



Headlines from the Hall

2 August 2018

Dear Merchant Taylor

Well those were a busy few weeks... Now we are in summer recess, and the workmen have moved in to knock down a few walls, paint the windows, redo the electrics and other complicated jobs. The Hall has worked hard, and is enjoying its rest and refreshment.

The past-Clerk's message

Nick Harris has been in touch since leaving on 16th July and has asked us to pass on this message:

"Dear Members of the Merchant Taylors' Company,
You have all provided me with the most memorable departure for which a person could possibly wish. Your generosity; the kindness of your good wishes; and the overall feeling of great warmth generated - especially at the Livery Dinner - has been unforgettable. Thank you all so very much. These 12 years have passed quickly, but in those years I have come to know many of you very well, which has been a delight and a privilege. Now that a further privilege has been bestowed on me, as a Liveryman, and Jenny, as a Freeman, we know we shall see you again, and are very grateful for that. So until we do so, thank you, and do have a great summer!
With very best wishes, Nick".



Remembrance Concert - 11th November 2018

Looking quite far ahead, but well worth buying a ticket now, the Company will be marking the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War with a spectacular remembrance concert at

the Birmingham Symphony Hall at 2.30pm on Sunday 11th November 2018. Its theme is 'Remembrance and Hope'.

An estimated 250,000 under age soldiers enlisted in the First World War, and more than half of these young people were wounded, killed or taken prisoner. We will honour them on this poignant occasion with a performance by our talented young musicians from our associated schools, conducted by the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra's associate conductor, Michael Seal.

This is a fantastic opportunity for collaboration between schools, in one of the finest concert venues in the world.

Tickets can be bought from the Birmingham Symphony Hall website at <https://www.thsh.co.uk/event/remembrance-concert>

Christmas Oratorio

Sincere apologies for mentioning that word in August, but we have another date for the diary which promises to be a magnificent evening in the Great Hall. On 10th December at 7pm, we shall be putting on a performance of Bach's Christmas Oratorio, his festive masterpiece. The Kilgour Consort, an ensemble of the finest young singers and professional baroque instrumentalists from the University of Cambridge and London's conservatoires, will be performing with four exceptional soloists. It will be directed by Alexander Hamilton (OMT), current organ scholar of Westminster Abbey .

Details of how to buy tickets will be released soon, but do save the date for this spectacular event.

Merchant Taylors' Gin

Yes, you read that right. We have teamed up with [Dockyard Gin](#) to produce our own white-label gin. Each bottle is signed by Peter Magill, and is for sale behind the bar by the glass, or through the Catering Company by the bottle at £34.20 inc VAT (collection only).



This is the next addition to a small cadre of specialist local suppliers and MT branded goods collated by the Catering Company. Crafted through a hand-made copper still, this dry gin is flavoured with the finest globally-sourced botanicals with a dry, citrus floral top note.

To purchase please email Keith Thornberry on kthornberry@merchant-taylors.co.uk.



The past-Master doing his research

Grant of Arms Workshop

This is quite niche, granted, but If you have ever wondered how to go about getting a family coat of arms, there is a workshop being held at the IT Hall on 10 September. This is aimed at people who might be considering petitioning the Crown for a grant of arms or registering a family

pedigree, and are interested in learning more about the process and practicalities involved. For details and enrolment please click [here](#).

To find out more, or to add an MT event to these listings, please contact Georgina Annett at gannett@merchant-tailors.co.uk or on 020 7450 4452.

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