

Welsh Livery Bulletin

Issue No: 1 Spring 2019



Starting afresh

Members of the Company will be aware that we are now entering our second quarter of a century.

It is good to know that several of those who were present at the first Court in January 1993 are still among us and we hope that they can take some satisfaction from the manner in which their vision has been realised in so short a time.

Our Livery Company of Wales is still very young - a babe in arms compared with those elsewhere who number their years in centuries and maintain the traditions of crafts long redundant.

It is not the craft but the spirit it embodies that drives us. And from time to time it has to be refreshed, just as life itself is refreshed by the newly born.

Hence, this newsletter marks another new birth, one that we hope will refresh us all. If it doesn't then tell us, that it may be properly chastised.

Distinguished New Member



Henry Gilbert, holder of the ancient Office of High Sheriff and representative of Her Majesty the Queen in West Glamorgan, was admitted to the Worshipful Livery Company of Wales on 27 November 2018. His special interests lie in the advancement of young people. He is keen to work within the Company and alongside the Shrievalty of Wales and the volunteers in St John Cymru-Wales, to further this end. He hopes also to engage the Company in his outreach work for minority communities, particularly in South Wales.

Master's Column



I am pleased to write this introduction to the new Welsh Livery Bulletin and I hope that Liverymen will find the Bulletin an interesting and informative account of our Company's activities.

I am delighted to announce that Liveryman Christopher Dale **JP, MIH** has been appointed Clerk, after an open competition, to take over from Dr Claude Evans. My thanks go to Claude for his second period as Clerk and for overseeing much change within the Company.

Tickets are on sale for the Concert by Treorchy Male Choir at St German's Church, Roath **on 23rd March** where the acoustics are superb, such that the Choir has used it to make recordings in the past. Again, a calling notice has been issued and I encourage Liverymen to support this Prestigious Concert by probably the best Male Choir in the world.

I was pleased to be admitted to the Freedom of the City of London, albeit as a Haberdasher rather than through our Company!

The next day I represented our Company at a Court Lunch hosted by the Worshipful Livery Company of Arbitrators at the splendid Brewer's Hall in London. Sixteen other Masters were present, amongst others, and the guest speaker was His Honour Judge Nicholas Hilliard QC, Recorder of London.

At the Court Meeting on **19th February**, four new Liverymen were clothed.

Silver Jubilee fundraising continues to bring in substantial donations which will be used to increase the number and scope of our very successful Awards programme for the benefit of the young people of Wales. Liverymen who have not yet made a donation to this worthwhile cause are encouraged to do so soon, whether that be £10 or £500 – it all adds to the fund!

Clerk's Corner



To expand briefly on the Master's welcome: our new clerk, Christopher Dale, having begun his career with J Lyons & Co., moved on to the Strand Palace Hotel in

management. In due course, he rose to become Deputy Manager of the Aldwych and other well-known hotels before becoming general manager of the London Ryan.

He moved to Wales in 1995 where he has been Director of the 'Firing Line Museum' at Cardiff Castle for the past ten years. Liverymen will know that besides hosting military and ceremonial events, the Firing Line is now a popular venue for conference-goers and diners alike. Christopher is married to Pauline with whom he shares interests in gardening, travel and all kinds of literature.

Awards

One of the key functions of the Worshipful Livery Company of Wales is to seek out and acknowledge talented Welsh people, young or not so young, resident in Wales or beyond its borders.

Responsibility for this rests with the Awards Committee whose members are tireless in their efforts to discover those worthy of the Company's recognition. Recently the Committee has marked the retirement of two of its longstanding members with special good wishes and thanks.

The first, Graeme Morgan, is perhaps entitled to be called the 'father' of the Awards Programme. His 1996 initiative, was enthusiastically taken up by other members of the then Welsh Livery Guild including David Suthers, Grant Walshe, Alan Brunt and led directly to the programme that is now firmly established within the Livery Company of Wales.

Until 2003 Awards were under the wing successively of the Education Committee and the Charity Committee. However, in 2003 Awards gained full Committee status.

During his Service, Graeme attended some 150 Awards meetings before he finally persuaded the Chairman to allow him to put down his pen and retire.

During his service more than half a million pounds were distributed among some 1,130 Award Winners, 530 of whom were presented with certificates produced by Graeme.

On his retirement he was presented with a bottle of his favourite brandy in an inscribed presentation case, and also a splendid bouquet for his ever patient wife in appreciation of their longstanding dedication to a task at the core of the Company's activities.

Bob Clarke, the Awards Committee's 'Man in the West' also retired after many years of travelling from Pembroke Dock.



Innovation Travel Award

This year the winner of the Innovation Travel Award is Aaron Morton.

Aaron is currently at the School of Management, Cardiff Metropolitan University, where he is studying Creative Leadership and Enterprise. He is demonstrating his own enterprise, funding his studies while running his own Training and Fitness Business where he works, one to one, with clients.

The award will enable him to travel to New York where he hopes to gain broader experience in the management and operation of exclusive health and fitness clubs, particularly for online, local and corporate clients and members.



Liveryman Keith Shankland presenting Innovation Travel Award to Aaron Morton

Congratulations and thanks to Graeme and Bob

Schools Awards

Mikaela Virtucio hopes to become a nurse. Her Award, presented by Junior Warden, Dr Kathy Seddon at the St Joseph's Newport Awards evening, reflects both her determination to fulfil her ambition and the excellence of her performance in gaining entry to a professional training place.



Liveryman Dr Kathy Seddon presenting award to Mikaela Virtucio

Maeve Courtier-Lilly is a multi-talented student at Penglais School, Aberystwyth. An actor, singer and dancer who is using her award to support herself while following a course at the National Youth Theatre. She has shown great determination in pursuit of her ambition to perform. She has also represented her school in competitions, performed in and directed school shows, and won medals at the Eisteddfod. Hers is surely a name to look out for in the future.

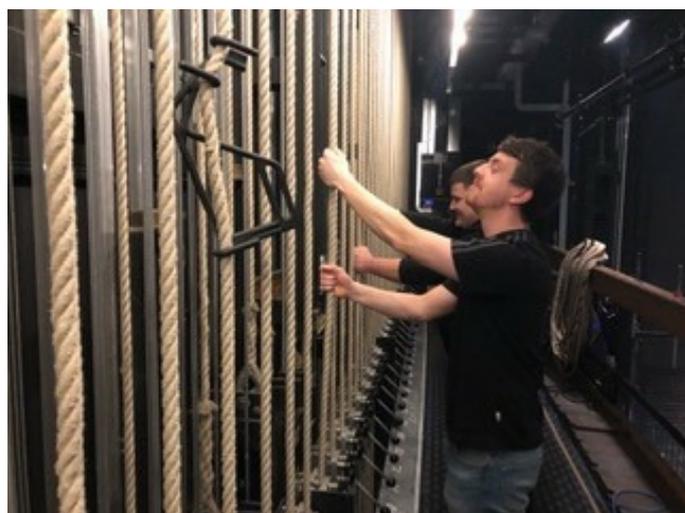


Liveryman Simon Holt presenting award to Maeve Courtier-Lilly

Past Master Keith Arnold Madeleine Bidder chair of the Awards Committee, Andrew Board, and the Chaplain visited the Millennium Centre to present Certificates to the current cohort of Theatre Apprentices: Keisha Peet (WMC), Lewis Morgan (WMC), Jamie Line (Theatr Mwldan) and Connor Owens (Theatr Clwyd), who are all the members of the current course in 'behind the scenes theatrical skills'. The financial element of the award will be used to purchase necessary, behind the scenes, protective clothing.



Liverymen and apprentices were given a backstage technical tour of the Centre by the Technical Director, Martin Hunt. A great deal of hard, unsung work goes on behind the scenes, unnoticed by audiences but essential to the success of the performances they admire. Hauling on ropes and shifting scenery might be unglamorous but it is essential and skilled work that should never be overlooked by those sitting comfortably 'front of house'.



The London Group's Autumn Dinner at the Army & Navy Club, London on 16 November 2018



Key note speaker, Murray Craig, Chief Clerk of the Chamberlain's Court



Major Paul Skelton-Stroud, guide for the tour of the Army & Navy Club



The Master and dinner guests

For your Diary

- March 23** Treorchy MVC, St German's Church, 7pm/ 02920 252993
- April 30** Lecture: Robert Falcon Scott Howell's School, by Diane Preston - FDidc
- May 9-12** Away weekend Bruges
- July 7** Garden Party Hensol Castle
- Sept 26** Awards Ceremony and Dinner

Christmas quiz answers

1. The coming
2. Germany
3. 10 Lords a'leaping
4. Fanny Bright
5. 1951/2
6. Oval with meat
- 7 St Winifrid's choir
8. 6 December
- 9 1841
- 10 Hogmanay