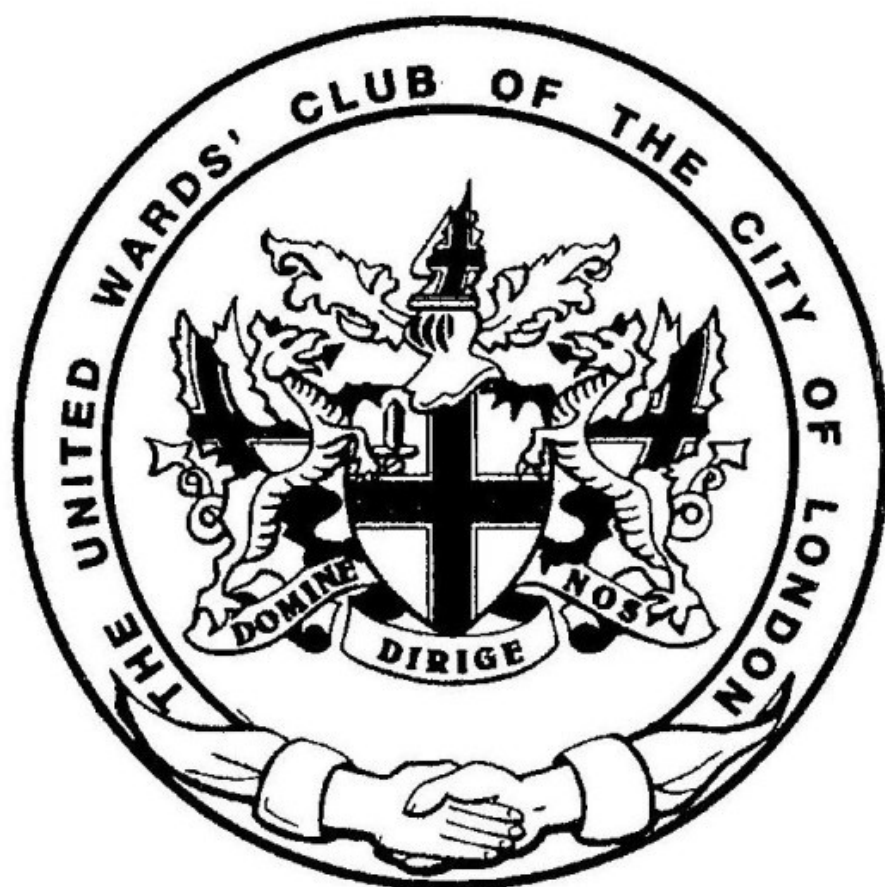


Journal of the United Wards' Club of the City of London

No. 530: 2019–2020

ISSUED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION



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The United Wards' Club of the City of London

Patron: The Rt Hon. the Lord Mayor
Alderman William Russell

Founded in 1877 by Joseph Newbon CC as a General and Central Ward Club, having for its objects the consideration and discussion of public matters affecting, civic, guild and general interests, the promotion of the spirit of citizenship and the maintenance of the high traditions and prestige of the City of London.

Governing Body 2019–2020

President: Mr Brian Wadsworth

Senior Vice-President: Mrs Ann Scrutton *Tower*

Junior Vice-President: Mr Stephen Osborne

Past Presidents

2002	§ Mr Joseph Byllam-Barnes	2012	§ Mrs Valerie Hamilton JP
2003	§ Mrs Patricia Campfield MBE	2013	§ Mrs Jackie Springett
2004	Mr Andrew Davis	2014	§ Major Geoffrey Berry TD
2005	§ Mr Colin Hart JP <i>Ward of Cheap</i>	2015	§ Mr Clifford Rust
2006	§ Mr Ernest Pilgrim	2016	Mr Barry Scrutton
2007	§ Mrs Joyce Parsons JP	2017	§ Mr Andrew Hamilton
2009	Mr Graham Redcliffe	2018	Mrs Anita Rust
2011	§ Mr William Loach		

Elected and Associate Members

* Dr Stuart Blackie		§* Mrs Sylvia Moys MBE CC	
* Mrs Maureen Bonanno-Smith	<i>Aldgate</i>	Mrs Mary Nurse	<i>Cripplegate</i>
§ Dr Trevor Brignall		Mrs Margaret Packham	<i>Castle Baynard</i>
Mr Dennis Conrad	<i>Bridge</i>	§ Mrs Judith Rich OBE	<i>Bishopsgate</i>
Mr Gilles Cremonesi	<i>Coleman St</i>		<i>& Broad Street</i>
* Mr Robert Gale		* Mr Colin Sach	
... Alderman Prem Goyal OBE JP	<i>Portsoken</i>	§ Mr Laurence Target	<i>Billingsgate</i>
* Mr Peter Hill		* Mr John Toth	
* Mrs Veronica Hunt-Lewis		* Mr Stephen Willis	
* Mr John Lockyer		* Mr Anthony Woodhead CBE	
* Mr Scott Longman		Mr Michael Wren	
Mr Tom Moore	<i>Cordwainer</i>		

Hon. Treasurer: Mr Chris Edge

Hon. Auditor: Mr John Toth

Hon. Chaplain: The Revd Jeremy Crossley

Hon. Solicitor: Mrs Stephanie Thomas

Hon. Editor of Journal: § Mr John Bowman JP
j.h.bowman@btinternet.com

Banner Bearer: Mr Stephen Willis

Secretary: § Mr Andrew Dyke
40 Compton Road, Winchmore Hill, London N21 3NX
020 8360 8525
secretary@unitedwardsclub.org.uk

Reflections on a President's Year

Brian Wadsworth



Perhaps this is a year when there is something to be said for starting at the end.

January was marked by two very happy events. Our visit to Lambeth Palace, escorted by enthusiastic and knowledgeable guides was followed by a most enjoyable Civic Luncheon in the company of our Lord Mayor Alderman William Russell, Sheriff Professor Michael Mainelli and their charming consorts Hilary and Elisabeth, in the historic setting of Armourers' Hall.

Without taking sides in a long-running and sometimes heated debate, we would all acknowledge that Friday 31 January was a significant day in British history. That evening saw our departure from the European Union after 47 years of membership—virtually the whole of my adult lifetime. Originally intended to happen on 31 October (our Founders' Day at Girdlers' Hall), 'Brexit Day' seemed a very long time in the making, preceded as it was by an inconclusive and at times rancorous political debate which had rumbled on ever since the referendum result of June 2016.

From an historical and political perspective, I had cause to reflect on an eventful twelve months in office. With the Civic Luncheon concluded, February was meant to be a period for calm reflection before passing the baton to my successor, Ann Scrutton, at Clothworkers' Hall on 17 March. As for every President in long succession, the year thus turns full circle.

Everything seemed very normal, organized and predictable, well into the month of February. We simply failed to recognize that an obscure viral epidemic, originating half-way round the world in Wuhan, China a few weeks before Christmas, would erupt on a global scale within a matter of days, turning all our plans and assumptions to dust.

As I write this piece our Installation Dinner has been

postponed and all the Club's activities put on hold through the early months of my successor's year. Every institution, every business and every individual is affected to a greater or lesser degree and many of us are confined to our homes for weeks of self-isolation, aiming both to protect ourselves and to prevent the epidemic from overwhelming the capacity of our National Health Service.

As Presidents' reviews go this is becoming a little unconventional. Where will it lead? Well, at times when the comfortable assumptions we may have made about life are crumbling around us, the importance of tradition and continuity may be brought into sharper focus.

It has been a great pleasure to serve as the 124th President of our United Wards' Club and the greatest pleasure is derived from the good fellowship which the Club exists to foster and the spirit of community amongst our members—still living and strong even though the physical community which our Club and other City institutions serve is far more widely dispersed today than our founders experienced or imagined well over a century ago.

How our Club can adapt to remain relevant through changing times is a perennial debate and a constant challenge. Sooner or later change is inevitable. Yet we should beware of assuming that everything should change, or that change always represents improvement. For me and for my dear wife Anne, it has been hugely gratifying to see the spirit of community and good fellowship which infuses our Club reflected in strong and sustained support for our events. Here we see the tradition and continuity which is the lifeblood of our Club—and thank goodness for it. We have so much enjoyed sharing with all of you the experiences of our year, whether in London, Lincolnshire or Ireland.

At a time when many are worried about the future, a few words of thanks make for a fitting conclusion. I should like first and foremost to thank Anne, whose part in my year has been every bit as important as my own and every bit as diligently performed. I also warmly thank Andrew, our tireless and dedicated Club Secretary, who bore with fortitude the recent loss of Marion, his wife and partner of very many years and sustained his customary, unstinting service throughout my term of office. In common with Presidents past, I have enjoyed the support and guidance of our Governing Body and thank all who give their time and energy to serve. Finally Anne joins me in thanking wholeheartedly all members of our United Wards' Club, upon whose loyalty and enthusiasm the President and the Club depend: we are in good hands!

Let me end with one final reflection on my chosen theme of community and fellowship. This very day it has been announced that a public appeal to assist our National Health Service, launched by the Government 24 hours ago with the aim of enlisting 250,000 people in community service, has brought forward over 500,000 volunteers. Community and good fellowship are alive and well in Britain today. They are alive and well in our United Wards' Club, dormant though it will be while the current crisis passes over. We have something precious in our hands. Long may we cherish and preserve it.

Annual General Meeting

21 March 2019

report by the Editor

The Club returned this year to Clothworkers' Hall, where the AGM was held in the Court Room. After the approval of the minutes the accounts were presented by the Treasurer, Chris Edge. He said that the Club now had an increased operating surplus, helped in part by sales of new merchandise, and that there was a healthy balance sheet. There were some questions about tax liability from the previous Treasurer, Andrew Hamilton.

The election and investiture of the President and two Vice-Presidents then took place. In each case only one candidate was nominated. Brian Wadsworth was thus elected and invested as President, and he expressed gratitude for the confidence reposed in him, and looked forward to the coming year. He then invested Ann Scrutton as Senior Vice-President and Stephen Osborne as Junior Vice-President, and in each case a suitable reply was received. The President invested the immediate past President, Anita Rust, with her badge. He was appointing the Revd Jeremy Crossley as his Hon. Chaplain, but he was unavailable this evening and his place at dinner would be taken by Father Philip Warner. There were only two candidates for the two ordinary vacancies on the Governing Body, and so John Toth was re-elected and Mike Wren elected. Chris Edge was then re-elected Hon. Treasurer, John Toth as Hon. Auditor, Stephanie Thomas as Hon. Solicitor and John Bowman as Hon. Editor of the Journal.



Anita Rust invests the new President with his badge of office, assisted by Treasurer Chris Edge

Following the meeting, members joined their guests at the reception in the entrance hall. They then assembled for dinner in the main hall upstairs. Father Philip Warner, acting as chaplain, said Grace, which included (mercifully) the only

reference to Brexit during the evening. Members and their guests then enjoyed a meal of hot smoked salmon with salad, followed by guinea fowl, and concluding with yoghurt panna cotta with poached rhubarb. Grace was sung, accompanied by John Bowman on the piano. The Loving Cup was circulated, and then followed the formal toasts.



The receiving line



Reception in the entrance hall

A musical interlude was provided by a jazz quartet formed of four students from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama: James Clarke (guitar), Tom Bartlett (double bass), Sam Knight (saxophone) and Guillaume Trinfo (drums). They performed a medley of pieces.

The toast to the United Wards' Club and the President was then proposed by Alderman Alison Gowman, a personal friend of the new President and his family. She expressed her delight at being present. As Alderman she represented Dowgate, where at one time the United Wards' Club had been housed in the famous—or infamous—Cannon Street Hotel. There in 1920 Winston Churchill had made a speech which received much applause. In the same year the British Communist Party had

been founded there. Dowgate Ward was also the place where the Bible Society had been founded. The hotel had been largely destroyed during the Blitz, but was rebuilt in the 1960s by the notorious John Poulson, who subsequently received a seven-year sentence for fraud. Alderman Gowman was very pleased to have worked for 40 years in the City and to have represented Dowgate for 28 years. The City was still a welcoming one for overseas workers and she felt that the United Wards' Club played an important part in this.



Alderman Alison Gowman, the President and Past President Anita Rust

In his response the President expressed his appreciation of the Alderman's commitment to the City and he presented her with a floral tribute. He thanked Father Warner for his Grace and expressed his thanks to our indefatigable secretary Andrew Dyke, as well as sympathy for his loss. It was an honour to have been elected the 124th President of the Club, but its success depended on teamwork. He congratulated the Senior and Junior Vice-Presidents on their election and was sure that this boded well for the future of the Club. He made reference to some of the forthcoming events, and in conclusion he invited the two new members who were present that evening to take wine with him. Finally he thanked Anita Rust, the immediate Past President, and presented her with a bouquet and proposed the toast to her.

Anita Rust replied by thanking the President for his kind words. It had been an honour to represent United Wards' Club and she had had a very enjoyable year, of which she mentioned some highlights.

She too thanked Andrew Dyke for his hard work and she looked forward to supporting the new President in his coming year. In concluding the evening the President thanked everyone for coming and wished them all a safe and comfortable journey home.



The President responding to the toast



Students from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama Sam Knight (saxophone), Guillaume Trinfo (drums), Tom Bartlett (double bass), James Clarke (guitar)

The Royal Mews

9 April 2019

report by Stuart Aarons

Enthusied and wonderment are the words that describe our experience at the Royal Mews as we viewed the royal coaches, cars and horses and learnt about their history. Located in a quadrangle a short distance from Buckingham Palace, it is one of the finest working stables in existence.

Our official tour guide described the history of the Mews which dates from Richard II in the late 14th century. Listening to the descriptions of these most beautiful carriages from their creation through to the Diamond Jubilee State Coach, members could only imagine the riding experience. The follow-on lunch at 'bbar' restaurant had a distinctive South African theme, accompanied by excellent food and wine with congenial company.



The guide, with David Lewis and Veronica Hunt-Lewis



Queen Alexandra's State Coach, now used to transport the Crown of State to Parliament for the State Opening



The Gold State Coach, built in 1760 for George IV and used at every subsequent Coronation

Westminster Kingsway College, Escoffier Room

8 May 2019

report by Virginia Hopson

Plentiful, flavourful and ambrosial are just some of the adjectives to describe our seven-course lunch exclusively in the Escoffier Room. During the lunch our President, Brian Wadsworth, told us about the history of Westminster Kingsway College and that Auguste Escoffier pioneered approaches to kitchen management which are still being used today.

We were very well looked after, the moment we arrived, by the front-of-house students who took our coats. We enjoyed a welcome glass of Prosecco and then at 12.30 we sat down to our Italian themed menu. The antipasti were daintily presented, the veal and asparagus was delectable, the monkfish and gnocchi was mouth-watering, the rabbit and arancini were exquisite, the dressings and jus were luscious and the dessert was delicate and heavenly. These dishes were very well complemented by white and red wine.

Thank you very much President Brian and his wife Anne for organizing such a memorable afternoon. Thank you too to Simon Stocker (Senior Chef), Josea (Senior Lecturer) and the second year students Rowan, Max, Chloe, Jade, Andrew, Reece and Lucy.

The College is a hidden gem and I will certainly be booking a return visit.



The President's table



Baked monkfish, wild garlic crust, stuffed pepper and olives, sweet pepper essence



Dessert: Panna cotta

Raising of Tower Bridge

15 May 2019

report by Jan and Phil Dunford

Several of us were lucky enough to have been selected by ballot to join a small tour of Tower Bridge in May, by kind invitation of our President's wife, Anne, who had bid for the opportunity in a charity auction.

Our guide, Rachel, took us up 102' to the walkway, explaining that the bridge had been built between 1886 and 1894 to the design of Sir Horace Jones, comprising five different bridge types: bascule; suspension; box girder; draw; and cantilever.

The original steam-powered bridge took just one minute to raise the 1,200 ton bascules each side. Now it takes 90 seconds, treating the machinery a little more gently, and has electric motors powering the hydraulic system.

In 1903 the river trade in London necessitated 6,000 bridge lifts. Last year it was 750.

By Act of Parliament the river traffic has priority, at no cost, but masters of vessels over 10m must give 24 hours' notice of their intention to pass beneath. A request can be made for any time of day or night, on any day except the morning of the London Marathon.

The walkways were built, without glass, to allow pedestrians to cross unimpeded by bridge lifts. They were closed in 1982 owing to frequent crime. After refurbishment they were reopened as part of the tourist attraction and used as an event venue. In 2014 they were fitted with glass in some floor panels enabling visitors to see the river and traffic beneath their feet.

The bridge is constructed from Scottish steel, Welsh slate, Essex glass and Portland stone, held together by over twelve million rivets.

Despite the destruction all around, the bridge suffered no serious damage by bombing in World War II as it was considered a valuable navigation aid by the Luftwaffe.

Our tour continued in one of the preserved original control cabins with Charles Lotter, engineer and Bridge Driver, who explained the intricacies of the mechanical engineering and how the bridge was operated, and then showed those who wished, deep into one of the bascule chambers. A lucky few then joined Anne in the current control cabin as she was guided through the process and lifted the bridge to 74 degrees, allowing the cruise ship *Silver Wind* to pass and berth alongside *HMS Belfast*. She evidently enjoyed the experience, bringing London's traffic to a halt and enabling a huge ship to exercise its ancient right to navigate up the River Thames.

An excellent lunch of fish, chips and Eton mess followed in the nearby Sargeant's Mess restaurant.



Anne Wadsworth in the control cabin, raising the bridge



The cruise ship Silver Wind passing through the bridge



Lunch in the Sargeant's Mess

Governor's Review, Royal Hospital Chelsea

4 June 2019

report by Anita Rust

The day saw 18 members meeting at the the Royal Hospital for the annual Governor's Parade. This is the dress rehearsal for the main event, Founder's Day, two days later, when this year the Duke of Sussex would take the salute. Founder's Day is the highlight of the Royal Hospital calendar, celebrating the founding of the Royal Hospital by King Charles II.

Founder's Day is also known as Oak Apple Day, always held on a date close to 29 May, the birthday of Charles II and the date of his restoration as King in 1661. The oak reference commemorates the escape of the future King Charles II after the battle of Worcester in 1651 when he hid in an oak tree to avoid capture by the Parliamentary forces. This is expressed by all of the Chelsea Pensioners wearing oak leaves on their scarlet uniforms. The gold statue that stands in the centre of Figure Court is also adorned with oak leaves. For the Governor's Parade all the Pensioners were on parade, those who were unable to parade being seated around the parade ground. Before the parade commenced we were entertained by the military band of the Scots

Guards and then the pensioners marched on, resplendent in their scarlet tunics and tricorne hats, and paraded in front of the Assistant Governor who took the salute.

The skies were black but the rain held off until we left and headed for the marquee for a welcome glass of wine, on the way meeting Colin Thackrey the Chelsea Pensioner who had two days previously won the talent show 'Britain's Got Talent'.

After a short while in heavy rain we made our way to the Sloane Club for a delicious meal of pea and mint soup, Scottish salmon and sherry trifle, along with carefully chosen wines.



The Middle Court, with the golden statue of King Charles II by Grinling Gibbons



The Governor's Parade

Lincoln

25–28 June 2019

report by Anne Wadsworth

Lincoln and Lincolnshire is an area of the country little known to many people. Our three-day visit there in June took us on a journey through English history, from the times of the Roman legions through the prosperity earned from the land in the Middle Ages, to the days when Lincolnshire stood on the front line of the battle for freedom over the skies of Europe.

Having settled in at our hotel on Brayford Pool a delightful trip on the *Brayford Belle* pleasure boat awaited us. Here we were greeted with a glass of champagne, which continued to flow throughout the trip! Our journey on the *Brayford Belle* gave us a distinctive view of Lincoln as it took us on a round trip on the Foss Dyke, which may well be England's oldest canal as it is thought to have been constructed by Roman engineers around AD 120.

After disembarking from the *Brayford Belle*, taking our leave of the skipper and owner Monna who had given a lively and informative commentary, it was back to the hotel for a quick change before departing for Hemswell Court, a former RAF Officers' Mess featured in the *Dambusters* film, now a fine dining venue run by owner and chef Shaun Lees. Here we enjoyed a great example of Lincolnshire hospitality and the best of local cuisine from the most fertile farmlands in England.

After breakfast the next day we explored the many attractions of historic Lincoln. First our coach took us to the Uphill area—the heart of the old City—to enjoy a visit to the charming Museum of Lincolnshire Life, providing a glimpse of everyday life in days of yore. Commercial Row took us through the stonemason, ironmonger, basket-maker, print shop, Co-op, Post Office, draper and chemist while the interiors of the domestic wing, with its detailed settings of all the rooms in the house as well as the products used, took many of us back to our childhood days. Needless to say, none of us would admit that to outsiders!

The transport, industry and agricultural galleries, as well as the History Hunters' Playground and Plough and Navy Display, provided a fascinating story of early transport vehicles and militaria. The First World War tank was there to remind us that the tank was a Lincoln invention.

Lincoln Cathedral was the next stop. Described by Ruskin as 'out and out the most precious piece of architecture in the British Isles' the cathedral was for 200 years the tallest building in the world. It is the fourth largest cathedral (in area) in the UK after Liverpool, St Paul's and York Minster.

Construction of the cathedral commenced in 1072 and continued in the Gothic style, like many medieval cathedrals, in several phases through the High Middle Ages. It still dominates the skyline of Lincoln and for miles around, standing as a witness to faith and a monument to the army of skilled craftsmen who built it.

Every visitor to this remarkable cathedral is shown the Lincoln Imp, a grotesque high on a wall not far from where one enters, and the symbol of the city. There are many legends surrounding the Imp but the most popular is that the creature was sent by Satan to the cathedral only to be turned into stone by an angel.

After a break for lunch, when we all headed for an array of little tea shops offering delicious snacks, we reassembled across the cathedral square for a guided tour of Lincoln Castle with its history of power and punishment throughout the ages. A major Norman castle, it was built in 1068 by William the Conqueror on the site of the previous Roman fortress and restored for the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta. Now, within a special gallery, it is the proud home to an original copy of the 1215 Magna Carta belonging to Lincoln Cathedral—one of only four survivors.

The Victorian prison inside the castle is still a chilling place to visit, designed as it was as a 'separate' system, an isolating regime that kept prisoners apart from the corrupting influence of their fellow prisoners. Even inside the prison chapel prisoners could see no one else when looking to left or right as they were trapped standing up in narrow partitioned stalls. It was no wonder that many went mad—a vivid reminder of the harsh social conditions of Dickens' time.



The operations room at East Kirkby

On a more cheerful note, after the cathedral visit we returned to the hotel for dinner and a good night's rest before travelling by coach the next morning into the surrounding countryside. First stop was at East Kirkby, home to the Lincolnshire

Aviation Heritage Centre. This is a preserved Second World War Bomber Command airfield with an extensive collection of wartime facilities and equipment including *Just Jane*, one of only three surviving Lancaster bombers able to move under their own power.

The highlight of our visit was undoubtedly to witness *Just Jane* carrying out a live taxi run to the air strip with all the majesty of this remarkable aircraft. When we returned to the coach the President presented us all with a round of *Just Jane* Lincolnshire cheddar cheese as a reminder of our visit. Very tasty it was too!



Just Jane, a Lancaster bomber

Lunch was next, at the Petwood Hotel in the attractive Victorian spa town of Woodhall Spa where, during our stop, we all took a look at the famous Squadron Bar festooned with priceless memorabilia from 617 'Dambusters' Squadron and tributes to Guy Gibson VC, Leonard Cheshire VC and their officers and crews.

On the way back to Lincoln our coach stopped at the recently opened International Bomber Command Centre at Canwick, so we could tour the visitor centre and memorial to nearly 58,000 men of all nationalities who took to the night skies over occupied Europe and never returned. At the heart of the IBCC are the memorial Spire and Walls which hold the names of these brave men and women. Elsewhere on the site the International Peace Garden pays homage to the 62 nations involved in serving or supporting Bomber Command.

After time to refresh and change at our hotel we concluded a wonderful and thought-provoking day with a champagne reception and dinner at the elegant Washingborough Hall hotel, a Georgian manor house with two AA rosettes for culinary excellence which was voted Hotel of the Year in the Lincolnshire Tourism Awards 2018. This provided a fitting conclusion to a memorable trip.



The group outside Washingborough Hall

Jailed and Bailed

1 July 2019



The President being pardoned at the Tower of London, thanks to the ransom generously offered by Club members. This annual event raised over £40,000 for the British Red Cross.

Apsley House and Wellington Arch

12 July 2019

report by Valerie Hamilton

Some 30 of us met at Apsley House, popularly known as No 1 London, but correctly 149 Piccadilly. Initially we were divided into two groups to view the house, with its many treasures, and Wellington Arch. The house was originally designed by Robert Adam for the first Baron Apsley; it was sold to Wellington's brother and subsequently sold to the first Duke of Wellington as his London home. He had the house substantially redesigned by Wyatt to befit such an important person, the victor over Napoleon at Waterloo.

Amongst the impressive works of art are some by Velazquez, Goya and Titian. Pointed out to us were the Adam ceilings and fireplaces, the mirrors which cleverly slid over the windows to turn the room into a ballroom mimicking Versailles. Most impressive is the silver table layout given by the Portuguese nation. Many of the pictures were gifts from other European nations; in total just under 300 quality works of art hang in the public rooms.

Wellington Arch, the second part of our tour, was originally built as the formal entrance to Buckingham Palace. The arch was commissioned to commemorate Wellington's success in the Napoleonic Wars. It has served many purposes including the smallest police station. Matthew Cotes Wyatt was originally commissioned to design a bronze equestrian statue of Wellington, which stood 30 ft

high and weighed 40 tons. Ridiculed for its overwhelming size it was not removed until the Arch was moved in the early 20th century to change the road layout, making the arch the ceremonial entrance to Buckingham Palace via Constitution Hill. In 1912 the Quadriga, a four-horse chariot designed by Adrian Jones, was placed on the Arch, where it remains to this day.

A very interesting and enjoyable day capped off by an excellent Spanish tapas restaurant lunch at El Pirata. So much so, that many guests lingered on well into the afternoon whilst the wine continued to flow.

Many thanks to our President for organizing such a great visit and our Secretary for making sure all the arrangements worked.

Lloyd's of London

11 September 2019

report by Peter and Jackie Boughton

Thirty-seven members and guests arrived around 10.30 a.m., passport in hand, at the very impressive Lloyd's building in Lime Street, and were greeted by our President and his wife Anne. We were very efficiently checked in and given our security passes and divided into four groups. Our three guides were all retired brokers or staff of Lloyd's.

We were first taken downstairs to the cloakroom area where there is a very impressive display cabinet of Admiral Lord Nelson's memorabilia including the original log book of HMS *Victory*, opened at the day of the Battle of Trafalgar. Then upstairs to the dealing floor where the layout is similar in principle to the previous two Lloyd's buildings, the brokers all working at desks in a box principle and indeed similar to the original coffee houses where dealing was done around the tables. The main difference being that today virtually all the paper files and box files have all but disappeared and been replaced by computer technology, although of course the brokers and dealers still have to make the 'make or break' decisions. Interestingly in the beautiful paintings showing the Lloyd's floors in the pre-war days, there were no ladies; this has subsequently changed to approximately a 50/50 gender basis. There is still a dress code although some of the ladies looked more suitably attired for a night club!

After thanking our guides we made our way to the Loch Fyne restaurant in Leadenhall Market where we were wined and dined superbly. A thoroughly well thought out and enjoyable day, many thanks to both Brian and Anne and of course our Secretary Andrew.

Ireland

21–27 September 2019

report by Ann Scrutton

On a lovely day 28 members set out to Heathrow and took the Aer Lingus flight to Cork, arriving in cloud and rain. It is the 'Emerald Isle' and no lovely emerald fields without plenty of rain. This did not dull our spirits however and all were sensibly equipped with coats and umbrellas.

Our coach took us to the first hotel, the Aghadoe Heights set in a golf course some way out of Killarney with beautiful views. We settled in to this excellent modern hotel and met for a good dinner on our first night. Still raining.

Up early and on the coach at 8.15. The Ring of Kerry was the plan for the day and our coach driver/guide, Charles, who was really a man with unlimited tales to tell, drove us through Killorgnan where a statue of a crowned goat is found in pride of place: the goat is crowned as part of annual festivities. We also saw the ruins of the house where Daniel O'Connell was born, who was Member of Parliament for the town of Ennis, and statues of him are seen in both Killorgnan and Ennis. We then attended a sheepdog display of herding sheep on a steep hill. There was a retail chance for shopping in the excellent shop. Lunch was at the Sea Lodge Hotel Waterville. Later we went to a BBQ supper in Killarney at a hotel, then on to 'Celtic Steps', a show with six musicians playing keyboard, bodhran, button accordion, fiddle, wind instruments (flute, tin whistle) and guitar/banjo. All very accomplished players. Also accomplished with many awards and gold medals were the Irish dancers. The girl playing the violin was also an excellent singer. All enjoyed the cultural programme, with lots of toe-tapping among the audience. A long day but better weather.

Our third day began with rain and Charles was telling us about the Second World War in the area and about Fungie the dolphin who has been seen in the bay for the last 15 years. We heard about the wealth of shellfish locally. We drove through the Dingle peninsula to Sleat Head: bleak scenery and a rocky coast with historic ancient beehive dwellings. The roads were narrow and rocky islands were seen offshore. Eventually we came to a thriving pottery where coffee was good. We were offered a pot to make in the pottery, to be sent on once fired and polished. A shop showing their products and much more was attractive. Then on into town for lunch which we found at an excellent fish restaurant where seven of us enjoyed a good lunch and much laughter. In the evening we enjoyed an entertaining and very good dinner in the cellar bar of a hotel in Killarney.



Dinner at Cellar One, Killarney

En route to our new hotel in Galway we stopped for coffee in Adare. The ladies were amazed to see at least six good dress shops in the high street and found that this town is a centre for clothes where people come from miles around. On to Bunratty Castle which has been occupied for over a thousand years. Now they show tourists round the castle and put on 'medieval' feasts. Our guide, dressed in costume, was excellent. We lunched in Durty Nellie's and there was the inevitable retail park. We arrived at the Glenlo Abbey hotel, near Lough Corrib. This hotel felt somewhat more Victorian and very comfortable.



Bunratty Castle



Kylemore Abbey

The next day we toured Connemara, a county that is bleak, watery, and poor as the land is too poor for any crops, but sheep seem to do well. The scenery is beautiful in a wild way. Kylemore Abbey was the object of the tour. This lovely house began as a shooting lodge but was built by the son of an emigrant to Manchester who made a fortune in the cotton industry. Mr Mitchell built the abbey and was a good landlord to the local populace, who had been ruined by famine, emigration, and a cholera outbreak. Many were employed by him. Subsequent owners were also good landlords. In 1920 Benedictine nuns took over and started a school for girls, both day pupils and boarders. This closed in 2010 but the nuns still own the property and have opened the house to tell its story with excellent light and sound effects. We had a good guide but as we were scattered, much of what she said was lost unless near her. Lunch was further down the road in Clifden on the coast and a walk to the fishing port where there were plenty of operational fishing boats and some yachts. Dinner at O'Grady's On The Pier, a fish restaurant.

The Aran Islands on our last day. Rain and quite a rough sea but the ferry crossing of 45 minutes went without mishap. Ashore—you have guessed! Rain. We lunched, after a little retail therapy, to

support local shops, at The Bar. We were on the largest island, Inis Mór, where 750 people live. They have a doctor and a nurse but no vet. The bank opens for two days a week and everything comes from the mainland. The tourist season is all too short for an island that has bad winter weather and little better summers. A hard life as the children are educated at primary and secondary level but for any tertiary education they must leave for the mainland and usually do not return because of lack of jobs. There was an excellent archaeological visitor centre. The islands have been occupied since at least the 8th century and there are churches of this date which we saw, with graves from then until the present day. The weather improved during the afternoon so the ferry crossing was calmer. Beautiful rainbows were seen.

The farewell dinner, for which we put on our best clothes, was at the West restaurant on the top floor of the hotel in Galway city. A lovely room, cocktails to start with, and an excellent dinner. Pat spoke and thanked Brian and Anne for a wonderful trip and Brian was presented with an Irish tweed-dressed doorstop dog, Anne presented with a ceramic bud vase.

Home next day, flying from Shannon after an interesting holiday.



PHOTO: CHARLES RUTHERFORD

The group outside the Glenlo Abbey Hotel, Galway



The group with guide at Kylemore Abbey



Local transport on Inis Mór

Founders' Day

31 October 2019

report by the Editor

Girdlers' Hall was a delightful venue for this year's Founders' Day dinner. The third hall on the site, the current neo-Georgian building was completed in 1961 following destruction during the Second World War. The reception was held in the courtroom where members and guests drank an English sparkling wine called 'Nutty'. Everyone then proceeded to the main hall and welcomed the President, senior officers and principal guests led by the stand-in Banner Bearer Sally Goldsmith. The President's Chaplain, the Revd Jeremy Crossley, said Grace, and the assembled company then enjoyed an excellent three-course dinner. Scallop soufflé was followed by venison Rossini, and the dessert was quince, raisin and thyme Charlotte with cinnamon custard.



Acting Banner Bearer Sally Goldsmith leading the principal guests into the Hall

The sung Grace was accompanied by Past President Geoffrey Berry on the piano, and the formal toasts were taken. The President then introduced the two musicians from the Royal College of Music: Catherine Yoon (violin) and Yuki Hammyo (piano). They played four pieces, concluding with the

Londonderry Air in an arrangement by Chrysler. Their accomplished performance was much appreciated by all present.



President Brian Wadsworth proposing the toast to the guests

The President then stood to propose the toast to the guests. He began by thanking the Girdlers' Company for allowing the use of their hall, a hall which was not often let, and which people therefore did not often have the opportunity to visit. He thanked Party Ingredients for the catering, the Revd Jeremy Crossley for saying Grace, Geoffrey Berry for accompanying the Grace and the National Anthem and the Secretary for his organization of the evening. The Girdlers were a small company with only about 80 active liverymen. They still retain the right to present the sword belt for the Sword of State at each coronation. They had been on this site since 1431, and the carpet displayed on the wall of the hall was woven in about 1630 in Lahore. He expressed his pleasure at seeing so many members and guests at the event, and said that the guests would always be welcome to join the Club. He introduced Mr Dhruv Patel CC, chairman of the City Bridge Trust.

Following the toast to the guests Mr Patel spoke about the City Bridge Trust, which had been formed in 1995. Its origins could be traced back to the time of William Rufus when money was raised to repair the then wooden London Bridge. This was replaced by a stone one in 1209, and the City charged tolls for those passing over or under it. Over the centuries a considerable sum was amassed, and the scope of the Trust had been widened so that it was now permitted to make charitable grants to organizations in every borough of London. He normally visited one of these each month. It was notable that poverty rates in London were very high, higher than in the rest of the country. He concluded by saying that the City had a proud tradition of philanthropy and he hoped that all could work together to encourage philanthropy

and to make our wonderful City even greater. The toast to the United Wards' Club was then drunk.



Guest speaker Dhruv Patel CC

Following this the Secretary Andrew Dyke read out the founding minutes of the Club, from 31 October 1877. He then reminded members that today was the Celtic festival of Samhain. He drew comparisons between 2019 and 1877, both being years in which divisions were not always resolved. He then spoke about another of the founders, Thomas Peachey Warwick, who was a collector of rates in the City and was living very near the Bell Tavern at the time. He became the first Secretary of the Club, and contributed a great deal to it in its early years, later becoming a Vice-President. Digitization of the Club's archive was progressing, and it was possible to see a scanned image of the first minutes on the website. The Secretary also mentioned Sadie Crawford, born in 1885 and a descendant of the Club's founder Joseph Newbon. She achieved considerable fame as a jazz player in the 1920s and died in Washington, D.C. in 1960. Another of new Bond's descendants was our current Banner Bearer Stephen Willis, whose absence was explained by the fact that he was involved in the unveiling of a memorial to Sadie Crawford in Washington. He concluded by proposing the Founders' toast.

The President then thanked Mr Patel for attending, and said that he looked forward to seeing members at other events in the year. His wife Anne joined him in thanking everyone for their attendance and in wishing them a safe and comfortable journey home.



The receiving line before dinner: Brian Wadsworth, Anne Wadsworth, Ann Scrutton, Barry Scrutton, Stephen Osborne

Lord Mayor's Day: 9 November 2019



Acting Banner Bearer Sally Goldsmith with President Brian Wadsworth in Aldermanbury



The Lord Mayor leaving Guildhall Yard



In carriage: Brian Wadsworth (President, United Wards' Club), Adèle Thorpe (President, City Livery Club), Stephen G. Lane (Vice-President, Royal Society of St George (City of London Branch)), Neil Redcliffe JP (Master, Guild of Freemen)



PHOTO: CLIVE TOTMAN, CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION

The Lord Mayor waving from his coach as he passes St Paul's



The Rotary International/United Wards' Club float with supporters

A Night at the Opera

27 November 2019

report by the President

Not a Marx Brothers film or an album by Queen, but an enjoyable evening for 22 members of the Club at the Royal College of Music.

2019 was the 50th anniversary of arguably the most spectacular achievement in the history of human exploration—the Apollo 11 moon landing on 20 July 1969, when Neil Armstrong took his famous ‘small step for man’. It was a nice gesture for the RCM’s Vocal and Opera Faculty to revive Haydn’s opera buffa *Il Mondo della Luna*.

First performed at Esterhazy in 1777, it sets to music a libretto by the Venetian playwright Carlo Goldoni. The theme can hardly be described as novel (a gullible wealthy father deceived by his daughters and their suitors so that young love can take its natural course), but it is a jolly piece with some rewarding music and was well served by a colourful production and spirited performance in the RCM’s Britten Theatre. Here is what George Hall had to say in *Opera* magazine: ‘There were high standards throughout for the cast ... this was an impressive evening, too, in terms of the College’s orchestral and choral forces ... William Relton’s clever staging was expertly and enthusiastically realised ... Ruari Murchison’s designs—period costumes and a psychedelically colourful lunar landscape for the second act ... worked brilliantly.’ Our private ‘overture’, by way of a pre-performance supper, was enjoyed by all at the nearby Gore Hotel, putting us in an excellent mood to enjoy our night at the opera.



PHOTO: CHRIS CHRISTODOULOU FOR THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC

Natasha Page as Clarice in *Il Mondo della Luna*

Carol Service and Lunch in Guildhall

10 December 2019

report by Geoffrey Berry

Our annual carol service this year was held in the lovely church of St Margaret's, Lothbury, where we have held our carol services many times in the past. St Margaret's spans the boundaries of Coleman Street Ward and Broad Street. It is recorded as having been in existence since 1185. Rebuilt in 1440, mainly at the expense of Robert Large, the then Lord Mayor. The church was destroyed in the Fire of London in 1666 and rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren between 1686 and 1690.

It is the official church of five livery companies, two Ward clubs and several professional institutions. The reredos and communion rail are thought to be by Grinling Gibbons. The pulpit and rood screen are from All Hallows the Great. The two paintings either side of the altar are of Moses and Aaron, and come from St Christopher-le-Stocks, which was demolished in 1781. The organ was built in 1801 and restored in 1984 and is in the original casing.

The Rector, the Reverend Prebendary Jeremy Crossley, has been our Club Chaplain for many recent Presidents. There was a good turnout by members and guests for what is one of the highlights of each year's programme. Past President Bill

Loach led the President and Vice-Presidents to their seats, carrying one of the churchwardens' wands. Due to ill health our Banner Bearer was unable to attend. Bill also very ably escorted all the lesson readers to the lectern. The choir sang many beautiful pieces of music, in between the carols which we all sang.

At the end of the service we all walked to Guildhall for the lunch. Despite the doors being locked, I was able to walk round to the main entrance, and through the corridors, to inform the door keepers that people were waiting to enter. Our President Brian Wadsworth and his wife Anne, together with the Vice-Presidents, received guests to the champagne reception. Our Chaplain had rushed from the church at the end of the service to take a communion service, still in his robes, and was due to say Grace before the lunch. Ann Loach was primed to stand in for him, but Jeremy arrived just in time. Grace was said, and as we all sat down at tables, he disappeared again to take another service. He managed to arrive back just as we began the main course. The round tables enabled convivial conversation, and in some cases degrees of hilarity.

The meal was up to its usual excellent standard, from our caterer Mark Grove. In his speech, our President thanked everyone for supporting the event, and wished us a Happy Christmas. As usual, at the end of the lunch members managed to chat to others, some of them reluctant to depart. A thoroughly enjoyable event.



Lunch in the Guildhall

Lambeth Palace

24 January 2020

report by Elizabeth Thornborough

The President, his wife Anne, and 34 members had a splendid afternoon looking around Lambeth Palace, the Grade I listed building and official residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

We entered the Tudor Gates of Morton's Tower, the formal entrance into Lambeth Palace and so named after Cardinal John Morton who had it built in 1490. In the security area of the Gatehouse we met our guides, Pamela and Irene, who divided us into two groups for the tour. As we began our visit, we were informed that the South Tower holds a prison cell which was briefly used in the 16th century.



The entrance to Lambeth Palace

We then took a stroll through the huge gardens, passing the most amazing Marseille fig tree which fronts the Great Hall and was brought to the Palace in 1556 by the last Roman Catholic Archbishop. The tree still bears abundant fruit every year, signs of which we could see. At this point the different styles of architecture, as the Palace was developed, became clear; the 'new' extension, being built of Bath stone, cannot be water-blasted heavily to keep it clean because the stone would crumble. At the time this building was erected in 1834 the issues of today's pollution were not in existence. Around the corner we were close to Lollard's Tower, another Tudor building which also had a prison cell, this time at the top. Here we also saw the Kitchen

Garden, waiting for the better weather to raise its produce.

Next, we entered the newest part of the Palace, seeing first the Atrium which was opened in 2000 during Archbishop Carey's tenure; it connects the Crypt with the 13th-century Chapel and the main Palace building. The Atrium also holds a range of gifts and artefacts given over time to different Archbishops. During its building, to the design of Griffith and Scott, various items were discovered including medieval tiles, pottery and a 13th-century oyster shell.

From here we stepped down into the original Undercroft which used to be the storeroom and larder but since World War II, when the Chapel was badly damaged, it has been in use as the daily place of prayer and contemplation. There are stairs from here to the courtyard and the 13th-century kitchen which is on the outside of the building because of the risk of fire. Our guides took us back through the Atrium and into the Great Hall with its magnificent hammer beam roof, which was originally used for entertaining important visitors. Sadly, it was demolished in Oliver Cromwell's time and firstly rebuilt in 1660 but damaged again in World War II. It was again rebuilt in style and it now houses the largest collection of manuscripts, books and documents of the Church of England and is part of the Lambeth Palace Library.

As we walked through the rooms and corridors, we saw paintings of former Archbishops together with cabinets of memorabilia. Portraits also line the walls of the 'Guard Room', with its fine 'linenfold' doors, so named as the place in bygone days where the soldiers of the Archbishop's private army would have gathered and stored their weapons.

Our tour finished with a visit to the Chapel, the private chapel for all Archbishops of Canterbury. Having been damaged in World War II and all the windows destroyed, it has since been repaired and the present-day ceiling artwork 'From Darkness to Light' was painted in 1988 by Leonard Rosoman at the request of Archbishop Robert Runcie. Behind the Chapel is a red brick tower which houses Archbishop Thomas Cranmer's study and where he compiled the Book of Common Prayer. It remains the private study of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

At this point, we thanked our guides for their very knowledgeable insight into the Palace and gardens before they led us to the very homely State Drawing Room which used to be the daily living room for the Archbishop but is now mainly used for entertaining guests. Here we enjoyed some delicious cakes and welcome refreshment before thanking the President and departing for home.

A very enjoyable afternoon.

Civic Luncheon

31 January 2020

report by Stephen Osborne

The United Wards' Club was honoured and delighted to welcome our Patron, the Rt Hon. the Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell to its Civic Luncheon at Armourers' Hall. He was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, Mrs Hilary Russell, and by Sheriff and Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli and Mrs Elizabeth Mainelli.

An event in the beautiful surroundings of Armourers' Hall is always an intimate occasion where you are surrounded by the history of arms and armour. The Armourers and Brasiers' Company started life in 1322 as the medieval guild charged with overseeing standards in the production of arms and armour. Over the centuries, its purpose has changed a number of times and it now exists primarily to promote materials science in the United Kingdom; to preserve its historic home, Armourers' Hall; and to promote fellowship amongst its members and all those who share its aspirations. The hall, a scheduled ancient monument and Grade II* listed building, is located on a site which it has occupied uninterrupted since 1346.

An enjoyable sparkling reception was held before the luncheon, while we awaited the Mayoral party, who, on arrival, and the greeting formalities completed, mingled with all the assembled guests. We then enjoyed traditional roast sirloin of Lancashire beef.



Luncheon in Armourers' Hall

The traditional toasts and speeches followed, with the President giving a thoughtful toast to 'Our guests'. The President welcomed the guests, especially the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Sheriff and Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli and Mrs Elizabeth Mainelli. The President reminded us that the Lord Mayor, William Russell, was the 692nd Lord Mayor of the City of London and the fifth member of his family to be Lord Mayor in the past

110 years. His grandfather, Sir Ian Bowater, was Lord Mayor from 1969 to 1970 and his great-grandfather, Sir Frank Bowater, from 1938 to 1939.

The Lord Mayor's response was a blend of humour and a résumé of his Mayoral programme and overseas visits for the remainder of the Mayoral year. He was particularly confident and enthusiastic that the 'City' will thrive post Brexit and that we are all energized for the task ahead of promoting and selling London's pre-eminent world-class financial services. There was the familiar exchange of gifts and the President presented the Lord Mayor with a cheque for the Lord Mayor's Appeal.

The Civic Luncheon concluded with the President thanking everyone for attending and wishing them a safe journey home.

City of London Freeman's School

As announced in the 2015–2016 *Journal*, the Club is now making an annual award of £1,000 to fund or part-fund one or more pupils to attend a suitable outside course or work-experience placement. The award will rotate between science, humanities and languages over a three-year cycle. The school has discretion to nominate the recipient(s) each year and in consultation with the recipient(s) to select a suitable course which should take place during the ensuing academic year. We asked that the recipients provide a written report to the Club after attending their placement.

Millie Cast

Biomedical Engineering Smallpeice Course

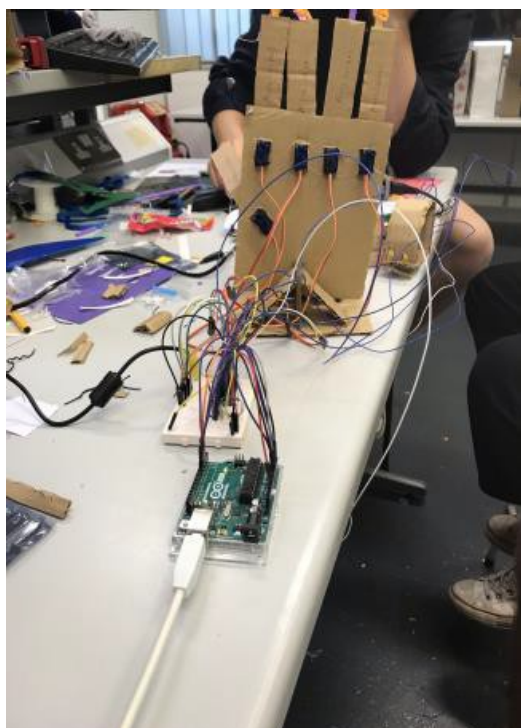
Over the summer I completed a biomedical engineering course at Birmingham City University. During the course I learnt about how medical professionals and engineers work together to make advances in medicine which better the lives of many people. I was introduced to many different people that specialize in different areas of biomedical engineering such as radiology, mechanical engineering and microbiology. Each person added a different perspective to a case study we were working on.

At the beginning of the course we were asked to research a case study. The scenario detailed in the case study involved a middle-aged man who had been in a car accident. The man experienced a severe wrist injury due to the collision. We then heard about how the man had been treated. He had his fractured wrist repaired, but during his stay in hospital he contracted an infection that led to his hand having to be amputated. After being given

this information we were asked to investigate how this scenario could happen and what could be done to improve the quality of life of the patient afterwards.



To do this we attended small workshops. In the first workshop we looked at the different types of fractures and how they may have been caused. We then went on to find out about the difficulties involved when repairing an injury involving the hand due to the complex network of blood vessel and nerves. The professors described the different plates and screws which they had engineered that can be inserted carefully into a hand to correct a broken bone.



Once we had understood how the break would have been treated we wanted to learn about the process post surgery. A professor at the university created a simulation involving fluorescent powder that aimed to show us how easily an infection can be spread throughout a hospital. This led us to investigate microbiology. During the afternoon we were able to make use of the university's labs and

did a microbiological experiment called Gram-stain. This is something that I particularly enjoyed as I had not done a practical experiment with such precision and detail before.

The next day was mainly focused on how advancements in engineering could improve the quality of life of the patient. We found that prosthetics were a major way of doing this and spent the day making a robotic hand from everyday materials such as straws and cardboard. In my group we had to make a model of the hand and then connect all the electrical components to make it function. This was a challenging process as many times we found that the hand did not work but after we made many adjustments finally it did operate at it should.

On the final day we made links between what we had learnt on each section of the course to form an opinion about what we thought had happened during the treatment of the man in the scenario, and we then presented this and our robotic hand to the rest of the group.

Overall I thoroughly enjoyed the course as it touched on many things outside of the school syllabus and it has helped me decide what I want to do in the future.

Jennifer Dunstan

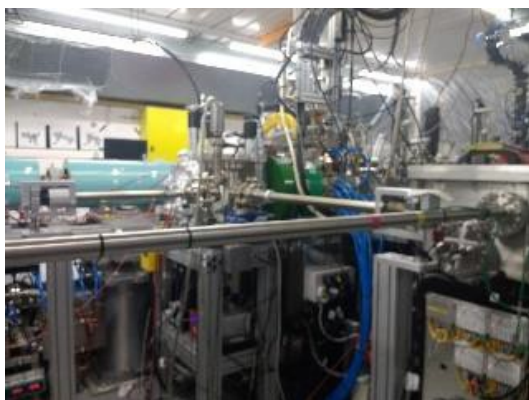
Work Experience at Daresbury Laboratory

Over the summer, I spent a week in Daresbury Laboratory, a research institute focused primarily on particle accelerator science, though also on areas such as nuclear physics and supercomputing. I was part of a group of twelve students who were based in the Accelerator Science and Research Centre and so discovered what goes into creating and using the particle accelerators that are present on the site. Throughout the week I enjoyed many activities, including lectures, hands-on experiments and tours, led by some of the scientists who work at Daresbury, from a variety of different areas.



A focus of the week was learning about the particle accelerators they have on site, and this in-

volved a tour of one of the existing particle accelerators (Versatile Electron Linear Accelerator – VELA) and one that is currently under construction (Compact Linear Accelerator for Research and Applications – CLARA). VELA is capable of accelerating short pulses of electrons to a speed very close to the speed of light. These pulses are used in many experiments led by scientists from around the country, which have many varied and far-reaching applications to the real world.



Part of VELA where the laser is introduced

One of the applications I learnt about involves using the electrons to produce intense light which can be used to image individual molecules; a technique that has many implications across science. CLARA will be 100 metres long at completion, and will be available to scientists from around the world wanting to test their experiments before using even larger accelerators such as the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN. Looking around the construction site was fascinating, as I was able to physically see lots of the equipment that I had learnt about theoretically.

Through activities and lectures, I learnt about how the accelerators actually work. This was very interesting to me, as it went beyond the A level specification, though the basics of many ideas were familiar to me, due to taking A level physics. One such idea is how they actually accelerate the particles, using radio frequency (RF). A standing wave is set up in specially designed cavities, which is made so that wherever the electron beam is, it is experiencing a forward force from the electric field, causing it to continually accelerate. We were able to see an old cavity, and tested it for any faults.

Another idea is that of magnetism and electromagnetism, which is invaluable to particle accelerators. Magnets are used for a number of tasks, such as focusing the electron beam, directing it around corners, causing it to oscillate (to produce light), and even tilt it vertically, which allows the length of the beam to be measured. We also had the opportunity to design a magnet on a certain computer software, which could then be used to show the strength of the field at each point on the

magnet, and so improve the design. As a group, we also carried out an experiment using a magnetic field to measure the charge/mass ratio of an electron, although we were many orders of magnitude out!



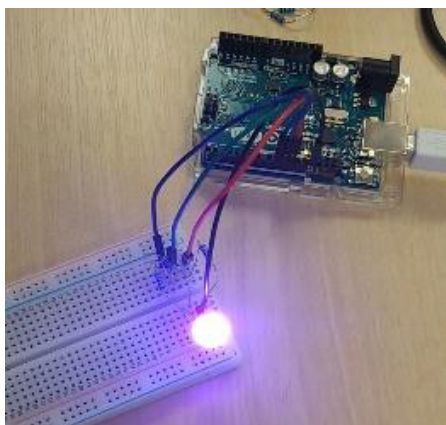
Group vacuuming task

Two key parts essential for a particle accelerator are a high-power laser, and a very low-pressure vacuum, and we also learnt about both of these. The lasers can have multiple uses, of which an important one is the production of the electrons, using photocathodes. Lasers can also be used to create plasma for plasma acceleration: a new technique which will allow accelerators to be much smaller. We were able to complete small experiments with lower power lasers, involving aligning the laser, and calculating the refractive index of glass. I enjoyed the practical element of this, and the chance to work as a team. We also learnt how vacuum pumps work, and how very low-pressure vacuums are produced: strangely by 'capturing' molecules rather than pumping them out. We went on a tour of the laboratories, and heard about a vacuum problem that had occurred on the LHC, which Daresbury laboratory was tasked to fix. I found it fascinating to see the day-to-day work that occurs at Daresbury, and it was helpful regarding choosing a future career.



An electron microscope

A large part of Daresbury's work is based in computing, as well as physics. On a tour, we were able to look at the huge supercomputers that they have on site. These are used almost constantly, to run the complex calculations and simulations that many of the experiments completed at Daresbury require. It was interesting to see how closely the temperature of the machines had to be controlled, and one computer was even submerged in a cooling fluid, to prevent overheating. Although not quite as large scale, we had the opportunity to learn some computing and electronics, using a piece of equipment called an arduino board, which can be programmed using a computer software. We were able to make an LED fade through all the colours, and also program and control buzzers—which were less elegant! I thoroughly enjoyed these tasks, as I was able to build on a skill that I thought I'd left behind in GCSE computing.



Programming an arduino and LED

As well as learning about the science and research that occurs in Daresbury, we were able to ask current scientists what it was like to work in the science industry. This was useful to hear about a potential career path. On the final day, everyone in the group prepared and gave a presentation on something they had learnt that week. This was a good opportunity to practise public speaking skills, and a nice way to end the week. Overall, I enjoyed a very varied, thoroughly interesting week, throughout which there was always the chance to ask questions, and learn more about the science that occurs at Daresbury. I would say that the work experience has taught me about many new and interesting areas of physics and science, and given me an invaluable insight into working as a scientist at one of the leading sites in the UK. As a result, I may follow a similar career in the future.



Group activity

Jacob Bircher

University of Birmingham Headstart Course 'Power for the Future'

In late July 2019 I completed a four-day engineering-based course at Birmingham University, on Power for the Future. Upon arrival at the university, I was welcomed and had a brief moment to meet some of the other people on the course with me before we had our first lecture of the day, all about wind engineering. I was very impressed to learn that wind power has rapidly grown in the United Kingdom over the last 10 years and now provides nearly 20% of our total energy needs.

One thing that really stood out for me during the week was that there is actually very high potential for renewable energy technologies in the UK. This was something I had not appreciated so much because of how poor the weather usually seems. Later that first day, we had a short icebreaker session which helped me to get to know my peers as well as the leaders. On the campus tour we were able to get a good feel for what living at the campus would be like. However, I should have liked to see a few more of the engineering facilities, which was something that was not included in our tour.

The following day, we had our first 'hands-on' session of the week. In small groups we would have to design and create our own small-scale model of a wind turbine out of a few materials given to us, with the objective being to make the most powerful turbine from a given wind speed. I enjoyed the creative and building aspects of this challenge and it was a useful indicator of what designing things might be like during a proper university degree. The only downside was when we were making final adjustments to our design, we accidentally made it worse and couldn't get it back.

Afterwards, there was a grapevine session in which we were able to talk to primarily engineering graduates from the university and could ask them questions. One of the people had studied mechanical engineering which is what I am most interested

in and he told me he had had a number of different jobs working on different projects and that you could use the degree to work in a number of different fields depending on your interests. He was currently working with Rolls-Royce designing a new aeroplane engine which sounded very exciting. This was especially useful because I wasn't sure how much flexibility there would be with different jobs and I much prefer the designing aspect rather than purely maintaining which was what I thought mechanical engineering could lead to.

The third day was the most exciting. In the afternoon, we travelled to Ardley where they burn waste that cannot be recycled to produce energy, but it was not anything like I expected: there were almost no flue gases being emitted. This was because they have to clean the air from all the harmful chemicals. The highlight for me, however, were the four short lectures on alternative power we had that morning. Prior to the Headstart course I had completed another course online about renewable technologies which really helped me to understand the concepts and the possible solutions talked about in these lectures. I was fascinated to learn that by far the biggest challenge for UK energy is the amount of gas we use in our homes to provide our heating, especially in the winter. This was off the charts compared to other major uses of energy like in industry or transport for example.

Overall, I enjoyed the week and it gave me a fairly good insight into university life, as well as a strong look into a degree and career in engineering which has helped me to solidify my decision.

Membership Changes

New members

Jamel Banda
 Hilary Burton
 Josu de la Fuente
 Virginia Hopson
 Anthony Lane
 Liz McCarthy
 Graham Mundy
 Dhruv Patel
 Neil Redcliffe
 Michael Rollings
 Richard Semark
 Tony Smart
 Laurence Target
 Sue White

Deaths

Peter Bailey
 David Errington
 Neil Hamper

Bill Hughes
 Ted Newman
 Colin Webber
 Ian Williams

Report of the Governing Body

The Governing Body presents its report together with the financial statements of the Club for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Under the Club's Rules the Club is run by an elected Governing Body along with nominated representatives of the Associated Ward Clubs and the elected officers.

The Presidency of Brian Wadsworth has been most successful and well supported by the members. Brian arranged a varied and stimulating programme of events during his year, which are reported on below, resulting in a surplus on events in 2019 of £9,030 (2018 £7,260) with the details covered in the accounts. Overall the Club made an operational surplus of £2,811 in the year to 31 December 2019 (2018 £3,677) prior to any gains and losses on investments.

The Governing Body wishes to record its thanks to Brian for all he has done to continue the traditions of the United Wards' Club.

Report on functions and events during the presidential year

The Club's Annual General Meeting was held at Clothworkers' Hall on 21 March 2019. The outgoing President Anita Rust installed Brian Wadsworth as President. The new President then installed Ann Scrutton as Senior Vice President and Stephen Osborne as Junior Vice President. Immediately after the meeting there followed the Installation Dinner, when the new President was supported by a total of 86 members and guests.

The President arranged a full programme of events.

[The list of events of the year is here omitted. —Ed.]

Affairs of the Club

Donations and charitable giving

Since the last AGM the Club has made donations to the Lord Mayor's Charities of £1,500, Royal British Legion (Poppy Appeal) £250 and the City of London Freeman's School £1,000.

Membership

8 new members joined during the year. The annual subscription remains at £60 and Life Membership from the age of 60 at £600. Membership at the date of this report comprises 269 individual members and 14 associated Ward Clubs.

Members are invited to help by each introducing one new member to the Club, and are reminded that there is a membership leaflet available to give to potential members. Copies are available from the Secretary.

President

The President accepted invitations for the St George's Day Banquet from the Royal Society of St. George (City Branch), the City Livery Club Luncheon, and the Annual Banquet of the Guild of Freemen.

The President was also a personal guest of several Members at Ward Club and Livery functions.

The President and the Secretary attended the City of London Freemen's School Prize Day on 1 July.

The President was jailed and bailed at the Tower of London in aid of the Royal British Legion on 6 July and raised a total of £1,247.50 in donations.

The Royal British Legion City of London Branch invited the President to lay a cross at the Garden of Remembrance Service in St Paul's Churchyard on 4 November.

Honorary Treasurer

Chris Edge was re-elected Honorary Treasurer at the AGM. We are most grateful for his hard work and commitment, and the Governing Body thanks him for his presentation and advice on the Club accounts during this busy year.

Honorary Solicitor

Our Honorary Solicitor is Stephanie Thomas. The Club wishes to record its thanks to her.

Honorary Editor of the Journal

John Bowman has continued in his rôle of Honorary Editor. The Club wishes to record its thanks to John for an excellent Journal and for containing its costs.

President's Chaplain

The President appointed the Reverend Prebendary Jeremy Crossley as his Honorary Chaplain for his year of office.

Honorary Auditor

The Governing Body thanks John Toth for his generous audit of the Club Accounts and the continuing interest he takes in Club affairs.

Banner Bearer

Owing to the indisposition of Stephen Willis, Sally Goldsmith carried the walking banner along the route of the Lord Mayor's Show, and again at the Founders' Day Dinner.

Secretary

Andrew Dyke has continued in office as Secretary to the Club. The Governing Body and all members are very grateful to Andrew for all his hard work in ensuring the future health of the Club.

By order of the Governing Body
19 February 2020

Governing Body's Responsibilities

The Club rules require the Governing Body to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Club and of the profit or loss of the Club for that period. In preparing those accounts, the governing body is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Club will continue to exist.

The Governing Body is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Club. The Governing Body must also be responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Club and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Report of the Non-Statutory Auditor to the Members of the United Wards' Club of the City of London

I have audited the accounts on pages [33–7] which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page [35].

Respective responsibilities of the Governing Body and Auditor

As described above, the Governing Body is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. It is my responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on my audit, on those accounts and to report my opinion to the members. I do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or in whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by my prior consent in writing.

Basis of Opinion

An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the Governing Body in the preparation of the accounts, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Club's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the accounts are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the accounts.

Opinion

In my opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Club as at 31 December 2019 and of its results for the year then ended.

14 March 2020

J. E. G. A. Toth
Honorary Auditor

1 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1AN

People for 2020/2021

President:

Ann Scrutton



Born in 1948 at Woodford Green, Essex in a nursing home run by a nursing colleague of my mother. Educated at Ursuline Convent School Brentwood where I was a boarder and Head Girl in 1966.

After A-levels I trained as a radiographer at Westminster Hospital qualifying in 1969, subsequently working in several hospitals: the London Hospital, Moorfields Eye Hospital and St Mary's Paddington London and also locally to my home.

Barry and I married in 1975 and have three children, Toby, Claire and Helen and currently five grandchildren.

I am the Company Secretary of the family business Scrutton Estates Ltd.

After working for the NHS I decided on a new career and trained as a Montessori teacher at St Nicholas Montessori London.

In 2005 I was admitted to the Freedom of the City of London and became a Liveryman of the Farriers Company in 2006, my paternal grandfather having been a blacksmith and farrier apprenticed in the 1880s. I joined Tower Ward Club, serving on the committee.

I am a member of the United Wards' Club and the Royal Society of St George (City Branch).

I have been a member of the Inner Wheel Club of Wanstead and Woodford for many years, holding the position of President three times and currently serve on the committee. I also serve as Secretary of Chigwell WI and have served for over

twenty years as a member of the Chigwell Fund-raising Committee for the Children's Society.

I was the Secretary and Membership Secretary for over 15 years of Harlow NADFAS, now the Harlow Arts Society.

Senior Vice-President:

Stephen Osborne



Stephen was born in 1950 in Cuckfield, East Sussex and currently lives in Eastbourne, with Brighton & Hove being his home City.

He is a Chartered Secretary by profession and prior to his retirement was employed by Lewes District Council and Eastbourne Borough Council as a Principal Accountant, having spent most of his career in local government financial services. He is a member of the Chartered Governance Institute (Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators), the Institute of Financial Accountants and the Institute of Public Accountants.

Stephen was admitted to the Freedom of the City of London in 2004 and in the same year became a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators. He is a Court Assistant and Honorary Editor of the company's annual journal *Integrity*. He is a Court Assistant and a Director of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London and is Honorary Editor of the annual Journal *The Freeman*. He is also a member of the City Livery Club and is a Director and member of the governing Council.

Stephen is a Freeman and Burgess of the City of Glasgow and is member of the Master Court of the Incorporation of Wrights in Glasgow and is a member of the Glasgow North Parish Washing Green Society.

He has a long-standing interest in London and the 'City' and its colourful history. His interests in other 'City' organizations include Lime Street Ward Club, the Royal Society of St George (City of London Branch) and the Guildable Manor of Southwark.

He is a member of English Heritage, National Trust for Scotland, Historic Royal Palaces and Sussex Wildlife Trust. He also enjoys his membership of the Brighton Royal Pavilion and Museums Foundation and has interests in several other Brighton & Hove-based organizations.

Stephen enjoys walking the South Downs and the highlands of Scotland. Foreign travel, especially to more remote parts of the world has been one of his leisure passions since a young man and he intends to pursue these interests more actively now that he has retired.

Junior Vice-President:

Peter Hill



I should like to start by telling members how I became involved in the Club. When I became Master of Lime Street Ward Club in 2002 Bryan Wakeham, who was a member of both the Ward Club and my livery, the Poulters, took me under his wing and asked about my other involvement in the City. Apart from the Ward Club and the livery I had none, so he proposed me into membership of the United Wards' Club as well as the Royal Society of St. George, City of London Branch and the City Livery Club, and I have remained a member of all of them ever since.

In the early days of my membership work pressures meant that I could not fully join in in the

activities of the Club, but as I neared retirement I had more time on my hands and in 2012 I was elected to the Governing Body which I have remained on ever since. I finally retired at the end of 2013 and Sally Anne and I went on our first Club holiday in 2014 to the Rhine Valley Christmas Markets. Since then we have enjoyed holidays in Sicily and Puglia.

My working life was spent in the insurance industry as an underwriter. I had 45 years in the industry, 41 of which were in the City of London. I specialized in what is termed 'non-marine liability' insurance and was extremely fortunate by today's standards to have worked for only four companies: the (then) Sun Alliance, Trinity Insurance, Chubb Insurance Company of Europe and AXA Corporate Solutions. Whilst my work involved a great deal of travel, I was always based in the City. Since my retirement I have been invited to continue my membership of a number of Underwriting Committees in the City organized by the International Underwriting Association, mainly in connection with liability or environmental issues. I have also been actively involved as an independent consultant and have acted as an expert witness in a number of insurance disputes.

My other City interests are the Worshipful Company of Poulterers where I am on the Court of Assistants and, health and election permitting, will become Master in 2023. I am also a Founding Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Educators, and a Freeman of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames. As well as being a Past Master of Lime Street & Cornhill Ward Club I am also a Past Chairman of Langbourn Ward Club. I was admitted into the Freedom of the City of London in 1989 and joined the Guild of Freemen in 2003. I think that Bryan Wakeham might have had a hand in that too.

It was whilst working at the Sun Alliance that I first met Sally Anne who was an insurance broker working at Bain Clarkson and would regularly broker to me. At that time, I was married with two young sons and she was engaged to Philip, her first husband. We became good friends however and it was Sally Anne who proposed me for membership of the Lime Street Ward Club. When I became Master of the Ward Club I had recently been divorced and had no escort in place. With a little trepidation because I knew that she had only recently been widowed, I asked Sally Anne if she would feel able to be my escort to our Club events. She agreed and, as they say, the rest is history and we have not looked back since. We were married in the Bridgemaster's Dining Room on Tower Bridge on 23 April 2005.

Sally Anne is no stranger to the City either. Her grandfather was a founding member of the Honourable Company of Master Mariners. The

Master Mariners are a 'closed' livery so, much to her annoyance, she is ineligible for admission to that livery, so she became a Friend of the HQS Wellington, which is their Hall and we are both regular attenders at their functions. Sally Anne was admitted to the Freedom of the City of London in 1977 and is a Past Chairman of the Society of Young Freemen. She is a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Needle-makers, and a Past Master of both Tower Ward Club and Lime Street & Cornhill Ward Club. She is currently Vice-Chairman of Langbourn Ward Club.

When I have time from City and other engagements, I have a keen interest in cricket and rugby union both of which I played enthusiastically but badly. In consequence I am a Vice-President of Whitstable Cricket Club and Whitstable Rugby Club the latter of which I helped found in 1981 and was its first Secretary for several years. I am also a member of Middlesex County Cricket Club and a season ticket holder at Harlequins Football Club.

We are both looking forward to the forthcoming year and in supporting our President, Ann.

UNITED WARDS CLUB OF THE CITY OF LONDON
BALANCE SHEET AS @ 31st DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	2019	2018
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Computer equipment & club banners		2	2
Quoted investments	2	189,956	111,995
Income account cash held by broker			310
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		189,958	112,307
 Current assets			
Merchandise stocks	3	9,786	10,066
Debtors and prepayments	4	1,684	24,373
Bank and cash balances		11,518	77,658
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		22,988	112,097
 Total assets			
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		212,946	224,404
 Current liabilities			
Creditors & deferred income	5	9,668	30,358
Corporation tax	6	16,405	500
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		26,073	30,858
 Net assets			
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		£ 186,873	£ 193,546
 Accumulated Fund			
Accumulated Fund		134,410	136,320
Life subscriptions Fund	7	9,870	9,900
Legacy Fund	8	42,593	47,326
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		£ 186,873	£ 193,546

The Accounts were approved by the Governing Body on 19 February 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

BRIAN WADSWORTH President

CHRIS EDGE Hon Treasurer

17 March 2020

THE UNITED WARDS CLUB OF THE CITY OF LONDON INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31st December 2019

	Notes	2019 Actual £	2018 Actual £
Income			
Subscriptions - annual		10,400	10,187
- life proportion	7	630	636
Dividends & interest		1,939	4,511
Investment income reinvested		4,880	
Social functions surplus	8	9,030	6,792
Surplus on merchandise		9	609
Total income		£26,888	£22,735
Expenditure			
Administration expenses		3,952	4,016
Brokers fees		1,448	
Web site, membership system and hosting		1,985	1,104
Refurbishment of Robe			
New Members' Marketing			494
Journal		1,096	1,289
Official guests at functions		2,149	1,590
Hall for AGM		900	900
Immediate Past President's badge		259	
Lord Mayor's Show cost		316	576
Secretary salary plus NI		10,240	9,089
Total expenditure		22,345	19,058
Total operational surplus		£4,544	£3,677
Donations			
Benevolent donations		1,250	1,250
Lord Mayor's charity		1,500	1,500
Total Donations		£2,750	£2,750
Realised surplus on Investments			
Realised gain on sale of investments		83,611	6,072
Less: Tax on realised gain		(15,905)	
Prior year adjustment on cash account			115
Realised surplus on Investments		£67,706	£6,187
Gains and losses on Investments			
Unrealised write down of investments			1,019
Change in unrealised gain on investments		(71,411)	7,746
Total unrealised (gains) and losses on		(£71,411)	£8,765
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(£1,911)	(£1,651)
Accumulated Fund brought forward		136,321	137,971
Accumulated fund carried forward		£134,410	£136,320

Note 1

Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions are credited to the Income and Expenditure Account when received. A proportion of the Life Subscriptions Fund, to which life subscriptions received are credited, is also credited to the Income and Expenditure Account at the rate of 6% per annum on the accumulated balance at the year end.

Depreciation

Computer equipment and banners are now written off in the year of purchase.

Stocks

These comprise badges, ties and brooches for sale to members. They are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Taxation

The Club is liable to Corporation tax on investment income and on chargeable investment gains.

Note 2

Quoted Investments	2019	2018
	£	£
Cost at 1st January	34,612	39,340
Sale of investments at cost	(34,612)	(4,728)
Managed fund with Charles Stanley	179,104	
Reinvested income	4,880	
Cost as at 31st December	183,984	34,612
Provision for unrealised loss	-	(3,619)
Change in Unrealised gain	-	81,002
Unrealised gain on Managed Fund valuation	5,972	
Market value 31st December	£ 189,956	£ 111,995

All of our investments listed on the London Stock Exchange were sold in May 2019 and immediately reinvested, together with £61,000 additional monies from the Club's bank accounts, into a Fund managed by Charles Stanley. All income from the managed funds are automatically reinvested. The £5,972 reflects the amount to agree to the valuation provided by Charles Stanley at the end of the year.

Note 3

Merchandise

The Club purchased new ties, cufflinks and ladies brooches during 2018. The closing stock reflects the inventory held by the Secretary at the year end, valued at the original cost.

Note 4

Debtors & Prepayments	2019	2018
	£	£
Prepaid cost for Irish Holiday in 2019	-	22,304
Prepaid insurance	856	753
CRM system written off over 3 years	658	1,316
Sundry debtor [paid in January 2020]	170	-
Balance at 31 December	£ 1,684	£ 24,373

Note 5

Creditors and Deferred Income	2019	2018
	£	£
Accrued cost for Charterhouse	-	9,615
2018 donation for the City of London Freeman's school bursary scheme paid in 2019	-	1,000
Accrual for Gifts	-	127
Accrual for advice on tax on gains	480	
Accrual for Scanning of archives	4,733	
Deferred income for events in next year	3,435	856
Deferred subscription	1,020	720
Deferred income (deposits) for Irish trip in 2019	-	18,040
Balance at 31 December	£ 9,668	£ 30,358

Note 6**Corporation Tax**

The disposal of the Club's shareholding has given rise to a Corporation Tax liability. The Governing Body is taking independent accountancy advice on the actual amount due. The accounts are based on the highest likely amount due. Corporation Tax falls due by 1st October 2020.

Note 7

Life Membership

	2019	2018
	£	£
Balance at 1 January	9,900	8,436
Life subscriptions received in the year	600	2,100
Credited to Income and expenditure account	(630)	(636)
Balance at 31 December	£ 9,870	£ 9,900

Note 8

Legacy Fund

	2019	2018
Legacy Fund brought forward	47,326	47,326
Less: Payment for Digitalisation of the archives	(4,733)	-
Balance of Legacy fund	£ 42,593	£ 47,326

Note 9

Summary of Events for the year

Event	Date	Attendees	FoC	Total	Income	Net Costs	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Assay Office	22/01/2019	38	0	38	3,180	2,166	1,014
Barbican Concert	07/02/2019	12	1	13	1,265	1,219	46
Civic Lunch	01/03/2019	79	6	85	6,570	6,266	304
AGM & Installation dinner	21/03/219	86	6	92	8,959	7,447	1,513
Royal Mews	09/04/2019	35	1	36	2,100	1,541	559
Escoffier Room	08/05/2019	37	1	38	2,016	2,067	(£51)
Tower Bridge	15/05/2019	14	1	15	845	766	79
Royal Hospital, Chelsea	04/06/2019	18	1	19	1,445	1,149	296
Lincoln Mid week break	25/06/2019	29	1	30	3,345		3,345
Aspley House	12/07/2019	32	1	33	2,186	1,842	344
Lloyds	11/09/2019	40	1	41	2,355	2,293	62
Irish Holiday	21/09/2019	31	1	32		319	(£319)
Founders Dinner	31/10/2019	108	11	119	11,834	11,500	334
Clarence House	21/11/2019	69	1	70	680		680
Opera	27/11/2019	24	1	25	1,990	1,856	134
Carol Service	10/12/2019	81	2	83	7,410	6,719	691
TOTAL					£ 56,180	£ 47,150	£ 9,030