



COMPANY COMMENT

The Honourable Company of Freemen of the
City of London of North America

www.freemenlondon.org

May 2002

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From the Master

It is a delight to be entering my term as Master with the greatest influx of new members, the largest New Court and an Annual General Meeting banquet that had more attendees than has been seen for several years. I’m sure this bodes well for the year to come and is in no small part the result of the vigor and dedication of our immediate past master Neil Purcell. As the company we thank him for all his hard work over the last year.

Similarly, it is with pleasure that we welcome Martin Walmsley as our new honorary Clerk and thank Geoffrey Mayo, who becomes Deputy Master, for his largesse and efforts as Clerk during the last three years. John Smith has agreed to continue undertaking his admirable job as honorary Treasurer.

In addition to the forthcoming Sunday brunch on June 23rd at the Toronto Board of Trade Country Club, we intend to organize events for the membership during the year that will promote an increasing sense of fellowship and will reinforce our links to the City and Liveries of London.

You are encouraged to attend all events, bringing with you friends and colleagues. Once introduced to us, they may also wish to become members of the Company and participate in our strong sense of fellowship.

I look forward to meeting with you all, welcoming many of new members, and having a lot of fun in the year to come.

Hugh Oddie – Master.

A Brief History of a City Livery Company – The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries

The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries is number 58 in the order of precedence and was first chartered as a City Livery Company on 6th December 1617 by King James I. The Society was well prepared and received its Coat of Arms signed by William Clarenceaux, King of Arms on 12th December that same year.

It is the largest of the City Livery Companies, and retains some limited function in the licensing of Doctors and Pharmacists. In earlier days, starting in 1815, it was the sole licensing agency in England. However, this exclusivity was changed with the creation of the United Examining Board for Doctors and Pharmacists. The Society has sat on this Board as a permanent member since its inception.

The Apothecaries’ Hall

The original and current halls are in Black Friars Lane. The land and the original house were acquired in 1632. Before acquisition, it was called Cobham House and was bought for the princely sum of £1,800. Unfortunately, like so many of the early Halls, it succumbed to the ravages of the Great Fire in 1666. Plans were immediately formed to rebuild it, and the New Hall was completed in 1672, including an “Elaboratory” which was the first large scale manufacturing facility for early drugs and medicines. It also had a retail pharmacy in the North Range with access from Water Lane.

The Hall underwent major restoration in the 1780's and while subsequent restoration has continued almost continuously ever since, the essential building structures remain unchanged. In the major restoration, new ranges were added to complete the quadrangle to the South and West.

The Hall somewhat miraculously avoided major damage during the Blitz and the other bombing raids during the Second World War, and is recognized as the oldest extant Livery Hall. As we have read, others were either bombed out or received major damage, while the Apothecaries received practically no structural damage at all. Photographs of the Hall can be seen on their website at <http://www.apothecaries.org/hall/index.html>.

Foundation

The Society was chartered in recognition of the apothecaries' specialist skills in compounding and dispensing medicines. In its early days it was one of the few trusted and respected manufacturer of medical compounds and medicines. It exercised a very important role in the production of reliable and effective medicines and drugs, and this leadership continued over almost two hundred years.

The Faculty

The Faculty of the History and Philosophy of Medicine and Pharmacy is a relatively recent body within the Society of Apothecaries to "foster and extend interest in medical history". Academic in character and a charity by constitution, membership is open to the public. The Faculty teaches and disseminates knowledge about medical history and has close links with several Universities.

The Apothecaries' Lectures are given very broadly to medical undergraduates and to interns, as part of their degree and licensure requirements. There is also a three day course for undergraduates held at the Apothecaries Hall on the history of medicine, together with Diploma Courses in the History of Medicine and in the Philosophy of Medicine.

Medical Licensure

The Apothecaries' Act of 1815 empowered the Society to institute a Court of Examiners to examine and grant licences to successful candidates to practice as an Apothecary in England and Wales. The Society continues to award its Licence as a Member of the United Examining Board, which is the only non-University medical licensing body in the UK. At present, the Examinations Department of the Society administers 10 medical diplomas in subjects not offered by any other medical body.

Current Membership

The Membership, unlike many of the Livery Companies, is still principally drawn from the ranks of medical professionals. 85% are from the wider medical and related

professions including pharmacists, dentists and veterinary surgeons.

Links with the Honourable Company

Eight Members of the Honourable Company are Liverymen and women of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries. These include Mr. Paul Bloom and Dr. Alan Bass who both live in Victoria BC, Mr. Peter Vincent Davies who lives in Ponoka, Alberta, Dr. Alan Franklin of Toronto, Ontario, Mr. William (Bill) Miller, Past Master, who lives in New York City, Mr. William Risk of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, Dr. Michael Thomson of Halifax, Nova Scotia and Mr. James Whitby of London, Ontario.

Much of the information for the above article was developed or directly extracted from the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries website at www.apothecaries.org.

Events Report

The Annual meeting was one of the most successful we have enjoyed in the last few years. There was an excellent turnout of 78 Members and their Guests. We were honored to be joined by the new British Consul General, Geoffrey Berg and his Wife, Sheila, who both enjoyed the customs and British pageantry we try to maintain. It was also an immense honour to be joined by Past Master Godfrey Jacobs and his wife, Hazell, who had flown over from the London especially to be with the Company and with Neil Purcell at his last event as Master. Godfrey has recently resumed the position of London Clerk, and for the many that were members back in the early and mid 1980's, it was a delight to renew our friendship with Godfrey and Hazell.

John Smith, the Honorary Treasurer, showed another aspect of his many talents acting as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening. The Dinner started with Grace, said by Founding Master and Past Master Captain G. Ray Gibson, and was immediately followed by a presentation by the Master, Neil F. Purcell, to the Honourable Company of a beautiful walnut case for the "HMS Olympic" Loving Cup. This Loving Cup has been carried all over North America to our many dinners, and has survived being lost, x-ray scanners, and occasional mishaps fortunately without damage. This case will provide a much higher level of security for such a valuable property of the Honourable Company. Also presented to the Honourable Company by the Deputy Master was an exceptionally beautiful wooden case for the Deputy Master's Chain of Office.

The Toasts were made to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth on the occasion of the year of Her Golden Jubilee by Past Master Peter Leach; to the President of the United States by the Honorary Clerk and Deputy Master Designate, Geoffrey Mayo; and to the Honourable Company by Past Master John Lawer.

After an excellent Dinner, the Company Rose Bowl was circulated for Guests to freshen their fingers, and the

Ceremony of the Loving Cup was performed, using all three of the Company's Loving Cups.

The Master of Ceremonies convened the Annual Meeting and the Master gave a short summary of his year in office and the substantial success in rebuilding the membership of the Honourable Company and the numerous applications for the Freedom that the Company had been able to sponsor.

Neil Purcell concluded his summary but recognizing the huge contribution and support that he had received from his Wife, Livia, and presented a large bouquet of flowers to her.

The meeting concluded with the Investiture of the New Master, Deputy Master, Officers, and Wardens of the Court. Details are provided in the following article. In recognition of great friendship, the Immediate Past Master was honoured to receive Godfrey Jacob's Past Master's Jewel, inscribed with the names of both Godfrey and Neil. In response, the Immediate Past Master, conferred on Godfrey Jacobs a new Past Master's jewel, in recognition of the huge and on-going contribution made by Godfrey to the Honourable Company.

With the closure of the Annual Meeting, the newly invested Master, Hugh Oddie introduced our Guest Speaker, Jeanne Lamon, Music Director of Tafelmusik. She gave an absolutely fascinating talk on the strong linkage between Baroque Music, the City of London and the British Royal Family. We hope to be able to print a condensed version of this talk in a subsequent issue of Company Comment. Dr. Martin Walmsley, our new Honorary Clerk, warmly thanked Jeanne Lamon.

The next Annual General Meeting and Dinner - the 24th - will be held on 9th May 2003 at the Albany Club.

Final Address of the 2001-2002 Master

Consul General, Founding Master, Past Masters, Wardens and Members of the Court, Ladies and Gentlemen:

When I think of my year as Master the thing that comes to mind is "Time Flies". The year has gone by in a flash and it seems like only yesterday that I was invested as Master.

My vision for my year as Master was to return to our roots. In the early days of the Honourable Company, most of its members were active in business and its activities centered around the three values of the Freemen and Guilds and Livery Companies of London, namely, trade and commerce, and social and charitable activities.

Over time things changed and many of the members ceased to be active in business. Thus, the two main areas of emphasis became the social and the charitable activities. I strongly believe that, for the Honourable Company to grow and prosper, we need to have the majority of our members active in trade and commerce and networking, in addition to the social and charitable activities. With these three activities working in unison, the Honourable Company

becomes vital and useful to our members, as well as to the community. To accomplish this we need more active members - but not just more members. We need younger members, and we definitely need more women members.

We also need to align and link ourselves with such fine and like-minded organizations as The British Canadian Chamber of Trade and Commerce and The St. George's Society of Toronto. I have pursued this vision throughout my year.

New members come from well-planned events of value, quality and fun, which make people come, and in which they wish participate. When someone leaves one of our events they should feel that the time was well spent and they are looking forward to the next one.

We as a Court have worked hard to make this happen and all of our events this year have been excellent. However we need your input. Please let us know what type of events you want and, where possible, offer to help make them happen.

Personally, I have joined both The British Canadian Chamber of Trade and Commerce and The St. George's Society of Toronto. I encourage others to do the same. I have met with both organizations and established more formal links. We held joint events with both organizations and a few members have attended some of their events. We have also established links to each others web sites, and we are in discussions for further possibilities.

We have also put a great deal of effort into the Honourable Company's Charity. Three very well attended and enjoyable fund raising events were held enabling us to start rebuilding the Charity's resources and look toward making a difference in people's lives. The Charity is a very important part of who we are and gives us a purpose.

All our hard work is paying off. There has been a significant increase in new members and the momentum is building. As an example, last fall between September and November we gained 14 new members, and at the April 10th reception for new members at Hugh Oddie's home, 10 guests requested application forms for membership.

I have also strongly promoted members applying for the Freedom of the City of London, which adds a special meaning to being a member of this Honourable Company. During the year we have had 14 members apply for the Freedom and a number of additional applications are in process.

As I look back over the year I can truly say to this Court, thank you for your support during my year as Master and thank you for a job well done.

This Honourable Company is important to me and I am happy in the knowledge that its future is secure and that it

will grow and prosper under the guidance of our new Master Hugh Oddie and our new Court.

Speech prepared and presented by the Immediate Past Master, Neil Purcell.

Investiture of the Court for 2002-2003

The Company is proud to announce the Court for the year 2002-2003.

Master **Hugh Oddie**
Worshipful Company of Feltmakers

Deputy Master **Geoffrey Mayo**
Worshipful Company of Engineers

Honorary Treasurer **John S. Smith**
Freeman

Honorary Clerk **Dr. Martin F. Walmsley**
Freeman

Immediate Past Master **Neil F. Purcell**
*Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers
Guild of Freeman of the City of London*

Founding Master **Captain G. Ray Gibson**
Honourable Company of Air Pilots and Air Navigators

Wardens **Agnes Christopoulos**
Sylvia Davis
Stanley W. Elkind
James McDermott
David Moorcroft

East Coast Chapter Honorary Clerk **Kenneth Wood**
Worshipful Company of Shipwrights

Upcoming events

Summer Picnic/Brunch 23 June 2002
Toronto Board of Trade Country Club Informal
Woodbridge, ON 11.30 am for 12 noon

East Coast Chapter Dinner September 2002
The Saraguay Club Black Tie or Business Suit
See our website www.freemenlondon.org in the near future for more details

Annual General Meeting and Dinner 9 May 2003
The Albany Club Black Tie
91 King Street East Reception 6.30 pm
Toronto, ON Dinner 7.30 pm

City Ceremonies – The Lord Mayor’s Show

The Lord Mayor’s Show is one of the oldest of the Traditions of the City of London. The Show or the “Riding”, the “Pageante” and the “Procession” as it has been called over the centuries, goes back to 1215 following the signing and sealing by King John of the charter which conceded that “the City shall have its ancient liberties and free customs, both by land and water... and to choose every year a mayor and present him to us”. With the first Lord Mayor, Henry Fitzailwyn being appointed in 1189 and served until 1212, the Show has been a feature almost since the first Lord Mayor. The 1215 Charter, required not only for the Lord Mayor be presented to the King or Queen, but he or she must swear an oath of allegiance and be “shown” to the people of London.

As one would expect the quality of the Show has varied over the years but it has happened every year since, except in 1852 when it was cancelled for the funeral of the Duke of Wellington. Even during the Second World War, it was held but in a somewhat scaled down form.

The star feature of the 1254 Show when Ralph Hardel was sworn in as Lord Mayor was to have been an elephant. This is believed to have been the very first elephant to be seen in England since the Roman Conquest in AD43. Unfortunately the elephant died before the Show and Henry III who was presenting it to the Lord Mayor was furious when he discovered that its remains had been buried in the Tower ditch

The Shows tableaux are called floats because the procession used to row up the River Thames. This is the reason that processional displays are called “floats” throughout the English-speaking world. The custom was started by Mayor John Norman in 1453. As he was lame and had difficulty mounting a horse, he had a sumptuous barge built, with banners and gilded oars. For many years, the major part of the Pageant was actually on the River.

In earlier times, it was the responsibility of the Company of the Lord Mayor to provide the pageant to celebrate his or her election. For the Pageant for Sir Nicholas Rainton,

Haberdasher, in 1632, indicates the lavishness of these events – costing in those days about £550. The Procession provided by the Haberdashers list, in order of going from the Haberdashers Hall to the Lord Mayor’s house to collect the Mayor:

- 1) Those that attend in blew coates with staves
- 2) 10 Trumpeters not sounding
- 3) 10 Or 12 of the ritche Whiffers
- 4) 20 of the ritche batchelors (Freemen)
- 5) 2 of the Wardens
- 6) The Budge Batchelors
- 7) 10 Whiffers
- 8) 10 Trumpeters not sounding
- 9) The Rest of the ritche batchelors
- 10) 4 Wardens
- 11) 20 ritche Whiffers
- 12) 12 Trumpeters not sounding
- 13) The remaining Wardens, Assistantes and Livery

Of the Freemen, 40 were to be dressed in ffoynes (fur of the beech marten) and the rest in budge (lambskin), all wearing crimson satin hoods. The Pageant included a “faire Chariot and a Lion, two gallies, fireworks, streamers and other things...”

Samuel Pepys gives us a view of the Processions in his diaries of the times, describing one of the floats as “a vessel bearing Galatea in a seahorse chariot drawn by dolphins ridden by sirens playing harps; sealions too, ridden by Tritons with Pipes and Hornes antique” - clearly a spectacular affair that would have matched or even surpassed those of today.

In 1618 Sebastian Harvey rode through empty streets and in almost absolute silence. It had been hoped that the event would draw attention away from the execution of Sir Walter Raleigh at Tower Hill. It didn’t work!

The Mercers in the Middle Ages built and then gradually elaborated on the “Maiden’s Chariot”. In Sir Ernest Pooley’s “The Guilds of the City of London”, this is described as follows: “The central figure of this was a beautiful young gentlewoman of good parentage, religious education and unblemished character. Her gown was of white satin with a fringe of gold; on her disheveled hair was placed a coronet of gold richly set with emeralds, diamonds and sapphires and from her shoulders hung a robe of crimson velvet. In one hand she held a scepter and in the other a shield with the Mercers’ Arms. Surrounding the virgin in her Roman Chariot of embossed silver, adorned with angels and cherubim, sat Vigilance, Wisdom, Prudence, Justice, Fortitude, Temperance, Faith, Hope and Charity. Eight pages of honour in cloth of silver walked on foot and Triumph served as Charioteer.” This pageant was 22 feet high and was drawn by 9 horses, three abreast, with allegorical riders, attended by grooms and Roman lectors. At the Lord Mayor’s Banquet, the maiden with her retinue dined in state at a separate table

In 1710, Mayor Gilbert Heathcote was thrown from his horse during the Show. As he was both very rich and very

stern man with no sympathy for the less fortunate, the people lining the streets were not unduly upset. However, after that the Mayor rode with dignity in the safety of a coach. The State Coach was built in 1757. It was designed by Sir Robert Taylor and made by Joseph Berry of Holborn, and painted by Italian artist Giovanni Battista Cipriani. It cost an astounding £1065. The Coach weighs nearly 3 tons and, until recently, had no brakes. Unlike most coaches that are more modern, it had no springs and is thus rather uncomfortable to ride in.

Today the Show is a spectacle of huge proportions. It is the largest unrehearsed show in the world and the largest procession of its kind anywhere. One might question the rehearsal claim as each year could be considered as a rehearsal for the following year! There are usually approaching 150 separate parade groups. In 1999, this included 67 floats, 21 bands, 35 military units and 22 carriages. This was manned by 6500 people, 200 horses, 10 dogs and used 300 vehicles. With a large portion of the City closed off for the Show, it is a very well orchestrated event that runs to time, starting just before 11am and finishing by 1.10 pm. Carrying on earlier traditions, the day ends with a firework display over the River Thames at 5 pm. However, unlike the earlier days, the cost no longer falls on the Mayor’s Livery Company, but is undertaken by the City. This is a good thing as the costs are substantial. On the beneficial side of the ledger for the City is the huge number of tourists that are attracted.

The Lord Mayor’s Show has been televised live since 1937, making it the longest running live TV broadcast event in the world. The UK audience is reported to be in excess of 3 million and parts of it are broadcast internationally. It is clearly an event in which British pageantry comes to the fore and maybe a visit to the Show should be a requirement for all Freemen at sometime in their lives. It is certainly highly recommended by Members of the Honourable Company who attended as a group in 1999.

New Members

The recent successes in introducing new members has shown the increasing relevance of the Company and its events to a broad range of people who have a continuing allegiance and commitment to the City of London. As there is a long list of members, our introduction of them will be necessarily brief. Many of the names of the new Members listed below were given in the last issue, but are repeated here with their brief résumés.

The new Members are:

David Barrett

David is originally from England but has lived in Canada for many years. He is a self-employed entrepreneur and a keen golfer. He came to the Charity Wine Tasting, which he very much enjoyed and after attending several of our subsequent events that he greatly enjoyed, he decided to join us. David has recently been admitted to the Freedom.

Agnes Christopoulos

Agnes was born and raised in Canada of Greek immigrant parents. She worked for the immediate Past Master, Neil Purcell for many years. She is married and, among other interests, she and her husband Spiros have a business, which rents condo apartments on a short-term basis to visiting businessmen and people in the sports and entertainment industry. As Neil's guest, she attended the Charity Wine Tasting and other events, and enjoyed them so much she decided to join us. She has very recently been admitted to the Freedom but still must visit the Chancellor's Court to accept her warrant.

Chris Currie

Chris became interested in the Honourable Company after taking on the contract to build the Honourable Company's website. He has already contributed enormously to our international presence and will continue to do so as the website is expanded to provide a growing range of services to our Members

Paul Darlaston

Paul was born in England but is a long-time resident of Canada. He is a self-employed computer consultant and among his many interests are politics and sailing. Paul is interested in the Charity, which was a major reason for his decision to join the Honourable Company.

Jill LeClair

Jill is English and has lived in Canada for a number of years. She is a Professor at Humber College and a close friend of Agnes and her husband Spiros. After attending 2 of our events, she decided to join us. Jill was enamored to confirm her historical roots with England and her application for the Freedom has recently been approved.

Bill McConnell

Bill was educated at Trinity College, Dublin where he obtained a B.A. (Econ), B.Sc (Engineering) and M.Sc. He is currently a Company Director and Consultant. He was formerly a senior management consulting partner with Peat Marwick and prior to that held various posts in manufacturing and banking. His leisure interests, which he enjoys with his wife, Anne, are travel, sports, gardening and reading (military history).

David McNab

David is President of Exchange Synergism and a partner of Hugh Oddie, our Master. He has a strong sense of his Scottish heritage and this will leaven the 'Englishness' of the Company

Renata Moras

Renata is a client of the Neil Purcell, our Immediate Past Master and is married to Geoff Wright. It is always a pleasure to bring into Membership a husband and wife combination that are jointly committed to building their connections to the City of London and within the Honourable Company. Renata works at the Royal Bank as a financial consultant. Both Renata and Geoff enjoy the finer

things in life and have especially enjoyed the Charity wine and scotch tasting events.

David Moorcroft

David's interest in the Company of Freeman and the City of London is both commercial and personal. His commercial interest stems from Royal Bank of Canada's activities in London, where they have several hundred employees involved in capital markets, trading, lending, correspondent banking, securities custody and private banking activities. As Senior Vice President, Public Affairs, he is responsible for supporting the corporate communications of these activities, and visits London occasionally on business. His personal interest stems from his English ancestors, who arrived in Canada shortly after the turn of the 20th century. His wife is a British subject and they have family living in England engaged in commercial activities. David is also interested in British history, particularly the evolution of the City of London and the Company of Freeman.

David Stevens

David joins his father, Arthur, and brother, Alfred, as a Member of the Honourable Company. David is the Principal of Cowan and Stephens Machinery Sales, selling a wide range of industrial machinery. Having attended many events as a guest of his father, he began to realize the value in the network of people who make up the Membership of the Honourable Company, as well as the value of the Freedom for business in London.

Edward Whitehead

Edward originally hails from Edmonton. Having attended most Company events over the last five years as a guest of Hugh Oddie, he has now become a Member to cement his relationship with the Honourable Company, and to participate in his own right as an Affiliate who plans to apply for the freedom.

Paul Wilson

Paul is a Senior Manager with the Royal Bank, and tries to spend as much time in England as his job will allow. His intent to seek the Freedom will help to expand his London Network significantly. He is also a passionate sailor.

Geoffrey Wright

Geoffrey is a graduate of McMaster and works in the information technology area with The Globe & Mail. Geoffrey is very interested in fine wines and fine scotch not to mention beer and he enjoyed our Charity Wine, Beer and Scotch tastings immensely

**The Guild of Freeman of the City of London
Event Privileges**

In the last Company Comment we reconfirmed the mutual arrangement to host visitors from the Guild of Freeman of the City of London as guests of the Honourable Company at our events, and for The Guild of Freeman to admit members of Our Honourable Company to their events has again been

ratified by both Courts. In the Freemen, their annual Magazine and Program of events, the following short article appears.

Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America.

In a recent exchange of Letters, the Guild has endorsed its close relationship with the Honourable Company of Freemen of the City of London of North America. Members of both organizations are welcome to attend each other's events on an occasional basis.

Any Guild Member living in North America or planning to visit the region who would like to find out more about this opportunity should contact the Guild office for the name and address of the point of contact, or should seek further information about the Honourable Company from their web-site:
www.freemenlondon.org.

~~Any member wanting to take advantage should contact the Clerk, Dr. Martin Walmsley; the Past Master, Neil Purcell; or the editor of Company Comment, Peter Leach as soon as possible. Appropriate notice periods for attendance at events in London must be given – Dinners being at least two months and other events at least one month – and the cost of the event must be fully paid at that time.~~

The major events for the Guild are:

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|--------------------------------|---|
| 25 th June 2002 | Royal Ballet School Visit And Buffet |
| 28 th Sept 2002 | Hilton in the Community Foundation Ball |
| 18 th October 2002 | House of Commons Tour and Dinner |
| 9 th November 2002 | Lord Mayor's Show and Lunch |
| 13 th November 2002 | Painter's Hall Reception and Dinner |
| 9 th December 2002 | Guildhall Annual Banquet |
| 17 th January 2003 | House of Lords Reception and Dinner |
| 22 nd January 2003 | Tallow Chandlers' Hall Dinner |
| 29 th January 2003 | Bakers' Hall Reception and Dinner |
| 12 th February 2003 | Magic Circle Show and Supper |
| 18 th February 2003 | Fishmongers' Hall Reception and Dinner |

The Guild will open its website during the summer 2002.
The address will be: www.guild-freemen-london.co.uk.

Communications with your Company

The main point of contact with the Honourable Company is through the Honorary Clerk, and through our website:

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Phone: 902 425 8013

Fax: 902 425 8013

West Coast Chapter:

This position is currently unfilled. Anyone who would like to volunteer should contact the Master for information.

London Clerk

Our London Clerk, Godfrey Jacobs, represents the Company in London. . Godfrey has been an enthusiastic and fervent supporter of the Hon. Co. since its inception as well as being one of the leading lights of the Livery Companies and the Freedom. The efforts of those that support us in London go unrecognized too frequently.

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