



Headlines From the Hall

13 April 2018

Dear Merchant Taylor

It's the middle of April already! The Garden has now lost its winter cover, which means it should be spring. Could someone please let the weather gods know?

On Wednesday we said goodbye to our head chef Richard Trant, who has retired after an extraordinary 35 years of feeding us all. In a day of celebrations and ceremony, he was made a Freeman of the Company, along with 8 other new Freemen and 7 Apprentices who were bound on the same day. We welcome them to the Company, while bidding Richard a fond farewell. We wish him all the very best, and thank him for helping to make the Catering Company what it is - one of the finest in the City. You can read more about him in the imminent issue of spring's *Number 30*.

Meeting a hero at the RAF Centenary Dinner

The Master and Mistress attended the RAF Centenary Joint Dinner last week at RAF Halton, one of our affiliated military units.

They were honoured to meet Squadron Leader George Leonard 'Johnny' Johnson MBE DFM. Born in 1921, he is the last remaining airman from Operation Chastise, otherwise known as the "Dambusters" raid of 1943.



A Touch of Hollywood

The Master and Mistress also visited the Royal School of Needlework at Hampton Court Palace this week. As well as being the UK's leading centre of needlework, they make costumes for the movies - they made ten capes for Benedict Cumberbatch's Dr Strange, so he could fling them about as much was theatrically needed. They also made the costumes for Murder on the Orient Express.

As part of our commitment to supporting the tailoring trade, the Company supports the RSN's [Future Tutors](#) programme, where people already highly skilled in the craft of needlework learn to teach embroidery to the next generation to RSN standard.

They met Dr Susan Kay-Williams Chief Exec, featured in the photos with one of the Future Tutor students.



COMING UP:
Fundraising Neon Ball - 24th May

We know you all know about our spectacular event in aid of the Master's Charity, [For Jimmy](#). We know you've seen the swanky invitations. But have you bought a ticket? Because the Hall is filling up nicely, and you really don't want to miss this. We have unique auction prizes, a gin joint and nightclub, fine dining and fine wines, a silent auction and magic entertainment. Click [here](#) for more information or just call Georgina Annett on 020 7450 4452.

Election of Lord Mayor and Sheriffs - 25th June and 1st October

Would Liverymen and Court members wishing to attend these elections please inform Kym Ash, so she can issue the necessary passes. Click [here](#) for the form.

Royal Parks Half Marathon - Sunday 14th October

We have one last remaining place for one of our members to run this lovely course in aid of the Livery and Freemen Fund. If you're interested, please call Diana Watson on 020 762 2320 or email her on dwatson@merchant-tailors.co.uk.



If you would like to add anything to these Headlines, please get in touch with Georgina Annett on gannett@merchant-tailors.co.uk, or on 020 7450 4452.

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