

LIVERY COMPANIES OF LONDON

A livery company is a type of guild or professional association that originated in medieval times in London, England. Livery companies comprise London's ancient and modern trade associations and guilds, almost all of which are styled the "Worshipful Company of" their craft, trade or profession. There are 112 livery companies in total. They play a significant part in the life of the City of London (i.e. the financial district and historic heart of the capital), not least by providing charitable-giving and networking opportunities. Liverymen retain voting rights for the senior civic offices, such as the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs and Common Council of the City Corporation, London's ancient municipal authority with extensive local government powers.

The term livery originated in the designed form of dress worn by retainers of a nobleman and then by extension to special dress to denote status of belonging to a trade. Livery companies evolved from London's medieval guilds, becoming corporations by royal charter responsible for training in their trades, as well as for the regulation of aspects such as wage control, labour conditions and industry standards. Early guilds often grew out of parish fraternal organizations, where numerous members of the same trade lived in close proximity often congregating at the same church. Like most organisations during the Middle Ages, these livery companies had close ties with the Roman Catholic Church (before the Protestant Reformation), endowing religious establishments such as chantry chapels and churches, observing religious festivals and hosting ceremonies as well as well-known mystery plays. Most livery companies retain their historical religious associations, although nowadays members are free to follow any faith or none.

Many, but not all, Livery companies established a guild or meeting hall. Though these halls faced destruction in the Great London Fire of 1666 and during the Blitz of World War II, over forty companies still own or share ownership of livery halls, some elaborate and historic, others modern replacements for halls destroyed or redeveloped. Most halls are made available for use by other companies not having a livery hall of their own.

Many ancient livery companies maintain contact with their original trade or craft. In some cases, livery companies have chosen to support a replacement industry fulfilling a similar purpose today, e.g. plastics replacing the use of horn or ivory in the case of the Horners' Company and fashion for the Haberdashers' Company. Modern companies (those created after 1926) are mainly representatives of today's professions and industries and operate in close association with these. Many ancient crafts remain as relevant today as when their guilds were originally established. Some still exercise powers of regulation, inspection and enforcement, e.g. the Goldsmiths' Company Assay Office, while others are awarding bodies for professional qualifications. The Scriveners' Company admits senior members of legal and associated professions, the Apothecaries' Society awards post-graduate qualifications in some medical specialities, and the Hackney Carriage Drivers' Company comprises licensed taxi drivers who have passed the "Knowledge of London" test. Several companies restrict membership to those holding relevant professional qualifications, e.g. the City of London Solicitors' Company and the Worshipful Company of Engineers. Other companies whose trade died out long ago, such as the Bowyers' Company, have evolved into being primarily charitable foundations. Many companies, for example the Pinmakers, have disappeared entirely since their creation.

After the Carmen's Company received City livery status in 1848 no new companies were established until 1926 when the Honourable Company of Master Mariners was founded (granted livery in 1932). Post-1926 creations are known as modern livery companies. The Worshipful Company of Entrepreneurs, the newest, was granted livery status in 2025, making it the 112th City livery company in order of precedence. The Honourable Company of Air Pilots is one example of London's livery companies having active overseas committees.

Training and industry

London's Livery companies originally began to be established in the 12th century, to guarantee that a member was trustworthy and fully qualified, and that the goods they produced were of reputable quality, the two-fold aim being to protect the public and to protect members from charlatans. They continued to be established until the 17th century, when political upheaval in England, particularly the Civil War, as well as the growth of London outwards from the City rendered many such livery companies, which only controlled trade within the Square Mile, less competitive or viable. Following the Stuart Restoration many livery companies were revived, but with Britain taking a leading role in the expansion of global trade the

City also adapted by establishing exchanges, some of which later became guardians of business conduct.

From the 1870s, there was a further revival of livery companies, with many extending their original educational purpose to technical education, supporting new industries and providing the necessary training, most notably through the City and Guilds of London Institute.

Charity and education

From their inception, livery companies cared for their members in sickness and old age by the giving of alms. Today, they continue to support both their members, and wider charitable aims and activities such as education and training. Numerous educational establishments in England were founded by and retain association with livery companies, among the best-known being the Haberdashers', Merchant Taylors' and Skinners' schools.

Support for the Armed Forces

Most livery companies maintain proud affiliations with regular and reserve units of the British Armed Forces, providing links between civilian and military life.

City of London governance

The livery companies have always been a constituent part of the governance of the City of London. The senior members of the livery companies, i.e. liverymen, elect the City's Sheriffs, Bridge Masters, Ale Conners, Auditors, members of the City Livery Committee, and approve the aldermanic candidates for election to the office of Lord Mayor of London.

Entry

Entry to a livery company may be by one of four routes:

By invitation to become an Honorary Freeman/Liveryman/Assistant. This is rare, and is considered a great honour.

By apprenticeship or servitude. This is nowadays less common. In earlier days, someone wishing to enter a trade would bind himself as apprentice to a member of his chosen trade. As such, he was required to do as he was instructed, and in return for strict adherence to the master's rules the apprentice learned his trade, while his master was required to provide such training that, at the end of the apprenticeship (usually seven years) the apprentice would be sufficiently knowledgeable to become a member – and a Freeman of the City of London – free of the obligations of apprenticeship.

By patrimony. Generally, a member's son/grandson (or now also a daughter/granddaughter) who was born after the parent became a member of a company are entitled to become a member by patrimony.

By redemption. Redemption is the path to the freedom for all others who do not qualify for apprenticeship, patrimony or by invitation and requires the payment of a fine (fee) as well as interview or admission procedure.

Regardless of method of entry, membership carries the same duties, responsibilities and privileges. Membership of a livery company may combine with the freedom of the City of London, now an essential formality, though in the past the Freedom carried benefits, such as being able to drive a flock of sheep across London Bridge at no charge.

Governance

Livery companies are governed by a Master (alternatively styled Prime Warden in some companies, or Upper Bailiff of the Weavers' Company), a number of Wardens (holding various titles such as the Upper, Middle, Lower, or Renter Wardens), and a court of Assistants (board of directors), responsible for company business and electing its Master and Wardens. The "Clerk to the Company" is the most senior permanent member of staff, who as chief executive officer runs its day-to-day activities.

The livery companies elect a majority of the members of the Livery Committee, a body administered at Guildhall. The committee oversees the elections of Sheriffs and the Lord Mayor, educates liverymen regarding the City Corporation's activities and represents the livery companies in communications with the City. Membership generally falls into two categories: freemen and liverymen.

Freemen

One may become a freeman, or be admitted to the "freedom of the company", upon fulfilling certain criteria: traditionally, by "patrimony", if either parent/grandparent were a liveryman of the company; by

"servitude", if one has served a requisite number of years as an apprentice to a senior company member; or by "redemption", upon paying a fee.

Most livery companies reserve the right to admit distinguished people, particularly in their sphere of influence, as Honorary Freeman/Liveryman/Assistant. Freeman may advance to become liverymen, after obtaining the Freedom of the City of London, and with their court of Assistants' approval. Only liverymen are eligible to vote in the annual election of the Lord Mayor of London, the Sheriffs and various other City civic offices, including the Ale Conners and Bridge Masters.

An ale-conner (sometimes aleconner or ale-kenner) was an officer appointed yearly at the court-leet of ancient English communities to ensure the quality of bread, ale, and beer, as well as regulating the measures in which they were sold and their prices. There were many different names for this position which varied from place to place: "ale-tasters", *gustatores cervisiae*, "ale-founders", and "ale-conners". Ale-conners were also often trusted to ensure that the beer was sold at a fair price. Four ale-conners are still chosen annually by the Common-Hall of the City of London.

Ale-conners were sworn "to examine and assay the beer and ale, and to take care that they were good and wholesome, and sold at proper prices according to the assize; and also to present all defaults of brewers to the next court-leet." The mediaeval post of ale conner was far from a popular or sought-after position. Hops are a preservative, so before the introduction of hopping, ale would not keep well and had to be brewed on site, meaning there were many small breweries to visit. In addition, ale frequently "went off" for the same reason, so tasting it was not uniformly pleasant. Finally, as a representative of the authorities and dispenser of fines, an ale-conner could become unpopular in the community. Ale-conners sometimes had to be impressed into service, and the post was often rotated amongst a number of individuals.

Liverymen



Memorial to City liverymen killed in action during WW1, at Stationers' Hall. A liveryman is a full member of his/her respective company.

When a freeman is promoted liveryman, the candidate is said to be 'clothed in the livery': indeed, a livery gown is placed on him at the Court meeting which he wears to the subsequent formal or social occasion. Thereafter only the Master, Wardens and Assistants wear livery gowns at company functions. Masters wear them at the City's formal events, e.g. the two Common Halls and the United Guilds Service, and Lord Mayor's Show, wherever they may participate. Ordinarily, liverymen wear ties or brooches at formal functions and each company differs by allowing men/women to wear distinct items subject to the occasion, such as a tie, scarf, badge or brooch.

Freemen are expected to advance to become liverymen by a vote of the court of each company. Liverymen no longer have any local government franchise in the City, but retain the exclusive right of voting in the election of the Lord Mayor (Michaelmas 'Common Hall' 29 September) and for the Sheriffs (Mid-Summer 'Common Hall' 24 June) held at Guildhall as a ceremonial occasion. The votes are made by 'acclamation' subject to a challenge/demand from the floor for a ballot which would be held a week later. Any two liverymen may nominate a candidate for the freedom of the City.

Former parliamentary election rights.

Before the Reform Act 1832 the liverymen had the exclusive right to elect the four Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the City. Between 1832 and 1918 being a liveryman was one of a number of possible franchises which could qualify a parliamentary elector in the City of London constituency, as it was a preserved ancient borough franchise under the terms of the 1832 Act.

Livery halls

Grocers' Hall, Prince's Street is the home of the Worshipful Company of Grocers, which ranks second of the City Livery Companies and was originally known as The Guild of Peppers. Their earliest records

date from the year 1180. Grocer's Hall is hidden in a court off Prince's St, and is easy to miss, as larger buildings surround it and entry to this court is through alleys under these buildings.

The current building is the 5th Grocers' Hall and was completed in 1970 to replace the previous building which was destroyed by fire on 22nd Sept 1965.

Today 39 out of 112 City livery companies own premises in London, as well as the Watermen and Lightermen which although not strictly a livery company, retains headquarters still in regular use. Among the earliest companies known to have had halls are the Merchant Taylors and Goldsmiths in the 14th century, and, uniquely, the kitchen and the crypt of Merchant Taylors' Hall survived both the Great Fire of London and the Blitz, the kitchen now having been in uninterrupted use for over 600 years.

Besides part of Merchant Taylors' Hall kitchens, the oldest interiors extant of a livery hall proper are those of the Apothecaries' Society, most rooms of which date from 1668 to 1671; significant portions of the fabric of this building are also medieval, from the 13th-century priory, part of which became Apothecaries' Hall. Several companies that do not have a hall of their own share office premises within the hall of another company on a semi-permanent basis, examples being the Spectacle Makers' Company, which uses part of Apothecaries' Hall, and the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights, which co-habits with the Ironmongers.



Three livery companies (the Glaziers and Painters of Glass, Launderers and Scientific Instrument Makers) share a hall in Southwark, just south of and outside the City of London, while the Worshipful Company of Gunmakers has long been based at Proof House in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Companies without halls customarily book use of another livery hall for their formal gatherings, giving members and guests the opportunity to visit and enjoy different City livery halls by rotation.

Blue plaques throughout the City of London indicate where companies formerly had halls. Whilst several livery companies may aspire to owning or regaining their own hall it is appreciated that any increase in the overall number of livery halls would inevitably lead to some dilution of use of the existing halls. There is also attraction in belonging to a company which is peripatetic.

Precedence

In 1515, the Court of Aldermen of the City of London settled an order of precedence for the 48 livery companies then in existence, based on those companies' contemporary economic or political power. The 12 highest-ranked companies remain known as the Great Twelve City Livery Companies. Presently, there are 112 City livery companies, with the newer companies generally being ranked by seniority of creation. The origins of some companies, and the granting of their liveries, are now obscure.

The Merchant Taylors and the Skinners have long disputed their precedence, so once a year (at Easter) they swap between sixth and seventh places. This mix-up is a favourite theory for the origin of the phrase "at sixes and sevens", as has been pointed out by at least one Master Merchant Taylor; however, it is possible that the phrase may have been coined before the dispute arose, as it comes from the companies both receiving their Charters in 1327 with no proof surviving as to which was granted first.

List of companies in order of precedence

1 - Worshipful Company of Mercers (general merchants) – 1394.



Arms of the Mercers Company, published in 1633, confirmed with additional detail by the College of Arms in 1911.

The Mercers' Company is based at Mercers' Hall, 6 Frederick's Place in the City of London. The city block upon which it stands contains the archaeology of a Roman-British temple known today as Gresham Temple. Its corporate existence began in the form of a fraternity at least by the reign of King Henry II, in the mid-1100s if not before.

From 1210 to 1214, the first two Mayors of London, Henry FitzAlwyn and Robert FitzAlwyn were claimed to be members, and branch of the company was established at this time, the Company of Merchant Adventurers, who established themselves at Antwerp, the centre of the cloth trade. Serlo le Mercer was a member of the company and was one of the negotiators of Magna Carta.

Although of even older origin, the company was incorporated under a Royal Charter in 1394, the company's earliest extant Charter. The company's aim was to act as a trade association for general merchants, and especially for exporters of wool and importers of velvet, silk and other luxurious fabrics (mercers).

From the 14th century onwards the Company held its meetings in the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon on Cheapside. Around 1438, William Caxton was apprenticed into the Mercers, under Robert Large, becoming a full member in 1452: his work took him into the Low Countries. Between 1517 and 1524, the Company built the Mercer's Chapel on this land, with the first Mercers' Hall above it, fronting Cheapside.

A member of the Mercers, Robert Packington, was murdered on 13 November 1536, the first recorded death by shooting with a handgun; Rose Hickman, a Protestant, recalled how he used to bring English bybles from beyond sea. and it is thought this may be connected to the murder. The entrance appears to have been on to Ironmonger Lane, and an interconnecting mansion house was secured by Sir Rowland Hill in 1546, which he later put at the use of his protégée and heir (via his niece) Sir Thomas Leigh. Hill is associated with the publication of the Geneva Bible, and is considered a possible inspiration for the character Old Sir Rowland in Shakespeare's As You Like It.



There are accounts of the Mercer's buildings being the focus of London state pageantry in the mid- 16th century. For instance Sir Rowland Hill and Sir Thomas Gresham together with Henry VIII and Jane Seymour, are recording as watching the Midsummer Marchers that would become the Lord Mayor's Show from the loggia of the hall. Around this time Francis Wren, grandfather of Christopher Wren was a member of the company.

Sir Thomas Gresham, founder of the Royal Exchange, was a member of the mercers. He was admitted in 1543 aged 24 as a liveryman, and later that year he left England for the Low Countries, where, either on his own account or that of his father or uncle, he carried on business as a merchant whilst acting in various matters as agent for King Henry VIII.

1544 portrait of Sir Thomas Gresham, aged 26 as inscribed, displaying his merchant's mark (left). Apparently commemorating his 1544 marriage to Anne Ferneley, with the couple's initials "AG" and "TG" framing the marriage vows Love Serve and Obei (right). The human skull denotes Vanitas. Flemish

school, collection of the Mercers' Company.

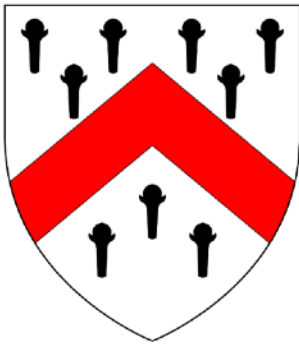
The Dead Christ, one of the most important surviving works of late English Catholic sculpture prior to the iconoclasm of the Reformation was secretly preserved in a sand-filled pit under the chapel floor, only being found during repairs after the bomb damage of World War Two.

Inigo Jones was admitted as a member in 1620. The building was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666. The second Hall, designed by Edward Jarman and John Oliver, opened in May 1676. Following the Napoleonic Wars the first Viscount Hill, the Peninsular general, a relative (via his uncle, Ralph Hill) of the Lord Mayor of the same name was admitted to the company honouring his soldiering. The Hall was extensively refurbished during the period 1877 to 1881 (the porch of the 1676 building is now incorporated into the facade of Swanage Town Hall).

The frontage was remodelled by George Barnes Williams and the interiors were redesigned by John Gregory Crace, the renowned Victorian designer. The Hall was destroyed by fire in 1941 during the Blitz. The third and present Mercers' Hall was opened in May 1958. The architect was E. Noel Clifton of Gunton and Gunton. The Hall incorporates fittings from the old Hall, including some 17th-century woodwork and Victorian stained glass. The Mercers' Company is the only City Livery Company to have its own private chapel.

2 - Worshipful Company of Grocers (spice merchants) – 1428.

The Worshipful Company of Grocers ranks second in order of precedence. Established in 1345 for merchants engaged in the grocery trade, it is one of the Great Twelve City Livery Companies.



Founded in the 14th century by members of the Guild of Pepperers, dating from 1180, the company was responsible for maintaining standards for the purity of spices and for setting of certain weights and measures. Its membership until 1617 included suppliers of medicinal spices and herbs when the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries was formed. The guild was known as the Company of Grossers from 1373 until 1376 when it was renamed the Company of Grocers of London. In 1428, two years after building its first hall in Old Jewry, the company was granted a royal charter by King Henry VI of England.

It is said that the Grocers' Company used to be first in precedence, until Queen Elizabeth I, as Honorary Master of the Mercers' Company, found herself in procession after her coronation behind the Grocers' camel which was emitting unfortunate smells; as a result, the Mercers were promoted. Today, the Grocers' Company exists as a charitable, constitutional and ceremonial institution which plays a significant role in the election of and supporting the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs of the City of London.

The earliest known Grocers' Hall was in Poultry, London, then known as Conningshop Lane on account of the three conies or rabbits hanging over a poulterer's stall in the lane. It was built in 1428 on land once owned by Lord FitzWalter and let out "for dinners, funerals, county feasts and weddings". The roof and woodwork of the hall were destroyed in the 1666 Great Fire and afterwards a new roof was erected on the old walls while Sir John Cutler paid for a new parlour and dining room. The hall was again renovated in 1681 by the future Lord Mayor Sir John Moore. A new hall was built on the same site between 1798 and 1802 when part of the garden was sold to the Bank of England for the expansion of nearby Prince's Street. However, frequent and extensive repairs were required due to the third hall's defective foundations, which was replaced by a fourth hall, completed in 1893 on Prince's Street. The hall survived the Blitz with only minor damage to its north wing, but was almost completely destroyed by fire in 1965, apparently caused by a lightbulb left on in the grand staircase beneath an oak lintel which smouldered and eventually ignited. The fifth and final hall was constructed nearby in 1970, also on Prince's Street, is the Grocers' home today.

3 - Worshipful Company of Drapers (wool and cloth merchants) – 1364.

It has the formal name The Master and Wardens and Brethren and Sisters of the Guild or Fraternity of the Blessed Mary the Virgin of the Mystery of Drapers of the City of London. More usually known simply as the Drapers' Company, it is one of the historic Great Twelve Livery Companies and was founded during the Middle Ages.



An informal association of drapers had organized as early as 1180, and the first (Lord) Mayor of London in 1189, Henry Fitz-Ailwin de Londonestone, was believed to have been a Draper. The guild was formally founded in 1361; it received a Royal Charter three years later. It was incorporated as a company under a Royal Charter in 1438 and was the first corporate body to be granted a coat of arms. The charter gave the company perpetual succession and a common seal. Over the centuries the original privileges granted by Royal Charter have been confirmed and amended by successive monarchs. The acting charter of today is that granted by James I in 1607, amended by four supplemental charters, most recently in 2008.

The brotherhood of drapers, a religious fraternity attached to the Church of St Mary Bethlehem in Bishopsgate, was founded in honour of the Virgin Mary by "good people Drapers of Cornhill and other good men and women" for the amendment of their lives. The majority of drapers lived in and around Cornhill, Candlewick Street (now Cannon Street) and Chepe (Cheapside). Possibly it was for this reason that their allegiance was transferred to St Mary-le-Bow in Cheapside and later to St Michael, Cornhill, where the company continues to worship today. Despite these changes, the drapers retain the Blessed Virgin Mary as their patron saint.

Originally, the organisation was a trade association of wool and cloth merchants. It has been one of the most powerful companies in London civic politics. Over one hundred Lord Mayors have been members

of the company; the first, Henry Fitz-Ailwyn, progenitor of the Earls of Arundel, was a draper. During the Plantation of Ulster, the company held land around Moneymore and Draperstown in County Londonderry.

Amongst the royalty who have been members of the company, three had not been expected to become a monarch at the time of their admission to the company but were later crowned:

Prince William of Orange in 1670, later King William (III & II) of England, Scotland, France and Ireland

Prince Carl of Denmark in 1896, later King Haakon VII of Norway

Prince Albert, Duke of York, in 1919, later George VI, King of Great Britain and Ireland, Emperor of India

Other well-known members have included Prince Frederick, Duke of York and Albany (aka The Grand Old Duke of York), Sir Francis Drake, Admiral the Viscount Nelson, The Marquess of Ripon and Grinling Gibbons.

Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom (who was elected to the Court of Assistants in 2017, on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of her membership of the Company), King Harald V of Norway, King Charles III, The Duchess of Gloucester, Admiral the Lord Boyce, and Lady Victoria Leatham (elected as the first female Master of the Company in 2012) are among the many distinguished recent members of the company.

The Drapers' Company is based at Drapers' Hall located in Throgmorton Street, near London Wall. The company has owned the site since 1543, when it purchased the London mansion of Thomas Cromwell, of Austin Friars, from King Henry VIII. Cromwell had been attainted and executed in 1540.

4 - Worshipful Company of Fishmongers – 1272.



Arms of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers. Azure, three dolphins embowed in pale between two pairs of sea luces saltirewise proper crowned or on a chief gules six keys in three saltires ward ends upwards of the second. Note: sea luces are hake, *Merluccius Bilinearis* (mer luccius = sea luccy (sea pike)). The crossed keys are the emblem of St Peter.

It records an unbroken existence for 750 years, forming as City fishmongers began to collaborate for mutual benefit, developing into a guild which managed London's fish trade according to their defined rules and regulations. The earliest evidence of such a group dates back to 1154, when a number of London fishmongers were fined for trading without Royal Warrant with the Company receiving its first Royal Charter from Edward I in 1272.



The Company's Royal Charter which "secured approval of their ordinances" and was further reinforced by the 1383 Charter from King Edward III which stipulated that "anyone wishing to sell fish were required to lodge with a Fishmonger during their stay in the City". Although Lord Mayor John Comberton de Northampton (a Draper), persuaded the City Council to declare that the Fishmongers should no longer have the power to monopolise trade in fish, and this was reaffirmed by Parliament, a Royal Charter granted by Richard II in 1399 restored all privileges.

The Company's livery hall in the City of London is known as Fishmongers' Hall (sometimes shortened in common parlance to Fish Hall); its earliest recorded hall was built in 1310. A new hall, on the present site, was bequeathed to the Company in 1434. Together with 43 other Livery halls, this one was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666 and a replacement hall designed by the architect Edward Jerman opened in 1671. This hall by Jerman was demolished to facilitate the construction of the new London Bridge in 1827. The Fishmongers' next hall was designed by Henry Roberts (although his

assistant, later the celebrated Sir Gilbert Scott, made the drawings) and built by William Cubitt & Company, opening in 1827. After severe bomb damage during the Blitz, Fishmongers' Hall restored by Austen Hall (of Whinney, Son & Austen Hall) reopened in 1951.

The most famous City fishmonger is Sir William Walworth, who, as Lord Mayor of London in 1381, helped bring the Peasants' Revolt to an end by stabbing the rebel Wat Tyler at Smithfield in the presence of King Richard II.

In the early 17th century, the Company was granted lands at Ballykelly and Banagher in modern-day Northern Ireland, by the Crown. It remained a major landowner there until the 20th century, and the villages contain some of the most interesting buildings erected in Ulster by the Plantation companies.

In 1714, the Irish actor Thomas Doggett provided money to endow a boat race called Doggett's Coat and Badge Race in honour of the new king, George I of Hanover. The race was originally to be rowed annually on 1 August on the River Thames, by up to six young watermen per boat who were not to be out of their apprenticeship by more than twelve months. The prize for the champion oarsman is a fine red coat embellished with a large silver badge on one arm, depicting the White Horse of Hanover with the word 'liberty' underneath. The Fishmongers' Company continues to organise this event, and it is now believed to be the world's longest continuously-running sporting event as well as being the longest boat race in the world – 4 miles, 5 furlongs (7,400 m).

5 - Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths (bullion dealers) – 1327.



The Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths (commonly known as The Goldsmiths' Company and formally styled The Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Goldsmiths of the City of London), is one of the Great Twelve Livery Companies of the City of London, headquartered at Goldsmiths' Hall, London EC2.

The company, which originates from twelfth-century London, received a Royal Charter in 1327 and ranks fifth in precedence of the City Livery Companies.

Established as a medieval guild for the goldsmith trade, the term hallmarking derives from precious metals being officially inspected and marked at

Goldsmiths' Hall in the City of London.

Frontage of Goldsmiths' Hall, EC2 which is a listed building.

In 1891, the Goldsmiths' Company founded the Goldsmiths' Technical and Recreative Institute, becoming Goldsmiths' College then Goldsmiths, University of London.

One of the few Livery Companies today playing a formal role in its ancient trade, it oversees the Goldsmiths' Company Assay Office, where objects made of precious metals are tested for purity, and then marked with an official symbol should they pass the necessary tests. At the Trial of the Pyx, the Goldsmiths' Company is also responsible for checking the validity of British coinage. The Goldsmiths' Company also maintains a library and archive for those wishing to research goldsmithing, silversmithing and hallmarking.



6 - Worshipful Company of Skinners (fur traders) – 1327.



The Worshipful Company of Skinners (also known as the Skinners' Company) is one of the Great Twelve Livery Companies of the City of London. Originally formed as an association of those engaged in the trade of skins and furs, the Company was granted a Royal Charter in 1327.

Under an order issued by the Lord Mayor of London on 10 April 1484 (known as the Billesdon Award), the Company ranks in sixth or seventh place (making it one of the "Great Twelve City Livery Companies") in the order of precedence of City Livery Companies, alternating annually with the Merchant Taylors' Company; these livery companies have borrowed Chaucer's phrase "at sixes and sevens"

to describe their rivalry over precedence – specifically which company was entitled to be 6th in order of seniority – being a source of trouble between the Skinners and the Merchant Taylors for some time during the 15th, and perhaps even 14th centuries.

Both companies received their first Royal Charters in 1327, but the dispute erupted into lethal violence at the 1484 Lord Mayor's river procession, an occasion which the two guilds treated as their own private boat race. After justice was administered to some of the offenders the then-Lord Mayor, Haberdasher Sir Robert Billesdon, mediated between the two companies at the request of their Masters, and he resolved that each company should have precedence over the other in alternate years and that each company's Master and Wardens should be invited to dine at the other's Hall every year.

7 - Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors[a] (tailors) - 1327.



The Company, originally known as the Guild and Fraternity of St John the Baptist in the City of London, was founded prior to 1300, first incorporated under a royal charter in 1327, confirmed by later charters in 1408, 1503 and 1719. Its seat is the Merchant Taylors' Hall between Threadneedle Street and Cornhill, a site it has occupied since at least 1347.

It was at first an association of tailors. By the end of the 17th century, its connection with the tailoring trade had virtually ceased and it became what it is today, a philanthropic and social association – albeit that it has recently rekindled its links with Savile Row and is the principal sponsor and organiser of the prestigious biannual "Golden Shears" competition for

aspiring young tailors.

It owns Merchant Taylors' School in Sandy Lodge and St John's Preparatory School in Northwood, both in Hertfordshire, and is associated with Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby, Merchant Taylors' Girls' School in Crosby, Wolverhampton Grammar School, Foyle and Londonderry College, Wallingford School, and The King's School, Macclesfield. It is also associated with St John's College, Oxford, founded by Sir Thomas White (a Master of the Company) in 1555, and with Pembroke College, Cambridge. It donates prizes to St. Helen's School in Northwood, which is considered its 'sister school', and supports an opera student at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. It also supports Treloar School in Hampshire, a school and college for children with physical disabilities. It also has a major interest in charitable support for the elderly and isolated in Inner London, as well as for people living with disabilities. It is a major provider of alms-houses in the London Borough of Lewisham.

Under an order issued by mayor Robert Billesden in 1484, the Company ranks in sixth or seventh place (making it one of the Great Twelve City Livery Companies) in the order of precedence of the Livery Companies, alternating with the Skinners' Company. The annual switch occurs at Easter. The Merchant Taylors are normally sixth in the order of precedence in odd numbered years, and at seven in even numbered years.

8 - Worshipful Company of Haberdashers. (silk merchants and clothiers in sewn and fine materials, e.g. velvet) - 1448.



The Haberdashers' Company received its first royal charter in 1448 and holds records dating back to 1371. The formal name under which it is incorporated is The Master and Four Wardens of the Fraternity of the Art or Mystery of Haberdashers in the City of London. The company was originally responsible for the regulation of silk and velvet merchants then hatmakers, but began losing control over those trades as the population of London increased and spread outwards from the City after the Industrial Revolution.

Through careful stewardship of financial bequests and funds, the company now serves as a significant educational and charitable institution whilst maintaining links with its heritage by giving awards for fashion education.

As an educational foundation, the Haberdashers' Company maintains a strong tradition of supporting schools. It founded a boys' school at Hoxton, Middlesex, in 1690 and following redevelopment of the site,

in June 1875, it reopened the school, divided into two, educating boys and girls. At the same time, it opened a boys and girls school at Hatcham in Surrey. The Haberdashers' Hoxton Boys' School moved to Hampstead, North London, and then in 1961 becoming the Haberdashers' Aske's School for Boys, Elstree. The Haberdashers' Girls' School, founded in Hoxton moved to Creffield Road, Acton, opening on 1 November 1889 with 47 Hoxton pupils and 12 new girls, and reopening in September 1974 on its present site in Elstree as Haberdashers' Aske's School for Girls, adjacent to the Haberdashers' Boys' School. The original Hatcham schools continue to be run by the Haberdashers' Company, as academies, open to girls and boys.

Elsewhere in England and Wales, Haberdashers' schools have been endowed notably by William Jones (Monmouth) and William Adams (Shropshire). In 1990, at Monmouth School, the Glover Music School was established funded by Dame Jane Glover, sister of Past Master Richard Glover, and daughter of a previous headmaster of the school.

The Haberdashers' Company continues, as required, to present copies of the King James Bible to pupils at all its schools, whilst welcoming those of all faiths and none. The company owns and participates in the patronage of eight parish church advowsons. The company is sole trustee of two major educational charities: Haberdashers' Aske's Charity and the William Jones's Schools Foundation.

The company ranks eighth in the order of precedence of City livery companies and, as such, it is recognised as one of the Great Twelve Livery Companies. Like other livery companies, it supports the work of the Lord Mayor, the City Corporation and the Sheriffs. HRH the late Duke of Edinburgh served on the Haberdashers' Court of Assistants.



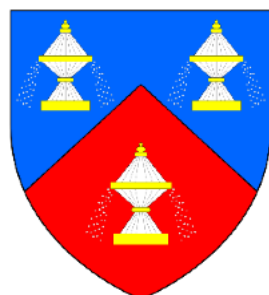
Haberdashers' Hall was situated near the Guildhall in Bassishaw Ward for many centuries, but from 2002 the company took additional premises in the City Ward of Farringdon Without, where it is now based.

The Haberdashers' motto is "Serve and Obey". The company banner displayed outside Haberdashers' Hall, London EC1. The Haberdashers' Company moved to its new hall at 18 West Smithfield on 15 April 2002, located opposite the King Henry Gate of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

The Haberdashers' Company received its first royal charter in 1448 and holds records dating back to 1371. The formal name under which it is incorporated is The Master and Four Wardens of the Fraternity of the Art or Mystery of Haberdashers in the City of London. Haberdashers' Hall, with its various meeting and function rooms as well as offices, is centred on a cloistered courtyard, entered through the façade at Market View, Smithfield, and also includes residential apartments and retail units.

Within the Hall, its cloisters to the right-hand side lead via a circular staircase to the first floor where its Court Room, Committee Room and a Luncheon Room lead off a Reception Gallery. The reception gallery leads to the livery hall, which has a high vaulted ceiling and is entirely oak-panelled. There are also offices for company staff, facilities for catering staff with storage and cellars below the Hall, together with accommodation for the Master and the Beadle.

9 - Worshipful Company of Salters (salt and chemical traders) – 1394.



The Worshipful Company of Salters is one of the Great Twelve City Livery Companies, ranking 9th in order of precedence. The Salters' Company was first granted a Royal Charter of Incorporation in 1394, with further charters authorising the Company to set standards regulating salt industry products from the City of London. The formal name under which it is incorporated is The Master, Wardens and Commonality of the Art or Mystery of the Salters of London.

The Company was responsible for the regulation of salt merchants, but began losing control over the trade as the population of London increased and spread outwards from the City after the Industrial Revolution. Until the 19th century, the main use for salt was to preserve food for the winter months. Salt was probably the first traded commodity which if not available locally was imported.

It now serves as a significant educational and charitable institution whilst maintaining links with its heritage by supporting education in chemistry, for example by awarding scholarships to chemistry and science students. The present Salters' Hall on Fore Street, EC2 dates from 1976, designed by architect Sir Basil Spence, being Grade II-listed in 2010.

The former Salters' Hall in St Swithin's Lane, London EC4, bombed in 1941, was during the 1700s the meeting place of Presbyterians and in 1719 the site of the "Salters' Hall controversy" a notable turning point for religious tolerance in England.



10 - Worshipful Company of Ironmongers – 1463.



The Ironmongers, originally known as the Ferroners, were incorporated under a Royal Charter in 1463. Their company's original association with iron merchants has lessened, especially due to the movement of the industry from Southern England to the North, where iron ore is more available. It is now primarily a charitable institution. The Worshipful Company ranks tenth in the order of

precedence among the City of London's Great Twelve City Livery Companies.

Entrance to Ironmongers' Hall. It is located in Aldersgate Street in the City of London. The first hall, dating back to 1457, was in Fenchurch Street; it was rebuilt in 1587 and rebuilt again in 1745 on the same site. The third hall was destroyed on 7 July 1917 by a bomb dropped during World War I. The present Hall stands on land which was bought in 1922: construction work, which was undertaken by Holland, Hannen & Cubitts, started that year and the Hall was opened on 17 June 1925.



11 - Worshipful Company of Vintners (wine merchants) – 1363.



The Worshipful Company of Vintners, one of the Great Twelve City Livery Companies, retains close links with the wine trade. It traces its origins to the 12th century and received its swan rights from King Edward IV. Its motto is Vinum Exhilarat Animum, Latin for "Wine cheers the Spirit".

The vintners of London formed a guild as early as the twelfth century and received their first royal charter in 1363. This granted far-reaching powers including duties of search throughout English dominions and the right to buy herrings and cloth to sell to the Gascons. This royal charter effectively granted a monopoly over wine imports from Gascony, securing the Company pre-eminence in the wine trade. Ranked eleventh in 1515 when the order of precedence of City Livery Companies was established by King Henry VIII, Queen Mary revoked the Company's rights in 1553. Its privileges removed under the Stuarts were restored by William and Mary, but the Company could not recover its former trading dominance in Europe. By 1725 few wine merchants were joining the livery, so the Company finally abandoned claim to the duty of search.

Until 2006, the Vintners' Company retained autonomous alcohol sale licensing rights in certain areas of England, such as the City of London and along the route of the old Great North Road. Its ancient rights being abolished, limited privileges remain to the livery. Actively engaged in wine trade education, including the prestigious Master of Wine qualification, the Vintners' Company supports many charities, including those concerned with treating the effects of alcohol and drug abuse.

Since the reign of King Edward IV, the Vintners enjoy a peculiar right of swan upping, whereby swans on the Thames are apportioned among the Crown, the Vintners' and Dyers' Companies. Vintners' swans



are given two nicks to the beak (the Dyers' have one): hence the Swan with Two Necks, in London.

The Vintners starting Swan Upping, Sunbury. The Vintners mark the new crop of cygnets each year - with the Dyers' and the King's boats. here they leave The Magpie on the north bank and prepare to enter Sunbury Lock to begin their upstream row.

Royal (white flag, far right) and the Vintners' (red flag) and Dyers' (blue flag) Swan Uppers at Abingdon. The King's Swan Uppers (white flag, far right) and swan uppers from the Vintners' Company (red flag) and Dyers' Company conducting Swan Upping (an annual census of the swan population) on the Thames in Abingdon. The skiffs surround the swans so that the swan uppers can catch the birds. They are then weighed, measured, tagged and released.

Vintners' Hall stands on Upper Thames Street in the City of London. It dates from 1671 although very little of the exterior of the 17th-century building survives. The Hall is in Vintry Ward, London EC4. The building was re-faced in the 19th and 20th centuries. It consists of a suite of rooms, including the main hall, court and drawing rooms and a boardroom.

The Vintners elect a new Master annually in July, celebrated by a publication service at the Guild Church of St James Garlickhythe, opposite the livery hall. The procession starts at Vintners' Hall with the Master and Wardens in Tudor dress carrying nosegays, their path being swept by a Wine Porter using a birch broom. Every region of France is usually represented at award events, in the name of the Entente Cordiale. The Hall's cellar (Red Cellar) can contain 16,000 bottles.

12 - Worshipful Company of Clothworkers.



The Worshipful Company of Clothworkers was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1528, formed by the amalgamation of its two predecessor companies, the Fullers (incorporated 1480) and the Shearmen (incorporated 1508). It succeeded to the position of the Shearmen's Company and thus ranks twelfth in the order of precedence of Livery Companies of the City of London.

The original craft of the Clothworkers was the finishing of woven woollen cloth: fulling it to mat the fibres and remove the grease, drying it on tenter frames raising the nap with fuller's teasel and shearing it to a uniform finish. The Ordinances of The Clothworkers' Company, first issued in 1532 and signed by Sir Thomas More, sought to regulate clothworking, to maintain standards and to protect approved practices. From the later Middle Ages, cloth production gradually moved away from London, a situation exacerbated by the Great Fire of London and the Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries. The charitable role of the Clothworkers' company nevertheless continued, supported by generous gifts of money and property by members and benefactors.

Nowadays, the company's main role is in the charitable sphere, through the Clothworkers' Foundation, an independent charity. Through its grants, the Foundation seeks to improve the quality of life, particularly for people and communities that face disadvantage. The company generates some of its income by renting out the hall on a private hire basis for events.

Both the company and the foundation operate from Clothworkers' Hall, in Dunster Court, between Mincing Lane and Mark Lane in the City of London. The site was conveyed to a group of Shearmen in 1456 and the present building, completed in 1958, is the sixth on the site. Its immediate predecessor, designed by Samuel Angell and opened in 1860, was destroyed in 1941.



Famous members of the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers included King James I, Samuel Pepys, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Baroness Burdett-Coutts, George Peabody, Sydney Waterlow, Edward VII, Lord Kelvin, Viscount Slim, Robert Menzies and the Duke of Kent.

13 - Worshipful Company of Dyers.



The Worshipful Company of Dyers is one of the Livery Companies of the City of London. The Dyers' Guild existed in the twelfth century; it received a Royal Charter in 1471. It originated as a trade association for members of the dyeing industry but is now mainly a charitable institution. The Dyers' Company ranks thirteenth in the order of precedence of Livery Companies. The company's motto is *Da Gloriam Deo*, Latin for "Give Glory to God".

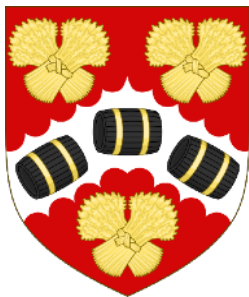
Each year the company participates in the ceremony of Swan Upping along the River Thames.

The activities of the company are focused on the development of dyeing techniques and the support of various charitable causes. The Dyers' are associated with several organisations, including the Society of Dyers and Colourists, the University of Leeds and Heriot Watt University. The company also maintains the Dyers Alms-houses, a group of 28 alms-houses built between 1939 and 1971, in the Northgate area of Crawley, West Sussex. In education, the company is associated with several schools including Boutcher School, Norwich School and St Saviour's and St Olave's Church of England School



The hall of the Dyers was originally located west of London Bridge, but was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666. The current hall, designed by Charles Dyer and constructed in 1839–40, is at 10–13 Dowgate Hill.

14 - Worshipful Company of Brewers.



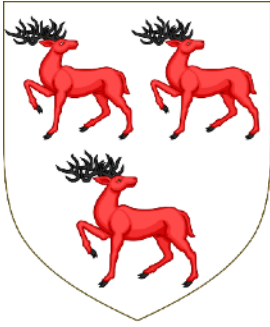
London brewers are known to have organised as a group in the 13th century. Its first royal charter was granted by Henry VI in 1438. In 1643, Parliament imposed excise taxes on beer, ale, and malt, steadily increasing them until gin became cheaper, causing the growth of unlicensed breweries and, in 1685, James II extended the Company's jurisdiction to eight miles around London and its suburbs. In 1739 it adopted new by-laws, which included the requirement for its liverymen to "enter into a bond [...] with the Company against any expenses of their being elected to the office of Sheriff or Lord Mayor", but as the population of London spread outwards from the City, the Company's industry influence continued to decline.

The Company's first hall was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666, and its second was bombed during the Blitz in 1940. Rebuilt in 1960, the present Brewers' Hall is located at Aldermanbury Square in the City of London, being the Company's HQ.

The Worshipful Company of Brewers is ranked 14th in the companies' order of precedence. Its origins can be traced back with certainty to 1292, although it probably existed in some form up to a century earlier as the Guild of Our Lady and St Thomas Becket. Its successor, the Mistery of Free Brewers, were granted the right by the Mayor and Aldermen of London to appoint Masters and Wardens in 1406. Henry VI granted the first of a series of Royal Charters to the company in 1437–38. Until the last century, the company admitted non-brewers so that they could be represented by a livery company.



15 - Worshipful Company of Leathersellers.



The Worshipful Company of Leathersellers is one of the livery companies of the City of London. The organisation originates from the latter part of the 14th century receiving its Royal Charter in 1444, and is therefore the senior leather industry-related City Livery Company. The Leathersellers' Company ranks fifteenth in the order of precedence of City livery companies. Its motto is Soli Deo Honor et Gloria, Latin for Honour and Glory to God Alone.

The Company had six previous halls throughout its history, and is now based at its seventh hall, which was officially opened by the Earl of Wessex in May 2017. Its first hall was on London Wall but in 1543 the Company acquired the former Benedictine convent of St Helen's, off Bishopsgate, and the subsequent halls have all been on that site, now St Helen's Place. The fifth hall was destroyed in May 1941 during the London Blitz. Its sixth hall officially opened in 1960 and was demolished in 2011, though the façade of the building has been saved. The new, seventh hall, has been designed by Eric Parry RA.

The Leathersellers' Company, which originally regulated leather merchants, continues to act as an advocate for the UK leather trade, together with its leather-associated City livery partners: the Cordwainers, Curriers, Girdlers, Glovers and Saddlers. Like these other livery companies, today it is primarily involved in philanthropic, charitable and educational activities.

It is very closely linked with the Leathersellers' Federation of Schools all located within the London Borough of Lewisham. In addition the Company supports and maintains its longstanding connection with the Institute for Creative Leather Technologies (now a part of the University of Northampton), successor to the college which the Company founded at Bermondsey in 1909 as Leathersellers' Technical College. The Company continues to support higher education through exhibitions (grants) to university students, a practice which began in 1603 when four 'poor scholars', two at Oxford and two at Cambridge, were awarded five pounds and five shillings each per annum. Today around 100 students receive exhibitions which enable them to study at various universities. The Leathersellers' Company is also affiliated with the Royal Navy's submarine HMS Audacious, the 1st Queen's Dragoon Guards and with 230 Squadron RAF.

Like many other City livery companies, the Leathersellers have a long tradition of maintaining almshouses. The first almshouses run by the Company were built circa 1543-44, close to Leathersellers' Hall, on a site behind St Ethelburga's Church and housed seven elderly people. In 1837 the Company also built almshouses at Barnet in north London; these were extended in the mid-nineteenth century. The Company continues to maintain almshouses at Leathersellers' Close in the London Borough of Barnet, home to about 20 residents.

16 - Worshipful Company of Pewterers (pewter and metal manufacturers)



The Worshipful Company of Pewterers ranks 16th in the order of precedence of City Livery Companies and has existed since at least 1348. Like all the other City Livery Companies, the Worshipful Company of Pewterers has four main pillars of activity: Charitable endeavour, assistance to education, support for its trade and profession, and being a convivial and caring social community.

The Company has been based at Pewterers' Hall, Oat Lane, near London Wall, since 1961. It is its third livery hall, the first having been destroyed in the Great Fire of London and the second, also by fire, in 1840. As a Livery Company, a cornerstone of the Pewterers' activity is to support its trade and professions, and inspire young craftspeople and those in education working with pewter. It annually runs Pewter Live, a three-day crafts exhibition, competition for craftspeople and those working with pewter, and shop selling pewter ware by leading manufacturers and craftsmen. Pewter is still a thriving UK industry, though smaller than the major industry it once was in centuries past.

One of the original purposes of The Worshipful Company of Pewterers was for mutual help and charitable work; today the Company awards educational grants and supports a range of charitable causes through two Charitable Trusts: The 500th Anniversary Trust and The Seahorse Trust. All the grants are made within the UK and to UK registered charities.

17 - Worshipful Company of Barbers (surgeons and dentists).



The Worshipful Company of Barbers is one of the livery companies of the City of London, and ranks 17th in precedence.

The Fellowship of Surgeons merged with the Barbers' Company in 1540, forming the Company of Barbers and Surgeons, but after the rising professionalism of the trade broke away in 1745 to form what would become the Royal College of Surgeons.

The company no longer retains an association with the hairdressing profession, and principally acts as a charitable institution for medical and surgical causes. In modern times, between one-third and one-half of the company's liverymen are surgeons, dentists or other medical practitioners.

The first mention of the Barbers' Company occurs in 1308 when Richard le Barbour was elected by the Court of Aldermen to keep order amongst his fellows. Barbers originally aided monks, who were at the time the traditional practitioners of medicine and surgery, because papal decrees prohibited members of religious orders themselves from spilling blood. In addition to haircutting, hairdressing, and shaving, barbers performed surgery: neck manipulation; cleansing of ears and scalp; draining/lancing of boils, fistulae, and cysts with wicks; bloodletting and leeching; fire cupping; enemas; and the extraction of teeth.

Soon surgeons with little expertise in the haircutting and shaving arts of the barbers began to join the company, but in 1368, the surgeons were allowed to form their own, unincorporated fellowship or guild. However, the Barbers' Guild retained the power to oversee surgical practices in London. The Barbers' Guild continued this oversight after it became, by royal charter of 1462, a company.

The Fellowship of Surgeons merged with the Barbers' Company in 1540 by Act of Parliament to form the Company of Barbers and Surgeons. The Act specified that no surgeon could cut hair or shave another and that no barber could practice surgery; the only common activity was to be the extraction of teeth. The barber pole, featuring red and white spiralling stripes, indicated the two crafts (surgery in red and barbering in white). Barbers received higher pay than surgeons until surgeons were entered into British warships during naval wars. In order to become a member of the company, apprentice training would occur for seven years within the household of an experienced barber-surgeon; apprentices would assist in surgical care and gain hands-on experience in tasks such as setting bones and suturing wounds. Once completed, the new member would demonstrate their skills and abilities to Company-appointed examiners. They would then pay a membership fee and join the ranks of the Company.

The first Master of the Company of Barbers and Surgeons was the superintendent of St Bartholomew's Hospital and royal physician, Thomas Vicary. The presentation of the charter is the subject of a painting by Hans Holbein the Younger, in the collection of the Barbers' Company.



However, with the rising professionalism of surgery, in 1745 the surgeons broke away from the barbers to form the Company of Surgeons, which became the Royal College of Surgeons in 1800.

The company no longer retains an association with the hairdressing profession. It does, however, retain its links with surgery, principally acting as a charitable institution to the benefit of medical and surgical cases. In modern times, between one-third and one-half of the company's liverymen are surgeons, dentists or other medical practitioners.



The first hall was built on Monkwell Street. The current hall is at Monkwell Square after its predecessor was completely destroyed by bombings during World War II.

After the licensing of dissection in 1540, public demonstrations took place four times a year in the Great Hall of Barber-Surgeons' Hall – with a crowd surrounding a table. Attendance was compulsory for all 'free' surgeons. The dissected corpses were buried in the churchyard of St Olave's, Silver Street. By 1568, the Court of Assistants of the Company ordered wooden raised seating to be erected in the Hall during anatomies. By the 17th century, travellers noted that the universities at Padua and Leiden possessed purpose-built anatomical theatres. Inigo Jones was commissioned to design and build one for the Surgeon-Barbers, but died (1652) before it was finished. The work was completed by John Webb in 1636.

The herb garden that surrounded the Hall was used to create medicinal samples and is considered one of the reasons that people were able to escape during the Great Fire of London in 1666, as it kept the fire away from that side of the building. However, the anatomy theatre was the only Company building to survive the Great Fire of London in 1666.

The second hall was designed by Edward Jarman, whose plan provided a courtyard, with the main part of the Hall on its west side again using bastion 13 of the Roman wall. The buildings remained substantially the same until 1784 when the anatomy theatre was demolished to make way for housing. In 1869, economic constraint necessitated the leasing of the dining hall and kitchen areas for warehouse use, the Company retaining little more than an entrance lobby and Courtroom (which became the new dining hall) on the ground floor, and a staircase leading to a committee room and accommodation for the Beadle.

On the night of 24 August 1940 the second hall and its environs were slightly damaged by a high explosive bomb (the first to fall on London in the Second World War) but on the night of 29 December 1940 the Hall and surrounding area were almost totally destroyed by incendiary bombs which started fires that raged for three days. On 13 May 1969, the current Hall was opened by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

With the merger of the Barbers' Company and Surgeons' Fellowship in 1540 to become the Company of Barbers and Surgeons, the hall was called Barber-Surgeons' Hall – a name that continues despite the fact that the company is once again the Barbers' Company since the secession of the surgeons.

18 - Worshipful Company of Cutlers (knife, sword and utensil makers) – 1416.

The Worshipful Company of Cutlers ranks 18th in the order of precedence of the Companies.

The trade of knife-making and repairing was formed in the thirteenth century as a guild; the Cutlers' Company received a Royal Charter in 1416 from Henry V.

The Company, like many other City Livery Companies, no longer has a strong connection with its trade, which for the most part relocated north to Sheffield, where a similar association, the Company of Cutlers in Hallamshire was established. Thus, the Livery Company remains primarily as a charitable institution.



The Company's livery hall is located on a site in Warwick Lane once occupied by the Royal College of Physicians, near Newgate Street. It was designed by T. Tayler Smith, the Company's surveyor, and was opened in 1888. It is a brick building, the façade decorated with a terracotta frieze depicting the processes of knife-making by the

sculptor Benjamin Creswick, who had worked as a knife-grinder in Sheffield.

In Common with many Livery Companies, the Cutlers' Company has formed affiliations with several units of the armed forces and other institutions.

19 - Worshipful Company of Bakers – 1155.



The Bakers' Guild is known to have existed in the twelfth century. From the Corporation of London, the Guild received the power to enforce regulations for baking, known as the Assize of Bread and Ale. The violations included selling short-weight bread and the addition of sand instead of flour. The Bread Assize remained in force until 1863, when Parliament repealed it.

In the 14th century, the Guild was divided into the Brown-Bakers' Guild and the White-Bakers' Guild. The Brown-Bakers were bakers of nutritious bread, while the White-Bakers were bakers of the less nutritious but more popular bread. The White Bakers were incorporated by a Royal Charter of 1509, while the Brown Bakers were incorporated in 1621. The White and Brown Bakers united into one Company in 1645. The new Company acquired a new Charter in 1686, under which it still operates. Bakers Hall in Harp Lane, Billingsgate, has been the site of the Guildhall of the bakers since 1506. It contains a courtroom where trade-related misdemeanours could be tried.

A pub sign of the Bakers Arms, Fulbourn near Cambridge, showing the coat of arms of the Worshipful Company of Bakers

There are many such associated trades guilds, such as the Incorporation of Bakers, one of the fourteen Incorporated Trades of Glasgow, who meet in their Robert Adam designed Trades Hall. In the medieval town of Orvieto, bakers were one of the thirty-one organized crafts. Now largely ceremonial and charitable, these crafts and guilds formerly fulfilled the role of regulation much of which is now covered by local government.

The Bakers' Company ranks nineteenth in the order of precedence of livery companies. The company's motto is Praise God For All.



20 - Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers (wax candle-makers) – 1473.



The Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers is one of the oldest livery companies of the City of London, with one of the smallest memberships.

The Wax Chandlers' Company, ranked 20th in the City Livery Company order of precedence, has an association with the Church of St Vedast alias Foster in nearby Foster Lane.

Established before 1330 (when it was recorded as being invited to contribute funds to King Edward III) and possibly before 1199 (from when there is some documentary evidence, relating to a property in Aldersgate Street, of its existence as a body), the company received further Byelaws and Ordinances from Lord Mayor John Stodeye in 1358. New Ordinances were issued in 1371, and the company was granted a Royal Charter in 1484 – one of only three known Royal Charters of King Richard III, the others being for the College of Arms and for the incorporation as a county borough of the city of Gloucester. The Company remains governed under its 1663 Royal Charter of King Charles II and corresponding Ordinances of 1664. Wax chandlers (or merchants in beeswax products) traded separately from Tallow Chandlers; beeswax candles, being expensive, were usually reserved for churches and the households of royalty and nobility, while tallow candles were generally used in ordinary homes. In recent years, in February, the two companies have celebrated the Feast of Candlemas together.

As with many City Livery Companies today, the Wax Chandlers' Company no longer operates primarily as a trade association. Its role has evolved into being a civic, ceremonial, educational and charitable

institution. Like other livery companies, it takes an active role in supporting the corporate governance of the City of London and the Lord Mayor. Examples of its charitable giving are its affiliation with Armed Forces units (HMS Protector, 5 Rifles and RAF Coningsby), the donation of candles to St Paul's Cathedral (every Holy Cross Day in September), support to those in need throughout the City and Greater London (particularly in the London Borough of Bexley), patronage of the National Honey Show and the British Beekeepers Association.

Wax Chandlers' Hall - The Company has maintained a Hall on the same site (6 Gresham Street, London) since 1501. The Wax Chandlers' current premises, their sixth, were substantially rebuilt in 1954 after damage during World War II. The Wax Chandlers' membership comprises Liverymen and Freeman (who initially join the Company by servitude (as Apprentices), by patrimony, or by redemption).

21- Worshipful Company of Tallow Chandlers (tallow candle-makers) – 1462.



The Worshipful Company of Tallow Chandlers is one of the ancient livery companies of the City of London. The organisation, which engaged not only in tallow candle making but also in the trade of oils, first received a royal charter in 1462.

Traditionally tallow chandlers operated separately from wax chandlers: beeswax candles customarily being used in churches and noble houses, while tallow (animal fat) candles were generally used in other homes. As is the case with most other livery companies, the Tallow Chandlers' Company is no longer a trade association of candlemakers, its decline precipitated by the advent of electric lighting. The company now exists as a charitable institution and supports education in oil-related fields.

The company ranks 21st in the Precedence of Livery Companies in the City of London. Its motto is *Ecce Agnus Dei, Ecce Qui Tollit Peccata Mundi*: Latin for "Behold the Lamb of God, Who Takes Away the Sins of the World", words of St John the Baptist (Patron Saint of the Company) in reference to Jesus.

The Hall and traditions are the hub around which generations of Tallow Chandlers have gathered. Based on Dowgate Hill since 1476, and resident in our current Hall since 1672.



22 - Worshipful Company of Armourers and Brasiers (armour makers and brass workers)



The Armourers' Guild was established in 1322; it received a royal charter in 1453. Other companies, including the Armour Repairers, merged with the Armourers. In 1708, brass workers joined the company, which was renamed as the Armourers' and Brasiers' Company. The company does support the metallurgy industry, but does not retain a close association with its original trade, as is the case with a majority of livery companies. It exists primarily as a charitable establishment.

The Armourers and Brasiers' Company first emerged in 1322 when a group of twenty-six Armourers and Helmet makers was granted the right to oversee standards in the making of armour and helmets in and around the City of London.

The company is based at Armourers' Hall, situated on the corner of Coleman Street and London Wall, and has occupied this same site since 1346. The hall was one of the very few to escape destruction in the Great Fire of London in 1666. In 1795, the hall was enlarged, but it was decided in 1839 to rebuild it completely. The lantern, or dome, of the livery hall was added in 1872. On 29 December 1940, during a major blitz on London, the surrounding area was devastated, but again the hall survived.

The Armourers' and Brasiers' Company ranks twenty-second in the order of precedence of livery companies. The Company's present Charter was granted in 1708 by Queen Anne, giving the Brasiers (workers in brass and copper), who had become involved with the Company as early as the 16th century, equal status with the Armourers.

The Armourers & Brasiers' Gauntlet Trust, is an independent charity, closely associated with the Armourers & Brasiers' Company. The Gauntlet Trust gives grants to small charities, supports science in schools, funds education and research in Materials Science at university level and rewards excellence in technical disciplines and leadership in its affiliated units of the UK's armed forces.



23 - Worshipful Company of Girdlers (belt and girdle makers) – 1449.



Girdlers were granted the right to regulate their trade in the City from 1327 and obtained a Royal Charter in 1449. Girdlers, or makers of belts and girdles, are no longer closely related to their original trade. Along with the products of many other Livery Companies, girdles have become less important than in medieval times. However, the Company continues its long tradition as a charitable body.

The Company, which was involved with the making of girdles (or belts), received its Letters Patent from Edward III in 1327. The Girdlers' Company ranks twenty-third in the order of precedence among City Livery Companies.

While it no longer practises its craft – although it has the honour of presenting the girdle and stole worn by the Sovereign at each coronation – it remains a Company closely connected with the government and Livery Companies of the City of London, the fellowship of its members and various charitable works.

Girdlers' Hall in Basinghall Avenue in the City of London.



24 - Worshipful Company of Butchers

Records indicate that an organisation of butchers existed as early as 975; the Butchers' Guild, the direct predecessor of the present Company, was granted the right to regulate the trade in 1331. The Butchers' Guild was incorporated by Royal Charter centuries later, in 1605. The Company ranks twenty-fourth in the order of precedence of City Livery Companies.



The Butchers' still, unlike other Livery Companies, continues to exist as a trade association for members of the industry, instead of evolving into an institution primarily dedicated to charity. However, the Company does contribute, like all Livery Companies, to various charities.

The Company's headquarters is at Butchers' Hall. They have had several halls throughout its history; the first was located in Monkwell Street and dated from the second half of the 15th century. The next Hall near St Bartholomew's Hospital was destroyed in the Great Fire of London of 1666, together with forty-three other Livery Company Halls. Its successor in Pudding Lane (1667–77) was again burnt down, rebuilt in 1829-30 and compulsorily purchased by an Act of Parliament in 1882. A new Hall was built at the present site in Bartholomew Close (1884–85), which was bombed in both world wars: 1915 and again in 1944. The Company's present Hall dates from 1960.

The Butchers' connections with the local area remain strong, many Liverymen working at Smithfield Market. The Butchers' Hall and St Bartholomew's Hospital have also stood side by side for years, forging links that continue to this day. The Butchers' also maintains close relations with Commonwealth and international associations. For instance, the Australian High Commissioner and New Zealand High Commissioner are customarily granted the Honorary Freedom of the Company.

St Bartholomew-the-Great is the Butchers' adopted Church, where the Company's Annual Church Service takes place prior to Common Hall. The Honorary Chaplain to the Master Butcher is often the Rector of St Barts.

25 - Worshipful Company of Saddlers

A Guild of Saddlers, the Company's predecessor, is thought to have been an Anglo-Saxon Craft Guild – it certainly existed at some point in the eleventh century. The Guild became a Company when a Royal Charter of Incorporation was granted by King Edward III in 1363. The City granted the Company the right to regulate the trade of saddle-making; all saddlers in and within two miles of the City were subject to the Company's regulations. However, the powers of the Company, which has existed on the same site at Cheapside (formerly West Chepe) since 1160, were eroded over time.



Nowadays the Company retains strong affiliations with the saddlery trade, sponsoring the Society of Master Saddlers and giving prizes for deserving young riders at equestrian events. The Company is an institution which is charitable rather than a charitable institution and it supports many good causes and sponsors scholarships at Alleyn's School, has strong links with the Household Cavalry and the King's Troop R.H.A. as well as with other regiments and Livery Companies traditionally involved with leather or horses.

The Company ranks twenty-fifth in the order of precedence of Livery Companies (as settled in 1515 on the Companies' economic or political power at that time). Unusually, the Saddlers Company has two mottoes: Hold Fast, Sit Sure and Our Trust Is In God. The coat of arms seen on the entrance of Saddlers' Hall, showcasing a parlfrey, two horses, a bascinet and the moto, is continued to be used in the Company's communications. In addition to admitting members as Freeman and Liveryman, the Saddlers' Company has the unique privilege of granting Yeoman status. Its notable Yeomen include the Princess Royal, Peter Walwyn (Chairman of the Lambourn Trainers Association), and Richard Meade.

26 - Worshipful Company of Carpenters



The Carpenters were traditionally different from a fellow wood-crafting company, the Worshipful Company of Joiners and Ceilers, in that carpenters utilised nails while joiners used adhesives to attach wood.

The organisation existed in 1271; it received a Royal Charter of incorporation in 1477. As is the case with most of the other livery companies, the Company no longer has a role as a trade association of tradesmen and craftsmen. Instead, it acts as a charitable institution and supports education in wood-related fields.

In 1767 the Company purchased an estate at Stratford, London. In 1886 it opened an evening institute on the Carpenters Estate there, offering classes in carpentry, joinery, plumbing, geometry, mechanical drawing and cookery. In 1891, the Carpenter's Institute had become a day school for boys. The school closed in 1905 when the local authority opened its own school.

The Company ranks twenty-sixth in the order of precedence of livery companies. The Company's motto is "Honour God". Its guild church is All Hallows-on-the-Wall, where the Company has held its annual elections for over 600 years. The livery hall, Carpenters Hall, is at Throgmorton Avenue; it is a Grade II listed building.

Founded in 1724, the Carpenters' Company of the City and County of Philadelphia was modelled after the Worshipful Company of Carpenters.

The earliest of the three successive Carpenters' Halls was built on land that was originally part of the estate of the Hospital of St Mary without Bishopsgate and had been leased by three members of the guild in 1429 with a hall built shortly after. The original site was slightly to the west of the present hall and was acquired in January 1519 by Thomas Smart, Master of the Company, who left it to the Company in his will. The hall was heavily altered in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries and after a fire at the nearby Wool Merchants Hall in 1849 severely weakened the building, the Company, along with the Drapers' Company, decided in the 1870s to redevelop their sites. Along with the demolition of the original Carpenters' Hall, this would include a new hall for each company and the laying out of a new private road, later called Throgmorton Avenue, running south from London Wall.



27 - Worshipful Company of Cordwainers (fine leather workers and shoemakers)



Cordwainers were workers in fine leather; the Company gets its name from "cordwain" (cordovan), the white leather produced from goatskin in Cordova, Spain. All fine leather makers, including Girdlers and Glovers, were originally classified as cordwainers; however, the term eventually came to refer only to fine leather footwear, including boots.

The Cordwainers' Company, which received the right to regulate City trade in 1272, obtained a Royal Charter of incorporation in 1439. The status of the Company as a trade association has lessened over the years; the Company is now, as are most other Livery Companies, a charitable body. Other leather-linked Livery Companies, which enjoy close relations with the Cordwainers include the Curriers, Leathersellers, Saddlers, Girdlers and Glovers.

The Company ranks twenty-seventh in the order of precedence of Livery Companies and is the highest ranked one without its own Livery Hall. The Company's motto is Corio et Arte, Latin for Leather and Art.

The livery hall of the Cordwainers, Cordwainers' Hall, though rebuilt several times, stood at the same site near St. Paul's Churchyard from 1316 until its final destruction in the London blitz in 1941. The livery hall was not rebuilt after the war. However, a window was removed from the hall for safekeeping in 1939. Thus surviving the destruction of the hall in 1941, it was re-installed in the Holy Sepulchre church in London in 1973.

John Fisher's Bequest - In 1547, John Fisher left the Cordwainers a significant bequest: property in Fleet Street opposite the Church of St Dunstan's in the West. Falcon Court is still owned by the Cordwainers and every year Fisher, the Company's first benefactor, is commemorated at Company church services.



Shoes for the New World - Cordwainer Captain John Smith (1580-1631) led the 1607 expedition to colonise Virginia and wrote about his exploits in his General History of Virginia, New England and the Summer Islands. He thanked the Cordwainers for 'the continual use I have had of your labours.' Good, sturdy shoes were essential to the colonists in America, although thousands were sent out, many went astray: 'for want of shoes among the oyster banks we tore our hats and clothes those being worn we tied barks of tree about our feet. . .'

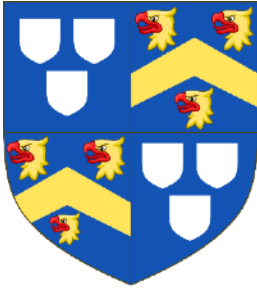
Great Fire of London - According to the 16th century antiquarian John Stow, in 1577 the Cordwainers built 'a fair and new Hall for themselves', their second, on Distaff Lane. Sadly, along with the halls of 53 livery companies, it was destroyed in the Great Fire of London. The Clerk and Master rescued as many

of the Company treasures and records as they could carry, but much of the silver had to be sold shortly afterwards to fund rebuilding. Their Seal depicting the Cordwainer arms, is one of the few items to have survived.

Shoes and Taxes - By the mid-18th century London shoemakers had earned an international reputation. In 1766 Cordwainer John Hose (Master in 1760) addressed Parliament alongside Benjamin Franklin to warn about the catastrophic effects of the Stamp Act on shoe exports to the American colonies. Hose employed 300 staff, and the effects of the War of Independence ultimately crushed his family's business.

750th Anniversary - To celebrate an incredible 750 years since Henry III granted the First Ordinances in 1272, the Company established the 750 Fund to support the education and training of those involved in the footwear or leather trades.

28 - Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers (artists; historically, painters of metal, wood and cloth)



An organisation of painters of metals and wood is known to have existed as early as 1283. A similar organisation of stainers, who generally worked on staining cloth for decorative wall hangings, existed as early as 1400. The two bodies merged in 1502; the new organisation was incorporated under a Royal Charter in 1581.

Today, the company is less an association of painters and more a charitable company, with the promotion of education in the fine and decorative arts and crafts as its main theme. The Painters' Company Scholarship Scheme was established in 2012 to support undergraduates every year at London Art Colleges. Each student receives £5,000 annually from the beginning of their second year until they complete their studies, and they are known as a Painters' Company Scholar. The students are selected entirely on merit, and this is the most meritocratically awarded scholarship for art students in London today.

The Painters Company also co-sponsors one of the largest UK open art competitions: the Lynn Painter-Stainers Prize was created in 2005 by the Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers and the Lynn Foundation to encourage the very best creative representational painting and promote the skill of draftsmanship. It awards prize money of £30,000. Twelve Liverymen have held the office of Lord mayor of London since 1922. The Company ranks twenty-eighth in the order of precedence of livery companies. The livery company's hall is situated between Huggin Hill and Little Trinity Lane, in the ward of Queenhithe.

29 - Worshipful Company of Curriers (leather dressers and tanners)



The curriers, or "curers of leather", of London formed an organisation in 1272; this merchant guild was recognised in 1415 by Ordinances of the City Common Council before its grant of a Royal Charter by King James I in 1605. The company now exists, as do most other livery companies, as an education and charitable institution, the traditional process of currying having been made more or less obsolete by technological advances. The Curriers' Company, like other livery companies, supports the work of the Lord Mayor, the City Corporation and the Sheriffs of London. The company ranks 29th in the order of precedence of City livery companies.

In the 14th century the Curriers constituted themselves into a guild linked with the religious fraternity of Carmelite Friars near Fleet Street. In 1415 the City Common Council granted them full autonomy over all currying and tanning trade in and within two miles of the city. Before 1580 the Guild of Curriers was recognised as a City livery company and became armigerous in 1583, although, not until 1605 did the Curriers' Company receive its Royal Charter of Incorporation from King James I.

During the ensuing four centuries the company built no less than six Curriers' halls in London. After the sale of its sixth and last hall in 1921 it moved in with its longstanding trade and livery partner, the Worshipful Company of Cordwainers, with which it maintains a close relationship. Along with many other livery halls, Cordwainers' Hall in Cannon Street was itself destroyed by enemy action in 1941 and since then the Curriers have been without their own hall. However, from 1942 onwards the company has been housed at Tallow Chandlers' Hall, where it holds its Court meetings. Historically several streets in the

now London Borough of Camden's environs were named after the currying trade, eg. Curriers' Alley, Curriers' Lane, etc.

The Curriers' Company donates to charities which benefit the young, the elderly, the disabled and the socially disadvantaged. It primarily supports City of London charities and cultural organisations, general educational establishments and the training of young people in leathercraft. The educational institutions which it regularly assists financially include: the London College of Fashion; Capel Manor College Enfield and Northampton University's Leather Conservation Centre; these foster the conservation, creation and restoration of leather objects and materials. In 2000 the Curriers' Millennium Healthcare Bursary was established. This annual bursary endows research or personal study to improve the health care of underprivileged sectors of London's population or elsewhere. Though originally directed towards general practitioners, the scope of the bursary was widened in 2003, since when it has also attracted submissions from dentists, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, mental health workers and an ophthalmologist.

In 1485 the Curriers' Company had its hall in the parish of St Mary Axe, by London Wall in Aldgate Ward. Circa 1583 the Curriers' Hall was situated close to the site of the Boar's Head Inn, on a property which had been devised to the company in 1516. It stood in the parish of St Alphege, on the south side of the street leading along London Wall; Boar's Head Alley lay between Philip Lane and Little Wood Street. Curriers' Hall was one of the 44 (out of 52) livery halls destroyed in the Great Fire of London early in September 1666. Curriers' Hall in 1670 was perhaps the most attractive of the company's five halls on the Boar's Head site. In 1820 a new and smaller hall was rebuilt to the east of the old one. The Curriers' Hall begun in 1873 and completed in the following year extravagantly was demolished in 1875 before it could even be furnished. Between 1874 and 1876 a new Curriers' Hall was built in the French Gothic style. It abutted on London Wall. It was sold in 1921 and destroyed by enemy action on 29 December 1940.

30 - Worshipful Company of Masons (stonemasons) – 1472,



The Masons' Company emerged in the late Middle Ages, and played an important role in medieval and early modern London. It regulated the craft of stonemasonry, for example by ensuring that standards and the training of apprentices were properly maintained, at first just in the City of London, but subsequently also in the City of Westminster and seven miles from each. It was also an important social organisation in the lives of its members. Like most Livery Companies, it maintains its social function, but the Company's economic and administrative role has changed over time, and it no longer oversees the craft in this traditional way, although it remains actively involved in supporting those training in stonemasonry

and in promoting the use of natural stone.

It remains one of the few Livery Companies today whose craft, particularly its tools, would be recognisable to its early members. Of all the ancient crafts used in Britain, masons have left the most impressive and most permanent evidence of their work. Members of the Company are known to have taken part in the construction of many of these famous structures, for example, the London Guildhall, and St Paul's Cathedral.

Although a 'mystery' (i.e. craft) of masons may have existed beforehand, the elections to the Common Council in 1376 provide the first secure evidence for the existence of an organised guild of masons in London, and by 1389, if not earlier, there was a fraternity of masons in London too, so the roots of the company were embedded at that time and developed during the following century into the company we would recognise today. By 1463, the Masons' Hall was established near the Guildhall; the sale of the Company's Hall was agreed in 1865, and a plaque now marks the place where the Hall stood in Masons' Avenue. In 1472, the Company was granted armorial bearings, and in 1481 they ratified a set of ordinances before the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London. At the behest of King James I, in 1609-10 the City livery companies were required to form associations to provide funds for use in the Ulster Plantation. Although this venture passed into history a long time ago, over 400 years later the



Masons Company maintains its friendly relationships with the Mercers', Cooks' and Broderers' companies that formed the Association at the time. In June 1675, Thomas Strong, a liveryman and subsequently Court Assistant of the Masons' Company, laid the foundation stone of St. Paul's Cathedral, and thirty-three years later, in 1708, his brother Edward Strong, a Past Master of the Company, laid the last stone on the lanthorn of the Cathedral. In 1677, the Company was formally incorporated by Royal Charter.

Moving to the twentieth Century, to mark the 500th anniversary of the Grant of Arms, in 1972, there was a new exemplification of the coat of arms by the College of Arms. The Natural Stone Craft Awards were presented by HRH The Duke of Gloucester (a Liveryman of the Company) for the first time in 1986. In 1990, The Company formed an Association with the Corps of Royal Engineers. 2004 saw the re-siting and restoration of Temple Bar to Paternoster Square, having been originally built by Master Masons' Edward and Joshua Marshall in 1673.

31- Worshipful Company of Plumbers



The organisation received the right to regulate medieval plumbers, who were, among other things, responsible for fashioning cisterns, in 1365. It was incorporated under a royal charter in 1611. Today, the company is no longer a trade association, instead existing as a charitable institution. (The company retains a link to plumbing by awarding medals and prizes in the general building industry.)

The Plumbers' Company ranks thirty-first in the order of precedence of Livery Companies.

32 - Worshipful Company of Innholders (innkeepers)



The innholders were originally known as hostellers, but their name had changed by the time it was incorporated under a royal charter in 1514. The company has, over the years, lost its status as an association of traders and businessmen, instead becoming, as have most of the other livery companies, an establishment dedicated primarily to charity.

The Innholders' Company ranks 32nd in the order of precedence of all the livery companies. Its motto is Hinc Spes Affulget, Latin for Hence Hope Shines Forth, and it is based at Innholders' Hall in College Street, between Cannon Street and Upper Thames Street.



33 - Worshipful Company of Founders (metal casters and melters) – 1365.



The Founders, or workers in brass and bronze, were incorporated under a Royal Charter in 1614. The Company is Trustee of charities which support the foundry industry by awarding grants and scholarships in materials engineering and other STEM subjects.

The Founders' Company ranks thirty-third in the order of precedence of Livery Companies. Its motto is God, The Only Founder. It had an early association with Saint Clement, having either been named the Fraternity of St Clement, or having had that organization as part of its body.

Founders' Hall - The Company of Founders owns a unique Livery Hall in the City of London, neighbouring London's oldest extant church, a stone's throw away from some of the City's greatest tourist attractions and historic wonders.

Located on Cloth Fair, one of London's most historic streets, we are an easy walk from Farringdon, Barbican and St Paul's stations.

34 - Worshipful Company of Poulters (poultry dealers)



In 1368, the organisation received the power to regulate the sale of poultry, swans, pigeons, rabbits and small game. The company, which was incorporated under a Royal Charter in 1665, is no longer an association of tradesmen that retains its

ancient powers, but now operates as a charitable institution as do most of the other Livery Companies.



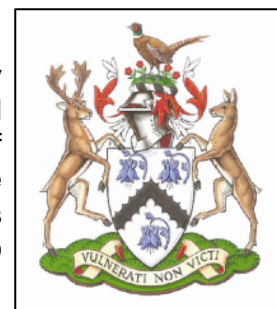
The Poulters' Company ranks thirty-fourth in the order of precedence of Livery Companies. The Poulters occupied a hall in Butcher Hall Lane from 1630 until the hall was destroyed in the Great Fire of London. Today the Poulters Company generally use the Livery Hall of the Worshipful Company of Armourers and Brasiers in Coleman Street.

In 1274 the prices of 22 kinds of poultry were set by Royal Decree, indicating the importance of poultry in the food supply. By 1299 a livery had been established and was appointing Wardens for its governance. In 1364 the Company received its first ordinances (rules regulating the craft or trade) from the Lord Mayor. It is believed that these resulted from an order from the Court of Aldermen in 1364. The earliest of its five charters was awarded in 1504 but unfortunately this has never been found and has to be ignored. The earliest charter in existence is that of 1665. The Company was listed as number 35 in a list of Livery Companies in 1516

At the funeral of Henry VIII, the Company was listed as 45th in order of precedence. At some time after 1560, the Worshipful Company of Poulters was listed as number 34 and there it has stayed to the present day. The Company received the Charter of Charles II in 1665 which incorporated all those selling poultry wares within 7 miles of the City of London. This was confirmed by the Charter of William and Mary in 1692.

35 - Worshipful Company of Cooks.

The Worshipful Company of Cooks of London is the smallest of the Livery Companies of the City of London. The Company received its first and incorporating Royal Charter from Edward IV on 11 July 1482. Its Royal Charter of 16 February 1663, from Charles II, is the present-day governing ordinance for the Company. The company's origins can be traced back to 1170, when it was founded from two guilds of cooks in medieval London – the Cooks of Eastcheap and the Cooks of Bread Street.



The company's history runs from the earliest records of Cooks in the Middle Ages and their control of the craft until the 19th century to the Company's current charitable works. Unusually for the male-dominated livery companies, the Cooks had freemaids members in 1495.

The Cooks Company is no longer an association of tradesmen in its original sense of control, yet its membership today still includes craft tradesmen, and its activities engage with a broad range of organisations associated with cooking. The Company's purpose in contemporary times has come to rest in a public search for the common good, to contribute as effectively as it can to the pursuit of a good society – to be socially useful. It does this through four principal objectives that translate its origins, history, traditions, affiliations, and activities into meaningful outcomes for today's world:

To fund a range of charitable activities associated with the welfare and education of the catering trade. To support the modern-day craft of cooking including catering excellence through competition, scholarly and scientific culinary research, and the development of food policy. To support the City of London. To

pursue a fellowship of association that can mobilise the necessary resource, skill, and wisdom to bring these about. The Cooks' Company ranks thirty-fifth in the order of precedence of Livery Companies.

36 - Worshipful Company of Coopers (barrel and cask makers).



The organisation of coopers existed in 1422; the Company received its first royal charter of incorporation in 1501. The cooper trade involved the making of wine, beer, and spirit casks (a barrel is specifically a 36-gallon cask, or 32 in some circumstances); the Livery Company also functions as a charitable foundation, and supports two education establishments: the Coopers' Company and Coborn School of Upminster, Essex, and Strode's College of Egham, Surrey. The former was founded in the Ratcliffe area of London in 1536 and donated to the Company who have been involved with it ever since. The Coopers' Company ranks 36th in the order of precedence.

Middle Ages - 1298: Coopers faced fines for contempt of the King and Mayor.

1299: Acquisition of original deed of land in Basinghall Street.

1396: Request to Mayor for regulation against improper vessel construction.

1409: Decree for liquor vessels to be made solely of pure wood.

1420-1422: Introduction of individual cooper marks and official swearing in of Wardens.

1428-1464: Series of petitions for trade regulation, initiation of the "Vellum" book recording Warden names and brethren, and ordinances against inferior wood vessels, including a notable instance in 1464 where poor-quality barrels were burnt in Cheapside.

Tudor Period - 1485-1502: John Baker becomes Upper Warden, apprenticeship system established, and Royal Charter granted by Henry VII, stipulating a Master and two Wardens.

1509-1547: Grant of Arms by Henry VIII, first record of a cooper's mark, and various legislative actions enhancing the Company's authority in trade regulation. Notable construction of a school and almshouses by Nicholas Gibson.

Stuart and Commonwealth Period - 1611-1612: Expansion of almshouse facilities and financial difficulties leading to relinquishment of shares in the Ulster plantation.

1643: Sale of Company's plate to finance the Parliamentary armies.

1653-1658: Administrative changes including meeting schedules and election procedures.

1660-1685: Significant events like the introduction of the Brazil Staff, the rebuilding and completion of the Hall, and the revision of the Company's Charter under Charles II.

Georgian Age - 1715-1746: Acquisition and bequest of estates, construction of barges, and significant refurbishment of Egham School and Almshouses.

1767-1816: Involvement of Sir James Esdaile as a prominent member and Lord Mayor, installation of gas lighting in the Hall, and various building projects including the rebuilding of Ratcliffe School and Chapel.

Victorian Era - 1840-1898: Division of the Clerk's office roles, leadership of David Salomons and J.F. Firth in various capacities, establishment and movement of the Girls School, formation of the Stepney & Bow Educational Foundation, and the construction of the third Hall.

20th Century and Beyond - 1904-2017: Introduction of the silver-gilt chain for the Master, numerous rebuilds and relocations of the Hall and schools, significant damage during WWII, establishment of new charitable foundations, and modernization including the admission of women to the Livery in 1999.



Their guild hall was first founded in the Bassishaw City ward in 1522, at The Swan tavern and from 1547 in a purpose-built livery hall. The hall was hired out for feasts by other companies and religious groups, and was used for drawings of government lotteries. This hall was destroyed by the Great Fire of London in 1666 but subsequently rebuilt on the same site. Today the site of the Halls on Basinghall St is marked by a memorial known as Coopers Corner.

The guild rebuilt again in 1865, selling a part of the site to the City of London Corporation for the expansion of Guildhall. This hall was destroyed by fire on the night of 29 December 1940. The livery then shared quarters with other Companies until purchasing their current headquarters in Devonshire Square, off Bishopsgate.



Promoting the craft and its history

Ajax, the Coopers' mascot and Free-Horse ridden by Liveryman Alan Roberts at Coopers' Hall in Devonshire Square.

In 2015, the idea of a Company mascot for the Coopers' Company was conceived by then Clerk, Adrian Carroll, and Liveryman Alan Roberts. Ajax, a Shire horse owned by Alan, was chosen due to the historical association of heavy horses with the cooperage trade. Ajax was invested as an Honorary Freeman of the Company at Coopers Hall, accompanied by City of London Mounted Police horses. In 2016, he was made an Honorary Liveryman. Ajax

participates in various promotional activities for the Company, including visits to RAF Brize Norton, annual services at the Tower of London, and Open Days at Coopers' Hall. He also carries two English Oak pin casks made by Master Cooper Alistair Simms, decorated with the Company badge. Additionally, Ajax has helped foster the Coopers' Company's affiliation with the Household Cavalry and performs promotional work at Hook Norton Brewery and plans a visit to Westons Cider Company.

Following the pandemic, the Company has launched a range of new initiatives to raise awareness of the Livery, craft, and its history. In June 2022, Company inaugurated its Cask Rolling Race at Guildhall Yard, an event that has since become an annual highlight. In July 2023, the Company established a new annual event, one to honour the feast of St Abdon, the Coopers' patron saint. This was the first time in the Company's recorded history where it brewed its own beer, Abdon's Ale, in collaboration with Hook Norton Brewery.



37 - Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers (builders).



The organisation of Tylers (roof and floor tile layers) and Bricklayers existed in 1416; it was incorporated by a royal charter in 1568. Originally, the company possessed a monopoly over bricklaying within the City of London. However, after the Great Fire of London, the king decreed that brick or stone, instead of timber, should be used as the main supporting structure of buildings. There was too much rebuilding to be done by only the Tylers' and Bricklayers' Company; craftsmen from across England were summoned, and the monopoly was terminated. The company now exists, along with most livery companies, primarily as a charitable body. The company also supports various building schools.

The Tylers' and Bricklayers' Company ranks thirty-seventh in the order of precedence of livery companies.

The earliest reference to the company is in 1416 though records show that a guild representing the crafts was in existence well before that time. The company's charter was granted in 1568. A City ordinance of 1570 defined its area of control as being within a radius of 15 miles of the City. The company flourished initially with brick and tiles being widely adopted in place of timber and thatch. The Great Fire of 1666 led to a royal proclamation requiring their use. The scope and scale of the rebuilding programme was beyond the capacity of company members alone; craftsmen flocked in from elsewhere and the monopoly was broken. The succeeding years saw a continuing reduction in the influence and fortunes of the company which nonetheless retained ownership of a hail until the end of the 19th century and alms-houses in Islington into the second half of the 20th century. Masters and liverymen of the

company have ensured that it still plays its part in support of the City, its crafts and numerous charitable causes.

The company, unusually for livery companies, supports three separate recognised crafts within the building industry. These are bricklaying, roof slating and tiling, and hard-surface wall and floor tiling – crafts which are each as relevant today as they were five hundred years ago. The company has always taken a special interest in those training in these crafts. It awards prizes for excellence achieved by students on courses at vocational colleges and in The Corps of Royal Engineers, the company's link regiment, and also for success in craft competitions such as Skillbuild. It is actively involved in a scheme leading to the revived qualification of Master Craftsman. Every three years the company makes awards in each of its crafts to buildings or projects completed in that period. The company makes a number of awards as part of its historic commitment to encouraging the very highest levels of craftsmanship in – bricklaying, roof slating and tiling and hard-surface wall and floor tiling – crafts which are as relevant today as they were five hundred years ago.

38 - Worshipful Company of Bowyers (long-bow makers)



The Company dates back to the 14th century, when longbow making was first established in London on a large scale in the 1330s, in preparation for King Edward III's campaign in France leading up to the famous longbow victories of the Hundred Years' War. Originally, bowyers (longbow-makers) and fletchers (arrow-makers) composed one organisation. However, in 1371, the fletchers petitioned the lord mayor to divide into their own company, the Worshipful Company of Fletchers. Demarcation disputes arose between the two, over supervision until 1429, when a City ordinance defined their respective spheres. It was not until the late 1480s that the bowyers acquired a coat of arms and a set of coherent written ordinances.

The actual trade of the bowyers still survives. Although originally made for use in war and hunting, there is now some demand for longbows used in target archery. There are several practising bowyers in the membership of the company, and it maintains a great interest in the craft. The bowyers are also involved in the sport of archery and give awards and medals each year at the Royal Toxophilite Society and school competitions.

The Bowyers' Company mostly exists as a charitable institution. The Bowyers rank 38th in the order of precedence of the companies, immediately above the Worshipful Company of Fletchers. Uniquely, among the city's livery companies, without livery and guilds, it is the only company with a two-year officer and mastership cycle going back to at least 1488. The company motto is Crecy, Poitiers, Agincourt, a reference to the Battle of Crécy, the Battle of Poitiers, and the Battle of Agincourt, all battles between medieval England and France in the Hundred Years' War in which longbows and English longbows were used to great effect by English and Welsh archers, before artillery took over towards the end of the war. The coat of arms contains three flutes, tools traditionally used for smoothing and shaping wood.

39 - Worshipful Company of Fletchers (arrow makers)

Originally, one organisation included both bowyers (longbow-makers) and fletchers (arrow-makers). However, in 1371, the fletchers petitioned the Lord Mayor to divide into their own Company, leaving the bowyers to form the Worshipful Company of Bowyers. The trade of fletchers, considering the development of more technologically advanced weapons, has disappeared entirely. The Company still remains, however, primarily as a charitable institution, as do a majority of the Livery Companies. The Fletchers' Company ranks 39th in the order of precedence of the Livery Companies, immediately below the bowyers.



40 - Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths



First mentioned in a Court record of 1299, London's blacksmiths evolved from a religious fraternity into a guild before being granted the status of a Company by Royal Charter in 1571. It is known that from the 1300's to the Reformation, the Company was known as a Fraternity having strong religious connotations. The Patron Saint of the Fraternity was St. Loie who is a French Saint from Limoges

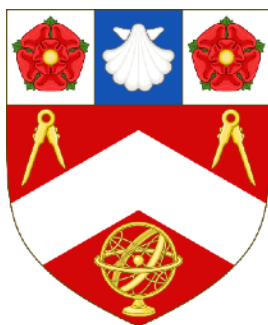
region and is the Patron Saint of the Blacksmiths (he is sometimes referred to as St. Eloye or St. Loije, in Latin he is referred to as St. Eligius).

The term Livery is a relic of feudalism; originally indicating not only clothing but also the allowance of food and wine which the barons, prelates and monastic houses granted to their servants. It was from the monastic orders that the Guilds, in 1346, adopted a particular mode of dress which at one time consisted of a coat, a surcoat and a gown.

The Blacksmiths' Company originally determined trade regulations and standards from the City, but their rights gradually diminished as London expanded outwards. By the end of the eighteenth century, little remained of its former powers and so the Company did not renew the lease of Blacksmiths' Hall which expired in 1785. Trustees continued to administer the Blacksmiths' funds. From 1828 there was a renewed energy on the social aspects of the Company. After 1890 there was a renewed connection with the craft of blacksmithing, and by 1934 this extended throughout Great Britain.

The Court of the Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths, on the advice of its Craft Committee, awards a range of Certificates, Diplomas and Medals: these recognise various degrees of ability and quality of workmanship achievable by training and experience of Blacksmiths working as individuals and when working as a team. The awards range from a Certificate of Competence and a Journeyman's Certificate for apprentices starting out on their careers to a Gold Medal for consistent work of very high quality in prestigious commissions given to blacksmiths who have long experience in the craft. The Company provides maintains a charitable trust making donations, in support of apprentice blacksmiths. Ranking fortieth in the order of precedence.

41 - Worshipful Company of Joiners and Ceilers (wood craftsmen)



The Guild of St James Garlickhythe, the company's predecessor, named after the church, where it was founded, was formed in 1375. The organisation of wood craftsmen, who were known at various times as fusters, carvers, and joiners, received a Royal Charter of incorporation in 1571. The craft of 'ceiling' refers to the application and installation of both wall and ceiling wood panelling.

The company has traditionally been separate from the Worshipful Company of Carpenters, for historically Joiners attached wood using glue or other similar materials including pins and dowels, while carpenters used nails or pegs. After many years of not fully supporting their original craft ideals, the company is now pursuing a closer link with the training of apprentices both in the craft of Joinery and Ceiling (and carving), It also supports craft-related training institutions, as well as general educational establishments and selected units of the UK armed services. The company ranks 41st in the order of precedence of the livery companies.

1750s - Mary Wyan born on 1st April 1720, the daughter of Jacob Wyan a Quaker and Draper of London, was an orphaned apprentice to the Company. She is recorded in 1752 as marrying William Thomas, at the Quaker Meeting House in Gracechurch Street. He died about 1775 in Marshfield, Plymouth Colony in America. He was the son of Nathan Thomas.

Churches were early meeting places and by the late 1300s joiners clustered around St James Garlickhythe. Today you can still see the church near the Thames, where joiners lived so they could easily access timber brought in by ship. We evolved across centuries, shaping the City of London with other livery companies. Elizabeth I (1558–1603) granted us our Royal Charter in 1571, which defined our purpose and provided legal protection. Joiners Hall was destroyed in 1941 and not rebuilt.

42 - Worshipful Company of Weavers – 1155



The Worshipful Company of Weavers is the most ancient of the Livery Companies in the City of London. It existed in the year 1130, and was perhaps formed earlier. The company received a Royal Charter in 1155. At present, the Company retains a connection to textiles through its contributions to the textile industry. It has, however, like most other Livery Companies, evolved into a charitable institution rather than remaining a trade association. The Company ranks forty-second in the order of precedence of the Livery Companies.

43 - Worshipful Company of Woolmen.



It is known to have existed in 1180, making it one of the older livery companies of the city. It was officially incorporated in 1522. The company's original members were concerned with the winding and selling of wool; presently, a connection is retained by the company's support of the field of wool production and related fields.

The first record of its existence was when it was fined by King Henry II for operating without his licence. This was in 1180, so it is safe to say that we are over 800 years old.

This year saw Hollywood actor and Freeman of the City, Damian Lewis take up his ancient right to drive his flock over the River Thames toll free. The sheep driving tradition dates back to the 12th Century and saw more than 1,000 Freeman and their guests take part.

Originally it was the body that oversaw woolpackers and wool merchants to ensure consistent standards for wool producers and wool merchants throughout the wool industry. It combines its ancient history and traditions with charitable work supporting and promoting the use of wool.



Through careful evolution over 800 years the Woolmen's Company has maintained its unique traditions whilst maintaining close emotional and business affiliations with a modern, vibrant and very environmentally friendly fibre. Through its Charitable Trust it supports research into appropriate wool related procedures and practices; provides bursaries for students of wool, textile, design, wool marketing and retailing and it awards prizes and medals for sheep shearing at the major agricultural shows.

It works with a number of Wool Industry Partners, including The British Wool Marketing Board and the Campaign for Wool which has His Majesty the King as Patron. The company ranks forty-third in the order of precedence of the livery companies.

44 - Worshipful Company of Scriveners (court scribes and notaries public) – 1373.



Originally known as the Myserie of the Writers of the Court Letter and, since its incorporation, as the Master Wardens and Assistants of the Company of Scrivenors of the Cittie of London, the Scriveners' Company remains one of the few City livery companies continuing to influence professional standards, namely that of scrivener notary. The Company received its first ordinances in 1373, and its royal charter was granted by King James I on 28 January 1617.

Historically, scrivener notaries were the only notaries public permitted to practise in London, the Liberties of Westminster, the Borough and other places within three miles of the City. In 1801, the British Parliament passed the Public Notaries Act confirming this status.

Scrivener notaries may be appointed after a two-year apprenticeship to a practising scrivener notary and passing the examinations as set by the Company. They must be fluent in one or two foreign languages and be familiar with the principles and practice of laws overseas.

The ancient privilege of scrivener notaries was extinguished by the Access to Justice Act 1999, since when any notary public qualified in England and Wales may practise within the Company's former exclusive jurisdiction (i.e. Central London). Nonetheless, they remain a discrete branch of the legal profession, and their unique status is recognised in civil law countries by membership of the International Union of Notaries (UINL). The current professional qualification rules were adopted by the Scriveners' Court of Assistants in 1998.

The profession of scribe has developed into public servants, authors, accountants, bookkeepers, typists and the Company further derives its membership from leading lawyers, courtiers and antiquarians.

Admission to the Freedom and Livery is, as with other City livery companies, via one of three routes: patrimony, servitude or redemption. Candidates must be proposed by two liverymen (one being a Court Assistant), or by authority of the Selection Committee. The Scriveners' Company first admitted lady members in 1665. The Company's principal activities divide into four areas: professional, charitable, civic and social. Its charitable activities are governed by its Sexcentenary Charity Fund.

In the order of precedence of the City livery companies, the Scriveners' Company ranks forty-fourth. The ancient Scriveners' Hall was burned down in the Great Fire of London (1666), being subsequently rebuilt and bought by the Coachmakers' Company in 1703. Destroyed in the Blitz, the site of its previous hall is in Noble Street, just off Gresham Street, near Guildhall, London.

45 - Worshipful Company of Fruiterers



The Company was founded in 1463 and received a Royal Charter in 1605. As a guild it was concerned with the sale and quality of fruit brought into London, training apprentices, supporting its members and doing charitable works. The connection of the Company to the fruit trade had diminished by the late nineteenth century, but in the later twentieth century its connections were revitalized. It is known for its special recognition of individuals in the fruit industry and for its support of related research and development. Currently, over half the livery is made up of industry representatives.

The Company ranks forty-fifth in the order of precedence of Livery Companies.

46 - Worshipful Company of Plaisterers (plasterers)



The Plaisterers' Company was incorporated under a Royal Charter in 1501 and whilst the spelling used in the charter was "Plaisterer", some later charters used the alternative spelling of "plasterer", nonetheless, the company uses the original spelling.

The company originated as a trade association of London's plasterers. Today, it maintains a connection with the trade by establishing plastering standards and by officially accrediting plasterers. The Plaisterers' Company ranks forty-sixth in the Order of Precedence of the City livery companies.

The company's first hall was bequeathed by William Elder, Citizen and Plaisterer in 1556. It was situated on the corner of Addle Street and Philip Lane but was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666. Its second hall was built in 1669 to the design of Christopher Wren, although this too was destroyed by fire in 1882. The third hall on the site was destroyed during the Blitz in 1940.

Its current hall, opened in November 1972, has décor throughout of the neo-classical style created by Robert Adam in the 18th century. His various designs have been faithfully reproduced in great detail both on plaster and wood, some being taken from his original moulds. Plaisterers' Hall is the largest and one of the finest City livery halls in London.

47 - Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers (journalists and publishers)



The Worshipful Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers (until 1937 the Worshipful Company of Stationers), usually known as the Stationers' Company, is one of the livery companies of the City of London. The Stationers' Company was formed in 1403; it received a royal charter in 1557. It held a monopoly over the publishing industry and was officially responsible for setting and enforcing regulations until the enactment of the Statute of Anne, also known as the Copyright Act 1710. Once the company received its charter, "the company's role was to

regulate and discipline the industry, define proper conduct and maintain its own corporate privileges."

The company members, including master, wardens, assistants, liverymen, freemen and apprentices are mostly involved with the modern visual and graphic communications industries that have evolved from the company's original trades. These include printing, paper-making, packaging, office products, engineering, advertising, design, photography, film and video production, publishing of books, newspapers and periodicals and digital media. The company's principal purpose nowadays is to provide an independent forum where its members can advance the interests (strategic, educational, training and charitable) of the industries associated with the company.

In 1403, the Corporation of London approved the formation of a guild of stationers. At this time, the occupations considered stationers for the purposes of the guild were text writers, limners (illuminators), bookbinders or booksellers who worked at a fixed location (stationarius) beside the walls of St Paul's Cathedral. Booksellers sold manuscript books, or copies thereof produced by their respective firms for retail; they also sold writing materials. Illuminators illustrated and decorated manuscripts.



Caxton

window

Printing gradually displaced manuscript production so that, by the time the guild received a royal charter of incorporation on 4 May 1557, it had, in effect, become a printers' guild. In 1559, it became the 47th in city livery company precedence. At the time, it was based at Peter's College, which it bought from St Paul's Cathedral. During the Tudor and Stuart periods, the Stationers were legally empowered to seize "offending books" that violated the standards of content set down by the Church and state; its officers could bring "offenders" before ecclesiastical authorities, usually the Bishop of London or the Archbishop of Canterbury, depending on the severity of the transgression. Thus Stationers played an important role in the culture of England as it evolved through the intensely turbulent decades of the Protestant Reformation and toward the English Civil War.

The Stationers' Charter, which codified its monopoly on book production, ensured that once a member had asserted ownership of a text or "copy" by having it approved by the company, no other member was entitled to publish it, that is, no one else had the "right to copy" it. This is the origin of the term "copyright". However, this original "right to copy" in England was different from the modern conception of copyright. The stationers' "copy right" was a protection granted to the printers of a book; "copyright" introduced with the Statute of Anne, or the Copyright Act 1710, was a right granted to the author(s) of a book based on statutory law.

Members of the company could, and mostly did, document their ownership of copyright in a work by entering it in the "entry book of copies" or the Stationers' Company Register. The Register of the Stationers' Company thus became one of the most essential documentary records in the later study of English Renaissance theatre. (In 1606 the Master of the Revels, who was responsible until this time for licensing plays for performance, acquired some overlapping authority over licensing them for publication as well; but the Stationers' Register remained a crucial authoritative source of information after that date too.) Enforcement of such rules was always a challenge, in this area as in other aspects of the Tudor/Stuart regime. Works were often printed surreptitiously and illegally, and would remain a subject of interest to both the Company and the government into the modern period.

In 1603, the Stationers formed the English Stock, a joint stock publishing company funded by shares held by members of the company. This profitable venture gave the Company a monopoly on printing certain types of works, including almanacs, prayer-books, and primers, some of the best-selling works of the day.

By buying and holding shares in the English Stock (which were limited in number), members of the company received a nearly guaranteed return each year. The English Stock at times employed out-of-work printers, and disbursed some of the profit to the poor and to those reliant on the Company's pensions. When a printer or bookseller who held a share died, it might often pass to another relation, most often his widow.

In 1606, the company bought Abergavenny House in Ave Maria Lane and moved out of Peter's College. The new hall burnt down in the Great Fire of 1666, along with most of its contents, including a great number of books. The Company's clerk, George Tokefeild, is said to have removed a great number of the Company's records to his home in the suburbs—without this act, much of the Company's history before 1666 would have been lost. It was rebuilt by 1674, and its present interior is much as it was when it reopened. The Court Room was added in 1748, and in 1800 the external façade was remodelled to its present form.



The Main Hall.

In 1695, the monopoly power of the Stationers' Company was diminished by the lapsing of their monopoly on printing, allowing presses to operate more freely outside of London than they had previously. This blow was compounded when in 1710 Parliament passed the Copyright Act 1709, the first such act to establish copyright as the purview of authors, not printers or publishers. In 1861, the company established the Stationers' Company's School at Bolt Court, Fleet Street for the education of sons of members of the Company. In 1894, the

school moved to Hornsey in north London, eventually closing in 1983.

Registration under the Copyright Act 1911 ended in December 1923; the company then established a voluntary register in which copyrights could be recorded to provide printed proof of ownership in case of disputes. In 1937, a royal charter amalgamated the Stationers' Company and the Newspaper Makers' Company, which had been founded six years earlier (and whose members were predominant in Fleet Street), into the company of the present name.

48 - Worshipful Company of Broderers (embroiderers)



Broderers were workers in embroidery; the organization of Broderers existed in at least 1376, and was officially incorporated by a royal charter in 1561. As the craft of embroidery has lost its importance as a trade, the company has become less of a trade association for Broderers. Instead, the company is now, as are most livery companies, a charitable foundation.

The company is the forty-eighth in the order of precedence for livery companies. The livery hall of the Broderers, Broderers' Hall, stood on Gutter Lane from 1515 until its destruction in the London blitz. The Broderers now dine in Mercers' Hall.

49 - Worshipful Company of Upholders

(upholsterers).

The Worshipful Company of Upholders is one of the Livery Companies of the City of London. "Upholder" is an archaic word for "upholsterer". In past times, upholders did not just manufacture and sell upholstered goods but were cabinet makers, undertakers, soft furnishers, auctioneers, and valuers. The organisation was formed on 1 March 1360 and officially incorporated by a Royal Charter granted by Charles I in 1626. The Company originally had the right to set standards for upholstery within London and to search, seize and destroy defective upholstery. However, over the years, the Company's power has eroded, as has the profession of upholsterers, because of the advancement of technology.



The Livery's purpose today is: To Uphold the livery of the Upholders, ensuring it continues to flourish. Upholding the craft of the Upholder and through charitable giving uphold individuals and organisations connected with our trade and Livery.

In support of the upholstery and soft furnishing trade, the Livery provides prizes and bursaries to students studying these crafts. It gives Merit Awards to companies achieving the highest standards of craftsmanship and Master Craftsman awards to individuals. Working closely with the Association of

Master Upholsterers and Soft Furnishers, it is developing a "Centres of Excellence" scheme for colleges and other organisations to ensure traditional upholstery skills are taught and passed on to professionals and enthusiasts. In 2017, the first Upholders' apprentice to complete his training through the Livery Companies' Apprenticeship Scheme was awarded his certificate by the Lord Mayor of London. In addition to working with the AMUSF, the company supports the Guild of Traditional Upholsterers. The Livery provides several pensions to special-needs pensioners who have worked in the trade.

Upholders arranged the funeral of Admiral Lord Nelson, and the Livery is proud to include undertakers today. Members of the company continue to be involved with the funerals of national figures. The name Undertaker also has Upholder as its root.

50 - Worshipful Company of Musicians.



The Worshipful Company of Musicians is one of the Livery Companies of the City of London. Its history dates back to at least 1350. Originally a specialist guild for musicians, its role became an anachronism in the 18th century, when the centre of music making in London moved from the city to the West End, and for more than a century it was a general guild for figures in the city, with no specific musical role. In the late 19th century, the musical element was revived, and the modern Company promotes all aspects of the art and science of music.

The guild is believed to have been in existence at least as early as 1350, but the earliest official charter known was granted by King Edward IV to his minstrels in 1469. In 1500, the Fellowship of Minstrels was granted incorporation as the Musicians' Company by the Lord Mayor of the City of London, and the company was given the right to regulate all musicians within the city. In earlier centuries, minstrels had held an honourable position in mediaeval society, but by the 15th century they were less highly regarded, and the protection of a guild was much needed. The guild received a Royal Charter in 1604, transforming it into the Worshipful Company of Musicians, with the influence and prestige of other City livery companies. It was granted control over all music-making in and within three miles of London, except for Westminster and Southwark. Nevertheless, the musicians employed by the court and powerful aristocratic families resisted the new Company's authority, and in 1632 Charles I revoked the 1604 charter. In 1637 the Westminster Musicians Guild attempted to assert control of the city's musicians, and the Company fought hard to retain its privileges, operating without a charter from 1632 to 1950.

By the middle of the 18th century most public music-making had moved from the city to the newly built West End of London, and the Worshipful Company had become an anachronism. To maintain its membership and existence, the company began admitting non-musicians, principally leading City businessmen, and, like many of the Livery Companies, it lost its original specialist identity. In 1870, with the election of the music publisher William Chappell, the company began to revive its interest in music. A modest number of musicians were admitted to membership, and the non-musicians in the Company agreed to an increasing emphasis on musical philanthropy as its primary activity. Despite the lack of an official charter since 1632, the Company held tercentenary celebrations at the beginning of the twentieth century, under the direction of Colonel Thomas Bradney Shaw-Hellier commandant of the Royal Military School of Music. In 1949 the Company successfully petitioned the City authorities for permission to apply to King George VI for a new charter of incorporation. The new charter was granted in 1950.

51 - Worshipful Company of Turners (lathe operators)

The Turners' Company is one of the oldest Livery Companies in the City of London. Its origins go back to early medieval times: the first reference to a London turner dates to 1189, though the charter is dated 1155. The medieval Company was a trade guild, set up to protect the interests of its members, whose skill was to turn and shape wooden objects on a lathe.



They laid down standards for their products; they had a strict system of apprenticeship; they restricted competition from outsiders; and collected for charity and funeral expenses. Unlike the richer Livery Companies the Turners were craftsmen, not merchants. A time when many everyday necessities, like chairs, cups and plates, were turned products, London turners could make a living by the standards of the day.

The contemporary Turners' Company reflects many of the traditions of earlier days. Its main objective remains to promote the craft of turning, which, in the 21st century, encompasses a broad spectrum of styles from the traditional and practical to the intricate and ornate right through to large statement pieces and Avant Garde works of art. Both professional turners and amateurs are members of the Company. It promotes the craft of turning by running a major exhibition, known as "Wizardry in Wood", every four years. It holds turning competitions, and offers prizes and bursaries to established and aspirant turners. It supports the Register of Professional Turners, which gives details of leading turners and what they make. The Company received its royal charter from King James 1st in 1604, and is 51st in the order of precedence of City Livery Companies.

52 - Worshipful Company of Basketmakers



The Worshipful Company of Basketmakers was constituted in 1569. It was recognised as a Livery Company in 1825, and received a Royal Charter in 1937. The Company has recently instituted Yeoman memberships for working Basketmakers and works closely with the basketmaking trade through the Trade Advisor and Trade Committee. It has a strong charitable trust and supports many charitable causes, and supports the three-armed services with its involvement with 100 (Yeomanry) Regiment Royal Artillery, HMS Richmond and 5 (AC) Squadron RAF.

There is an independent but related Masonic Lodge called the Basketmakers Lodge No. 5639. Membership of this Lodge is exclusive, drawn from members of the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers. The Company ranks fifty-second in the order of precedence for Livery Companies.

Basketmaking is one of the oldest known crafts. Older than the weaving of cloth, more ancient than the early ceramic art, the interlacing of twigs into wickerwork is in all probability contemporary with the first clipping of flint into arrowheads. One of the earliest complete baskets in the world is from around 3000 BC (by courtesy of the British Museum). Basketmaking has been called the mother of pottery, as a potter used a basket mould long before the invention of the wheel. Pieces of Neolithic pottery show that the clay had been moulded around a basket structure. Stone Age pots often were ornamented with basketwork patterns. Basketwork is of a more perishable nature than pottery, and it is chiefly in Egypt that ancient baskets have been found in a good state of preservation, due to the extremely dry atmosphere and the preserving sand.

Early Italian Gerla Basket 'Cista Cibaria'



The Basketmakers' Company possesses a small Egyptian "shabti" basket made of fibre, belonging to the XIth Dynasty and dated 2000 BC. These rare baskets, found in mummy cases, contained food for the shabti, little figures who accompanied members of the royal household in the after-life. We also possess a fragment of pre-history coiled basketry lining dated about 4000 B.C.

Moving through history, we encounter houses built of wattle, shields fashioned of wickerwork and coracles - very large baskets covered with hide which the Romans saw on the Thames when they first came to this land.

The first Christian church in Britain, in Glastonbury in Somerset, had a roof of straw constructed on a structure of wickerwork. Relics from this church dated first century AD. have been found preserved in the mud deposits of ancient fenland. The first monastery of Iona founded in 563 A.D. by St. Columba was made of wickerwork as the early chroniclers wrote "sent forth the monks to gather twigs to build their hospice".



Thomas Birch, a Basketmaker in 1776, erected a scaffold of wickerwork around Islington Church steeple so the ascent to repair the steeple was rendered safe. Some 2000 Londoners paid sixpence for admission to the wicker staircase.

53 - Worshipful Company of Glaziers and Painters of Glass.



The Guild of Glaziers, or makers of Glass, the company's forerunner, existed as early as the fourteenth century. It received a royal charter of incorporation in 1638. It is no longer a trade association of glass craftsmen, instead existing, along with a majority of livery companies, as a charitable body.

The original Glaziers Hall was burnt down during the Great Fire of London in 1666. The current Hall was acquired and refurbished in 1977. It is located on the south side of London Bridge on Montague Close in the London Borough of Southwark and has views over the River Thames towards the City of London.

The company ranks fifty-third in the order of precedence for livery companies. The charitable activities of the Glaziers' Company are mainly, but not exclusively, focused on stained glass, and are managed by the Glaziers' Foundation, a registered Charity, No 1143700. The foundation has four committees that were previously self-standing charities: the Glaziers' Trust, the London Stained Glass Repository, the Charity for Relief in Need and the Cutter Trust.

The Glaziers' Trust has the largest budget and has three principal objects: assisting with the restoration and conservation of historic and important stained glass, supporting the education and training of glass artists and conservators and fostering public information and awareness. To maintain the highest professional standards it is a condition of grant that remedial work is carried out by an accredited glazier or glass conservator.



The rear of Glaziers Hall, on the south bank of the River Thames.

The trust also supports other organisations within the stained glass community such as the British Society of Master Glass Painters and the Stained Glass Museum in Ely, Cambridgeshire. Both of these receive an annual grant to help them continue their work. The trust also supports the much-respected publication, "Vidimus," the only online journal devoted to stained glass. Continuing Professional Development Awards are available for practitioners wishing to broaden their skills either artistically or by attaining accredited conservator status.

The London-Stained Glass Repository (LSGR) rescues and relocates good quality-stained glass, principally from redundant churches. In addition to building closure, glass may need to be rescued and protected from the threat of vandalism. Rescued glass is available free of charge for installation in any suitable building to which the public has access.

The LSGR does not limit its activities to the UK, and glass has been relocated in the United States, Australia, the Falkland Islands, and Croatia. Glass can be lent to museums or included in educational projects at home and abroad. The company awards grants to churches and other public buildings for restoring and conserving stained glass.

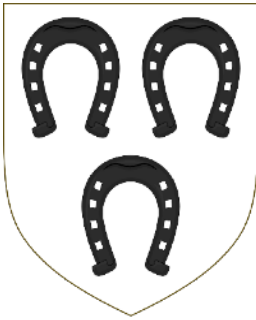
54 - Worshipful Company of Horners (horn workers and plasticians).



The Worshipful Company of Horners is one of the livery companies of the City of London. It existed in at least 1284. The craft of the Horner was essential in medieval communities using the discarded horns of cattle and sheep to produce eating utensils, drinking horns, mugs, buttons, combs, boxes, powder horns and of course, shoehorns. In 1476, the Leather Bottlemakers merged with the Horners. The company received its royal charter of incorporation in 1638.

Due to the decline of the trade of horn working, the company augmented its ongoing association with the ancient trade by encompassing new trades. In 1943, the company decided to support the plastics industry, as it continues to do. The company also acts as a charitable body. The Horners' Company ranks fifty-fourth in the order of precedence for livery companies.

55 - Worshipful Company of Farriers (horseshoe makers and equine veterinarians)



The Farriers, or horseshoe makers, organised in 1356. It received a Royal Charter of incorporation in 1674. Over the years, the Company has evolved from a trade association for horseshoe makers into an organisation for those devoted to equine welfare, including veterinary surgeons. It also supports general charities, as do other Livery Companies.

The Farriers' Company ranks fifty-fifth in the order of precedence for Livery Companies. Today, the Company is one of the few Livery Companies still to play a formal role in its ancient trade.

Section 1 of the Farriers (Registration) Act 1975 enshrined the Farriers' Company with continuing duties outside the traditional City of London jurisdiction that normally applies to livery companies. It provided, "*The Worshipful Company of Farriers (hereinafter referred to as "the Company") shall have the general function of securing adequate standards of competence and conduct among persons engaged in the shoeing of horses (hereinafter referred to as "farriers") and shall promote, encourage and advance the art and science of farriery and education in connection with the said art and science*".

Sadly much of all Company records were destroyed during the Blitz.

56 - Worshipful Company of Paviers (road and highway pavers)



The Paviers can trace their history back to medieval times; they were responsible for the paving and maintenance of London's streets. It received a Royal Charter from Queen Elizabeth II in 2004. The company is no longer a trade association for or a regulator of London's road constructors. Today, it focuses on the promotion of excellence in all areas of construction.

The Paviers' Company ranks fifty-sixth in the order of precedence for livery companies.

From medieval times a small part of the City of London was paved, financed by a tax called pavage. In 1316, six Paviers were appointed by the City of London from which they gradually developed into a fellowship. In 1479, the Paviers received a code of ordinances from the City of London Corporation giving them authority for the first time over the "craft of paving". The Paviers remained a modest company without a hall of its own or livery and its funds were held by a warden. Membership was small, around 20 at the end of the sixteenth century, and its meetings were held in various taverns. One peculiarity was that some Paviers were members of the Goldsmiths Company and there were instances of disputes being referred to the Court of Aldermen. Figures given in 1672 showed the Paviers having 56 members and 35 Goldsmiths who were also on the books of the Paviers. One enlightened practice recorded in the sixteenth century was that widows were allowed to carry on the business of their late husbands and become full members of the company.

In 1673 the Paviers were granted a royal charter by King Charles II, but it was rejected by the Court of Aldermen, and rejected again in 1679. Records indicated increased evidence of the Paviers exercising control over non-members, but this control eventually faded. A report in 1833 said that the compulsion to belong to the company had long gone, and payments and fines had declined. From the beginning of the Victorian era, "the decadence of the Company gradually developed" and "For over forty years a period of apathy prevailed." No meeting of the company was held, and no new members were admitted. Eventually, a special meeting was held in 1889 to revive the company. This started with the award of prizes for essays on paving. The company applied for a livery, which was initially rejected by the Court of Aldermen but was finally granted in 1900.

The Paviers are affiliated with various groups and organizations.

Frigate HMS Argyll
Third Battalion Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment
29(R) Squadron of the RAF
Amberley Museum & Heritage Centre
Paviers Lodge Number 5646.

57 - Worshipful Company of Loriners (equestrian bit, bridle and spur suppliers).



The Worshipful Company of Loriners is one of the ancient Livery Companies of the City of London. The organisation was originally a trade association for makers of metal parts for bridles, harnesses, spurs and other horse apparel; hence the company's name, which comes from the Latin word *lorum* through the French word *lormier*.

The company's first ordinances originate from 1261, which predate those of any other existing livery company, although its current ordinances were issued in 1741. It was incorporated by a royal charter of 1711 in the reign of Queen Anne. It ranks fifty-seventh in the order of precedence of City Livery Companies. The Loriners' Company is permitted (by the Court of Aldermen) a Livery complement of up to 500 and currently comprises over 400 members (including assistants, liverymen, freemen and apprentices).

Whilst no longer authorised to regulate lorinery business throughout the London area, the company still administers examinations for students of its trade within the United Kingdom. It also acts as a charitable body.

58 - Worshipful Society of Apothecaries (physicians and pharmacists)

It is one of the largest livery companies and ranks 58th in the order of precedence. The society is a member of the London Museums of Health & Medicine, and its guild church is the Church of St Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe. The Society's modern roles include educational, charitable and social activities, in addition to supporting the City of London, its governance and the Lord Mayor of the City of London.

Prior to the foundation of the Society in 1617, London apothecaries were in the Grocers' Company (founded 1345, and whose trade was described in 1365 as the "Mystery of Grossers, Pepperers and Apothecaries"). In the 14th and 15th centuries, the Grocers, Pepperers, Spicers and Apothecaries were the trades constituting the Fraternity of St Anthony. Before that, apothecaries had been Spicer-Apothecaries or Spicers since the 12th century. Having sought autonomy for many years, the apothecaries finally separated from the Grocers' Company on 6 December 1617 when they were granted a royal charter by James I. During the remainder of the 17th century its members (including Nicholas Culpeper) challenged the College of Physicians members' monopoly of practising medicine. In 1704, the House of Lords overturned a ruling of the Queen's Bench in the Rose case, which effectively gave apothecaries the right to practice medicine, meaning that apothecaries may be viewed as forerunners of present-day general (medical) practitioners or family physicians.

The Apothecaries Act 1815 gave the Society the power to license and regulate medical practitioners throughout England and Wales. The Society retained this role as a member of the United Examining Board until 1999; the Society could license doctors thereafter, but did so rarely since the dissolution of the United Examining Board. Amongst the notable people who qualified in medicine as a Licentiate of the Society (LSA) were the poet John Keats (1816), Elizabeth Garrett Anderson (1865, thereby becoming the first openly female recipient of a UK medical qualification) and Nobel Prize winner Sir Ronald Ross KCB FRS (1881).



The Society throughout its history has been a pioneer in the nurturing of medical specialist knowledge, including for general medical practice, obstetrics, occupational medicine, public health medicine, legal & forensic medicine and GU medicine, through its qualifications and educational programmes.

The Apothecaries' Garden, established in 1673 by the Society to grow plants to be used as medicines, still exists as the Chelsea Physic Garden. The Society is based at Apothecaries' Hall in Blackfriars, London. The building, originally part of the Dominican priory of Black Friars, was called Cobham House prior to its purchase in 1632.

Much of the original building was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666, including the Friary guesthouse, which constituted most of it, although part of the 13th-century buildings remain,

including a 9-metre-high (30 ft) portion of the walls, now incorporated into the north range of the hall courtyard.

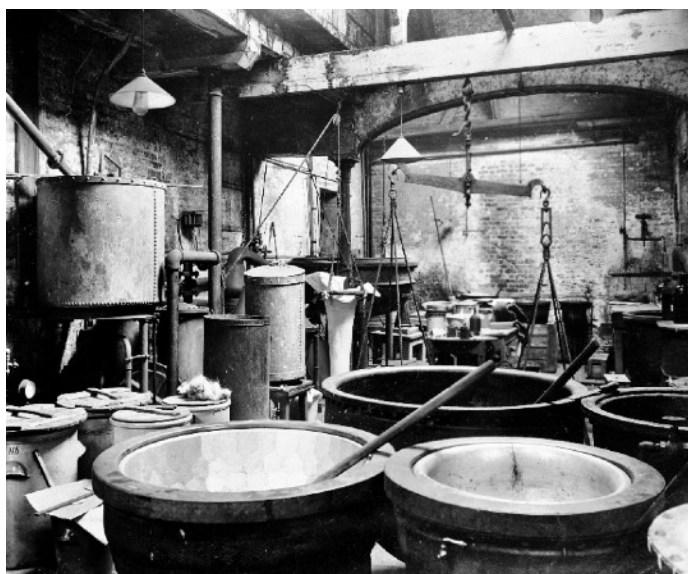
A new hall was built on the same site and completed in 1672 to the design of Edward Jerman; an "elaboratory" was included at this time for the first-ever large-scale manufacture of drugs. From then until 1922, the society manufactured medicinal and pharmaceutical products at their hall, and sold some of their products from a retail outlet opening onto Water Lane (now Blackfriars Lane). Many were to supply clients who included the navy, army, the East India Company and the Crown Colonies.

A major restoration and building programme was carried out in the 1780s, which included the stucco facing in the courtyard and new west and south ranges. The Hall's appearance has altered little since even though it saw renovation in the 1980s. The hall is the oldest standing livery hall of the city, with the first-floor structure and arrangement of the Great Hall, Court Room and Parlour remaining as rebuilt between 1668 and 1670.

In addition to providing qualifications in, and regulation of, the trade of the apothecary and dispensing, the Apothecaries' Society offered primary medical qualifications until 1999. This began after the Apothecaries Act 1815 (55 Geo. 3. c. 194), followed by further acts of Parliament. The title of the original licence was Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries (LSA).

When the General Medical Council was established by statute in 1858, the LSA became a registrable qualification. From 1885, the examination included surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, which were required by law following the Medical Act 1886 (49 & 50 Vict. c. 48), and in 1907 the title was altered by act of Parliament to LMSSA to reflect this. The society ceased to be recognised by the General Medical Council as a provider of primary medical qualifications in 2008, although it had rarely issued any licences since 1999, the year the United Examining Board was abolished.

Laboratory of the Society of the Apothecaries of London. Photograph taken in 1922 when the laboratory was closed down.



Between the Apothecaries Act 1815 and 1998, the society also set the qualifying examination for Apothecaries' Assistants or Dispensers. Agatha Christie sat this exam in 1917, studying for which is likely to have served her well in her description of more than 80 poisonings in her books.

Since 1928, when the society instituted the first postgraduate qualification in Midwifery (the Mastery of Midwifery, MMSA), the Apothecaries have pioneered 15 further such diplomas in specialist subjects not offered by the universities, medical royal colleges or any other medical body. This includes the diploma in the Forensic and Clinical Aspects of Sexual Assault (2009–14), the administration of which was taken up by the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine in 2014. Thus, the society's innovation may be seen to have nurtured the recognition and establishment in the UK of pharmacy and medical specialisms (and the subsequent founding of their specialist royal colleges and faculties) including for General Practice, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Occupational Medicine, Public Health Medicine, and Forensic & Legal Medicine. In addition to providing qualifications in, and regulation of, the trade of the apothecary and dispensing, the Apothecaries' Society offered primary medical qualifications until 1999. This began after the Apothecaries Act 1815 (55 Geo. 3. c. 194), followed by further acts of Parliament. The title of the original licence was Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries (LSA).

59 - Worshipful Company of Shipwrights (shipowners and maritime professionals) - 1782



Although the Shipwrights' Company is no longer a shipbuilding trade association representing solely London-based industry, through its membership it retains strong links with global trade, and maritime and shipping professions.

The Company ranks fifty-ninth in the City livery order of precedence and is based at

Ironmongers' Hall, where it cohabits with the Ironmongers' Company.

The Shipwrights' Company, unlike other livery companies, has not received a Royal Charter because maritime trade by definition was never confined within the boundaries of the Square Mile; instead, a corporate body of London shipwrights grew over time, their first recorded reference being in the twelfth century; thus the Company's status is considered as being incorporated "by prescription".

By contrast a Royal Charter was issued in 1612 to the "Master, Wardens, and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Shipwrights of Redriff (ie. Rotherhithe) in the County of Surrey". This led to a dispute about jurisdiction between the two companies, being resolved in 1684 when the Rotherhithe charter was cancelled. The Shipwrights' Company received confirmation of its City of London livery status in 1782.

Ever since Queen Victoria's reign the Company continues to enjoy a special connection with the Royal Family, several of whom are liverymen today; Having served on the Court of Assistants since 1986, Prince Charles was installed on 10 May 2011 as Prime Warden for 2011/12, before succeeding his father, Lord High Admiral HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, as Permanent Master Shipwright on 16 February 2012. Prince Philip was elected Prime Warden Shipwright (for 1954/55) and became the Company's longest-serving Permanent Master (1955–2012). King Charles III succeeded his mother as Patron in 2024, when the Shipwrights' Permanent Mastership merged with the Crown.

60 - Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers – 1809.



The company was founded by a Royal Charter of Charles I in 1629 AD; it was granted the status of a Livery Company in 1809. The company was empowered to set regulations and standards for optical devices; this was eroded by the Industrial Revolution, after which mechanical advancements made trade restrictions difficult to enforce. The company acquired the right, however, to set examinations that opticians had to pass before practising. The opticians that passed the

examinations were designated F.S.M.C. and this credential stood for Fellowship in Optometry of the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers. This power was surrendered to the British College of Ophthalmic Opticians (now titled the College of Optometrists) in 1979, who took over the examination of optometrists, and in 1986 power of examination for dispensing opticians was surrendered to the Association of British Dispensing Opticians (ABDO)



Stained glass to the Company of Spectacle Makers, Guildhall, London

In 1986, the power of examination for dispensing opticians was surrendered to the Association of British Dispensing Opticians (ABDO). Now, the Spectacle Makers' Company is a thriving membership organisation working across vision care and sight loss. There are over 900 members in 17 different countries. The Spectacle Makers' Charity (registered Charity in England and Wales no.1186122 supports charities improving the quality of life for people with impaired vision, as well as research in the field of optics and bursaries for aspiring optical technicians, orthoptists, optometrists, dispensing opticians, ophthalmic nurses and optical imaging professionals. The Spectacle Makers' Company is sixtieth in the order of precedence for Livery Companies.

61 - Worshipful Company of Clockmakers – 1766.



The Worshipful Company of Clockmakers was established under a Royal Charter granted by King Charles I in 1631. It ranks sixty-first among the livery companies of the City of London, and comes under the jurisdiction of the Privy Council. The company established a library and its museum in 1813, which is the oldest specific collection of clocks and watches worldwide. This is administered by the company's affiliated charity, the Clockmakers' Charity, and is presently housed on the second floor of

London's Science Museum. The modern aims of the company and its museum are charitable and educational, in particular to promote and preserve clockmaking and watchmaking, which as of 2019 were added to the HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts.

The Clockmakers' Museum, comprising a collection of clocks, watches, portraits and ephemera is housed in a new gallery provided by the Science Museum, officially opened by Princess Anne on 22 October 2015. The museum was first established in 1813, and was housed at London's Guildhall from 1874 to 2014. It claims to be the oldest collection of watches and clocks in the world. Though the collection is now housed in the Clockmakers' Museum South Kensington, the company's archive and library are still kept at Guildhall Library. The museum collection includes John Harrison's sea watch H5, once personally tested by King George III.

Prior to the seventeenth century, clockmaking by native English craftsmen was mostly confined to the production of turret clocks. Domestic clocks and watches were mostly imported or the work of immigrants from the European continent. Because turret clock making involved working in ferrous metal, clockmakers within the City of London tended to be freemen of the Blacksmiths' Company, though some were members of other livery companies, notably the Clothworkers. After the loss of many London clock and watchmakers in the plagues of 1598 and 1603, the trade consolidated and began to grow. The continued influx of newcomers led to resentment from those who had become established in London towards outsiders who came to set up in or near the City and who threatened their market. From 1620 onwards, groups of clockmakers attempted to set up their own guild. The Blacksmiths initially succeeded in opposing these moves. Eventually, however, with the king issuing charters as a means of raising much needed finance at a time when he had prorogued Parliament, the clockmakers succeeded in securing a royal charter, on 22 August 1631, to the distress of the Blacksmiths, who could naturally expect to lose members, and therefore income.

The charter gave regulatory authority to the Clockmakers to control the horological trade in the City of London and for a radius of ten miles around. It incorporated a controlling body which should have 'continuance for ever under the style and name of The Master, Wardens and Fellowship of the Art and Mystery of Clockmaking.' It provided that the fellowship should be governed by a master, three wardens and ten or more assistants who would form the Court. The first master was David Ramsay, a Scot, who had been appointed watchmaker to James VI of Scotland, later James I of England. The noted clockmaker Edward East also formed part of the first court. The original charter is still in the company's possession and is housed with the rest of its library and archive in the Guildhall Library. The company obtained a grant of arms from the College of Arms in January 1672. In 1766, the Court of Aldermen granted the company its livery. The number of liverymen was originally limited at sixty but has been increased in number over the years by approval of the City of London Corporation and currently stands at a maximum of three hundred.

62 - Worshipful Company of Glovers – 1638.

The Worshipful Company of Glovers is one of the ancient Livery Companies of the City of London. Glovers separated from the Cordwainers to form their own organisation in 1349 and received a Royal Charter of incorporation in 1639. The company is, as are most other Livery Companies, a charitable organisation, but it still retains close links to its original trade. The Company ranks 62nd in the order of precedence of Livery Companies. They are a member of the 'Leathery Group' of Livery Companies, along with the Leathersellers, Coachmakers & Coach Harness Makers, Cordwainers, Curriers, Girdlers, Loriners, Saddlers, and Pattenmakers.



Glovers, along with Girdlers were originally classified as Cordwainers, but separated to form their own 'Mistery' (trade or craft) organisation in 1349 when the bye-laws were recorded by the City Authorities. Five years later, the articles and ordinances of a separate faith-focussed 'Fraternity of the Craft of Glovers' were recorded before the Commissary of London (an ecclesiastical official appointed by the Bishop of London). By the end of the 15th century, the traders and merchants in London were in general prospering much more than the makers of things, and hence wealth and influence accrued much more to the mercantile companies than the crafts. Following a decline in numbers beyond the point of

sustainability, the Glovers first merged with the Pursers (another leathercraft company) in 1498 and then the much larger Leathersellers in 1502.

Gloves became a high fashion item during the Elizabethan period and the glove trade grew in importance and influence. After much internal dispute and protracted efforts to separate from the Leathersellers, the Glovers became independent again under a Royal Charter of incorporation from King Charles I in 1638, followed by having their ordinances accepted by the Court of Aldermen in 1644 and finally having their status confirmed as a livery company in 1680 (after delays caused by the English Civil War amongst other things).

Royal links are still maintained; for example, the Company presented Princess Elizabeth with 30 pairs of gloves in a casket on the occasion of her marriage. The company has previously formally presented the Sovereign with a glove upon his or her coronation, however King Charles III used the glove presented to his grandfather King George VI by the Company in 1937.

In the 17th century the focus of the company was very much on the control and governance of the trade, in particular the 'search' (inspection) of tawed leather (a process also known as alum tanning, which is still used for gloves and cricket balls) to ensure the quality of raw materials, and that those making gloves in London should have served an approved apprenticeship in the trade. In the 18th century the Glovers produced three Lord Mayors: John Barnard (1737; he translated to the more prestigious Grocers Company just prior to becoming Lord Mayor), John Burnell (1787, the oldest Lord Mayor ever), and Sir John Anderson (1797). By the late 18th century the glove trade in London had declined and become a free for all, and the company had lost almost all connection with the trade. Between 1773 and 1804 only three of the members were described as glovers, and the professions of the master's from 1770 to 1780 were linen draper, oylman, tobacconist, sugar maker, jeweller and wine merchant.

The Company nearly became extinct for a second time in the late 19th century, with the low point being 1880 to 1885 when George Hibbert appears to have been the sole member of the court and re-elected himself as Master each year. Many livery companies were struggling to survive at this time (and several did not), as they were widely perceived to be an anachronism serving no useful function, divorced from the real commerce of the country. The appointment of Sir Homewood Crawford (Solicitor to the Corporation of London) as Master in 1886 started a turnaround in the Company's fortunes (as it did at the Fan makers), with the assistance of Benjamin Scott (City Chamberlain). He was able to obtain an inspeximus granted by Queen Victoria in 1898, confirming the original Stuart charter.

Little is known of the company in the first half of the 20th century because all of the records were destroyed in an air raid in 1941. By the 1950s it was clear that reform was needed, as the Court met four times per year but there were no other meetings of any kind, so the ordinary members had minimal knowledge of and no involvement in the Company. Significant changes started from 1970, with growing glove trade involvement, charitable projects, historical education, participation in City events, social activity, production of a newsletter, and rotation of the roles on the Court. Ladies were admitted from 1979, and the first female Master took office in 1999.

The hall was acquired in the mid-17th Century and was sited near Beech Lane in the area now covered by the Barbican Centre, but was increasingly used for religious purposes in the 18th century, including by the Wesleyans for at least 1739 to 1762. It was disposed of in the late 18th century when the company was in financial difficulties and were transacting their business at the George and Vulture Tavern, Lombard Street. The coat of arms was first granted in 1464, and the supporters were added in 1986. Whilst traditional glove making has largely moved offshore there are still specialist UK companies engaged in the design, development, importation and distribution of technical, military, medical and industrial gloves as well as fashion companies making or distributing dress gloves in the UK and for export markets.

63 - Worshipful Company of Feltmakers (hat makers).

The Feltmakers, or makers of felt hats, were incorporated by letters patent granted by James I in 1604. They received an extended royal charter in 1667. The company gradually lost its role as a trade association for felt hat makers, due to both advancements in technology and the increased popularity of silk hats. Like a majority of Livery companies, the Feltmakers' Company is now primarily a charitable institution, but has a number of milliners amongst its members. The



Feltmakers' Company ranks sixty-third in the order of precedence for livery companies.

64 - Worshipful Company of Framework Knitters – 1657.

It was incorporated by letters patent issued by Oliver Cromwell in 1657, with a royal charter from Charles II in 1663. It was granted livery status in 1713. For a period it had its own hall in Red Cross Street, however for various reasons it was sold.



It maintains alms-houses known as the Cottage Homes in Oadby, Leicestershire – and has an active bursary awards scheme for up-and-coming students in fashion and textiles.

Quarterly dinners are held, normally at Mansion House or livery halls within the square mile of the City of London. These are well attended with guests including the Lord Mayor of London and the sheriffs.

The Framework Knitters' Company ranks sixty-fourth in the order of precedence for livery companies.

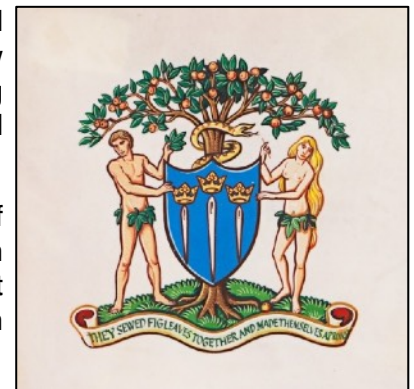
65 - Worshipful Company of Needlemakers – 1656.



The Needlemakers were given letters patent by Oliver Cromwell in 1656, and received a royal charter in 1664. The company gradually lost its role as a trade association, now acting as a supporter of the needle industry instead. Like the majority of livery companies, the Needlemakers' Company is also a charitable institution. The Needlemakers' Company ranks sixty-fifth in the order of precedence.

While the manufacture of needles has declined in the UK since the end of the 19th century, we maintain links both to the historic industry (including the Forge Mill Museum) and to modern technological developments in needle production and needle usage. We have always worked with the users of needles as well as manufacturers – our coat of arms references the first recorded use of needles, in the Garden of Eden – and we have long-term relationships with, for example, the Royal College of Surgeons and the Royal School of Needlework. We now actively work across the wider field of needle technology, supporting organisations and individuals that use needles in advanced medical research, including life sciences, alongside modern needle manufacture.

We are a founder member of the new Health and Life Sciences Group of Livery Companies – those that aim to support initiatives in those fields in their various ways. This Group will aim to bring together many different threads within Health and Life Sciences, whether that be through education, commercial endeavours or charity.



66 - Worshipful Company of Gardeners.

A fraternity of Gardeners existed in the middle of the fourteenth century; it received a royal charter in 1605. The company no longer exists as a regulatory authority for the sale of produce in London; instead serving as a charitable institution. The company also performs a ceremonial role; it formally presents bouquets to the Queen and to princesses upon their wedding, anniversary, or other similar occasion. The Gardeners' Company ranks sixty-sixth in the order of precedence.



First mentioned in Corporation of London records in 1345, the Gardeners' Company hails from its predecessor medieval guild. The first known record of the Company's Coat of Arms is a sketched version on its Royal Charter of 9th November 1616 and as an emblem on the Company's Seal.

In 1605, after existing for centuries as a "mystery" or "fellowship", the Gardeners of London were incorporated by royal charter. This charter sets out the operations controlled by the Company: "The trade, crafte or

misterie of gardening, planting, grafting, setting, sowing, cutting, arboring, rocking, mounting, covering, fencing and removing of plants, herbes, seedes, fruites, trees, stocks, setts, and of contrying the conveyances to the same belonging ...".

King Charles III is a Royal Liveryman as is the Duke of Edinburgh, who served as Master for 2013/14 when Earl of Wessex. The King and Queen of the Belgians are Royal Freemen of the Company, reflecting the British gardening's strong links with Belgium.

As a City Livery Company, there are close links with the Corporation of London and members of the Company are strongly represented on the Court of Common Council. Since 1891, the year in which the Company was granted livery status, 11 Lord Mayors of London have been Gardeners, of which, eight have served as Master.

The Company organises the "Flowers in The City" Campaign in close co-operation with the Corporation of London. The aim is to encourage the planting of gardens, courtyards, atria, window boxes, troughs, tubs and hanging baskets to beautify the City. The award, by the Lord Mayor, of trophies and plaques for meritorious displays (Summer) takes place annually at Mansion House. The award for winter displays takes place annually at Cutlers' Hall.

67 - Worshipful Company of Tin Plate Workers alias Wire Workers - 1766



Tin craftsmen were originally part of the Ironmongers' Company, while the wire workers, who made wire objects such as cages, animal traps and fishhooks, were part of the Girdlers' Company. The two groups combined, and were incorporated by a Royal Charter in 1670. Now, the use of tin plate and steel wire does not remain work done by craftsmen, instead being performed by machines. Thus, the Company is no longer a trade association for craftsmen. Instead, it supports the industry through grants, as it does charities. The Tin Plate Workers' Company ranks sixty-seventh in the order of precedence

68 - Worshipful Company of Wheelwrights – 1773.

An organisation of Wheelwrights and Coachmakers petitioned for incorporation in 1630. The petition was granted forty years later, in 1670, when a royal charter was granted to the Wheelwrights. (The Coachmakers were separately incorporated in 1677.) The Wheelwrights' Company was granted the status of a Livery Company in 1763. Over the years, wheel making has largely changed from being hand-made by craftsmen to being made by machines.



Whilst there are a number of working wheelwrights still practising the ancient craft, which the company actively supports through its apprenticeship scheme, the company is no longer a trade association for wheelwrights. Instead, it functions largely as a charitable body focusing on mobility. The Wheelwrights' Company ranks sixty-eighth in the order of precedence.

In October 2024 the Company had their first ever formal visit to the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (CWF), Virginia, USA, the world's largest American history museum, where the Crafts are practised in the same way as in the 18th Century (by hand). There is a possibility of a further visit in 2026, when it is the 100th anniversary of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation as well as 250th anniversary of the start of the American War of Independence.

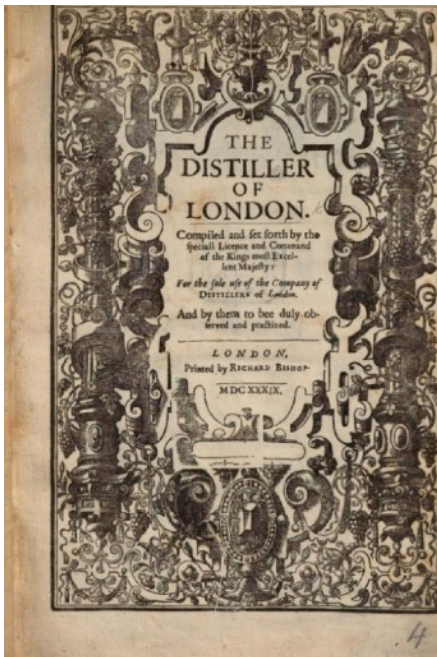
69 - Worshipful Company of Distillers – 1672.

The Distillers' Company was incorporated under a Royal Charter in 1638 as proposed by Thomas Cademan and Theodore de Mayerne, physicians to Queen Henrietta Maria. It was empowered to regulate and supervise the production of spirits and liquors. Nowadays, the Company no longer



exercises such powers but focuses on charitable distributions, including educational scholarships and bursaries.

Theodore de Mayerne was born into a Huguenot family in Geneva in 1573, where there was a strong Protestant/Catholic divide. Educated in Geneva, Heidelberg and Montpellier, where he studied medicine, he trained as a physician.



Building a reputation and making contacts in Switzerland, Germany and France, he became a physician to Henri IV of France; until 1610, when King Henri was murdered. As a Huguenot, de Mayerne decided that passage to England was the wisest course.

The reputation de Mayerne had established served him well. His skills had come to the notice of James I, by whom de Mayerne was knighted in 1624. Following King James's death, he soon found his skills being called upon by Henrietta, wife of Charles I and, later, by King Charles himself.

A Royal Charter to the Apothecaries was granted after de Mayerne supported their claim to the distilling of herbs, flowers and fruits for minor ailments. A monopoly over distillation was held by the Grocers' Company; and so supported by de Mayerne (with the benefit of his royal connections), a Charter was granted in 1617.

In the mid-1630s de Mayerne turned his attention to obtaining a Royal Charter for the distilling of spirits for general consumption. In this he was supported by Sir Thomas Cademan, who was also a Royal Physician, and Sir William Brouncker, a Royal Courtier.

The Charter created a "Body Politique and corporate" to govern the "Trade Arte and Mystery of Distillers of London" and was dated 9th August in the 14th year of the reign of Charles 1. Cademan was appointed the first Master. The Charter gave the Company control over the area within a 21-mile radius of the cities of London and Westminster. However, the Apothecaries attacked the grant of the Charter, with the result that enrolment by the City of London as a Livery was delayed for many years.

The political crisis in 1649 led to the outbreak of the Civil War, which disrupted commerce and culminated in the execution of Charles I in 1649. Given his advanced age and the turmoil of that decade, de Mayerne maintained a much lower profile during the 1640s through to his death in Chelsea in 1655. Theodore de Mayerne and his wife were buried in the Churchyard of St. Martin in the Fields' Church, and his funeral monument now stands in the crypt of St. Martin's church, which replaced the building in which he worshipped.

Unfortunately, de Mayerne was not able to witness the fruition of his plan, as the Distillers' Charter was not enrolled by the City until 1658, nor the successful development of the Company following the restoration of Charles II in 1660 – and, in particular, the granting of livery in 1672. The Distillers' Company ranks sixty-ninth in the order of precedence of City Livery Companies.

70 - Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers (wooden-shoe makers) – 1717



The Pattenmakers, who were incorporated by royal charter in 1670 and granted livery status in 1717, were makers of wooden-soled overshoes. Pattens in previous times were helpful to pedestrians negotiating the muddy streets of London. However, with the advent of paved streets and rubber galoshes, pattens became obsolete by the end of the 19th century. Thus, the company's main function is now as a charitable body rather than a guild or trade association for pattenmakers.

Since the 15th century, the Pattenmakers have been affiliated with St Margaret Pattens, a Wren church located in Eastcheap. The Pattenmakers' Company ranks seventieth in the order of precedence of City Livery Companies.

71 - Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers – 1712.

The company received its royal charter from King Charles II in 1664. Its role was to regulate the glass selling and pot-making industries within the City of London, and to ensure quality and fair trade. Aspiring traders in glass were apprenticed to a master who was a member of the Glass Sellers Company. He in turn was accountable to the court and officers of the livery and ultimately to the master of the company.



The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London ranks 71st in precedence among the City of London's livery companies and received its incorporated royal charter in 1664. This, together with an earlier charter dated 1635 which was not incorporated by the Court of Aldermen, for reasons which are now obscure, are both still held by the company. The 1630s were troubled times and problems in the glass trade periodically collided with a background of political unrest.

Within the City of London there already were livery companies controlling the manufacture and quality of glazing for windows and spectacle manufacture; and the new Glass Sellers Company was therefore established to cover all other parts of the glass trade. It was to be responsible not only for the production of drinking vessels and tableware, but also for the manufacture of looking-glasses and glass vials – such as those then used in the making of hour glasses.

72 - Worshipful Company of Coachmakers and Coach Harness Makers - 1687

An organisation of Coachmakers and Wheelwrights petitioned for incorporation in 1630. The petition was granted almost fifty years later, in 1677, when a Royal Charter was granted to the Coachmakers. (The Wheelwrights were separately incorporated in 1670.) As coaches have been replaced by cars, the Coachmakers' and Coach Harness Makers' Company has lost its role as a body responsible for controlling the quality of coaches. Instead, it promotes the automobile industry, and also supports various charities.



The Coachmakers' and Coach Harness Makers' Company ranks seventy-second in the order of precedence for Livery Companies.

The company provides scholarships and bursaries for students studying motor vehicle design at The Royal College of Art and aerospace sciences at Cranfield University, City University and Kingston University. Three flying scholarships are also provided for an individual who, in competition, has shown aptitude and determination to become a pilot. We support schools through the Livery Schools Link.

73 Worshipful Company of Gunmakers 1728



The Gunmakers' Company received its royal charter of incorporation in 1637. The Proof House has statutory duties to regulate the safety of firearms in the United Kingdom. To administer proof, the company was given broad powers of 'search, gage, proof, trial and mark'. The power to search (with a constable) for unproved guns and seize them is still vested in the company today.

Since 1675, the company has been located at the London Proof House on Commercial Road, just east (outside) of Aldgate and the old City walls, in Whitechapel. It is unique amongst livery companies for being located outside the City Wall. The Gunmakers' Company ranks seventy-third in the order of precedence of the livery companies.

The three major activities of the Proof House are: proof, safety and de-activation.

Proof is the process of testing the safety of a gun barrel. It is still done as it has been since the company was established in 1637: by test-firing the gun with an over-pressure charge of powder. If the gun survives undamaged, it will be safe to shoot. If it doesn't, it is deemed unfit for sale – and kept from the hands of the public. Although modern non-destructive inspection techniques enable the examination of the internal structure of metal to a high degree of accuracy, there is still no better way of determining which weaknesses and imperfections might prove dangerous to the user.

The Gun Barrel Proof Acts specify the rules under which proof is carried out.

Unlike many livery companies, the Gunmakers have retained an active link to their trade and consults with the government on related firearms regulation. The testing technique involves test-firing a gun barrel, or the barrel and action using specially manufactured and controlled proof ammunition, which develops in the order of 125% of the normal service pressure intended for the gun in question. The gun is securely held in a special carriage fixture within a dedicated proof chamber and fired remotely. The barrel, or barrel and action are then inspected.

If they have maintained structural integrity, they will be stamped with proof marks indicating the test pressure, bore diameter in millimetres at 9" from the breech face, chamber length, suitability for use with steel shot or not in the case of a smoothbore shotgun, a date stamp or code and the mark of the proof house that tested the firearm (London or Birmingham).

The Society of the Mystery of Gunmakers of the City of London is one of only two organisations (the other being the Birmingham Proof House) approved by the Secretary of State for the deactivation and subsequent certification of the deactivation of firearms under section 58(1) Firearms Act 1968.

De-activation of firearms is a process where the gun is altered in such a way as to render them permanently incapable of firing and thus completely safe for collectors.

The Proof House Committee, which is appointed by the court of the Gunmakers' Company, is responsible for regulating and executing the proving of small arms in accordance with the company's charter and the Gun Barrel Proof Acts. The Proof Master, who is appointed by the court, is responsible for the day to day running and operations of the Proof House. Master Gunmakers are recognised by the Worshipful Company of Gunmakers and identified by the post nominal: MAsR.G.

74 - Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers (threadmakers for military and society clothing) – 1780.



The Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers were incorporated by royal charter in 1693; the City granted it the status of a livery company in 1780. The craft originally associated with the company, namely the making of gold and silver thread for uniforms or ceremonial clothing, has declined but is still practised. Thus nowadays the company functions mainly as a charitable body.

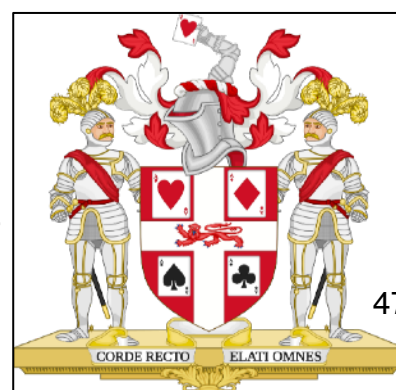
The Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company ranks seventy-fourth in the order of precedence of City livery companies. The Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company also has an associated Masonic Lodge, consecrated on 29 October 1945, membership of which is open only to Liverymen of the

company.

75 - Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards – 1792.

The Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards is one of the livery companies of the City of London, incorporated in 1628, and ranking at No.75 in the order of precedence. It is limited to 150 members, and its livery colours are red and white. The company was incorporated by royal charter granted by Charles I with effect from 22 October 1628, and was granted livery status on 27 November 1792 with a limit of a hundred members. On 21 July 1903, the limit was increased to 150. In order of precedence, the Makers of Playing Cards are No. 75, and the livery colours are red and white.

The company was created in order to regulate and control the importation of cheap playing cards, to protect the card makers and their families, and to maintain quality. The Crown received the benefit of the



duties levied by the company agreeing to pay a tax on all packs, and the ace of spades was chosen to show the tax. Every maker of playing cards had to have a mark of his own enrolled to indicate recognition of his name. The excise duty on playing cards was abolished on 4 April 1960, as the cost of administration had become excessive. The true origin of the company's coat of arms is unknown, but an official grant of arms was presented on 31 March 1982. The shield shows the four suits with an upright hand holding an ace of hearts.

Since 1882, the company has designed and presented an annual double pack of playing cards to each liveryman and freeman of the company at the installation of the new master. Since 1888, a portrait of the master has appeared at the centre of the ace of spades, and the design chosen and developed by the master has traditionally commemorated an event of importance occurring in the twelve months of the master's year in office, such as the company's first lord mayor and sheriff, or some royal or historical celebration. The company maintains and expands its world-famous collection of playing cards first presented by past master Henry Phillips in 1907, housed by arrangement with the City of London at the London Metropolitan Archives.

Since the formation of the company in the Middle Ages, the production and use of playing cards in London has declined. Today the company still has cardmakers as members. However the company has many other members connected with playing cards in some way including card collectors, dealers, bridge players, magicians and other professions. The company has several affiliations recognising the role that the Armed Services provide. Their affiliations include the naval destroyer HMS Diamond, and 19 Company; Middlesex & NW London Army Cadet Force and also 82 squadron Royal Air Force Air Cadets.

76 - Worshipful Company of Fan Makers – 1806.

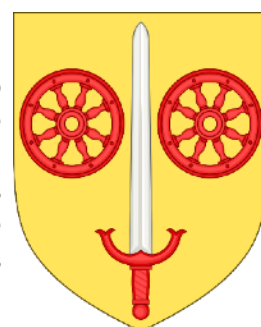


The company was incorporated by a Royal Charter in 1709, and it was granted livery by the Court of Aldermen in 1809. As fan making is now done by machines rather than by craftsmen, the company is no longer a trade association for fan makers. Instead, the Company functions as a charitable establishment. The Fan Makers' Company ranks seventy-sixth in the order of precedence for Livery Companies.

The Company managed to maintain quarterly meetings throughout the Second World War, despite the Blitz and V1 and V2 rocket attacks. After the war, in 1948, Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, became an Honorary Freeman of the Fan Makers' Company. She opened St Botolph's Hall, Bishopsgate in 1952 as the new, permanent Hall for the Company for the next 40 years. Some £10,000 had been raised in subscriptions and the Company had renovated the neglected hall and improved its decor, including the ceiling and a specially commissioned carpet of fan design. Banners belonging to past Masters were displayed on the walls.

77 - Worshipful Company of Carmen (vehicle drivers) – 1848.

Carmen, or drivers of carts, caused upset in 1481. The King conscripted carts to carry his wine allowing rural carters to force food prices up. By offering to provide the King's carriage and clean the streets the Fellowship of Carmen was established in 1517 with authority to control the cartage trade. Carmen organised themselves into a fraternity and plied for hire. However, this was contested by the Woodmongers' Company, who owned more carts. The Carmen turned to Christ's Hospital, who were short of cash at the time. However, by 1597 the Carmen had fallen out with Christ's Hospital, the Woodmongers asserted their control again, and absorbed the Carmen in 1605. However alongside other rearrangements in the haulage trade, the Carmen separated and formed their own fellowship in 1668, but were unsuccessful in gaining the power to regulate carmen, until the Woodmongers became defunct in 1746. The Carmen did not acquire a Royal Charter until 1946.



Now that carts have been rendered obsolete by trucks and vans, the Carmen remain as a charitable and ceremonial institution with over 500 Liverymen, 180 Freemen plus additional 23 apprentices. The Carmen organise the ceremony of Cart Marking, which originated in the rule that no cart could ply for hire within the City of London unless licensed by the Corporation. Presently, the ceremony involves

human powered, horsed, steam, fossil fuelled or electric, old and new vehicles rather than carts. The Carmen's Company ranks seventy-seventh in the order of precedence for Livery Companies.

78 - Honourable Company of Master Mariners – 1932.

While the other livery companies are entitled to the style Worshipful, the Master Mariners are styled Honourable, King George V having granted them that honour in 1928. The Company aids nautical schools and promotes nautical research.

Members meet regularly to socialise, discuss technical issues and assist with the mentoring and training of young officers, who will train at sea to reach master mariner status. The Honourable Company ranks seventy-eighth in the order of precedence for livery companies. The organisation nominally has the right to allow two of its master's to serve as nautical assessors in the Admiralty Court. The company works with other industry organisations such as the International Federation of Shipmasters' Associations. This includes the organisations of lectures and command seminars.



The company was formed and incorporated in 1926. In February 1928, His Royal Highness, Edward, Prince of Wales was elected Master of the company. The company was made an official Livery Company by the City of London in 1932, making it the first new Livery Company to be formed since 1746.

In February 1952, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II became royal patron of the company. In June 1954, His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh was made a Master of the company. From 2005 to 2007, Her Royal Highness Anne, Princess Royal served as Master of the company.



Between 1948 and 2023, instead of the usual livery hall, the Honourable Company of Master Mariners had a headquarters ship, HMS Wellington, moored on the Thames at Victoria Embankment. The Company purchased the Grimsby-class sloop from the Admiralty in 1947 following donations from their members. She was subsequently converted for use as a floating livery hall in Chatham Dockyard. The conversion was paid for by

donations from Lloyd's of London, private benefactors, shipping companies and other livery companies. In December 1948, the ship was moved to her permanent mooring along the Victoria Embankment. In 1991, the ship was extensively refurbished following a period of dry-docking in the private yards at Sheerness Dockyard.

In July 2005, ownership of HMS Wellington was transferred from the Honourable Company the Wellington Trust, although the company retained its home onboard and was largely responsible for leadership within the trust. On 6 April 2023, it was announced that, due to safety concerns, the Honourable Company would leave the ship, though they were developing plans for a new floating livery hall.

79 - City of London Solicitors' Company (lawyers) – 1944.



The company was formed in 1908; the City granted it Livery status in 1944. The company received a royal charter in 1958. Prior to 1969, when the City of London Law Society was formed, the company functioned as a law society for the city's solicitors. Today, the company mainly functions as a charitable body. The company is not to be confused with the London Solicitors UK legal firm.

The Company ranks seventy-ninth in the order of precedence for livery companies. The company is a member of the Financial Services Group of livery companies, the other 11 members of which are the Worshipful Companies of Chartered Accountants, Actuaries, Arbitrators, International Bankers, Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Insurers, Information Technologists, Management Consultants, Marketors, Tax Advisers, and World Traders. The Company's Arms were granted in 1926 by the College of Arms. One of the aims in forming the Company was that it would become a City Livery

Company, and this was duly achieved on 24th May 1944 when the Court of Aldermen approved The City of London Solicitors' Company as the second of the modern livery companies (No.79). In December, a motto was added to the Coat of Arms being "Lex Libertatis Origo" which may be freely translated as "Freedom's foundation is the Law".

The Arms are used by the Company on its official correspondence and appear on the Master's badge worn on all official occasions and when representing the Company at City functions. The Company also appointed St. Yves as its patron saint. St. Yves is a Breton saint who lived between 1253-1303. He was born in Treguier in Northern Brittany and studied law in Paris and Orleans. His gratuitous services earned him the title of "Advocate of the Poor". Every year in May great festivities are held in Treguier in the honour of St. Yves and over the years representatives of the Company have regularly attended.

80 - Worshipful Company of Farmers – 1952.



The company became a Livery Company in 1952, with the support of HM King George VI, and was granted a royal charter three years later by HM Queen Elizabeth II in 1955. The Farmers' Company supports farming students and promotes education in agriculture.

HRH Princess Anne, Princess Royal was master of the company for 2001–02. HM King Charles III was conferred as Honorary Liveryman of the Company in 1980.

The Farmers' Company ranks eightieth in the order of precedence for Livery Companies. We meet regularly, usually in our own modern Livery Hall – at 3 Cloth Street, Barbican, which we share with the Fletchers' Company. This has meeting rooms as well as the main Hall itself.

81 - Honourable Company of Air Pilots – 1956.

The Honourable Company of Air Pilots, formerly the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators (GAPAN), is one of the Livery Companies of the City of London. The Company was founded in 1929, and became a Livery Company in 1956. Elizabeth II granted Honourable status to the company in February 2014. Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, formally presented the royal charter to the master of the company, Tudor Owen, at a banquet held at the London Guildhall on 19 February 2014.

The company ranks eighty-first in the order of precedence of livery companies and fourth in the order of precedence of the modern livery companies. It is unique amongst City Livery Companies in having active regional committees in Australia, Hong Kong, New Zealand and North America.

Stained glass to the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators, Guildhall, London



82 - Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders – 1960.



The Company ranks 82nd in the order of precedence of the Companies. It does not have its own livery hall but is peripatetic, meeting instead at halls of various other Livery Companies. Its church is St. Lawrence Jewry next Guildhall, the official Church of the Corporation of London, located on Gresham Street.

The company was first incorporated in 1619 by Royal Charter granted by King James I, with responsibility for regulating the manufacture of clay tobacco pipes in the City of London. In 1643, following the outbreak of the English Civil War in 1642, the Company forfeited its Charter through non-payment of its annual rent to King Charles I. The company was restored by King Charles II in 1663 but was declared bankrupt in 1868 after its powers of regulation over tobacco pipe makers were abolished and its income from its members had declined

significantly. The company was reincorporated as the Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders in 1954 by members of the Briar Pipe and Tobacco Trades, and in 1960 became a Livery Company once more, ranked 82nd in the order of precedence.

In common with most of the other City Livery Companies, the company is no longer a trade association and is concerned only with philanthropy, benevolence and fellowship. Its freemen and liverymen enjoy a range of social events and activities. They donate and raise funds that are invested to enable dividends to be distributed to a range of charities and educational institutions through the company's Benevolent Fund, as well as to members of the tobacco trade and their families who may need support.

In 1619: King James I bans tobacco growing in England. He orders that all tobacco must come into the country through London and that tobacco pipes are to be made solely by a group of pipe makers based in Westminster, to whom he grants a Royal Charter.

In 1634, King Charles I re-incorporates the Company under the name of the Tobacco-pipe Makers of London and Westminster and England and Wales. This becomes a City of London Company, often meeting in the Painter-Stainers' Livery Hall. In 1643, the Company fails to pay annual rent due to the King and forfeits its Charter as a result. In 1660, with the restoration of Charles II, the Company is re-established and reorganised by the City of London. In 1663, the Company is granted a Royal Charter of Incorporation but is still without a Grant of Livery at this stage. It remains solely concerned with tobacco-pipes.

In 1856 the Act of Common Council allows non-freemen to trade in the City of London, effectively cutting off the Company's income. In 1868, the Company closes.

1954: Key members of the Briar Pipe and Tobacco Trades meet to revive the old Company. The name is changed to the Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders, accounting for the wider tobacco trade. In 1960, A Plea for Livery is presented to, and duly accepted by, the City's Court of Aldermen.

During the 1990s, The Company raises more than £40,000 to purchase the entire contents of the defunct Broseley Pipe Works at Ironbridge, Shropshire, which was one of the largest pipe-making areas in the world before closing its doors in 1957 after 350 years. In 1995: The fully-restored factory opens as a museum within the Ironbridge Gorge Museums complex, a World Heritage site. It offers a wonderfully preserved time capsule of working life in this historical, local industry. Also on display are the Company's collection of tobacco paraphernalia and some 50 prints featuring tobacco pipe making.

83 - Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers – 1963.



The Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers referred to as The Furniture Makers' Company, was formed in 1952, and was granted Livery status by the City in 1963 being the 83rd in order of precedence. Its church is St Mary-le-Bow.

The Furniture Makers' Company is the British furnishing industry's central organisation, charity and patron.

The Furniture Makers' Company was formed originally as a guild in 1952 before being established as the 83rd livery company of the City of London in 1963. Their charity however was established over 100 years ago as the Furnishing Trades Benevolent Association (FTBA), later known as the Furnishing Industry Trust (FIT), dedicated to helping people in the furnishing industry in times of hardship. The Furniture Makers' Company merged with FIT in 2013.

In 2007 the company acquired the freehold of 12 Austin Friars - Furniture Makers' Hall. Austin Friar has subsequently become the name of their main publication. The Furniture Makers' Hall was built in 1882 and still has many of the original Victorian features from when it was built, as well as bespoke wood furniture and fittings, including an ornate oak staircase running through the centre of the building. The Hall was purchased outright in 2007 and has been refurbished to create a venue for membership events.

84 - Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers – 1963.



The coat of arms includes two key figures from the area of scientific instrument making, Sir Isaac Newton and Michael Faraday. The crest is Minerva the Roman Goddess of wisdom and strategic warfare.

The Company was originally formed in 1956 when science and manufacturing were key to the UK economy and the memory of war time defence requirements were still fresh and the UK was a large-scale manufacturer of specialist electronic and mechanical scientific instruments. It is one of the Modern Livery Companies formed since 1926[2] having been granted its livery status by the City in 1963. In 2021, it was granted a Royal Charter.

As with the original Livery Companies it supports the profession and the craft of scientific instrument making, this is achieved through the exchange of ideas and information between members and guests, and also by its charitable donations supporting those in or retired from the profession.

The Company shares Glazier's Hall with two other Companies. The Hall was originally a tea warehouse and is built into the structure of London Bridge. Although the Livery Hall appears to be outside the boundary of the City of London, it is actually in the Ward of Bridge and Bridge Without and so linked to the Bridge Ward Club. The Livery has a long-standing connection with the Institute of Measurement and Control, the Scientific Instrument Society and a number of other bodies related to measurement such as UKAS, NPL and BSi.

85 - Worshipful Company of Chartered Surveyors - 1977.

The organisation was granted Letters Patent in May 1977 and a Royal Charter 13 June 2013. The Company promotes surveying by awarding scholarships.

The Company ranks eighty-fifth in the order of precedence for Livery Companies. Its church is St Lawrence Jewry. The landscape painter Richard Howard Penton's drawings in Halls of the Livery Companies of the City of London were re-published in 1981 to mark their grant of livery status. The Company does not have its own livery hall and meets and dines in a selection of the 35 different livery halls in London.

86 - Worshipful Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales – 1977.



They were one of the earliest of the modern livery companies promoted by the Court of Aldermen from the 1970s, receiving a Grant of Letters Patent (i.e. converting from an unincorporated Guild to a livery company) in 1977 and receiving a Royal Charter in 2012. The Company is complementary to, and supported by, the Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAEW). It promotes "honourable practice" of accounting and awards prizes to students in the field. It also supports general charities. The company ranks eighty-sixth in the order of precedence for livery companies.

Formal letters patent for the creation of the livery company were presented on 25 July 1977 by the lord mayor of London. Its first master was James M. Keith, member of the city's Court of Common Council and chief commoner for 1976–1977. It was one of several companies formed in the 1970s, when concerns were raised that existing livery companies had few connections to the modern financial services industry in London.

The Royal Charter was granted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2012. The Court had written to the Privy Council as far back as 1978 on the subject of a charter, but were advised against "too hasty an approach to the question." The application process was re-started in 2008 and, after a number of changes to the Company's Ordinances (including adding the ability to acquire land, clarifying that membership of the ICAEW was only required at the time of joining, and the abolition of Freedom by Apprenticeship), it was finally approved by the Court of Aldermen in 2011. The Charter was formally presented by the Lord

Mayor, Alderman David Wootton, to the Master, Sir John Stuttard, at a banquet in the Great Hall of the Guildhall on 10 September 2012.

87 - Worshipful Company of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators – 1977



The organisation became a livery company in 1977 and received a Royal Charter 12 February 2008. The company promotes the profession by awarding grants to students aspiring to become chartered secretaries.

The company ranks eighty-seventh in the order of precedence for livery companies. The company is a member of the Financial Services Group of livery companies, the other 11 members of which are the Worshipful Companies of Chartered Accountants, Actuaries, Arbitrators, International Bankers, Insurers, Information Technologists, City of London Solicitors, Management Consultants, Marketors, Tax Advisers, and World Traders.

88 - Worshipful Company of Builders' Merchants – 1977.

Merchants – 1977.

The organisation, founded in 1961, became a Livery Company in 1977. The Company promotes the profession by awarding grants to institutions related to building.

The Builders Merchants' Company ranks eighty-eighth in the order of precedence for Livery Companies. Its church is St Peter ad Vincula.



89 - Worshipful Company of Launderers – 1977.



The organisation, founded in 1960, became a Livery Company in 1977. It was incorporated by Charter 2010. The Company promotes the profession of the launderers by awarding scholarships to laundry students.

The Launderers' Company ranks eighty-ninth in the order of precedence for Livery Companies. The Company's motto is Cleanliness is next to Godliness. Its Chaplain is The Very Reverend Andrew Nunn and its church is Southwark Cathedral.

In June 2007, the Court agreed to proceed with enquiries and to move towards obtaining a Royal Charter for the Company's 50th Anniversary.

The process, led by Past Master Terry Winter and with the assistance of Keith Lawrey of the Foundation for Science & Technology, ensured smooth passage for the Company's application.

At the Privy Council meeting held at Buckingham Palace on 10th February 2010, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, approved an Order for the application of the Great Seal to the Company's Charter. It had been the intention that the Royal Charter would be formally presented to the Company at our 50th Anniversary Banquet held on the 23rd February 2010 at Guildhall. But regrettably this was not to happen as there was still a considerable amount of work to be carried out before we could formally receive the Royal Charter. The whole process was duly completed on 17th June 2010 and presented to the then current Master, Martyn Lewis at Southwark Cathedral on 8th November 2010. They meet at Glaziers Hall 9 Montague Close London Bridge SE1 9DD

90 - Worshipful Company of Marketors – 1978.



The company was founded in 1975. The Marketors' Company ranks ninetieth in the order of precedence for livery companies. Its church is St Bride's Church.

Marketing as a recognised professional skill standing in its own right is relatively new, and the idea for a city guild for senior marketing professionals first came about in 1969. A working party was set up in 1973 and several senior fellows of the Institute of Marketing subsequently helped gain the support of the Court of Aldermen in the City of London for establishment of a guild. On 14 April 1978

letters patent were presented to the Guild of Marketors, and it became a livery company.

The company is a member of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies, the other 11 members of which are the Worshipful Companies of Chartered Accountants, Actuaries, Arbitrators, International Bankers, Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Insurers, Information Technologists, City of London Solicitors, Management Consultants, Tax Advisers, and World Traders.

91 - Worshipful Company of Actuaries – 1979.

The company was founded and became a livery company in 1979, on the same day as the Insurers' Company. The company supports the actuarial profession by awarding scholarships in the field. The Actuaries' Company ranks ninety-first in the order of precedence for livery companies. Like the medieval liveries of the City of London, the company plays a full role in the governance of the city, including the election and support of the lord mayor and sheriffs.

Most importantly, through its Charitable Trust, it gives help and support to those who are less fortunate, with an emphasis on making a difference in improving education, particularly in the area of mathematics.

The company is a member of the Financial Services Group of livery companies, the other 11 members of which are the Worshipful Companies of Chartered Accountants, Arbitrators, International Bankers, Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Insurers, Information Technologists, City of London Solicitors, Management Consultants, Marketors, Tax Advisers, and World Traders.

92 - Worshipful Company of Insurers - 1979



It ranks 92nd in the City Livery Companies' order of precedence. Its motto is *Omnium Defensor*, Latin for Protector of All and its church is St Lawrence Jewry.

The company was formed and became a livery company in 1979, on the same day as the Actuaries' Company. The company is not just a society for those related to insurance and reinsurance, but it also supports general charities and the education of students studying in the insurance field, and assists the relief of members, retired members or members suffering hardship, and the wives, widows, children, orphans and others depending upon them.

The company is based at Insurance Hall on Aldermanbury, near London Wall, a building owned and managed by the Chartered Insurance Institute and shared with the Worshipful Company of Firefighters.

The company is a member of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies, the other 11 members of which are the Worshipful Companies of Chartered Accountants, Actuaries, Arbitrators, International Bankers, Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Information Technologists, City of London Solicitors, Management Consultants, Marketors, Tax Advisers, and World Traders.

93 - Worshipful Company of Arbitrators – 1981.

The organisation formally became a livery company on 17 March 1981. The company supports education in the field of arbitration. It also functions as a charitable institution. Its motto (as displayed beneath its coat of arms) is *Law and Custom*, and its church is St Mary-le-Bow.

The Arbitrators' Company (as it is alternatively styled) arranges a programme of activities to promote arbitration and interest in arbitration in London. In such matters, it is held to be at the leading edge of ideas and development, in ways that cross boundaries between different dispute resolution specialisations in all fields, including commerce and all business and domestic activities.

The company has established charitable trusts through which it expects to continue building substantial funds, with the aim of supporting education in the field of arbitration. It provides members with the opportunity of hearing from distinguished experts in its field and to exchange ideas and views in convivial surroundings. It is also dedicated to the promotion of the City of London as the centre of excellence for International Dispute Resolution. It is a member of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies,

the other 11 members of which are the Worshipful Companies of Chartered Accountants, Actuaries, International Bankers, Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Insurers, Information Technologists, City of London Solicitors, Management Consultants, Marketors, Tax Advisers, and World Traders.

The Company is proud to be associated with the three armed services, having affiliations with HMS Mersey, 13 Company Greater London Army Cadet Force and RAF 622 Squadron, offering support and encouragement.

94 - Worshipful Company of Engineers – 1983.

The company was founded and became a livery company in 1983 and was incorporated by royal charter in 2004. The company is for chartered engineers of EC(UK) professional institutions or fellows of the Royal Academy of Engineering. It works to promote and develop all aspects of the science, art, and practice of engineering. The Engineers' Company ranks ninety-fourth in the order of precedence for livery companies. Its motto is Certare Ingenio, Latin for Use Skills to the Best of One's Abilities. Its church is St Vedast-alias-Foster.



95 - Worshipful Company of Fuellers (energy traders) – 1984.



It is now associated with the whole energy sector, but has its roots in coal: the fuellers, or coal traders, were originally members of the Woodmongers' Company, which became defunct in the eighteenth century. The company was incorporated separately in 1981, and was granted livery status in 1984, and a royal charter in 2009. It is a charitable institution and many of the members (though not all) are drawn from the energy industry. As such, membership is not limited to energy sector employees, but also to those whose interests can make a contribution on energy matters.

The Fuellers' Company ranks ninety-fifth in the order of precedence of livery companies. It has made submissions to the government's energy policy review, details of which can be found on its website.

The Worshipful Company of Fuellers is one of the “Modern” Livery Companies of the City of London, although our origins are ancient and can be traced back to the 14th Century, when we were known as the Woodmongers.

96 - Worshipful Company of Lightmongers (electric lighting suppliers and installers) – 1984.



The Lightmongers, or sellers of electric lights, were organised into the Guild of Lightmongers in 1967. The Guild became a Livery Company in 1984. The Company promotes the lighting industry by awarding prizes and scholarships. Also, it is an institution that supports general charities.

The Lightmongers' Company ranks ninety-sixth in the order of precedence for Livery Companies. Its motto is Dominus Illuminatio Mea Et Salus Mea, Latin for The Lord Is My Light And My Salvation, and its Church is St Botolph's-without-Aldgate.

Following the successful petition to the Crown, through the Privy Council, together with the approval of the City of London, our Royal Charter was granted in July 2012. The Company continues to flourish and still holds Court Meetings in Tallow Chandlers' Hall, as in 1970, where the Royal Charter document is proudly displayed.

97 - Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners – 1986.

It was established in 1972 as the Guild of Cleaners, and was later known as the Guild of Master Cleaners. The guild became a livery company in 1986, changing its name again, this time to the Environmental Cleaners.

The company promotes environmental cleanliness through charitable contributions. The company was granted its royal charter in 2010. The company ranks ninety-seventh in the order of precedence for livery companies, its motto is Tergere Est Servare, Latin for To Clean Is To Preserve, and its church is St

Olaves, Hart Street. The armorial bearings of the Company comprise a shield, helmet and crest, blazoned with the motto 'Tergere est Servare' (To clean is to preserve). The shield is a simple design and is exactly the same as the insignia and motto.



98 - Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects – 1988.



The company was established in 1984, was granted Livery status in 1988 and received a Royal Charter in 2019. The Company promotes quality architecture in the City of London through education as well as its awards programmes.

Its annual New City Architecture Award is given to the building which is deemed to make the most significant contribution to the streetscape and skyline of the City of London in the qualifying period. It also supports architectural scholarship by awarding an annual student travel award, student drawing prizes and prizes for art at the four City of London schools. It also supports a range of other charities which are related to the city.

Since 2012, Chartered Architects have had links with the Orpington Sea Cadets, officially known as Training Ship Whirlwind. The Company ranks ninety-eighth in the order of precedence for Livery Companies, its motto is Firmnesse, Commodite, Delyte (from a saying, attributed to ancient Roman architect Vitruvius), and its Church is St Lawrence Jewry.

99 - Worshipful Company of Constructors – 1990

The Company aims to bring together those professionally qualified individuals concerned with aspects of building design, execution, management, vision and economic appraisal.

The Company's origins date from 1976 when a group of members of The Faculty of Building (today, Forum for the Built Environment) met for the first inaugural meeting. The Company of Constructors was recognised by the City of London Corporation in 1985 as a City Company without Livery in 1985, and became a Livery Company in 1990. The Constructors' Company ranks 99th in the order of precedence for Livery Companies.

It is a modern company, one of 30 formed since 1948. The origins of many City Livery Companies are tied to the building crafts – Carpenters, Masons, Plaisterers, etc. Other, more recent Companies are formed from construction professions (e.g.: Chartered Surveyors, Engineers, Chartered Architects) and are restricted to an individual profession.

The Constructors' Company embraces professionals from all parts of construction, as well as those, like lawyers and accountants, who work with the industry. The Company supports fellowship, education and training and charitable giving, thus following the ancient traditions of City of London Livery Companies.

100 - Worshipful Company of Information Technologists – 1992



The Worshipful Company of Information Technologists, also known as the Information Technologists' Company, is one of the livery companies of the City of London. The company was granted livery status by the Court of Aldermen on 7 January 1992, becoming the 100th livery company. It received its Royal Charter on 17 June 2010 from Prince Edward.

The Information Technologists' Company is unusual for a 'modern' (post 1926) livery company in that it has its own hall. The hall is located on Bartholomew Close, near to Barbican tube station. Prominent members of the company include Tim Berners-Lee, Vint Cerf, Sherry Coutu, Bill Gates, Tom Ilube, Mike Lynch, Ken Olisa, David Wootton, Dame Stephanie Shirley CH and several past Presidents of BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, including Dame Stephanie. The company ranks 100th in the order of precedence for the City livery companies. Its motto is Cito, meaning 'swiftly' in Latin, a word which also incorporates the initials of the Company of Information Technologists.

The company is a member of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies, the other twelve members of which are the Chartered Accountants, Chartered Surveyors, Actuaries, Arbitrators, International Bankers, Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Insurers, Solicitors, Management Consultants, Marketors, Tax Advisers, and World Traders.

101 - Worshipful Company of World Traders – 2000



The Guild of World Traders was constructed in 1985, and it became a Company in 1993. Its petition for livery status was granted by the Court of Aldermen with effect from 2000. The Worshipful Company draws its membership from the international trade fraternity, with the aim of raising awareness and understanding of, and standards of practice in, world trade. The Company ranks 101st in the order of precedence of the City Livery Companies. Its motto is Commerce and Honest Friendship with All, taken from Thomas Jefferson's inaugural Presidential speech.

The founding of the World Traders Association movement gave rise to the creation of trading complexes in over 160 cities throughout the world. London was the first in Europe, built in St Katharine Docks beside the Tower of London (though this World Trade Centre closed in 1994).

Over 1,000 years earlier the same land was used by the Knighten Guilde to trade in foreign goods, and in 1979 the then Lord Mayor, Sir Peter Gadsden, suggested that this tradition be revived by the creation of the Guild of World Traders to represent members of the international trading community in the City of London.

The Company's founding Master was Mr Peter Drew OBE. From the outset the World Traders were determined to be a working Guild, only accepting members from the international trade fraternity, with the aim of raising awareness and understanding of, and standards of practice in, world trade. The Company is a member of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies.

102 - Worshipful Company of Water Conservators – 2000

In 1988, some members of the Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers (5S), who were also members of the Institution of Water and Environmental Management (IWEM; chartered in 1995, now CIWEM), founded the Guild of Water Conservators. It was recognised as a company in 1994. Its petition for livery was granted by the Court of Aldermen with effect from 2000. It received a Royal Charter in 2005. The Water Conservators' Company ranks 102nd in the order of precedence of the City Livery Companies.



103 - Worshipful Company of Firefighters – 2001



The Company's aim is to promote the development and advancement of the science, art and the practice of firefighting, fire prevention and life safety. It operates essentially as a charitable organisation, and also encourages professionalism and the exchange of information between members and others who work in allied fields.

One of the new City livery companies, its origins date from 1988 with the founding of the Guild of Firefighters. The Company of Firefighters was recognised by the City of London Corporation from 13 June 1995 as a company without livery; it was granted livery by the Court of Aldermen on 23 October 2001, thereby becoming the Worshipful Company of Firefighters. It received its Royal Charter on the 11th December 2013.

The Firefighters' Company ranks 103rd in the livery companies' order of precedence and is based at Coopers' Hall on Devonshire Square a building it co-habits with the Worshipful Company of Coopers.

104 - Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers (licensed taxicab drivers) – 2004.

Its members are professional hackney carriage drivers, including London black taxicab drivers who have learnt the knowledge of London. The Fellowship of Hackney Carriage Drivers was recognised by the City of London Corporation in 1990 and was granted livery in February 2004, becoming the Worshipful Company. The process started with an instruction from Oliver Cromwell to the City's Court of Aldermen in 1654 on regulating drivers. Legislation created the Fellowship of Master Hackney Coachmen, the first such society for taxi drivers.



The company's charity supports any deserving members and their immediate family. It has run an annual taxi tour to Disneyland Paris for children with life-threatening illnesses each year since 1994. Its education programme, The Cab Guide Course, teaches taxi drivers about the history of London in order to proceed to conduct London tours, and it seeks to promote public awareness about the high standards of the hackney carriage trade. The company also takes part in the annual Lord Mayor's Show. The Hackney Carriage Drivers' Company ranks 104th in the order of precedence of City Livery Companies.

105 - Worshipful Company of Management Consultants - 2004.

It draws its memberships from practising management consultants and has close links to the Management Consultancies Association and the Institute of Management Consultancy. The Company's motto is 'Change through Wisdom'.



It started as a guild in 1993 and became a company without livery in 1999. On 4 May 2004, the Court of Aldermen granted the company's petition to become the City's 105th Livery Company. The Company was presented with a royal charter by Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, in May 2008.

Between 1993 and 2004 the Company had worked to establish a record of achievement in the fields of education and charity whilst gaining the financial resources required for admission to the livery.

The Livery Companies continue a long tradition of supporting, protecting and developing their trades and crafts, whilst acting in charitable ways within the wider community. They have also traditionally been 'clubs' in which colleagues assemble in fellowship and social intercourse. The Worshipful Company of Management Consultants continues these traditions by undertaking pro bono consultancy for charities including supporting the Centre for Charity Effectiveness (which it established in partnership with the Cass Business School of the City University in London) and forming close ties with the Sea Cadets.

The Company is a member of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies, the other 11 members of which are the Worshipful Companies of Chartered Accountants, Actuaries, Arbitrators, International Bankers, Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Insurers, Information Technologists, City of London Solicitors, Marketors, Tax Advisers, and World Traders. The Company uses the Worshipful Company of Skinners' livery hall in Dowgate for events.

A stained glass window designed by Stella Timmins to commemorate the Company was installed at the Guildhall in 2001 and was officially recognised by the Lord Mayor of London at a ceremony on 18 October 2001. The Company's Church is St James Garlickhythe.

106 - Worshipful Company of International Bankers – 2004



Its members are current or former members of the financial services industry, primarily banking. It is based in a building in Gresham Street, London, near St Paul's tube station.

In 1999 the City of London Corporation extended the possibility of freedom of the City of London beyond UK, Commonwealth and European Union citizens. This led to the possibility of a company with "international" membership. The Guild of International Bankers was founded in July 2001 and in October 2002 it became a company without livery. On 21 September 2004, its petition for livery status was granted by the Court of

Aldermen. A royal charter was granted on 10 December 2007.

The company ranks 106th in the order of precedence for the city livery companies. Its motto, A Natione ad Nationem, translates from Latin as "From Nation to Nation", reflecting its international character. The company is affiliated with several others, including the City of London Sea Cadets & 16F (Wood Green & Hornsey) Squadron of the Air Training Corps.

The company is a member of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies, the other 11 members of which are the Worshipful Companies of Chartered Accountants, Actuaries, Arbitrators, Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Insurers, Information Technologists, City of London Solicitors, Management Consultants, Marketors, Tax Advisers, and World Traders.

107 - Worshipful Company of Tax Advisers – 2005.

It was established in December 1995 as a guild by members of the Chartered Institute of Taxation and became a company without livery status in December 2000. On 18 January 2005, the Court of Aldermen granted the company's petition to become the City's 107th livery company in the order of precedence. It was granted a royal charter in July 2009, which was presented to the company by Prince Richard, Duke of Gloucester, in May 2010 at St. Bartholomew's Hospital's Great Hall.



The central feature of the company's coat of arms is a large chequered diagonal cross. This X-shape suggests the Roman numeral for 10, and the historical tenth or tithe, chequered to reflect the Exchequer that used counters on a squared tablecloth. The blue of the shield symbolises the River Thames, the heart of the City of London. The chain symbolises the links of fellowship between the company's liverymen. Above the helm, the owl, as in the Arms of the Chartered Institute of Taxation to which many of the liverymen belong, represents wisdom, and extends the purse of charitable provision.

The company is a member of the Financial Services Group of Livery Companies, the other 11 members of which are the Worshipful Companies of Chartered Accountants, Actuaries, Arbitrators, International Bankers, Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Insurers, Information Technologists, City of London Solicitors, Management Consultants, Marketors, and World Traders. The Company's Church is St Bartholomew the Great.

108 - Worshipful Company of Security Professionals – 2008.



Formed in 1999 when Steve Neville, OBE, and John Purnell, GM, QPM, DL, registered the Guild of Security Professionals with the City of London Chamberlain's Office. On 18 November 1999, 12 principal founder members met to plan the creation of a working guild. The first meeting with 62 founder members took place on 27 March 2000, with Sir Neil Macfarlane being elected Founder Master and with Sir David Brewer, KG, CMG, CVO, KStJ, JP, and Deputy Philip Willoughby as Sponsors. Progression to a Company without Livery occurred on 6 January 2004 when the petition for recognition as a City Company without Livery was recognised by the Court of Aldermen. On 15 January 2008, the Court of Alderman was petitioned, and it declared that the Company became the 108th Livery Company from 19 February 2008. The ranking is by order of precedence, under which guidelines the company is also classified as a Modern Livery Company.

In 2009 the Security Professionals' Company petitioned the privy council for a royal charter and Queen Elizabeth II approved an Order instructing the Lord Chancellor to affix the great seal to the Worshipful Company's charter, which was granted on 15 February 2010. More recent developments include the development of an Apprentices scheme which now has around 30 Apprentices and has already had Apprentices successfully graduate and become Freemen of the Company and then Freeman of the City of London. The launch of a Young Members section, with special Membership rates for Members below the ages of 41 and 31, to encourage younger Security Professionals to join a London Livery Company. Such has been the success of the development of the Young Members Group that it progressed to become a full standing committee of the Court at the May 2019 Court meeting and is now the Young Members Committee.

Membership of the company is drawn from the security industry in its widest sense and includes leading security professionals from the industrial and retail sectors, serving and retired members of the police and armed services, security consultants, academics, heads of security for corporate businesses, investigators, and electronic surveillance companies. It supports the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers' 'Magical Taxi Run' to Disneyland Paris each year for children with life-threatening illnesses.

109 - Worshipful Company of Educators – 2013



The Worshipful Company of Educators is the 109th livery company of the City of London, having been granted livery status on 10 September 2013 by the Court of Aldermen. The Company was founded on 24 May 2001 as a Guild to represent the education and training profession and for charitable purposes. On 15 September 2009, the City's Court of Aldermen granted the petition of the Guild of Educators and agreed that the Guild be constituted one of the Companies of the City, without a grant of livery, with the title of The Company of Educators and that its Ordinances be approved and duly enrolled amongst the records of the City. Upon being advanced to the status of City livery company in 2013, the Company was accorded the official title of Worshipful Company of Educators, although less formally it can continue to be known as the Educators' Company. On 14 June 2017, the Worshipful Company of Educators was granted a Royal Charter by the Queen.

The Company provides a forum through meetings and social occasions to bring together members from all parts of the education world to discuss and exchange views on matters of topical interest. The Educators' Trust provides Awards and Bursaries for outstanding, innovative and inspirational practice in a wide range of educational subjects, levels and settings.

110 - Worshipful Company of Arts Scholars – 2014

The Worshipful Company of Arts Scholars ranks 110th in precedence of the City livery companies. Recognised as a Company without Livery in 2010, it was constituted a Livery Company on 11 February 2014 by the Court of Aldermen of the City of London. They meet at Furniture Makers Hall Austin Friars EC2.



111 - Worshipful Company of Nurses – 2023

It was founded as the Guild of Nurses and was approved for formation as a guild by the Court of Aldermen of the City of London on 9 February 2016. It was formed to represent the nursing profession. A guild is the beginning of a process towards forming a livery company. In 2020 the Guild became a company without livery, and in May 2023, the Worshipful Company of Nurses was granted Livery by the Court of Aldermen. The Company ranks 111th in the order of precedence for Livery Companies.

Its primary aims are benevolence, education, and philanthropy for nurses past, present and future. The company has a charitable arm- the Company of Nurses Charitable Trust, which gives help and support for nurses at times of financial hardship, and through educational grants. The Company provides a forum through meetings and events to bring together members from all parts of the nursing world to enjoy fellowship, support, networking and learning.

112 - Worshipful Company of Entrepreneurs – 2025



The Worshipful Company of Entrepreneurs is the youngest Livery Company of the City of London. It successfully petitioned the Court of Aldermen for Guild status in 2014 and achieved the ambition to become a full Livery Company in February 2025. It is a membership and charitable organisation formed of men and women connected with the City of London who have invested their own time and financial resources in establishing and running successful businesses and enterprises.

On 20 October 2020, the Court of Aldermen met to publicly determine the progression of the Guild of Entrepreneurs to a Company without Livery. In a meeting by virtual presence

live-streamed via YouTube, Alderman Sir David Wootton announced the recommendation of the Court's General Purposes Committee that the Guild of Entrepreneurs become the Company of Entrepreneurs. He proposed the motion, which was seconded by Alderman Sir Roger Gifford, and the motion was passed. This was the culmination of six years of fundraising and activity as a Guild.

The Company of Entrepreneurs Trust is a charity that was registered in England & Wales in 2016 (as the Guild of Entrepreneurs Trust). It is a grant-making body, which principally supports business education. Whilst the Company of Merchant Adventurers and Society of Merchant Venturers continued the distinct craft of entrepreneurship (merchant venturing) in York and Bristol respectively, there was, in the early 21st Century, no comparable extant organisation in London.

About this time, the city was recapturing some of its ancient trading origins alongside its established global role in financial and professional services. The repurposing of once large banking halls, the growth of the business centre market and the development of technology were again making the city and the surrounding area more accessible to new types of entrepreneurial activity including media, textiles, communications, retail and leisure. This entrepreneurial activity was extending into neighbourhoods such as Smithfield, Shoreditch, Spitalfields and Borough on the City fringes where small business growth was already being supported by initiatives from the Corporation and its formal partners along with the Angel and Venture Capital market. The city was alive with business networks, investment clubs, technology meetings and associations, suggesting that there were many thousands of entrepreneurs with an affinity with the City of London.

Compiled by Norman Bambridge Basildon Borough Heritage Society March 2025.