

## Headlines from the Hall

29th April 2019

Dear Merchant Taylor,

Although the thermostat may be telling us otherwise today, spring is officially here, as proven by the publication of the next edition of *Number 30*, which should have arrived through your doors last week.



Please let us know if you haven't received your copy. It's also available to view on the website [here](#).

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### New Apprentices and Freeman

The latest Bindings and Admissions took place on 10th April with our new Apprentices being bound to their Masters, and our servitude, patrimony and redemption candidates becoming Freeman. We enjoyed lunch in the beautifully warm and sunny Courtyard, before the new Freeman were led by the Beadle to the Guildhall to be admitted to the Freedom of the City of London.

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### Wylford's Anniversary Service

200 people gathered for this annual service held to remember James Wylford, Master in 1494. The service took place in St Michael's Cornhill, where Liveryman Annette Bull and the Master gave the readings, and the Anthem, performed by the choir from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, was composed by the Master's grandfather, Sir William Harris.



*Simon Fooks and his wife Melanie*

At the buffet lunch afterwards, we bid a happy retirement to Simon Fooks, the managing director of the Catering Company, who has retired after an extraordinary 36 years with the Company.

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## **Behind the Iron Curtain - An Argyll's story of working in the Military Liaison Mission 1979 – 1981 - 13th May, 6pm**

There are a few places still available to hear the Master's old university friend, Hugh McLeod, speak about his time in the liaison mission to the Soviet Forces in East Germany, when the Soviet build-up in Eastern Europe was at its peak. This is a rare opportunity to hear some unique stories and insights into a fascinating piece of our military and intelligence history.

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## **Woolmen Sheep Drive and Livery Fair - 29th September**

In medieval times, sheep farmers drove their sheep across London Bridge to sell at market in the City. Freemen of the City were excused the bridge toll in recognition of their status as local traders - a valuable economic privilege in those times. In one of the more eccentric of annual City events, Livery and Freemen are invited to come and drive a sheep across the bridge, where the Rt Hon Michael Portillo will accompany the Lord Mayor of London and



Sheriffs in making the first drive.

There is also a Livery Fair, at which we can take a stall to raise funds for City charities. Places are going fast, so if you fancy a spot of shepherding, click [here](#) to reserve your slot.

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## **The Livery Schools Link Volunteering Platform**



If you live far from London it can be quite the trek to participate in the Company's charitable activities. But with the Livery Schools Link you can volunteer and make a difference closer to home. No matter where you are in the country, their website can connect you with a local school with affiliations to any of the livery companies, where teachers have put out requests for volunteers. If you're signed up and your skillset matches the request, the website will link you up.

Children who have been involved in four or more activities with employers or professionals while at school:

- are five times less likely to not be in education, employment or training
- earn, on average 16% more than their peers who have not been involved in such activities

Click [here](#) to visit our page, and see how your experience can make a difference to a young person's life.

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**DATES FOR THE DIARY:**

10th May - Membership Lunch (fully booked)

13th May - Behind the Iron Curtain Talk, 6pm

23rd May - Comedy Night Fundraiser, 6.30pm (£35pp)

4th June - City Drinks (*email invite to follow soon*)

18th June - Election Service and BBQ, 6.30pm (*email invite to follow soon*)