wales every year by the Company. A Jubilee appeal to raise £100,000 launched in 2018, under the previous Master of the company Professor Gillian Davies has now reached £65,000. The new Master Geoff Hughes has asked Professor Davies, now Deputy Master, to continue overseeing the appeal. She said: "The aim of the appeal was to reach out not only to Liverymen for financial support but also to the wider community in Wales to invite additional support from welsh business circles, foundations and other organisations interested in promoting education in Wales." One of the primary aims of the Company is the promotion of education, arts, science and technology and the promotion of skills and associated professional activities in Wales.

For more information visit:
www.liverycompanywales.cymru/recent

Western Mail & Echo on 21st March 2019

CARDIFF METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY **SCHOLARSHIP - AWARD WINNER**



Aaron Morton, Award Winner 2018

During my trip I set out to explore how upscale New York health clubs frame their customer experience to maintain retention. In the course of preparing for the trip I discovered I would also get value from looking at boutique type gyms to answer the same question.

This was for two reasons; New York has a high demographic in a condensed proximity which naturally breeds a lot of competition. New York (in addition to Los Angeles) is also the place where new fitness innovations tend to originate.

During my 4 night stay I was able to talk with 2 managers/owners of health clubs and also get access to 2 other clubs so I could experience it as a member.

The first owner I spoke with was Kevin, owner of Structure Personal Training in Park Avenue. His 1500sq ft personal training facility was situated in the basement of a building occupied by a high net worth wealth management company.

During my conversation with him he set out how he makes his clients, whether they are a billionaire or a college student, feel they are getting a personal experience. He likened it to playing host at a restaurant where the consumer feels they are the most important person in the building.

Just up the road on Park Avenue I spoke with Erik who was manager of Equinox Park Avenue. Different to Structure, Equinox is an international fitness company and so Erik explained some of the systems that ensure consistency throughout the clubs. For one, Equinox has brand experience managers whose role it is to make sure the experience members have is as high quality as possible.

On my trip I attended a CityRow class which is a boutique studio featuring the water rower as a focal point for circuits class. I also had the opportunity to workout at New York Sports Clubs.

This is a members only club with a number of clubs in the city. Their desire was to be a chain club with a community feel.

One thing stood out with all the clubs: they were out of sight at street level, yet all were doing well with customer retention. Word of mouth and customer experience were focal points, not 'passer-by' traffic.

AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN **APPEALS FOR NEW MEMBERS**

The Awards Committee is urgently seeking new members. Exciting times are upon us as a result of the success of the Silver Jubilee Appeal and Liverymen may remember that the purpose of the appeal was to raise money for new awards and to extend the areas covered by the Company's awards programme.

The Trustees administering the Fund have recently allocated £5000 for distribution in the current financial year and to date three areas for new awards have been identified-awards to Welsh apprentices with Aston Martin, Disability in the Arts awards, and a joint venture with the Prince's Trust. It is hoped to extend the programme to the fields of Medicine and Law and Order, and each committee member has been asked to consider identifying other suitable areas. All this is in addition to maintaining the Company's long-standing programme of travel scholarships, bursaries, schools' awards, and apprenticeship awards together with the awards made to applicants from the general public.

So, please join us. Helping those who need just that bit of money to take the next step in their career is one of the reasons for the Company's existence. It is rewarding and stimulating to have the privilege of sharing in the hopes and dreams of the young people of Wales.

If you would like to join the Committee or wish to learn more about its work, please contact the Master or any member of the Committee. The Committee meets in St Fagan's on a Monday morning approximately eight times a year. Most committee members attended a meeting as an observer initially-and decided to join!

Madeleine Bidder
Awards Committee Chairman

LONDON LIVERIES UPDATE



Congratulations to Mrs Jackie Williams

On Tuesday 9 April 2019 Mrs Jackie Williams, wife of Court Assistant Dr Keith C Williams, was installed as Junior Warden of the *Worshipful Livery Company of Upholsterers at Goldsmiths' Hall, London*

The Worshipful Livery Company of Furniture Maker's Royal Charter Dinner at Vintners' Hall



Lord Kirkham with Officers of the Worshipful Livery Company of Furniture Makers.



Attended by our own Court Assistant Agnes Xavier-Phillips and her husband Nigel Phillips with Past Master Jonathan Hindle

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY SUNDAY 7 JULY 2019



WLGC Charity Reg Number: 1047346

This will be a very special first garden party of its type and a Calling Notice has already been issued. This will be a very popular event in the WLCoW calendar for 2019 and as tickets are sold on a 'first come, first served' basis, you are urged to please buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment. They are available from the Assistant Clerk: Angela Parry. Cheques made payable to "Livery Company of Wales" and send to Angela Parry MBE at 44 Richards Terrace, Cardiff CF24 1RX

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Thursday 26th September
Awards Ceremony and Dinner at Howell's School, Llandaff

Thursday 3rd October
Common Hall

PREVIEW OF MASTER'S AWAY WEEKEND TO BRUGES
(Full Article in the next edition of the Welsh Livery Bulletin)
WATCH THIS SPACE!



Group Photograph at Welsh Memorial Park



Last Post Wreath Laying at Menin Gate



Master at Hedd Wyn's Headstone

Group Photograph alongside the Edwards Coach

