

# The Lanthorn

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF  
TIN PLATE WORKERS ALIAS WIRE WORKERS

Issue No 24 2024



The Master and Jean Spencer. Photo: Sharp Photography

## The Master writes ...

In 1915 my Grandfather became an apprentice at Johnson and Playfair Wire Manufacturers in Sheffield. The company produced patent and plough steel rope wires, as well as high strain steel wire. The advent of the Second World War saw him move to Brealey and Company. The company was well known for production of bright wire for all purposes. In addition, my Grandfather was proud to be an official in the Amalgamated Union of Wire drawers. The union was the oldest trade union operating in the wire industry, founded in 1840.

His love of the industry inspired me to become a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Tinplate Workers Alias Wire Workers. That was some twenty-one years ago.

Taking on the mantle of Master for 2024-2025 has meant following on from John Swain. He is to be congratulated on a wonderful year with many memorable highlights. John was ably supported by his wife Wendy. I am fortunate to have the support of Jean, who is already making a difference as Consort. This includes participating in several events in her own right, as well as joining me in a wide range of activities on behalf of our Company.

Jean and I hope we are reflecting the Company's motto, which translated from Latin is 'Be United in Love.'

Since the Installation, we have spread our Company love in various ways. Examples include: participating in the Pan Livery Walk of Livery Halls of the City of London; raising funds for British Red Cross by being 'Gaoled and Bailed' at the Tower of London; and riding in an open top double decker London bus in the Lord Mayor's Show. There have been poignant engagements such as Remembrance Services at St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey; and listening to first account stories from those who have benefitted from the Scar Free Foundation (of which our Company was a major benefactor). It has been wonderful to witness traditional occasions such as The Silent Ceremony; and the Quill Pen luncheon. There is so much going on in London's vibrant Square Mile.

Jean and I are overwhelmed by the support of the Livery Company. Thank you for your kindness so far. We look forward to the coming months and the promise of further opportunities to evidence that we are all part of a thriving Livery Company with meaningful links to the tin plate and wire working industries.

*Martin is involved in various organisations including local branches of the Royal British Legion, Armed Forces Veterans' Association, the RSPCA, and President of a Choir and Brass Band. He is a Magistrate and Chairman of the Bench. He also serves on two Tribunal Boards.*

*A keen football fan, he is a member of the National Football League's Board of Directors. A campaigner for the Deaf community, Martin was awarded an MBE for services to the Deaf. He is appointed to the Government's BSL Advisory Board.*

*A career in Education included eighteen years as a Headteacher. He served as East Midlands Regional President of the National Association of Headteachers, in addition to County President. Martin is a Governor in three schools.*

*Supporting his year as Master is Jean Spencer. Martin and Jean have been together for thirty-two years. Jean worked as a full-time teacher and is now retired. She enjoys walking, reading, theatre and music.*

## 2025 DATES FOR THE DIARY

13<sup>th</sup> March: Rouledge Dinner (Watermen's Hall)

28<sup>th</sup> March: United Guilds' Service (St Paul's Cathedral)

10<sup>th</sup> April: Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch

16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May: Master's Weekend (Peak District)

23<sup>rd</sup> May: Court Dinner (Apothecaries' Hall)

22<sup>nd</sup> July: Installation Banquet (Mansion House)

14<sup>th</sup> October: Court Dinner (Cutlers' Hall)

2<sup>nd</sup> December: Carol Service & Court Dinner (Goldsmiths' Hall)



## Officers for 2024/25



L to R: The Deputy Master (John Swain), the Upper Warden (Captain Chris Groves RN, ret.), the Master (Much Honoured Baron of Fetternear MBE) and the Under Warden (Elizabeth Bonfield), July 2024.  
Photo: Sharp Photography

## New Court Assistants

**Norman Knight** joined The Metal Box Company in 1960, and worked for the same company and its successors until his retirement in 2004. In 1989 he moved to the UK Head Office as Technical Director of the Food Packaging Business. During this assignment the company merged with a French based packing company, leading to the creation of CarnaudMetalbox. He completed his career as Quality Director, responsible for harmonising quality and manufacturing standards across Europe. Norman joined the Livery in 2021 and his partner, Jan Roach, became a Liveryman in July 2024. They live in Chipping Campden.

**Mark Scrivens** has been a member of the Company since 1997, following in the footsteps of his father Dil, and this is his second term on the Court. He works in the technology sector and is currently the UK CEO for the largest tech company in Vietnam. It has been fascinating to hear their current Ambassador to the UK describe how the Corporation of the City of London is so admired around the world. Outside work Mark is a keen sportsman, and was delighted that his wife Julie became a Liveryman in 2024.



**Greg Sergeant** was introduced to the Company by his friend Liveryman Mark Scrivens. He was admitted to the Freedom of the Company on the same day as Margaret Thatcher's funeral: the ceremony had been planned for a room in Guildhall, but tight security made that impossible and the venue was changed to the nearest park bench outside the cordon. He has spent his career in the hospitality industry and is currently the Customer Experience Manager for Star Pubs. He and his wife Sarah live in Ashted with their two children, Molly and Henry.

**Sarah Washington** was introduced to the Company by her late Uncle, Tony Cope, and joined the Livery in 2010. She lives in Berkshire with her husband Francis and their daughter Ellie. Before becoming a full-time mother, she was PA to the MD of an internet service provider. She is an active member of her local Rock Choir, and in August performed at the Edinburgh Fringe for the second time. Francis is newly retired, and they both look forward to lots of travelling and a return to more arty pastimes.



Norman, Sarah and Mark

## We welcome to the Livery:

Since the last edition of *The Lanthorn* we have been pleased to welcome twelve new Liverymen.

**Dr Fred Cooper**

**John Ash**

**Dolores Bray-Ash MBE, JP**

**Paul Clunn**

**Julian Hickey** (re-admitted)

**Dan Horton**

**Dame Julie Kenny DBE, DL**

**Sarah Lancaster**

**Jan Roach**

**David Sawyer**

**Julie Scrivens**

**Sharyn Wortman**



New Liverymen and Freeman, July 2024:  
Paul Clunn, Jan Roach, Julie Scrivens, Dolores Bray-Ash, Sharyn Wortman and John Ash



New Liverymen, October 2024: David Sawyer, Dame Julie Kenny and Julian Hickey

During the year we have also been pleased to admit **Yeoman Siân Evans, Steve Fetteroll, Yeoman James Curry, Andrew Eddy** and **Yeoman Patricia Mato-Mora** to the Freedom of the Company. It is so encouraging to see our Yeomen (prize-winners past and present) progress their membership within the Company.



New Freeman, October 2024: Siân Evans, Patricia Mato-Mora, Andrew Eddy and James Curry

As we report elsewhere, we have also been delighted to welcome many of our prize-winners as Yeomen.

All Liverymen are actively encouraged to propose new applicants:

- There is no Admission Fee for joining.
- Liverymen who propose someone not a family member may claim a free Dinner when the Liveryman is admitted.



# A Master's Year

by John Swain, Master 2023-24

How do you sum up a year with so many highlights?

Firstly a big thank you to my predecessor Erica Stary who introduced me to other incoming Masters, some of whom have become good friends. She also gave me guidance on what was important/interesting/could miss etc., in the City. No one can do the Master's job without help from the Clerk, and Neil kept me on track throughout. Our Wardens in my year, Martin and Chris, were supportive and always available when needed.

We are lucky as a Livery to have such committed committees and all led by enthusiastic chairmen. The Education, Enterprise and Charities Committee met regularly and donated £72,000 in my year. The Membership and Communications Committee worked hard on various initiatives, and their efforts to recruit Yeomen is excellent. A highlight was the first Yeoman Social, sponsored by David Henderson-Begg's company. Thanks are due also to those who serve on the Finance and Investment Committee, the Nominations Committee and the GPC.

I was privileged to attend the Mansion House dinner to welcome The King and Queen to their first City visit of their reign. This dinner is only held after a Coronation, so this was the first one for 70 years. I was also proud to represent the Company at various judging and presentation events, including visits to Loughborough University, Rolls-Royce in Derby, and the British Art Medal Society awards in Birmingham.

We had the Master's Weekend early in my year and that was a good decision. The weather was fantastic and an eye-opening spectacular viewing of the Kynren pageant, the guest speakers, visits to Beamish and the Bowes Museum and a coach visit around the North East was enjoyed by 42 members and guests.

I hope everyone has enjoyed our speakers as I had chosen them to be thought provoking. Richard Caborn on how we won the Olympic bid, Diane Betts on the importance of social mobility; prevention of online fraud by Ian Dyson; and finally my pal Hugh Facey on the value of employee-owned businesses. On the same evening that Hugh spoke we were very pleased to admit Steve Fetteroll (Executive Director of Wire Association International in the USA) as a Freeman: for many years Steve has done so much to support the Wire Link Scholarship programme that we run each year with WAI. On your behalf I accepted invitations from the Pattenmakers, Ironmongers, Entrepreneurs, Wheelwrights, Gardeners and Blacksmiths. I must mention the Needlemakers as they had a kitchen power cut. Their Master really thought on his feet: it was dessert first, followed by the speaker, and finally the steaks – cooked in an adjacent restaurant.

Our social events visits were memorable, not least the Buckingham Palace Garden Party, hosted by the Prince of Wales in the most appalling weather. The other notable events were the Remembrance Service at St Paul's, the United Guilds Service and the Installation of the Lord Mayor, all enjoyed with many other Livery Company Masters.

I wanted to make our Rouledge Dinner an evening to remember, and I think the appearance of the "D Day Darlings" ticked that box. I hosted the Audit Dinner at Gunmakers' Hall, much enjoyed by the Past Masters present. The trip to the modern Wire company Estate Wire in Sheffield and the visit to the newly-restored Wentworth Woodhouse stately home in South Yorkshire were other highlights of my year.

I had to step back a little during the early part of this year due to Wendy having an eight-week stay in hospital recovering from an infection. I am glad to say she has fully recovered and she was absolutely delighted and proud to receive the Certificate of Appreciation from the Court for her year as Consort.

I look forward to the next few years and wish Martin, Chris and Elizabeth all the very best for what I know will be an enjoyable experience. I end with one final offering from my well-used book of jokes: two of my fellow Yorkshiremen were eating their own sandwiches in a pub. Landlord says, "you can't eat your own sandwiches in here", so they swapped sarnies!



With Grace Wilson and Lanjie Chen (Central Saint Martins prize-winners) at Vintners' Hall, April 2024



John and Wendy on their way to the Buckingham Palace Garden Party, May 2024



## Visit to South Yorkshire

In February the Master kindly arranged a fascinating visit to the ArcelorMittal factory in Sheffield. We saw at first-hand how they make barbed wire and the stock-proof fencing to keep livestock in. Another highlight was seeing the two-inch steel fibres they create, which are used to strengthen concrete, not least in tunnels. The business had been created back in 1984 by Hugh Facey, whom we were delighted to welcome as our guest speaker at our April Court Dinner.

We then went on to Wentworth Woodhouse near Rotherham, which has the longest front of any stately home in England, where we enjoyed a hearty Yorkshire lunch and then a guided tour of the principal rooms. The house achieved notoriety after WW2 when the new Labour government allowed opencast mining right up to the front of the building. It is now being brought back to life by a charitable trust, chaired by one of our newest liverymen, Dame Julie Kenny DBE.



Visit to ArcelorMittal in Sheffield



Drinks at Wentworth Woodhouse

## Golf

In 2024 we participated in the same three Livery golf days as in the past few years. The emphasis is on companionship and excellent hospitality, which is combined with friendly inter-Livery rivalry and played on some great golf courses.

In April we played our annual 6-a-side match against the Horners and the Actuaries at Burnham Beeches Golf Club. Struggling to make our numbers, we invited two regular guests to our Dinners (hopefully soon to become members of the Livery) to join Maura and Robert Spencer, Peter Wilkinson and myself. Regrettably, even the inclusion of “ringers” did not prevent us from coming 3<sup>rd</sup> but I am very keen to raise our game next year as we will be the organisers of this golf day.

The main event in the Livery golfing calendar is the Prince Arthur Cup, played over 36 holes at Walton Heath Golf Club in May, and we were represented by Ian Chamberlain, Alex Stuart-Bamford, Matt Sykes and myself. We finished 12<sup>th</sup> out of the 42 Livery Companies that took part – a very creditable performance.

Our final event was The Horners’ Trophy held at Ashridge Golf Club in June, and we were represented by

Nick Mullen, Jason Powell, Peter Wilkinson and myself. This is a really enjoyable day, involving about 20 Livery Companies, and we finished comfortably in the top half.

As always, I am very keen to hear from any golfers new to the Livery or existing Livery members new to golf. We are already confirmed for the three events above in 2025 and other Livery golf days are available. If you are interested please contact me directly at [m.kempner@btinternet.com](mailto:m.kempner@btinternet.com)

Past Assistant Michael Kempner



Our team at The Horners’ trophy: Michael Kempner, Nick Mullen, Jason Powell and Peter Wilkinson



The winning team in the Livery Companies’ Golf Tournament held this week. – Left to right: Lt-Col. C. W. Allpass, T.D., Mr. N. V. Chamberlain, Lt-Col. J. H. Johnson (Captain) and Mr. D. L. Stammers.

Our winning team in 1954

## 70 years of hurt

Whilst supporters of the English men’s football team have been waiting 58 years to see a win at a major world event, this is nothing to the 70 years that the Tin Plate Workers have been waiting for a 2nd win of the Prince Arthur of Connaught Golf Cup. 2024 marked the 70th anniversary of our winning the Cup: 29 Companies competed, and we have basked in this glory ever since!



## The Yeomanry goes from strength to strength

Since 2019 we have invited all our prize-winners to stay in contact with the Company by becoming a Yeoman. This year around 35 of our latest prize-winners took up this invitation, and we now have more than seventy Yeomen. There is no charge for membership in the first year. It gives our prize-winners an opportunity to learn something about us, and



*The Yeoman Meet, April 2024*

the chance to engage with each other. They represent a wonderfully diverse group, from Materials Science undergrads and postgrads to Art students who use non-precious metals in their work, as well as former Metals Apprentice winners who now work with metals in their jobs. The common link is metals.

In April we hosted our first-ever Yeoman Meet at a Bar near St Paul's. Around twenty Yeomen came along, joined by members of the Company, and a good time was had by all. It was humbling to see the distances that some had travelled just for the occasion (and the chance of a free lunch). We welcomed past Materials Science prize-winners from the Universities of Brunel, Cambridge, City, Imperial, Manchester, Sheffield and Swansea, together with former Arts students from Central Saint Martins and the Royal College of Art.

We are very grateful for the external sponsorship received for the Meet, and we look forward to Round Two in 2025.

As we report elsewhere, it is also extremely gratifying that several Yeomen are now taking the opportunity to progress their membership within the Company, whether as Freemen or Liverymen. Onwards and upwards!

## HMS Anson

Since 2018 the Company has been affiliated with HMS Anson, the Royal Navy's fifth Astute Class, nuclear-powered submarine. The Under Warden and the Clerk enjoyed a tour aboard during the summer. Its Captain, **Ian Critchley**, reports:-

A milestone year, 2024 has seen HMS Anson complete a comprehensive Sea Trials package off the US Eastern seaboard, conduct scheduled maintenance and onto sea operations. Sea trials underpin future success on operations. The trials period culminated in conducting Anson's first ever weapons firings ahead of returning to her home port in HMNB Clyde for scheduled maintenance.

Before returning, Anson provided a memorable opportunity for the crew's families that are key to any unit's success. Off the coast of Scotland, they saw first-hand how their loved ones lived and operated when away from home. For some, they had never truly considered the proximity in which 138 crew members live and work, or realised that there are beds next to torpedoes in the



*The Master with HMS Anson Best Trainee of the Year, Sub Lt Duncan Bell RN (April 2024)*

Weapon Stowage Compartment!

The maintenance period saw key system upgrades across the boat. Of note, the installation of more efficient Reverse Osmosis Plants for the Marine Engineers, whilst for the Weapon Engineers overhauled the Tactical Land Attack Missile System.

Anson then moved onto Operational Sea Training where she simulated the full spectrum of warfighting against real life assets from UK and NATO including submarines, Maritime Patrol Aircraft and warships. The Ship's Company met the challenge head on, successfully passing the Operational Readiness Assessment for the first time in the boat's history.

Now ready for operations, Anson is looking forward to whatever 2025 brings...



*Off the East coast of the USA*



# 2024: What the Livery is all about: Good Fellowship



The Lord Mayor's Show



Good company at Vintners' Hall



Passing the Loving Cup



The Sheep Drive on Southwark Bridge



Yeoman Jack Ovington receives our City and Guilds prize from the Lord Mayor



An enjoyable evening out



Welcoming guests from other Companies



Fine dining at Mansion House



Welcoming new members



Inspiring music from Roberta Mascia on the Celtic Harp



Keeping in touch by Zoom



Cherishing our history



## 2024: What the Livery is all about: a chance to support Education and Charity

One of the greatest joys of being a Liveryman is having the opportunity to ‘give something back’. In our own archives we have examples of charitable giving dating back to 1780. Our charitable funds are properly invested for the long term to secure a decent return, and each year our Liverymen are encouraged to make donations to the Fund. Gifts from UK taxpayers may be eligible for Gift Aid on top. In 2004 a substantial donation was made to the Fund by the Chamberlain Foundation, established by Past Master Leslie Chamberlain, and each year at our Rouledge Dinner we rightly honour the memory of all our generous benefactors. We are also extremely grateful for support from the Simon Gibson Charitable Trust.

Between 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024 the Fund made grants in excess of £72,000. The focus was split equally between promoting Education & Enterprise and Metals in the Arts (£36,000) and supporting our nominated Charities in the City of London and surrounding areas. Our relationships with many of these universities and charities go back decades. In pages 8 to 13 we highlight our links with several of these over the past year, and we celebrate the opportunity we have as Liverymen to ‘make a difference’.

### Annual Special Award winner 2024

### Addiction Family Support



### Education & Enterprise (prizes and travel grants)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Cambridge University                                | Loughborough University                  |
| Canon Barnett School                                | Manchester University (with Rolls-Royce) |
| Cardiff University                                  | Metals Industry Apprentices              |
| Chamberlain Enterprise Project (Brunel PhD Project) | Sheffield University                     |
| City & Guilds of London Institute                   | Swansea University                       |
| City University Travelling Scholarships             | Thomas Fairchild School                  |
| Guildhall School of Music and Drama                 | Wire Link Travelling Scholarship         |
| Imperial College (with Rolls-Royce)                 |  |

### Charities

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Army Benevolent Fund                    | Mansion House Scholarship scheme |
| BRAKE                                   | Mudchute Inner City Farm         |
| Connection at St Martin’s in the Fields | Royal British Legion             |
| First City of London Scout Group        | St Margaret’s, Lothbury          |
| Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust           | St Paul’s Cathedral              |
| Jamal Edwards Delve                     | Scar Free Foundation             |
| Lord Mayor’s Charity                    | Sheriffs’ & Recorder’s Fund      |
| Lumi Foundation                         |                                  |

### Metals in the Arts

- British Art Medal Society
- Central Saint Martins Jewellery Competition
- Royal College of Art



## University Project Awards

Since 2002 our Charity Fund has been sponsoring Materials Science awards at Loughborough University. We extended this to Sheffield University in 2019 and Cambridge University in 2019/20. The students all work in groups of about five people. After undertaking laboratory or other investigative work each group prepares a written report on the specific topic set by the University. Each group is then required to make a live presentation to our judging panel which, together with the University Staff, select a Best Presentation and a Best Project. The student groups also produce a poster to describe their project in words and pictures. Several have since joined us as Yeomen.

- At **Cambridge University** the competition among the 3<sup>rd</sup> year Materials Science students took place in May. Working in teams, they were asked to make a new ferrous alloy that reached certain technical standards. Our three judges were Bev Page (co-ordinator), Dr Trevor Crichton and Lindsay Millington, and they were impressed by everything they saw. The Best Presentation winners were Ismail Chishti, Hannah Cox, Stephen Fajemilusi and Rijuta Jeswani. The Best Poster winners were James Cowie, Kitty Joyce, Ned Loveridge and Jiali Lu.



Cambridge prize-winners

- At **Loughborough University** we sponsored an MEng group award for the second time. The winning groups comprised Judith Gibitz, Adam Gray, Jake Owen, Alex Redhead, Alexi Spyrou (Project title: Self-healing materials for stealth vehicles) and Ollie Herring, Sam Hinchley, Precious Olaofe, Siobhan Sugrue, Michelle Ylarde.



Cambridge Best Poster team



Sheffield prize-winners

- At **Sheffield University** a total of 52 students took part in their competition in May, in groups of five or six. Each group was given a different Artefact to examine. The judging panel of Bev Page and Norman Knight awarded the Best Project prize to Kshitij Chawhan, Anna Beesley, Ngaau Saan Leung, Harvey Pallent and Elias Acevedo.



## Apprentice of the Year Awards

This was the 25<sup>th</sup> year of our Metals Apprentice of the Year Awards, once again ably organised by Elizabeth Bonfield and assisted by Martin Thacker of Fetternear, Darrell Fox and Angela Taylor. Our trade association partners again promoted the Awards widely, which recognise apprentices who have made exceptional progress in their careers to date in the metals industry. This year we had the largest number of applicants to date. The finalists were interviewed at Cutlers' Hall in Sheffield, and the prize-winners received their certificates from the Master at Vintners' Hall on the occasion of our April Court Dinner. Elizabeth writes:

### Daniel Baston (William Hare Limited, Newport) won our 2024 Craft Skills Award.

His presentation was excellent, captivating the judges with his story as a mature apprentice choosing a new career in metals.

### Amelia Dartnall (JCB, Uttoxeter) won the 2024 Career Development Award.

A worthy runner-up in 2023, her presentation blew the judges away, based on impressive work around ultrasonic weld testing in heavy products.



Daniel Baston



Amelia Dartnall

**"I'm very proud to be considered for this award"**

An Apprentice runner-up

Runners-up included Dylan Clark from Murray Plate Group in Sheffield, Ethan Moorhouse from Severfield in Bridlington, and Connor McCarthy from William Hare Limited in Scarborough.

## Wire Link International Exchange

Since the year 2000 we have co-sponsored with Wire Association International an exchange scheme scholarship with US and UK wire manufacturers. Each year this enables a young manager from the wire industry to visit a trade show and wire manufacturing companies for two weeks on the other side of the Atlantic. This year's scholar was **Avery Caraker** from Prysium in Illinois. Avery writes:



Avery with the Master and Freeman Steve Fetterroll at the April Court Dinner

I was thrilled when I found out that I had been selected as the 2024 Wire Link Scholar. The trip started with a flight to Frankfurt in Germany, and straight off to Niehoff Group site in Schwabach, Germany. I saw the manufacturing and set-up for testing of a wide range of machinery, including rod breakdown machines and multi-wire lines.

Then to Düsseldorf for the week-long wire trade show. It proved to be a stunning experience. Messe Düsseldorf

is one of the largest such facilities in the world, and the wire show - held every other year - was its largest ever. There were more than 1,500 exhibitors from 60 countries, a reminder of just how vast the wire and cable industry is, let alone the co-located sister show for the tube sector. I had never even thought about the various wire applications outside of nonferrous medium voltage cable. Here, I saw technology for many other manufacturing applications, including spring coiling machines and wire bending machines.

Then to the UK. Highlights included the Company's April Court Dinner at Vintners' Hall on the Friday evening, to be followed two days later by my first-ever fish and chips lunch. Many visits followed - Prysmian's Bishopstoke plant, JCB in Uttoxeter, dinner in Chesterfield, Siddall & Hilton to see the manufacturing of welded mesh, Gripple, and Bridon-Bekaert. I am so grateful to everyone for arranging these visits and making me feel so welcome.

*The Wire Link Travelling Scholarship was an experience I will never forget.*

**Avery Caraker**



Avery visiting the Prysium Plant in Bishopstoke



## Supporting Inner City Primary Schools

For more than twenty years we have supported projects at two Primary Schools in London – Thomas Fairchild School and Canon Barnett School. Liveryman Adam Baker writes:-

As part of the City of London Schools charity donations programme, this summer we funded a school trip for Years 3-6 at Thomas Fairchild School. 115 children and 20 staff took the train to Chalkwell Beach for the day, near Southend on Sea. Matt Trahair, Head of Thomas Fairchild School, sent the following feedback:

Thank you for funding our trip to the beach. It is greatly appreciated by the whole school community! The children enjoyed a wonderful day full of beach games, rock-pool exploring, paddling and splashing, alfresco lunch and a delicious ice cream for each child was a real highlight. It was wonderful to see all the children enjoying themselves during a traditional day at the seaside. For many of the children, this was their first experience of going to the beach and they were extremely grateful for the experience. One child stated that this had been, without doubt, “the best day ever”.



## Travel Awards, 2024

Since the 1990s we have awarded bursaries to enable graduate students at City University to present their research at international conferences.



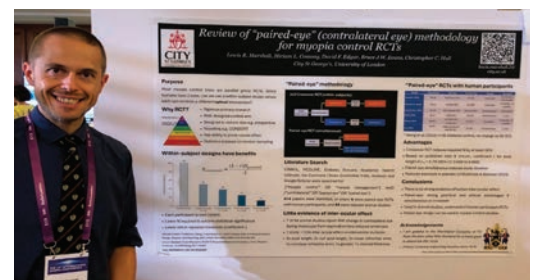
The judges and prize-winners

understanding of the role of spectacle lenses. We are publishing on the potential to use a paired-eye research design to directly compare two types of myopia control spectacle lenses, avoiding the need to prescribe a ‘placebo’ lens, or a time-intensive crossover phase.

Since 2010 we have awarded similar travel grants to students undertaking Rolls-Royce sponsored research at a range of universities.

This year saw the interview panel (the Master, Past Assistant John O’Shea and Liveryman Nick O’Shea) awarding the main bursary to **Lewis Marshall**, enabling him to present a paper at the 19<sup>th</sup> International Myopia Conference 2024 in Sanya City, Hainan, China. Other travel bursaries were awarded to **Sajni Bohra** and **Aiman Hafeez**. A practising optometrist, Lewis writes:

Myopia is an urgent public health topic because of the risk of eye health complications and because the incidence of myopia is exploding. My project will contribute to the



Lewis Marshall



Chris Burgess, Wendy Swain, the Master, Bev Page and Mary Burgess at Rolls-Royce

In March the Imperial College and Manchester University (Best in Class Students Year of 2023) awards were made at Rolls-Royce in Derby. The Master presented our awards to **Sam McAlister** and **Sam Duff** (Manchester) and to **Sami Kibal** and **Benedikt Schultes** (Imperial).

*The chance to present to this audience was enabled only by the generosity of the Company, and has proved to be an invaluable educational experience for me. I remain overwhelmed that the Company chose to support my journey to China, and I aim to repay my deep gratitude to you in the fullness of time –*  
**Yeoman Lewis Marshall**



## Central Saint Martins Jewellery

This year our annual Harold Hobbs Awards for 2<sup>nd</sup> Years following the tin plate and jewellery project option attracted 38 entries. The judging panel comprising John O’Shea, Nick O’Shea, Leigh Jones and Carolyn Hobbs had its work cut out. First prize was awarded to **Grace Wilson**, while **Lea Saban** came second. **Haley Shim** and **Soloman Olutayo** won the Commendation prizes. The work book award went to **Lanjie Chen**. We were pleased to welcome several of the prize-winners to our Court Dinner at Vintners’ Hall in April.

**Johnnie St John Day** was the winner of this year’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Year prize for jewellery using non-precious metalwork.



The judging panel and 2nd Year finalists



Grace Wilson’s winning entry, “London Brick

*Thank you so much for coming to visit today, and for your fantastic continuous support for our students. We had a wonderful morning spent with you reviewing the work.*

## Royal College of Art

Many congratulations to this year’s excellent prize-winners from the Royal College of Art. First prize went to **Tatiana German** and **Katya Bosky** came second. The Merit Prize was won by **Nancy Greenleaf**. We are very pleased to welcome Katya as a Yeoman.

The photo shows Katya’s sculpture installation “A Story”, which expresses her feelings and thoughts through Christian visual language (angels).



Katya Bosky

A Story

## Student Art Medal Prize

Our British Art Medal Society Student Medal Project prize for 2024 went to **Morven Aird** from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design at the University of Dundee. Entitled Tidal Trash, the idea came from Morven’s dismay at seeing the amount of litter washing up on once pristine beaches. One side shows the beach from afar, ostensibly okay, the reverse side shows a close-up of plastic debris she encountered. The beach scene was created by carving plaster and adding a mixture of wax, stones and sand to create texture.

The BAMS Project was again organised by its Secretary, Liveryman Marcy Leavitt Bourne; it aims to teach the skills of casting, from design to finished bronze medal, using the lost-wax process.



The Master and Wendy Swain with Mary Leavitt Bourne at the Birmingham School of Jewellery for the BAMS prize-giving



Morven Aird, ‘Tidal Trash’, obverse



Reverse



## Fourth Chamberlain Enterprise Research Project

*The Chamberlain Research Project is named in memory of Leslie Chamberlain (Master in 1959-60), a highly successful entrepreneur. In 2004 the Chamberlain Foundation gifted £500,000 to our Charity Fund, encouraging a new focus on enterprise, technical innovation and entrepreneurship. We have since sponsored four PhD students working on groundbreaking materials research.*

The current PhD student is **Fateme Amirkhanlu** of Brunel University. She writes:

My PhD journey has been going well, and I'm currently in my third year. The experience has been enjoyable, as I've been conducting comprehensive experiments while advancing my research. My work focuses on developing high-performance aluminium alloys tailored for additive manufacturing using laser powder bed fusion technology. Collaborating with the Livery Company and our commercial partner has been a significant part of this journey. Together, we have successfully completed ten quarterly review meetings, which have been excellent opportunities to share progress, gain valuable feedback, and refine our approach. These reviews not only reflect the progress of my research but also underscore the strong partnership and shared vision driving the success of this project.



Fateme

## 2024 Internship at Tinmasters



Tim Williams

*For several years we have sponsored an annual internship at Tinmasters in Swansea, an 8-10 week summer placement for a Materials Science and Engineering undergraduate from Swansea University. Tinmasters (previously Afon Tinplate) produces coated and printed tin-plate and is the largest independent metal printer in the UK. The internship is generously supported by the Simon Gibson Charitable Trust.*

This year's internship was awarded to **Tim Williams**. Awards were also given to the runners-up, **Benshuai Tan** and **Toby Hodges**, enabling them to enable them to undertake short-term work placements organised by the University. Tim writes:

My project was to analyse the make-ready performance on all the major production lines on the shop floor, with the aim of finding ways to help maximise operational speed and efficiency. This involved identifying the process steps as well as the time required to complete the different steps.

What I enjoyed the most was learning how a sheet of tinfoil can be transformed into a premium package via a range of coating and printing techniques. Not only this but I loved having a go at making ink in the ink room and learning about the colour matching processes. The science behind it all attracted me the most. Drawing knowledge from my

university modules such as manufacturing technology, functional materials, and polymeric structures, I was able to understand the chemical theory behind how everything works and how they all come together.



## Scar Free Foundation

In October the Master attended an event to celebrate 25 years of the Scar Free Foundation. The charity was founded by the late Liveryman Michael Brough and his colleagues following the fire at King’s Cross Station. In his speech at the event, the Foundation’s CEO made reference to Michael as “an inspirational surgeon.”

There was a moving presentation by Lottie Pollock about her lived experience, which started with a benign tumour treated by Michael Brough. He introduced her to the Foundation. She ended with the rallying phrase of the charity needing ‘Curiosity, Courage and Cash.’

Speeches included one from the Foundation President, Lord Rose of Monewden. He thanked our Charity Fund and Liverymen for our generous support down the years.

The Head of Research provided an update on developments, such as ‘conflict wounds’ and a research partnership with the Invictus Games.



The Master with Lord Rose

## Supporting the Taxi Drivers’ Outing

Once again our Liverymen covered the entire cost of the annual Outing for disadvantaged children organised by the London Taxi Drivers’ Charity for Children. The sun came out as 60 taxis left Canary Wharf for the Hertfordshire Zoo in Broxbourne.



The Outing was started back in 1928. Past Master Peter Wilkinson writes:

It is still an amazing event, carried out with precision and quietness by the Taxi Drivers themselves. Just three children can be a nightmare, and there were 180 with us, all with smiley faces. This is such a worthwhile charity for us to support for as long as they carry on.





## A visit to the Cornish Tin Mining Industry

In January Bev Page, Trevor Crichton and Leigh Jones made a visit to Cornwall to check out the state of the tin mining industry in the county. South Crofty Tin Mine is being brought back to life again after a shut-down lasting some years. They visited Camborne School of Mines in Penryn, which is part of Exeter University, and met some of the students who are studying for the Mining Engineering degree.

Cornish Metals, South Crofty Mine, located just west of Redruth, is part-way through a two-year long programme of pumping water out of the mine to permit full operations to be resumed. Exciting times lie ahead.



*Trevor, Leigh and Bev*

## A visit to a Northamptonshire tinsmith

In May the Clerk and Yeoman Christopher Foster enjoyed a very entertaining visit to the Northamptonshire workshop of Yeoman John Wills. By happy coincidence, one of our earliest members (circa 1688) had hailed from the same county.



*The Clerk, Christopher and John*

Known as “The Copper Elf”, John is a brazier-tinman (also known as a tinsmith); a maker of traditional domestic copper, brass and tinsmith items using hand tools. He has been combining his brazery skills with traditional blacksmithing for ten years for complete heritage metalwork, and creates historic reproductions for museums, educators, reenactors and all other interested people. His copperware and tinware has been used in TV productions including for the History Channel and ITV’s “The Winter King”. In 2022 John had been on a tinsmithing course at the Museum of Making in Derby which our Charity Fund had supported.

## A visit to Colonial Williamsburg

In October Past Master Lindsay Millington spent time with Freeman Steve Delisle, a Master Tinsmith, at his tin plate workshop in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, USA. Steve and his two apprentices use 18<sup>th</sup> Century tools and methods to make a range of products out of tinplated iron, including cups, coffee pots and lanterns



*Tinsmith apprentices with Lindsay and Steve*

– some with horn panes, some pierced to let the light filter through. Colonial Williamsburg is said to be the world’s largest living history museum, presenting over 20 trades in its historic area. We were delighted to welcome Steve and his wife Jacquie to our July 2023 dinner and applaud everything he is doing to preserve the history of tinsmithing across the pond.



*Tinplated products*



## Metal Packaging News

### Lobbying the Government

With the change in Government, it's been a busy year for the MPMA team. Led by Director and Chief Executive Jason Galley, MPMA is lobbying Government departments and MPs on the unintended, negative impact of reforms to create a more sustainable society.

MPMA and our members fully support the Government's goals to improve recycling rates. The proposed approach, however, could see the public switch to packaging materials for beverage, food and household products which are not as easy to recycle as steel and aluminium. We will continue to fight metal's corner.



Jason Galley

### Canned Food UK: CANbassador™ recipes a hit with followers



Theo Michaels

Canned Food UK, an organisation run by MPMA, champions the benefits of canned food. CFUK's recent campaign with TV chef and CANbassador™ Theo Michaels has been a resounding success, gaining widespread interest across social media channels. Theo's six new recipes showcased delicious dishes using this year's must-have kitchen gadgets, such as the air fryer and slow cooker. Fans can try these recipes for themselves by visiting [cannedfood.co.uk](http://cannedfood.co.uk).

Our Ways to Use campaign, a campaign that showcases utilising key canned food ingredients in a multitude of ways, went from strength to strength this year. A standout meal featuring canned crab captured the majority of social media interest. Other featured ingredients included butter beans, raspberries, potatoes, and corned beef.

### Do It With Cans: Easy ways to refresh your rented home

Do It With Cans, promotes the benefits of metal packaging products for DIY and craft projects. In response to the cost-of-living crisis, our Easy Ways to Refresh a Rented House campaign offered renters budget-friendly DIY ideas to enhance their homes without permanent changes. Featuring tutorials like a bathroom cabinet glow-up, shabby chic furniture painting, custom wall mural, DIY command centre, and jute runner rug, the campaign inspired creativity while keeping costs low.



DIY Command Centre

### And the winner is...

Roberts Metal Packaging and Ardagh Metal Packaging took the top awards in the 'Metal Pack of the Year' category sponsored by MPMA at the UK Packaging Awards.

Daisy Drops tins, created for Marc Jacobs by Roberts Metal Packaging, secured 'Metal Pack of the Year - Decorative and General Line' and Ardagh Metal Packaging was announced the winner of the 'Metal Pack of the Year - High Volume Food and Beverage' category for its Tango Mango can for Britvic UK.

Only a few weeks later, Roberts Metal Packaging scooped the metal packaging

industry's highest recognition – the Best in Metal Award 2024 – for its collaboration with Marc Jacobs.



Daisy Drops, Marc Jacobs



MPMA Chairman Aidan Ruddock with comedian Ian Irving and the Master, Under Warden and Clerk

### And finally...

The metal packaging industry showed up in style for the MPMA's celebrated Annual Dinner held at the elegant Drapers' Hall. Filled with tradition and grandeur, the event was once again a night to remember.



We are sorry to report the following deaths since the 2023 edition of *The Lanthorn*: Dr Malcolm Newcomb (admitted in 1990), Joyce Parsons (1993), Philip Read (2006) and Ted Roberts (2003). We offer our condolences.

**Dr Malcolm Newcomb** died in January, aged 84. As a career he had established a successful plastics company, Neweld Plastics, based in Hertfordshire. He was introduced to the Livery in 1990 by Admiral Sir Ronald Brockman, and they much enjoyed sailing together when time allowed. For three years Malcolm served as Commodore of the Fareham Sailing Club.

**Joyce Parsons** died in April, aged 101. She was the widow of Mortimer Silverman, who served as Master of the Company in 1979-80, and she was one of the first four women to be admitted as Liverymen of the Company in 1993. Following Mortimer's death, Joyce threw herself into City life, becoming also a member of the Worshipful Company of Farriers, the City Livery Club and the United Wards Club, of which she became President. Her work and charitable efforts were recognised by the Royal Order of Francis I with a Damehood, of which she was justly proud. She retired as a Liveryman in 2019 and spent her final years as a victim of Alzheimer's Disease, but she was well cared for.



**Philip Read** died in April, aged 76. Born and raised in South Africa, he qualified as an actuary and worked for a consulting firm until he and his family settled in England in 1986. He spent the rest of his career as a pensions manager, including a spell at Metal Box.

In 2005 he was proposed for the Livery by Nigel Gilson, and Philip went on to chair our Finance and Investment Committee most ably, 2016 to 2019. He leaves a widow, Cathie, and three children.



## From the Archives



1877



1932



1960

We hope you enjoy this edition of our annual journal. Started in 2001, this represents a snapshot of all the Company does each year, from social events to charitable support. In 2023 it was supplemented by our monthly electronic newsletters, to be followed in 2024 by weekly posts on our various social media platforms such as LinkedIn and Facebook. There is still a place for the printed journal. Many thanks to Liveryman John Canning for supplying many of the photographs, and to the numerous contributions from other members.

