

Headlines from the Hall 27th February 2019

Dear Merchant Taylor

Goodness it's been busy in here - can you see the steam coming down Threadneedle Street?

For details on any of the following events, to make a booking or a comment, you can either reply to this email, or email us directly on our new address - membership@merchant-taylors.co.uk.

1327 Launch Event and Merchant Taylors' Film Premiere – 12th February

On Tuesday evening, the week before last, about 40 people gathered in the Drawing Room to watch the 'premiere' of the first ever Merchant Taylors' film, which you can view [here](#). 1327 is a group of people who have pledged to leave gifts to the Company or its charities in their will, who were invited along with all members who have volunteered for the Charity Visits Scheme (due diligence visits to charities who have applied to us for funding).

The film was commissioned by the Company to showcase the importance and effectiveness of the CVS and of leaving gifts to the Company so that it can continue the philanthropic work showcased in the film. For more information on making a gift in your will, please click [here](#).



We have some natural screen stars in our midst, including Chris Keville, Becky Stewart, and Dr Maddie Shrotri, to whom we are very grateful for their time. The film was described as a 'kind of upbeat Panorama', and is also on the front page of our website.

Livery Dinner - 13th February



The Great Hall was filled with 200 guests the following evening for another spectacular Livery Dinner which was hosted by Peregrine Massey as Acting Master. There was a harpist during the drinks reception and the English historian and academic Lord Peter Hennessy spoke about the implications of Brexit - if you haven't already seen a copy of his speech, and would like to, just let us know.



To see all the pictures, please click [here](#).

Membership Lunch for Company Members and Guests - 8th February

The Parlour was full for the regular Friday lunchtime gathering hosted by the Master. We were delighted to welcome H. E. Rafael Ortiz Fabrega, Ambassador of Costa Rica, among our guests. The Membership Lunches are open to all, and the next one is on the 10th May if you would like to join us.



Princess Anne opens new Foyle College Building



Mr Martin McKeown (INpress pics)

On 7th February the Princess Royal officially opened our associated school Foyle College's new £23.5m campus. Martin Clarke, chair of the Merchant Taylors' Education Committee, and our new Education Manager, Jane Hindle, were there for the ceremony. The Company made a substantial donation to the eponymous Merchant Taylors' Music Suite on site. For more on the story click [here](#).

Merchant Taylors' Company on TV

On the smaller screen, the Hall features in a Channel 5 programme about the Great Fire of

London Hour by Hour, which is thought to have stopped in our Hall behind the Oriel. We're featured for a good ten minutes, and the programme is available [here](#) to view now.

Great Twelve Regatta - Friday 31st May and Saturday 1st June



Looking to the summer at Seaview, we would like to put together a Merchant Taylors' team of at least four, including two helmsmen, per Young Guard and Old Guard teams. Last year we came third while upholding all the Corinthian ideals, and we want to better that this year!

If you would like to take part or (just as importantly) support from the sidelines, please let us know and we will put you in touch with John Sichel. You'll need to be quick, as accommodation will need booking now.

Reminder of upcoming events:

All available to book now:

4th March - **Joint Schools Concert**

14th March - **Freemen Dinner** (£52.50 per person, including reception drinks, fine wine and dining)

18th March - **Golden Shears Awards** (£70 a ticket)