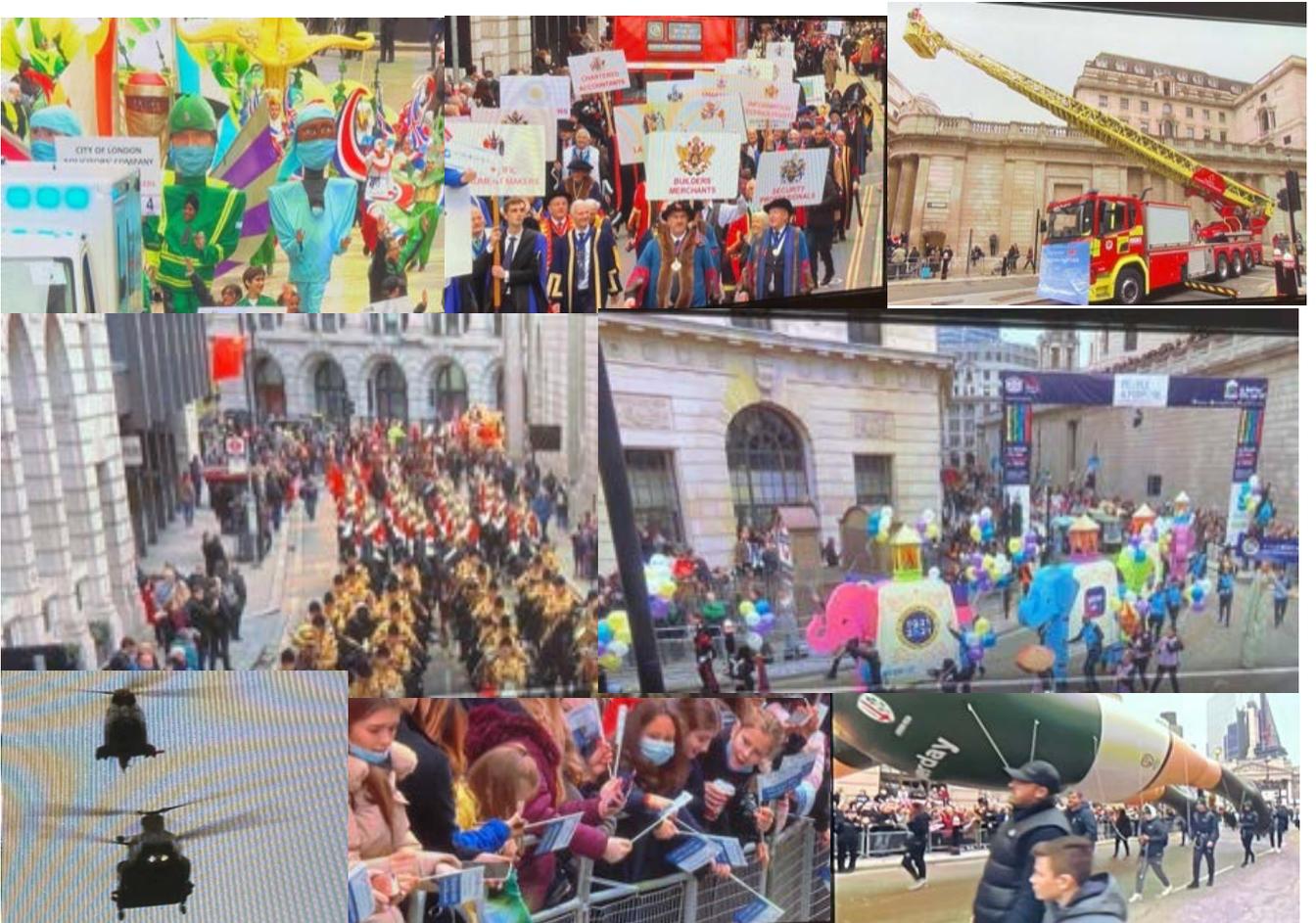


THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW

What a day! The Worshipful Livery Company of Wales was delighted to be invited to take part in the historic and prestigious Lord Mayor's Show on Saturday 13th November 2021 celebrating **Alderman Vincent Keaveny becoming the 693rd Lord Mayor of the City of London.**



The Show dates back to the early 13th century, when King John allowed the City of London to appoint its own Mayor. He insisted that each newly elected Mayor should come to Westminster and swear loyalty to the Crown, and the Lord Mayor of the City of London has been making that journey for over 800 years! This year saw 128 floats parade from Guildhall to the Royal Courts of Justice which included full sized model elephants, Japanese drummers, horse drawn coaches and the tallest fire engine in Europe! After last year's show was cancelled due to Covid-19, it was wonderful to see so many Livery Companies and organisations represented at this spectacular display of pomp and pageantry and to see the streets of the City of London lined with crowds of people. It was estimated that there were more than half a million people, with millions more viewing this 'carnival' on television. A spectacular fly past by a Chinook Puma and C-17 at the marked the start of the celebration of the election of the 693rd Lord Mayor of the City of London. A giant inflatable Irish rugby player balloon also wowed the crowds.



We all gathered at the London Wall, near the Museum of London for the start of the procession. We were part of the **'modern livery companies'** (post 1926 creations) and received a warm welcome from the other Companies present. When we chatted with some of the Companies present we noted that we had members in common including the Arbitrators (Agnes Xavier-Phillips) the Actuaries (Huw Wynne-Griffith) the Playing cards (Lawrence Day) and the Scientific Instrument Makers (David Townsley-Hughes). The Modern Livery Companies were really interested in the WLCow and some asked about joining us.



The Liverymen who had the honour of partaking in this great tradition were the Master, Kathy Seddon, Past Master Geoff Hughes and Court Assistant Henry Gilbert. The Welsh contingent were sandwiched between two horse drawn carriages and had to



navigate very carefully between them. We maintained a sprightly pace to avoid being trampled by the frisky horses bringing up the rear! The procession went down Fleet Street and as we passed the Mansion House balcony, the Mayoral Party spotted the three Welsh Liverymen representing the Company among the 7,000 participants who took part in this year's three-mile procession, We drew loud cheers when we were recognised not only for our Livery but also for the Principality as a whole!





The west end musical Back to the Future was brought to the Lord Mayor's Show when the lead singer drove the DeLorean time travel machine and parked it in front of the Mansion House, jumped out of the machine and gave a rendition of the song * **The Power of Love**” which certainly entertained the crowds and the Mayoral Party.



We had lunch on board HQS Wellington, courtesy of the Honourable Company of Master Mariners (informally referred to as the “father of modern liveries”) We were warmly received by their Master Commander L.A. Chapman BEng MBA CMMar FNI RN



Our Return journey was disrupted by the Extinction Rebellion protestors causing a short delay in the wonderful day



It was a joyous occasion, and we finished the day by the Lord Mayor's splendid coach. the oldest ceremonial vehicle in the world still in regular use.

