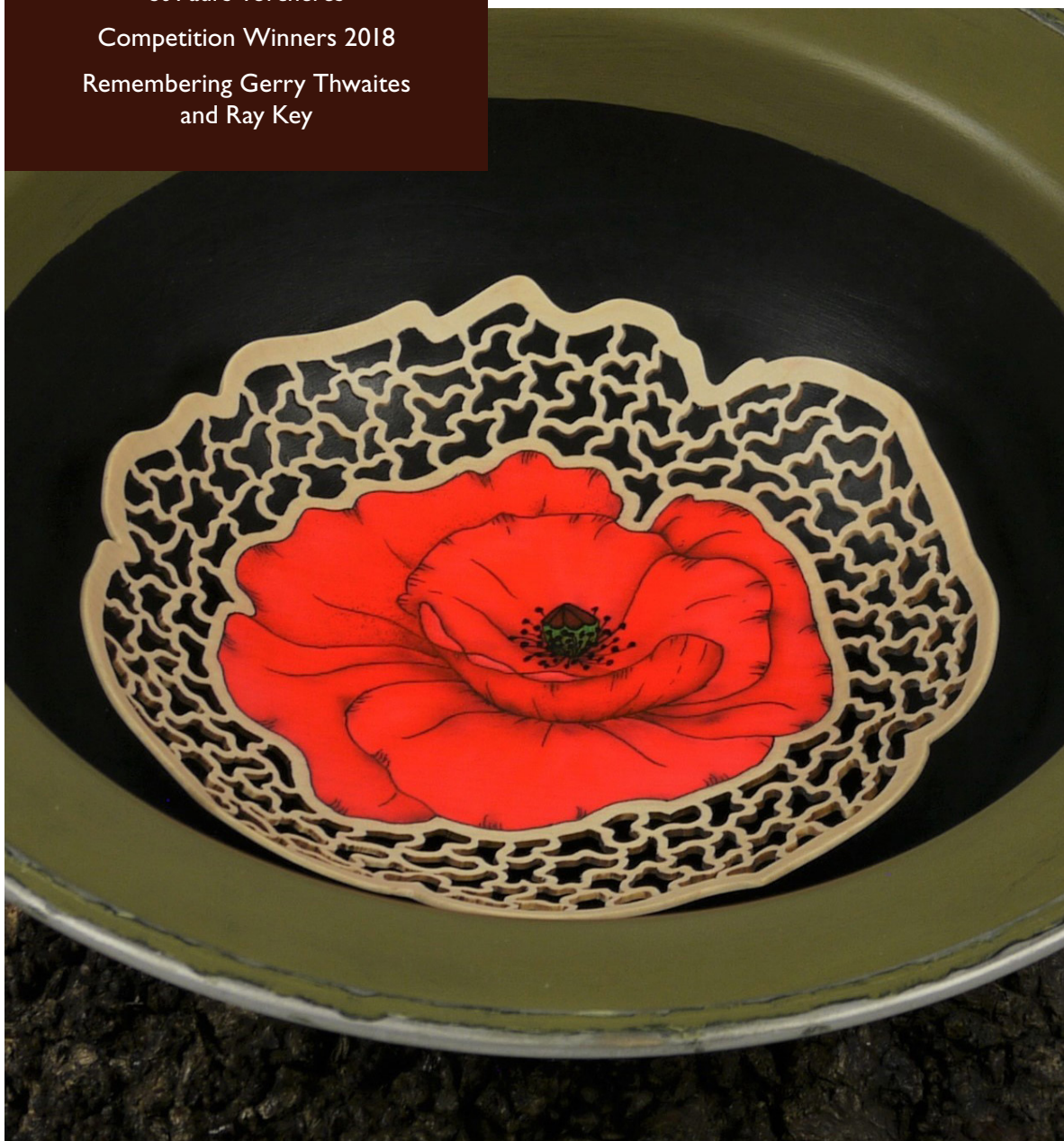
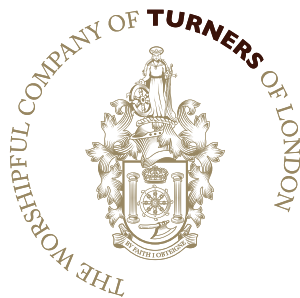


The Turner

July 2019
Issue No. 44

Including:
Royal Gifts
St Paul's Torchères
Competition Winners 2018
Remembering Gerry Thwaites
and Ray Key



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THE MASTER'S LETTER



Andrew Sindall, Master 2019–20

It is a huge honour to be elected Master of the Worshipful Company of Turners, the 350th in an unbroken line going back to the aptly named John Turner in 1604.

As a keen genealogist myself, I have traced my own family stretching back thirteen generations to my earliest known ancestor, Tom Sendall who, at around the same time that John was swearing his oath to be Master, was farming land in the Cambridgeshire Fens near Ely. I value these connections with the past and the reassuring sense of continuity they bring.

When I first began my career in London as a young chartered accountant with Neville Russell in 1983, I had a rather sketchy understanding of what a livery company was. Somehow, however, I felt I would enjoy belonging to one - it chimed with my desire to give something back to the City in which I hoped I would spend my professional life.

The opportunity arose in 1994 when I joined Past Master Ilan Krieger as Finance Director of Guest Krieger Ltd and he introduced me to

the Turners' Company. I was then able to gain a better appreciation of the livery movement and the great force for good it is. I shall always be grateful for this.

We are living through some difficult and unpredictable times. The nation is divided, and our political system seems to be struggling to respond adequately to the concerns of many. However, before we become too despondent, let us remember that many of our livery forebears lived through far more challenging times – a civil war ending with the execution of their monarch in 1649, the destruction of their homes and livelihoods in 1666, and for many again during the two world wars.

The City of London is, of course, a resilient place. It has changed enormously over the thirty-six years I have worked here – deregulation of the financial services sector, increased global competition, the rapid pace of technological progress – and it continues to adapt to the changing environment around it. What is heartening, however, is that it continues to value its historical roots and anyone attending the Election of Sheriffs or the Silent Ceremony will bear witness to this.

As a historical livery company, we must do the same and it is to the credit of so many recent Past Masters that the Company, whilst respecting the traditions of the past, has adapted so effectively to promote our craft in new and enterprising ways. With social media changing the way we communicate, we must always be alert to future innovation, and embrace it.

In the recent United Guilds Service at St Paul's Cathedral, I was struck by some words which I felt encapsulated exactly what our collective purpose should be: to carry the memory of times past into the future with confidence; to promote skills and talents in each generation and beyond; to be generous in our charitable work and provide opportunities for others to share the many blessings that we enjoy.

So here, in a nutshell, is our call to promote the three Cs – City, Craft, Charity. In the coming year I will do all I can to build on the work of my

predecessors to continue to raise the profile of the Company in the City and beyond.

We will shortly be providing our biennial Bursary awards to those who wish to pursue a particular line of training to help enhance their turning skills. We will continue to provide financial support to a wide range of needs, particularly those where the craft of turning can provide real and lasting benefit. And we will be continuing to prepare for Wizardry in Wood 2020, our fifth such exhibition, which takes place in October next year.

Over the past few years, I have had the pleasure of interviewing a number of new Freemen, many of whom have moved on to become Liverymen. The variety of different skills and talents they bring to the Company is greatly encouraging and gives every indication that our Livery will continue to be as vibrant and appealing in the future as it is today.

I would like to encourage all new Liverymen to attend as many events as they can, to get to know others, and to enjoy every moment of their membership. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible, supporting the Company's activities, in the coming year.

In closing I would like to thank our Clerk, Alex Robertson, our Assistant Clerk, Becca Baker, and our Beadle, Stephen Grundy who do so much to ensure the office runs so efficiently. Sadly, Stephen is having to step down through ill health and we wish him a happy and peaceful retirement, with our grateful thanks for his many years of service. I would also like to thank our committee members and all those who give up their time to support the Company's activities and promote the craft in so many different ways.

Finally, I would like to thank the outgoing Master, David Batchelor, for leading the Company so effectively over the past year, with the tireless support of his wife, Lesley. Their commitment and enthusiasm to all aspects of the City and the Company's activities, has been an example to us all.

Andrew Sindall
Master 2019-20

MY YEAR AS MASTER (2018–19) BY DAVID BATCHELOR



Thank you to all members of the Company for the honour and privilege of serving as Master and permitting Lesley to be my Mistress for a year. I doubt life will ever be the same again!

The pan-livery initiative established by recent Lord Mayors aims to encourage all livery members to establish new relationships and gain a wider understanding of the City and fellow livery companies; in the hope that we are all able better to promote the City and its current values. In short, a year of proper social networking - person to person.

The centenary of the Armistice and the culmination of the Company's involvement in the restoration of the bells of St Paul's set the backdrop for many events.

To add extra excitement, a number of livery companies were celebrating special Charter anniversaries: the Tylers & Bricklayers and the Basketmakers both 450 years; and the Gold & Silver Wyre Drawers 325 years.

The pace of the year was established immediately after my election. In the first two weeks I made visits to: the Association of Pole-lathe Turners and Green Woodworkers, Chichester; REME, Stafford; the Hallamshire Cutlers, Sheffield; the AWGB youth training in Cwmbran; Liveryman Katie Abbott to see her bodging in her bluebell wood; and to London for several City events.

In May, the Company sent its best wishes to the Duke and Duchess of Sussex for their wedding. This seems to have been the portent for other opportunities: the article on [page 9](#) tells the full story of the work by Reg Hawthorne and Gary Rance to make gifts for the Duchess and her baby son.

The refurbishment of the bells of St Paul's (see [The Turner issue 43](#)) was followed with keen interest. Removing the bells was not straight forward: Lord Kitchener's tomb prevented them leaving the tower by the route they had been installed.

Nevertheless, an alert Turner was passing by the day the bells left for Loughborough. A party of twenty visited the foundry in July to see the rubbed and scrubbed bells close at hand and, in September, more of us were on hand to see the bells blessed and reinstalled.

Our commemoration of the Armistice prompted a party to visit Ypres in early June. Our itinerary had been tailored to allow three members of the Company to pay personal respects to relatives.

We also visited Talbot House, the respite centre where Toc H was founded. We discovered that its purchase after the war had been funded by Lord Wakefield, a Mayor of the City of London and a Past Master of the Turners' Company.

The group also visited the Menin Gate (below) and laid wreaths to commemorate 'all turners known and unknown to the Company' and personal losses. I was particularly moved to be asked to read the exhortation that evening.



Master David Batchelor, escorted by Past Master Slater and Assistant O'Leary, about to lay a wreath 'In Memory of the Known and Unknown of the Turners' Company.



Master David Batchelor and our Clerk Alex Robertson enjoying their day out with the REME Lightning Bolts and Freeman Lt Col Dan Anders-Brown.

It was most poignant that the 100th anniversary of the Armistice fell on a Sunday.

The new Lord Mayor followed the pomp and ceremony of his Show by leading the Livery Companies both at the Remembrance Service at St Paul's and at the wreath laying at the Royal Exchange. The restored bells ringing their first full peal that afternoon.

The year was not without moments of deep sadness for the Company. In October, Liveryman and Master in Turning Ray Key died after a long period of declining health. His immense contribution to the Company is recorded on [page 36](#).

In February, Assistant Commodore Gerard 'Gerry' Thwaites RN died suddenly, leaving us all in complete shock. The testimony to his knowledge of nuclear power and his naval service, given at his funeral, left us realising what a modest man he had been. Our tribute to Gerry is on [page 34](#).

Nearly ninety members of the Turners' Company contributed to our appeal towards the restoration of the bells of St Paul's, raising the target funds entirely by new subscriptions. This was augmented by the sale of over sixty bells made by members of the Register of Professional Turners from the headstock wood.

The biennial competitions in November attracted over 200 entries over 12 classes and the evening reception was attended by over 150 livery guests. The following day over six hundred members of the public came to see the exhibition.

All this activity helps to maintain our reputation for maintaining awareness of the craft in the City. My sincere thanks go to all who were involved in these activities.

In October, Roger Kneebone, professor of surgical education at Imperial College, had gained considerable media coverage by drawing attention to the lack of practical skills of students seeking to study surgery or dentistry.

On reading this, I had shared with him some of our concerns emanating from the closure of workshops in schools and the denial of opportunities to students at the lower end of the academic scale.

Professor Kneebone responded by inviting Lesley and me to hear his lecture, sponsored by the Glass Sellers' Company, in which he explained how his research has involved arranging a number of symposia to study dexterity and hand craft skills - and applying them to help improve surgical techniques.

Our Spring Dinner was honoured to hear Randolph Churchill, speaking on the 79th anniversary of his great grandfather becoming Prime Minister. He reminded us all how the government of national unity led by Winston Churchill and Clement Atlee relied on working together whilst respecting each other's differences. A suitable epitaph for current times.

In May, I had the unusual experience of jumping out of a plane with our Clerk. As a result, we raised over £2,500 for the Company's Youth Training Programme. Thank you to Freeman Lt Col Dan Anders-Brown for helping to arrange this with the REME parachute display team, the Lightning Bolts.

I am indebted to all members of Court and its committees and cannot thank Alex our Clerk and Becca enough for their tireless efforts and support. I wish Andrew and Liz Sindall all the very best for their year.

David Batchelor
Master 2018-19

ST PAUL'S TORCHÈRES

In March 2018 Past Master Andrew Neill launched the Worshipful Company of Turners' Appeal for a contribution towards the cost of the restoration of the bells of St Paul's Cathedral.

Given that the Company had gifted four of the twelve bells in 1878, the appeal had great resonance with Turners. Through the remarkable generosity of members of the Company, and members of the Register of Professional Turners who donated some 60 beautifully crafted bells for sale (see photo below), a £30,000 donation was made to the Cathedral and a useful further sum has been raised for the Turners' Charity.

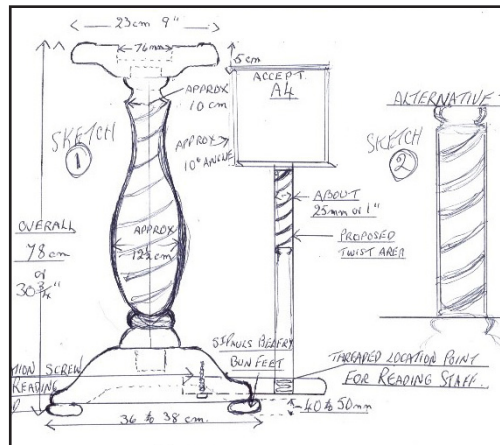
The Professional Turners' bells were made from wood recovered from the old headstocks supporting the St Paul's bells - gifted to the Turners' Company by the Cathedral. Mostly traditional English Elm, the wood has unique heritage value and individual certificates of authenticity have been signed by Master David Batchelor.

In recognition of the generous gift of heritage wood the Company undertook to commission a piece of work to present to the Cathedral.



At the first meeting with the Cathedral Sacrist, the Rev James Milne, it was recognised that a small piece of turning, however exquisite, would be unlikely to be kept on public display. A substantial piece however, with utility, would be used by the Cathedral and thus seen by the public both as an example of turners' craft and a symbol of the Company's link with St Paul's.

Sacrist James Milne felt that a torchère, a floor standing candle holder, would fit the bill - but not an ordinary torchère - a special piece with the addition of some form of supporting stand to display a prayer of dedication or remembrance. Beyond that he would leave matters in the hands of the Turners' Company.



Consultation with the Company's three Masters in Turning, Reg Hawthorne, Ray Key and Stuart Mortimer quickly resulted in a decision to invite Liveryman Stuart Mortimer to undertake the commission. On Stuart's first visit to the Cathedral a number of features stood out - the twists on the massive wood columns supporting the canopy of the High Altar, the Jacobean twists on the balusters leading to the Pulpit and the tulip bases on the massive Bronze Candelabra at the Crossing. A suitably impressive piece might be positioned in front of the Public Altar under the Cathedral Dome but it would be important that the height of the candle flame did not exceed the height of the Altar itself so as not to detract from the Altar's functionality.



At St Paul's Cathedral, Past Master John Bridgeman (L), Liveryman and Master in Turning Stuart Mortimer and the Dean of St Paul's, the Very Reverend Dr David Ison.

ST PAUL'S TORCHÈRES ...

In order to deal with a requirement to use both a tall wax candle and a shorter seven day oil candle, two torchères would have to be made. All this provided inspiration for Stuart's first sketches.

Subsequent meetings with the Cathedral helped inform our Master in Turning on colour, gloss and the required functionality of the Prayer Stand. Gradually the commission began to take shape.

Turners take great pride in their ability to hoard good wood for some future indeterminate assignment. Stuart Mortimer has amassed a legendary collection in his wood store at Grateley, Hampshire.

The African Iroko for the torchère columns was bought from turner Dennis White when he retired; Mahogany for the bases, tops and Prayer Stand fittings was recovered from furniture at the demolished printing works of J M Dent of Letchworth; Teak came from old desks at the John Hanson School in Andover and the bun feet were made from English Elm recovered from the St Paul's headstocks.

Colour and gloss were important and so a finished torchère was delivered to the Cathedral for final approval. The Rev James Milne was delighted and so plans were made for a presentation to the Dean of St Paul's, the Very Reverend Dr David Ison at a Choral Evensong.



Development of the Torchères



The Procession by members of the Turners' Company and guests at the Choral Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral.

Stuart Mortimer made a last minute addition to the torchères by the incorporation of lead inserts into the top plate made from lead he was given from HMS Victory - so fitting with the tomb of Admiral Lord Nelson in the Crypt immediately below.

At the Company's request a presentation plate was inserted into the base of each torchère, celebrating the links of the Turners' Company with the Cathedral and the memory of Stuart's wife Linda who died suddenly in 2018.

The Choral Evensong on Tuesday 26th February 2019 was a successful and memorable occasion attended by some 300 members of the public and over 80 from the Turners' Company.

The Master, Wardens and Court were joined in Procession by Stuart Mortimer at the Commencement and the Dean received and blessed the torchères. The Chairman of the Bells' Appeal read the Lesson and our Chaplain, Freeman the Rev Dr Alison Joyce gave an inspiring Address.

Past Master Colonel John Bridgeman
CBE TD DL

Chairman of the Bells Appeal Committee



While attending the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch Committee meeting, it was mentioned that the Turners' Company would be interested in presenting a gift to Prince Harry during his visit to the Lunch, to be held on 4th April at the Guildhall. A baby's rattle was suggested, and this was readily accepted by the Chairman of the Committee.

Liveryman and Master in Turning Reg Hawthorne was contacted as he had recently made a box to hold a fan, which had been presented as a gift to the Duchess of Sussex by the Fan Makers' Company (see page 16).

Reg said he would be delighted to make a similar box and suggested that Gary Rance would be ideal to be approached for the turning of the rattle.

The Master, David Batchelor, presented the gift to Prince Harry at the Turners' Company Stand at the Lunch in the company of the Mistress Turner (left) and Reg Hawthorne (third from left) and the Lord Mayor (right).

The photos below show Gary Rance making the rattle and the finished gift, accompanied by a small tortoiseshell butterfly that flew into his workshop!



FELIX FIGHIERA: A REMARKABLE PAST MASTER

Few other Livery Companies – if any – can claim to have had a Past Master who gave his name to a town. Yet Fighiera in northern Argentina is named after a Past Master Turner.

From 1912 to 1914, Felix Fighiera served as Master for two consecutive years, when such a thing was exceptionally rare. Turners may recognise his name.

A note on the back of the menu for the annual Richard Gardner Williams Banquet explains that Felix Fighiera proposed Richard Gardner Williams' membership of the Company, but apart from that and a few lines in the Company History by Champness, little else has been written about him.

However, Fighiera was an exceptional man of many achievements and deserves to be better known.

Felix Clement Charles Maria Fighiera was born in 1868, in Nice, the son of a banker of Italian extraction and an English mother.

With French nationality, he was brought up and educated in France, although family connections with Britain strengthened when at 18, Alice, his only sister, married an Englishman in Nice. Sadly, Alice and her infant son died just two years later.

The 1880s were boom times for the expansion of railways across South America, with the capital, expertise and equipment coming almost entirely from Britain.

The young Felix joined the railway contracting firm of Clark & Co in London, who sent him to

Venezuela to work on the Venezuelan Central Railway. After time in Venezuela and Brazil, he joined the 'Buenos Ayres and Pacific Railway', and the remainder of his career was spent with Argentine companies.

His business acumen must have been apparent early on. While still in his early 20s, the Argentine government - in dire straits owing to a major national economic crisis – recruited Fighiera to that country's Financial Delegation in Europe.

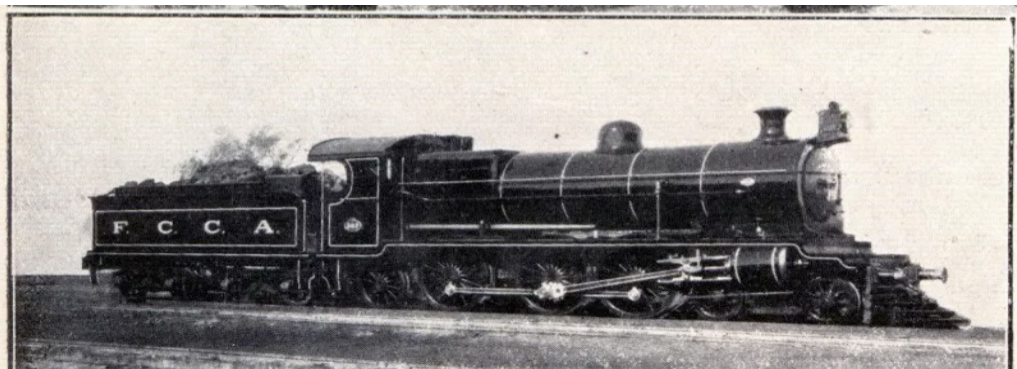
In London, he helped the Argentine government swap its worthless monetary guarantees to British railway companies for repayment in bonds instead.

About this time, he met Katie Sanders, the daughter of a Cornish accountant, and they married in Redruth in 1892.

Felix and Katie initially lived in Leytonstone, where their two sons, Cyprian and Eric, were born. In the 1890s Felix brought his parents, doubtless grieving for their only daughter and grandchild, to London and a new life.

In 1903, Felix became a naturalised British subject.

In 1904, he was invited by Frederick Oldershaw Smithers, a Past Master of the Turners, to become a Freeman and Liveryman of the Company. Smithers and many others in the Turners' Company knew each other through shared business interests, including railways and South America.



A 130 ton locomotive of the Central Argentine Railway



Felix Figuera in 1913 aged 45

Charles Cheers Wakefield, a Turner, and later Lord Mayor (and later still, Viscount Wakefield) was one such, whose lucrative enterprise supplied locomotive lubricants. He appointed Richard Gardner Williams – of subsequent “Banquet” fame – as his special railway representative for South America.

From 1905, Felix was General Manager of the Buenos Ayres and Pacific Railway and divided his time between Argentina and London. In 1906, he became Secretary of what later became the Argentine Central Railway, the second biggest railway company in this vast country.

Cheaply-bought land could be sold at a huge profit once the railway arrived and as the pampas were flat and fertile, railway construction was relatively easy. Thousands of Italian immigrants provided cheap labour, and railways spread rapidly.

In 1909 in Santa Fe province, one of many new stations on the line from Buenos Aires to the port of Rosario was named ‘Figuera’ in honour of Felix, and the town of that name grew up nearby. Today Figuera has 5,000 inhabitants, known as ‘figherenses’.

In 1910, the Standard, an English-language newspaper serving the large British community in Buenos Aires, remarked that on their return to Britain, numerous senior managers

from companies in Argentina congregated in the affluent south-west London suburb of Wimbledon. Though only in his early forties, the same year Felix himself purchased a handsome new house in Wimbledon. His father had died in 1897, but with his mother, wife and two sons, ‘Arborfield’ remained his English family home for the rest of his life.

His contribution to the Turners’ Company, like his South American career, was marked by success. Aged 44, he was elected Master in 1912. As Court Minutes show, he threw himself into a frenzy of activity. Within six months, he had raised £1,400 to supply lathes to industrial schools and similar establishments.

So productive and admired was he that at the end of his year in office, the Court pressed him to serve a second year, and he accepted.

Throughout 1913 and 1914 the programme of donating lathes to educational institutions continued. In all, fifty-nine were donated, from Aberdeen, Dundee, Ayr and Glasgow, right down to Bridgwater, Bristol and Exeter. Three were presented to schools run by Roman Catholic orders in Ireland. In every case Felix travelled by rail to present the lathes himself.



The modern coat of arms of the town of Figuera, with references to agriculture, transport links and nearby waterfalls on the Paraná River.

FELIX FIGHIERA ...

At the end of his two years as Master, Felix was complimented on the “uniform tact and urbanity” with which he had chaired Court meetings, and on his “dignity and ability as Master”.

He was thanked for actively supporting technical education, and presented with an illuminated scroll, an engraved silver salver, and a diamond bracelet for his wife - all paid for by subscription among the Livery.

In his 50s and 60s, Felix travelled less frequently to Argentina but, as his Times obituary in 1936 states, he remained involved with Argentine railway development and administration “down to the day of his death”, suddenly from heart failure at the age of 67.

He had been Secretary of the Central Argentine Railway for more than thirty years, causing the Chairman of that Company to state “I can safely say that there was no greater authority on Argentine railway affairs, and his death will be felt as keenly in the Argentine as it is in London”.



The Figuera family tomb in Putney Vale Cemetery

Felix had two sons who both married, but just one grand-daughter, Pamela Figuera. Born in Argentina, where his eldest son Cyprian settled in 1923, she and her family later migrated to Brazil, where Felix Figuera's only living descendants are today.

His younger son Eric remained in England, marrying twice. Eric's second wife was the daughter of another Past Master Turner, Clifford Christopherson.

In some ways, as the interests in railways and South American business which he had in common with several other Turners testifies, Figuera was a typical product of his age.

Yet as “one of the most active and energetic Past Masters of the Turners' Company”, the range of his achievements and skills also suggests an exceptional man.

He was fluent in five languages (French, English, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese), an accomplished violinist, a proficient photographer, a keen Freemason (he belonged to several Lodges and in 1920 served as Master of the Anglo-Brazilian Lodge), active in the Institute of Chartered Secretaries, the Royal Society of Arts, the Zoological Society (of which he was a Fellow), a Life Governor of the London Hospital and also of the Royal Masonic Institute for Boys, the Ibero-American Benevolent Society and the London and South-West Railway Orphanage in Woking.

Felix Clement Charles Maria Figuera is a Past Master of whom the Turners' Company can be proud.

Freeman Jerome Farrell

To a packed and attentive audience, the Turners' Consort of woodwind instruments was launched at a concert on 29 March 2019 by students of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

Commissioned by the Turners' Company from Tim Cranmore, one of the UK's leading instrument makers, and curated by Professor Ian Wilson of the Guildhall School, the Turners' Consort is the first set of medieval-style, wood-turned instruments to be played and used for teaching at a UK conservatoire.

The Consort offers a unique resource for Guildhall School students of woodwind and historical performance to explore repertoire previously untouched. The Consort comprises eight instruments in two different keys, for maximum flexibility.

"My impression was that some of the largest instruments in our collection - recorders standing at over two metres tall - were quite mind-blowing for some present that night!

"It was fantastic to see, in the central section of our programme, the final product of this imagined world come to life and then to hear those voices of the past speak; music from hundreds of years ago performed in concert to an audience that was very supportive - in every sense!

"Yet it is only the beginning. In the Turners' Consort, we have the opportunity to allow the Guildhall students to better explore new repertoire that hitherto had not been so easy for them to access.



Students of Guildhall School of Music & Drama played a wide range of historical and modern wind instruments at the Turners' Consort launch on 29 March 2019.

The instruments are made from European pear wood to give a warm sound. The Consort is funded by the Turners' Company Charity and five of the eight instruments have been individually sponsored by members of the Company.

Professor Ian Wilson (on the right in the photo), organised and introduced the concert and also played as a member of several of the ensembles.

He writes that: "The concert to celebrate the Turners' Consort of recorders was, for me, a special evening in so many ways.

"We chose to show the full range of the Guildhall Recorder Department's abilities with a variety of musical styles and repertoire and with recorders of all shapes and sizes.

"Already the students are employing the instruments in exams and assessments, recitals and workshops.

"And on the very day I write these words, five of the Guildhall students performed to a primary school in North London, introducing children, as part of their mixed concert programme, to the evocative sound world of 14th century Spain.

"Thanks to our medieval recorder Consort, a new generation is already benefiting from this wonderful set of instruments.

"And the beauty of it is that, with these recorders and as we look to the past, an exciting set of possibilities lies before us."

TWO LIVERYMEN HATCH A NEW 'FABERGÉ EGG'

Two members of the Turners' Company have collaborated' on a unique project to honour the Roux family of restaurateurs.

Liveryman Sarah Fabergé commissioned Liveryman Joey Richardson to create a new 'Fabergé egg'. This was to be the first Restaurant Association Award for Services to Hospitality. The award (opposite page) was sponsored by Fabergé, and was presented to the Roux family at a gala dinner on 25 February 2019 at the Savoy Hotel.

Three generations of the Roux family attended the dinner; Albert Roux OBE (centre), Michel Roux Jr and Emily Roux.



Liveryman Sarah Fabergé said: "I had a concept in mind and contacted my good friend and fellow member of the Worshipful Company of Turners, Joey Richardson, artist and sculptor to ask her to create a unique wooden egg for the occasion. It is hard to refer to Fabergé without eggs and the same goes for chefs!

"The brief was to create an award which was 12 inches in height and to represent the Roux family by using three special gemstones supplied to us. Joey set to work immediately and, with her usual passion, worked day and night to ensure this egg object included many personal references to honour the illustrious Roux family."

Liveryman Joey Richardson said: "I was inspired by the wonderful Le Gavroche restaurant and the amazing videos of Michel Roux Jr on their website. The egg has a number of symbols including a Gallic rooster (depicted in the piercing and airbrushing work) which not only represents the unofficial symbol of France but was also inspired by an image of Albert Roux holding a real live rooster!

"The books on the shelves represent the library Michel Roux Jr loves so much and which he describes as 'the heartbeat of the restaurant'. The bottles and glasses illustrate the wine cellar and bar at Le Gavroche. Sommelier David is quoted as saying; 'the wine cellar contains little treasures, little gems hidden in certain regions.'

"The three gemstones and trees represent the three members of the Roux family receiving this award. The pierced rose represents the national emblem of England and symbolises the English ingredients used. Likewise, the Fleur de Lys represents France signifying perfection, light and life.

"The flowers represent the Michelin star symbol and the egg includes the logos of both Fabergé and the Restaurant Association together with the award title.

"I have incorporated my own symbol into the piece, the butterfly, which struggles to get out of its cocoon, but it is the struggle that gives it the strength in its wings to fly. Another butterfly can be found if you peer inside the egg where you will notice a spoon with egg yolk on it. This butterfly is perched on the spoon and depicted on its wings is the Eiffel Tower.

"The dragonfly on the base is in memory of Binh Pho, my inspirational mentor and dear friend. The shoe for me will always represent Sarah Fabergé. I was with her once when a friend asked how she had travelled somewhere and she replied; 'I just clicked my shoes and found myself here!' Her shoes on this egg are cracking eggs to make new exciting recipes, the future."



Liverymen Joey Richardson (L) and Sarah Fabergé



GIFT TO HRH DUCHESS OF SUSSEX

The Worshipful Companies of Turners and Fan Makers have recently collaborated on a gift given by the Fan Makers to HRH The Duchess of Sussex.

The involvement of the Turners' Company in the gift was through a beautiful and finely crafted presentation casket, made by Liveryman and Master in Turning Reg Hawthorne.

The tradition of the Fan Makers making such gifts goes back to the time of Queen Victoria.

On particular royal occasions, the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers presents a unique fan to a member of the Royal Family.

Consequently in March, following her marriage to HRH The Duke of Sussex last year, HRH The Duchess of Sussex was presented at Kensington Palace with a fan by the Master of the Fan Makers (Dr Jeffrey Bines), the Immediate Past Master (Dr Michael Smith) and the Clerk (Martin Davies Esq).

The double-sided fan was designed by sisters Denise Frankel, a Liveryman of the Fan Makers' Company, and Janis Sher. In 2014 they set up their own fan making business – the first in 100 years to be established in accordance with the Royal Charter of the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers “within the 20 miles around the Cities of London and Westminster”.

The fan leaves are of the finest Duchess silk decorated with Chantilly lace. The fan frame was created from mother-of-pearl and engraved, and gilded in gold, with the joint monogram of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex on one stick of the facing side.

The reverse side of the stick has the engraved name of the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers and, gilded in gold, the Fan Makers' crest.



From left to right: Denise Frankel (Liveryman) and Dr Michael Smith (Immediate Past Master) of the Fan Makers' Company; and David Batchelor (Master) and Reg Hawthorne (Liveryman) of the Turners' Company.

Holding the sticks together is a pink sapphire set in rose gold. The silk fan sleeve (also shown opposite) was hand-made by Lorraine Smith.

The bespoke casket is turned from spalted sweet chestnut from Merton College, Oxford. The ends and trim of the casket are made from African blackwood recycled from the woodwind musical industry. The ends of the casket (see below) also feature the spiral design that is characteristic of the fine ornamental turning of Reg Hawthorne.





HOWE COMMITTEE REVIEW

Here's a question. Is there a woodturning link between the Duke of Gloucester and the Duke of Sussex?

Well, in 1984, the Turners' Company and the Society of Ornamental Turners put on an exhibition in the Science Museum to celebrate the life of Fred Howe, an outstanding ornamental turner. The Duke of Gloucester opened the exhibition.

Shortly afterwards the Company's 'Exhibition and Awards Committee' was renamed in honour of Fred Howe and the Howe Committee now promotes all aspects of turning. Fast-forward to 2019 and at the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch at Guildhall, the Turners' Company presented a baby's rattle to the Duke of Sussex. More of that in a moment.

Let's start with training and education. We're lucky to have a vibrant craft to promote.

We work with turning associations to support their training initiatives, such as giving scouts a 15 minute woodturning experience at their jamboree in July 2018 and financing young people's turning days around the country.

We also promote the Certificate in Turning, a joint accreditation with the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain, which some 140 people have now completed. Development of the next level – the Diploma in Turning – is nearing completion and will roll out later in 2019.



The Master presenting Marion Grove with the 100th Certificate in Turning Award at the Max Carey Trust.

Among the centres where students train for these qualifications is the Building Crafts College in Stratford, run by the Carpenters' Company. At the College, the Turners' Company sponsors annual awards to the student who is assessed as the best turner and also the student who has made the most progress in turning during the year.

To enable turners to get to the next level of their craft, we provide £10,000 worth of bursaries every other year. The 2019 Bursaries were announced in June and awarded to; Jonnie Crawford, Joe Creed-Kaile, Miriam Jones, Richard Kennedy, Adrian Lloyd and Jason Lock. Read more about them and past Bursary winners on: www.turnersco.com/turning/bursary-awards.

And for those thinking of making a living from turning, we sponsor annually one year's studio space at Cockpit Arts, a business incubator for craftspeople in Deptford.

In 2019 the Company also installed new dust extraction equipment in the studio. A former recipient of Cockpit Arts' studio space – Eleanor Lakelin – has gone on to become, in the Autumn 2018, the Turners' Company sponsored Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust scholar. Congratulations Eleanor!

The Howe Committee also supports the Charity Committee in the Company's charitable endeavours.



Judging of entries to the 2018 Competitions, exhibited in October 2018 at Carpenters' Hall in the City of London.



In particular, we curated a stall at the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch in April 2019, in aid of Service charities.

We are grateful to all who contributed pieces for us to sell – we raised almost £2,000 from these – and for those who donated pieces or experiences to go in the on line auction – another £2,440.

A highlight was a visit to the stall by HRH The Duke of Sussex to whom we presented a baby's rattle, made by Gary Rance, in a box made by Reg Hawthorne (see page 9).

The Company also supported the restoration of the bells of St Paul's Cathedral during 2018.

The Howe Committee distributed sections of the old elm (and in some cases iroko) bell headstocks from the Cathedral to members of the Register of Professional Turners who kindly made small bells.

Presented in elegant boxes (see page 25), and each with an authentication certificate, they sold rapidly, raising over £6,000 for the appeal.

Our showpiece event of the year was at Carpenters' Hall in November 2018. The Company's biennial competitions had over 230 entries across the twelve categories and prizes totalling over £10,000 were awarded.

For the first time we had a special category for holders of the Company's Certificate in Turning, which attracted 28 entries.

The Master's Open Competition had as its theme the 100th anniversary of the Armistice, and the winning piece by Margaret

Garrard (left) was donated to the auction at the Lord Mayor's Curry Lunch, and raised £650 for Service charities.

The Howe Committee also flies the Company flag at various wood related events such as the Harrogate Woodworking show each November and the Midlands woodworking show every March, as well as the annual gatherings of the different woodturning associations, whose close links we value.

We also represent the Company on the Liveries' Wood Group which meets two or three times a year to discuss different wood initiatives.

So another busy year has gone by, and my thanks to everyone on the Committee for their contributions.

Assistant Christopher Scott
Chairman, Howe Committee

2018 COMPETITIONS WINNERS





A selection of the 2018 Competitions 1st Prize Winners:

Top row (L to R): Society of Ornamental Turners Fred Howe Competition: Jean Claude Charpignon; Turners' Company Master's Open Competition: Rodney Page; Turners' Company Felix Levy Open Competition: Richard Kennedy; Society of Ornamental Turners HE Twentyman Competition (Silver Medal): Jean Claude Charpignon.

Centre row: Association of Woodturners of Great Britain Competitions. *Left:* Plain Turning Junior (Ray Key) Competition (Gold Medal): Matt Underwood; *Right:* Plain Turning (Senior) Competition: Roy Weare.

Bottom row: *Far left:* Turners' Company Bert Marsh Certificate Competition: Ian Malpas; *Immediate left:* Association of Polelathe Turners & Greenwood Workers: Candlestick: Olvin Smith; *Immediate right:* Society of Ornamental Turners Lady Gertrude Crawford Competition: Jean Claude Charpignon.

EVENTS COMMITTEE REVIEW

2018 began with a visit to view the bells of St Paul's Cathedral before their removal for refurbishment. To launch the Company's fund-raising drive for our contribution to the refurbishment, some twenty members, partners and friends braved a very chilly January evening to climb to the top of the northwest tower of St Paul's to view the bells in situ.

On reaching the bell-chamber, at least one of the bells donated by the Company was clearly visible. On our descent, the view down the length of the then deserted cathedral from the heights of the East Gallery was in itself quite spectacular. On returning to solid earth, the majority of the party adjourned to 'Joe's Kitchen' on Ludgate Hill for a warming repast.

In early May, seventeen Members and guests enjoyed a private visit to the London Mithraeum on Walbrook. This is London's newest archaeological attraction. Originally discovered in Walbrook, during construction work in 1954, the entire site was relocated to permit continued construction and this temple of the mysterious god Mithras became perhaps the most famous 20th century Roman discovery in London.

This new development has returned the Roman Temple of Mithras to the location of its original discovery in the heart of the city of London. Situated on the site of Bloomberg's new European headquarters, this new cultural hub showcases the ancient temple, a selection of the remarkable Roman artefacts found during the recent excavation, and a series of contemporary art commissions responding to one of the UK's most significant archaeological sites.

After a visit lasting some 45 minutes, in which the party enjoyed a very atmospheric visit to the restored subterranean glories of the Temple of Mithras, we adjourned to the nearby restaurant; 'The India', which is situated in the original cellars of the lost Turner's Hall and where the group enjoyed a somewhat raucous supper.

Also in June, thirty two members and guests led by the Master and Mistress, took part in a three day tour of First World War battlefields around Ypres in Belgium. The party under the leadership of Military Historian Major Tim Saunders, visited



The blessing of the restored bells at St Paul's Cathedral took place on 3 September 2018 in the presence of the Master, Mistress and members of the Company.

many of the major sites of the period, including Talbot House in Popperinghe, where British troops were able to rest between spells at the front, the Paschendaele Memorial Museum, and Tyne Cot Cemetery. Designed by Sir Herbert Baker, Tyne Cot is the largest cemetery for Commonwealth forces in the world.

The undoubted highlight of the trip was our visit to Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres. The Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing is a war memorial dedicated to the British and Commonwealth soldiers who were killed in the Ypres Salient of World War I and whose graves are unknown. Every evening at 20:00, buglers from the Last Post Association close the road which passes under the memorial and sound the "Last Post". During the ceremony, the Company was accorded the privilege of laying a wreath, which was carried out by the Master.

June was a busy month, and towards the end, twenty four members and guests enjoyed an Evening Guided Walk around Bloomsbury with Blue Badge Guide Andy Rashleigh. From the Pre-Raphaelites to Virginia Woolf and beyond, Bloomsbury has been associated with artists, writers and louche behaviour. Charles Dickens lived here, as did Dorothy L Sayers. George Orwell married and died within a week in the shadow of the building he immortalised as 'The Ministry of Truth'.

The area has inherited a glorious neighbourhood of Georgian squares and Andy led the group on a relaxing, diverting and informative mid-summer stroll around this most interesting part of London, with supper being taken in an Italian restaurant.

In mid-July, thirteen members, including the Master and Mistress, journeyed to Loughborough to visit Taylor's, the foundry tasked with refurbishing the St Paul's bells. John Taylor & Co. continues a line of bell founding which has been unbroken since the middle of the 14th century, when Johannes de Stafford was active only ten miles from the site of the present foundry.

From 1784 the business was operated by members of the Taylor family, and today, Taylor's are at the forefront in the design and manufacture of bells, their fittings and frameworks. During the visit, the group was able to view the foundry museum and was then given a tour of the works where the St Paul's bells were awaiting their final touches before being returned to St Paul's (which eventually happened on September 3rd).

Following the visit to the foundry, the party moved on with a visit to The Great Central Railway, Britain's only steam-operated main-line heritage railway. Unfortunately, due to the very hot and dry weather, the Leicestershire Fire Service had banned the use of steam-hauled trains, and so we enjoyed lunch in the 'Griddle Car' on a return trip to Leicester North on a train hauled by a vintage diesel locomotive.

Also in July, a fine evening saw a strong turnout at the Summer Reception, once again in the courtyard of Apothecaries' Hall.

In September, an evening recital was held in aid of the St Paul's Bells Appeal. Mezzo-soprano Karen Logan with accompanist Alex Aitken, performed a programme of songs entitled 'England through the Seasons', comprising a number of works by 17th to 20th century English Composers, together with some piano miniatures by Mayerl and Ireland. The recital was followed by a drinks and canapes reception in the Apothecaries' courtyard, on another fine evening.



The Mistress Turner Lesley Batchelor learning the Turners' trade at the Max Carey Trust.

At the end of September, the Events Committee launched the 'Not Quite Burns Night' supper at Boisdale's Restaurant in Pimlico. This event was very well attended having sold out! The various dramatic interventions - including Bill Morris's address to the haggis and most especially, Penrose Halson's response to the 'toast to the lassies' - were extremely well received, while Karen Logan provided a musical interlude with 'Ye Banks and Braes'. A good time was had by all!

In October, the Max Carey Trust weekend was supported by six attendees, including the Master and Mistress (photo above). The level of instruction was excellent and a good time was had by all, including two very enjoyable dinners on the Friday and Saturday evenings. On the Sunday, the Master presented Certificates in Turning to a number of students who had completed turning courses at the Trust (see page 18).

On the Friday afternoon, members of the Company attended a reception on board the 'Matthew', a replica of John Cabot's 15th century vessel, at which newly qualified apprentices from the Trust presented newly-turned belaying pins to the Ship's Captain. In return, the Master was presented with a well-travelled pin from the Matthew for the Company's Collection.

Assistant Paul Logan
Chairman, Events Committee

CHARITY COMMITTEE REVIEW

I am pleased to report that the Turners' Company Charity has had another busy year. It continues to support a wide range of charitable activities within the Craft, the City and the Services.

The Charity maintains its high profile within the City at fund raising and other important events including the Competitions at Carpenters' Hall in November last year (page 20).

This was evidenced by our attendance and fundraising at the Big Curry Lunches in April 2018 and April 2019. These events raised close to £9,000.

We are grateful for the support from members of the Register of Professional Turners who produced turned items for sale at these events and also to the members of the Company who donated turned items for sale and the auctions.

The Charity Committee will be supporting again the Red Cross Fair at the Guildhall in November 2019.

The Turners' Consort was officially launched at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in March (see page 13). The Charity match funded other members of the Company in supporting this venture.

It was particularly pleasing that our first Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QEST) Scholar, Jack Darach, worked with Tim Cranmore on the tuning of the recorders.

Eleanor Lakelin has been awarded a QEST Scholarship this year and is our second QEST Scholar; we were delighted at this achievement.

Some of the most significant grants in the last twelve months have been to: the Max Carey Trust to help support disabled turners; the Building Crafts College; Street Forge in Suffolk; the London Green Woodworkers at Abney Park; and to the Ruskin Mill Trust, in part to support projects for service families.

We have concluded the review of our lathes and the support for them. Although we will need to move a small number of the 40 lathes that the Charity owns, we have managed to source new homes for other lathes.

These relocations include the computer aided lathe that was at Valence School in Westerham,

which is moving to Bower Grove School in Maidstone and the equipment at Orchard Workshops which is being transferred to the Creative Youth Network.

We have received extremely positive feedback from many of our beneficiaries of our loan programme. One of the outputs from the review is the need for continuing and additional support in terms of equipment and training for those schools and centres that we currently support. These include the Fifth Trust and Charlton Park School. We continue our focus on craft related centres of excellence.

Our most high profile and public project in the past year has been the St Paul's Bells Appeal.

A specific appeal sub-committee was formed under the enthusiastic and tireless leadership of Past Master John Bridgeman. That committee has been working since March 2018 and has more than achieved its aims.

Over the last twelve months members of the Company will have seen reports of its work and the incredible support received from both the Company at large and the Register of Professional Turners and its members.

The Master spoke to that support at the 2018 Livery Dinner and gave thanks to those individuals who have had particular input into the Appeal.



Supported by the Turners' Company Charity, a Youth Training workshop was hosted in August 2018 by Liveryman Les Thorne.

The fund-raising target of £30,000 has been successfully exceeded with a net sum of more than £38,000, excluding Gift Aid, raised so far.

This has been achieved through donations, Company events, the sale of specially turned bells from the wood taken from the original headstocks (photo right) and sales of Liveryman Gabor Lacko's book on turning.

This is a tremendous result and I believe that the Company as a whole and everyone who has contributed should be justifiably proud of the outcome.

The Charity has made a total £30,000 donation to St Paul's. It is wonderful that so much good use has been made of the heritage wood recovered from the original headstocks of the bells.



The Turners' Company stand was very successful at raising charitable funds at the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch.



A bell made from headstock wood by RPT member Colin Norgate for the St Paul's Turners Collection.

The final part of the St Paul's Bells Appeal was a special Evensong at the Cathedral held on 26 February, at which the Torchères commissioned by the Company as a gift to the cathedral were blessed.

I should like to thank the Trustees of the Charity, all my fellow Committee members, the Clerk and the Assistant Clerk and the Almoner for their welcome and enthusiastic participation and commitment to the activities of our Charity.

Assistant Nicholas Fisher
Chairman, Charity Committee

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REVIEW

The role of the Communications Committee is to promote the activities of the Company to members and outside in the most effective way possible. The most obvious result of its work is the production of this magazine, The Turner, which forms a written and photographic record of the past year in the Company, includes articles on the craft of turning, and welcomes new members.

The other visible and continuous face of its work is the website www.turnersco.com which carries much standing information about the Company but is also regularly updated with illustrated information about events, competitions, the craft and the Charity. All new posts to the site are also copied to our Facebook page for easy access.

A significant innovation in the past year has been to activate the new Members' Area, which all Freeman and Liverymen of the Company are encouraged to register with.

Already most members are using the Members' Area to book online the events they wish to attend; and over time more and more features will be added. The box below carries some tips about how to use the Members' Area to best effect.

The Committee also gets involved in helping to promote Company projects and initiatives that arise during the year by advising on and designing brochures, leaflets, and advertising campaigns - last year, for example, in connection with the St Paul's Bells Appeal and the November Competitions.

Contemporary and attractive design helps make our campaigns and competitions more appealing to donors, entrants, our members and the public by ensuring a high quality of words and images, alongside modern fundraising using digital media and marketing techniques.

The Communications committee this year has comprised Matthew Gaved, Richard Lucas, John Khan, Mimi Harker and Rebecca Baker, all of whose efforts, skills and enthusiastic collaboration I am most grateful for.

More recently Jeremy Field and Jo Baddeley have also joined the team, with Jo Baddeley taking the chair for the 2019-20 year.

Assistant Nigel Luson
Chairman, Communications Committee

Members' Area - useful tips

Having trouble registering?

Call Rebecca Baker, Assistant Clerk, on **020 7236 3605** and she will talk you through it.

Are you happy for other Company members to see your contact details?

This is useful for members to contact each other. If so, be sure to tick the corresponding boxes when you register (there are 3 of them!). If you have already registered but your contact details don't appear in the Search tab, just open your profile, go to Contact Details, and tick the box at bottom left. Note that these details are password protected to Company members only.

Would you like to know who else is booked to attend an event?

From the Events tab, the page for each event carries a menu of 3 items - the event details, your personal booking, and a list of booked attendees.

Confused by odd references to Upper/Lower half Liveryman?

Don't worry, this is a glitch caused by a specification made by another Livery Company, which was not taken off our version of the system; it is irrelevant to our members and will be corrected with the next system update.

Need the papers for a Company meeting?

Committee members can find the papers (agenda, minutes, etc) for their committee under the Resources section. If you need a document posted for other members to read, just ask Alex or Becca.

Accessible from any platform - so you can reach the Members' Area, check an event, make a booking or find another member's email (if they have given permission) from any platform, desktop or mobile device.



Edward Batchelor, Freeman & Liveryman

Ed was born in Chatham in 1983, a proud Man of Kent, and lived in Sevenoaks for most of his childhood. He attended the University of

Huddersfield where he graduated with a first class honours degree (BSc) in product design.

After working as a model maker for a year he decided to turn his creative hand to the sports fashion industry.

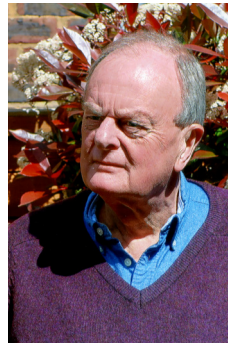
For most of past eleven years he has been working at Pentland Brands, a global brand management company, involved in the sports, outdoor and fashion markets. It manages owned brands such as Boxfresh, Canterbury, Ellesse, Endura, KangaRoos, Lacoste, Berghaus, Mitre, Red or Dead, Seaves and Speedo. He recently joined Lacoste footwear where he is the head of 3D design and tooling development.

He was first introduced to woodworking at the age of four by his father, who liked making and repairing things. His Prep school also had a very encouraging craft teacher.

Having undertaken a hands-on design degree and been heavily involved in making, he arranged a refresher course with Simon Hope, a fellow Turner, and re-ignited his passion for turning.

Ed says "I'm excited to get involved with the Turners and see where I can help and be of use. Joining in the year my father is Master is a true honour and privilege".

Ed is married to Sara and they have two children aged 3 and 1. They recently moved from Highbury and Islington to Harpenden in Hertfordshire.



Richard Drummond Murray, Liveryman

Richard was born in Littlehampton, Sussex in 1948, and grew up in Richmond, Surrey. Educated in Devon and then at Sheen Grammar School, he started working in

the Lloyds insurance market in 1967. From 1972 onwards, he became involved in International Reinsurance broking business, which kept him occupied for the next 40 years.

Although having clients in four continents, his main areas were Australia, which he visited over 50 times, and Central and Eastern Europe, which he witnessed change politically and socially over the period. A continuing visitor to the constituent parts of former Yugoslavia during the wars of the 1990s, he was amongst the first to visit Sarajevo after the war ended.

From the mid 1980s Richard became involved in the management of his employer, Harris & Dixon, then the oldest Lloyds broker having been established in 1797, ending as Managing Director.

Here he was greatly helped with advice from Mike Pragnell, who introduced him to the Turners' Company.

Now happily retired after too many early mornings at Heathrow, he lives in Cobham, Surrey. Richard splits his time between the UK and France, where he has an old cottage in the Aveyron, one of the most beautiful areas of South West France. The gardens there and in Cobham keep him active and busy, but sadly the annual skiing breaks are now a thing of the past.

A member of Surrey County Cricket Club for close on 50 years, he is also an active supporter of Durrell Wildlife.

WELCOME TO NEW FREEMEN & LIVERYMEN OF THE TURNERS' COMPANY IN 2018-19



Janet Farminer, Freeman & Liveryman

Janet was introduced to the Turners' Company over twenty years ago when her husband Brian was admitted. Their son served his apprenticeship to Douglas Miller

and entered the Company thirteen years ago – making a family hat trick. Brian died last year but was delighted that Janet had been accepted as a member of the Company.

When she retired after 24 years as Deputy Head of a comprehensive school for girls in Harrow, Janet planned to learn woodturning and buy a lathe. Twelve years on she has achieved this goal and through Bob Webster's encouragement, joined the Middlesex Turners. She enjoys watching the experts and is still determined to have a go and learn what to do.

Janet has increased her knowledge of the City by serving on the committee of Queenhithe ward club. She was chairman in 2015 and set the task of organising monthly events in London.

One of the ward members that year was Sheriff, so Janet had the bonus of lunching with the judges at the Old Bailey, having a seat at Mansion House for the Lord Mayor's Show and attending the official opening of the Queenhithe mosaic.

Every two years she uses the fruits of her garden for jam, chutney and apple juice for the Red Cross Fair at the Guildhall.

Janet has done voluntary work for Victim Support, helping victims of crime, and more recently has been seen pushing the comforts trolley at the local hospital. (She also has two demanding dogs.)

Janet is honoured to be in the Company where she has made many supportive friends and thanks Peter Gibson for sponsoring her.



Jerome Farrell, Freeman

Jerome was born in London and studied History at Oxford (Wadham College). He spent several years teaching in Italy and Spain, and retains a love for the culture and languages of both countries.

He did a postgraduate course in Palaeography and Archive Administration at Bangor in North Wales, following which he worked as an Archivist at the Leicestershire Record Office. Returning to London, he then managed the archive and heritage services for three London Boroughs in turn, and was appointed City Archivist for Westminster.

In 2004 he entered the fascinating world of London Livery Companies, working as the part-time Archivist for the Leathersellers from then up to the present, and combining this with spells as Archivist for the Vintners' Company and more recently, the Brewers' Company.

He has written numerous articles and booklets, and had one full-length book published in 2016: *This Ghastly Affair: Great War letters from the Leathersellers' archives*. His first article for *The Turner* appears on [page 10](#) of this issue!

He and his partner Ray made a little bit of history themselves in 2005 by celebrating their Civil Partnership on the first day this became possible.

As well as an interest in history and genealogy, Jerome is a keen gardener, and grows fruit and vegetables on an allotment near his home in Acton. He enjoys swimming, ballroom & Latin dancing, and sings tenor in a west London oratorio choir. In 2007 he spent two months walking across Spain, from Córdoba in the south to Santiago de Compostela in the north.

Jerome is delighted to become a Freeman of the Turners' Company, to which he was kindly introduced by Past Master Penrose Halson.



Alison Joyce, Freeman by Presentation

Alison has been Rector of St Bride's Church, Fleet Street (famous for its distinctive ministry to journalists) since 2014, and has served as Honorary Chaplain to the Turners' Company

throughout this time. She studied Classics at graduate and postgraduate level, before switching to theology and training for ordination.

She was ordained deacon in 1988, and in 1994 was one of the first women in the Church of England to be ordained priest. She has a doctorate from Birmingham University, and her book, *Richard Hooker and Anglican Moral Theology*, was published by OUP in 2012.

Since ordination, Alison has worked in a wide range of ministerial contexts. After a curacy in rural Oxfordshire, she lectured at a theological college for six years. She subsequently served in a suburban parish, on the staff of Birmingham Cathedral, and was vicar of Edgbaston for nine years before returning to London, the city of her birth.

At an international level, Alison currently represents the Church of England on the International Commission for Anglican-Orthodox Theological Dialogue, which has taken her to Malta, Turkey, and Cyprus in recent years. She also enjoys close links with the Lutheran Church in Berlin.

Alison is married to Paul, who is a Professor at Kings College, London, and has two adult daughters and two very large Maine Coon cats. When not working, she plays the cello, sings, and reads a lot.

Alison regards her post at St Bride's as probably the most interesting job in the Church of England, and enjoys and appreciates her association with the Turners' Company immensely.



Mark Kermack, Freeman

Mark was born in Edinburgh, and educated in the Midlands attending Solihull School and graduating from Aston University with an honours degree in construction. He later gained a Business

Diploma from Loughborough University.

As an articled student with John Laing, he spent the first ten years of his career working on projects in the south and the Midlands. He had a short period working with other companies before joining the newly formed management division for a further eight years, where he headed up major projects including M16, UBS and RBS. For the last twenty years he has specialised in the delivery of large value, fast track interiors projects.

Living in a village in Oxfordshire he plays cricket for the village side, is involved on various committees as a member, chairman or trustee.

He is also a member of the village pub's aunt sally team - a game peculiar to Oxfordshire that dates from the English civil war, involving the throwing of turned wooden sticks (weighing 2lbs) at a turned wooden 'Dolly' on a pole. It is more difficult and fun than it sounds!

His other leisure activities include shooting, skiing, motorcycling, real tennis and exercising the dogs. He is married to Fiona and they have one son.

Having become a Freeman in July 2018 he is delighted to be assisting on the committee of the Wizardry in Wood 2020.

Mark is very grateful to Past Master Penrose Halson for introducing him to the Company and allowing him to become part of the great Livery tradition and history.

WELCOME TO NEW FREEMEN & LIVERYMEN OF THE TURNERS' COMPANY IN 2018-19



Michael Maisey, Freeman & Liveryman

Michael went to Guy's Hospital to train in Medicine in 1957 qualifying in 1964 MBBS, BSc. After a number of training posts and obtaining MRCP he returned to Guy's Hospital to

a research post and completed a thesis using radioisotopes for an MD degree. Following this he went to Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore for two years, training in medical imaging using radioactive isotopes and was board certified in the USA.

Returning to UK, Michael established a Nuclear Medicine imaging department at Guy's Hospital and in 1984 was appointed Professor of Radiological Sciences with an academic remit to incorporate all medical imaging methods in teaching and research. This department introduced the first high field strength MRI scanning and the first clinical PET scanning department in UK.

Retiring after 43 years in medicine, Michael took a woodturning course at West Dean to be sure that he wanted to spend his retirement woodturning. He set up his workshop and had regular mentoring from professional woodturner David Reeks, now recently sadly died.

Apart from enjoying the craft itself, the other goal has always been to sell turnings to support charities, now almost exclusively for 'Freedom from Torture'. Michael has had many sales, auctions and commissions raising around £20,000 for charity. The most recent was an auction of turned pieces using timber from Greenwich Royal Park half of which were generously made by professional turners. It raised over £12,000. The Turners' Company was very supportive of this event and David Batchelor invited Michael to join the Company, which Michael considered a great privilege.



George-Michael Mourtzilias, Freeman

George-Michael was born in northern Greece near Mount Olympus. From a young age he was interested in mathematics and computers and so he studied Electrical and

Computer Engineering at the National Technical University of Athens.

His parents encouraged him from a young age to learn foreign languages and took him traveling around the world. Since then George-Michael has developed a passion for language learning and exploring different countries and cultures. So far, he has learned about twenty languages, including Norwegian, Catalan, Mandarin and Russian.

George-Michael moved to London in 2011 to pursue a career in financial services. He currently works at Goldman Sachs.

When not at work, George-Michael enjoys training in the gym, traveling, scuba diving and hiking. On the weekends you might find him hiking around Epping Forest or Richmond Park or dining in Chinatown with his Korean partner.

Another passion is history. He particularly enjoys visiting abandoned tube stations and is a lifetime member of the London Transport Museum Friends.

He met Past Master Turner Penrose Halson at a Chinese New Year dinner, where he shared with her his passion for the history of the City of London.

Penrose introduced George-Michael to the Turners and he is very excited to join as a Freeman and help in the Events Committee, specifically with the purpose to make it easier for more young people to attend the Company's events.



Rory White-Andrews, Freeman

Rory attended Van Mildert College at the University of Durham and graduated with an LLB in law in 2011. During his time at Durham, he was president of the Union Society. In 2013, he

started as a trainee solicitor with Allen & Overy, a leading global law firm, and qualified as a solicitor in September 2015. Rory is currently an associate in the restructuring and insolvency team at A&O.

Outside work, Rory enjoys going to the theatre, dining at many of the fantastic restaurants London has to offer and spending time with his increasingly large cat, Mia. He is an ardent Chelsea fan and also an FA-qualified referee.

In February 2019, on the same day that he received the Freedom of the City of London, Rory got engaged to Ellie and they are currently in the process of planning a wedding.

Rory is exceptionally grateful to Peter Gibson (a Past Master and lifelong family friend) for introducing him to the Turners and encouraging him to join the Company.



Joey Richardson, Court Assistant

Joey is a professional turner, internationally renowned for her delicate and richly hued wood forms. Born in Lincolnshire, she grew up in the heart of Twigmoor Woods on a small family farm. For

thirteen years she worked in banking, however the magnificent trees of her childhood home had subliminally rooted within her a deep love for the woodland and she began turning and carving reclaimed local timber.

In 2005 a Turners' Company Bursary and seven years later a Scholarship from The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QEST) and Carpenters Company, funded development studies in America where she was fortunate to study with Binh Pho. In 2015 she was awarded the QEST Award of Excellence.

A recent Masters Degree in Fine Art (University of Lincoln 2018) has brought a theoretical depth to Joey's work augmenting her craft skills and leading to a new body of work - which she is very excited about. Inspiring others, Joey lectures and demonstrates her techniques globally and her sculptures are held in numerous permanent and private collections.

Married to Dr Andrew Whitaker they have five grown up children, three grandchildren and a cocker spaniel. Together they enjoy various sports, foreign travel and the arts. Joey appreciates quality time with family and friends and adores walking in the countryside.

However, a desire for excitement and adventure has seen her parasailing, ski paragliding and skydiving. Raising funds for the Lord Mayor's Appeal, she abseiled down the Lloyds of London building with Dame Fiona Woolf. Joey now enjoys more leisurely pursuits though she is always open to new challenges!

NEW MASTER EMERITUS CHRISTOPHER ROBERTS

I joined the Court in 1999, was Master in 2009-10, and in 2019 move to become one of the Masters Emeriti, or Past Masters who have completed their time on the Court. They are a band of sages whose advice and experience should be, and indeed is, considered – but not always followed – by the Master of the day. To join their number is like reaching the summit of Mount Olympus, the abode of the gods.

During my twenty years on the Court the Company had changed radically, and almost always for the better. Numbers in the Livery have risen; the influence of our women members has increased; and our support for the craft of turning, through Wizardry in Wood, the Competitions, Bursaries and awards, and in countless other ways has grown steadily year by year. While I claim no personal credit for this, it seems fair to say that the standing of the Company, in the City and elsewhere, and understanding of its unique role in promoting the craft, is significantly greater than it was twenty years ago.

After my year as Master I spent some time as a member, and subsequently Chairman, of the Committee whose main responsibility is to identify and propose to the Court candidates for Court membership. Since recruits to the Court can normally expect, over some ten years, to progress through other Company offices to the Mastership, the selection really matters. The individual chosen needs to have the time, the interest and the ability to perform an active role in the running of the Company, and in due course to undertake the public duties of the Master; representing the Turners to other livery companies, the City and the wider community.

Hitherto the Company has been able to identify within its ranks people able to discharge these responsibilities successfully, and who have found it a rewarding experience. However, the Company may in future need to be more flexible in planning the progress of individuals from joining the Court to becoming Master.

The great majority of recent Masters have been in their 60s or early 70s, by which time their work and family responsibilities have become less pressing. However, some of our Court members continue to have busy jobs, while demands on the time of the Master have increased.



This year several Court members, at more or less the same time, asked if they could defer their progress to the Chair. The Court was glad to accommodate them: as a result other Court members will become Master sooner than they had expected.

There is plenty of talent among the Turners which we need to draw on for the benefit of the Company. In some Companies there is a shorter gap between joining the Court and becoming Master: in others younger members are given a short period on the Court to gain experience, with the prospect of returning later to senior office.

These may not be steps we want to take, but if we are to have the best people in the top roles in the Company, we will need to find ways of helping them to make the necessary commitment of time and effort when they are best able to do so.

I have greatly enjoyed my twenty years on the Court, where I have made good friends and had a variety of interesting experiences which would not otherwise have come my way. I am most grateful to the Turners for giving me this opportunity, and will continue to support the Company from the ranks of the Emeriti.

Christopher Roberts
Master Emeritus

Wizardry in Wood is the largest show of contemporary woodturning in Europe.

Wizardry in Wood 2020 is the Company's next exhibition of the 'Mystery or Art' of turning. In October 2020 it will be held in the magnificent and spacious Carpenters' Hall in the heart of the City of London.

Wizardry in Wood 2020 will feature a wide range of work by leading and emerging UK woodturners, on both individual and collective stands.

View, Love, Buy is a theme of Wizardry in Wood 2020 as most works will be for sale – providing opportunities to buy for collections, special gifts, anniversary presents and everyday use.

Two special displays are included in Wizardry in Wood, reflecting the historical traditions of the craft in musical instrument making and a craft which goes back thousands of years.

400 years of instrument making celebrates the skills of turners from medieval times to the present day in making and developing woodwind instruments for consorts, bands and orchestras.

4000 years of turning is an exhibition curated by Liveryman Stuart King (below), drawing on his personal collection, extensive research and experiments to understand the tools and techniques of early woodturners.

Live demonstrations of woodturning will be held every day.



New for 2020: a programme of events and talks reflecting the themes and special exhibits of Wizardry in Wood and performances by students of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

The students will play a variety of works on the Turners' Consort of medieval style recorders (below) and other woodwind instruments.



There will be an **Evening Reception** for members of the Company to celebrate our craft in the company of guests, family and friends.

Wizardry in Wood will be open to the public for the four days **Wednesday 14 to Saturday 17 October** and include displays of all the entries and winners to the Company's 2020 Competitions.

Tickets for the public open days will be on sale from January 2020 at early-bird prices.

More information at: www.turnersco.com/wiw

Wizardry in Wood

Art • Beauty • Skill • Mystery



ASSISTANT GERRY THWAITES

It was with enormous sadness that we learnt of the unexpected death of Assistant Gerry Thwaites RN on 15 February 2019 at the age of 64.

Gerry was born in Stroud into a Naval family, the middle son between his sisters, Caroline and Siobhan. He was educated at Prior Park School in Bath before joining the Royal Navy in 1975, where he studied Mechanical Engineering at the Royal Naval Engineering College in Plymouth, followed by a Post Graduate Diploma in Nuclear Reactor Technology and Reactor Operations at the Royal Naval College in Greenwich.

Committed to a career in nuclear submarines from an early stage, Gerry completed his initial submarine training on HMS Renown, a Polaris nuclear missile submarine based out of Faslane, a key component of the UK's nuclear deterrent force.

It was here that Gerry first met Babs although their careers quickly took them to opposite ends of the country, Gerry to the north coast of Scotland to work at Dounraey, and Babs to Portland. Their early relationship also had to adapt to Gerry being underwater for months at a time and being completely cut-off from friends and family.

His life at sea adapted to the regular routine of day-to-day activities to keep the boat and its nuclear propulsion system fully operational whilst on watch, which was balanced with meals, sleep and some recreation time when off watch. Reel to reel movies were a particular favourite. All this was punctuated with frequent exercises and drills, and the occasional trip ashore.

Gerry went on to serve as the Deputy Marine Engineering Officer on board HMS Valiant, another nuclear submarine, where he was instrumental in getting the boat out of refit and through trials and workup.

Gerry and Babs were married in 1986, their first home being in Edinburgh, a city they both loved. Shortly before their first daughter, Melissa, was born, Gerry was selected for the prestigious position of Senior Engineer of the Royal Yacht Britannia where he nursed the ancient engines through a number of deployments.



Babs and Melissa became part of the Britannia family for a while, travelling out to meet the ship in Toronto and various Caribbean islands. Gerry encouraged them to join in with the cocktail parties and other events, Babs being surprised how much competition there was between the sailors to take charge of a tiny baby for a few hours!

Highlights of this period included taking the Queen on a Western Isles cruise from Portsmouth to Aberdeen, where Gerry was involved in entertaining various members of the Royal family to dinner in the Wardroom. Along with other officers, he was also invited to dine with the Queen in her quarters.

Some members of the Company will recall Gerry's highly entertaining talk about this period in his career at an evening event a few years ago.

The family moved south to London, gradually moving further out, first to Richmond where their second daughter Ameerah was born, and then to Hampton Wick.

When Gerry was appointed back to Faslane to oversee the construction and acceptance of HMS Grafton, a new Type 23 Frigate, Babs was expecting their youngest daughter Kit.

In 2000, the family moved to Cookham Dean where they quickly integrated into village life. With the girls at school, Gerry completed his naval career with two Command positions - Director of Naval Recruiting at the MOD, and Commandant of the Defence College of Electromechanical Engineering at HMS Sultan in Gosport.

Gerry left the Navy in 2007 and found his niche working in the area of bid proposals spanning training, nuclear safety and biotechnology, as well as tutoring students in maths and science. He also involved himself in many charitable activities in the local community, including being President of the Maidenhead Sea Cadets.

He became a Liveryman in 2009 and was an active member of the Company, being appointed to the Court in 2013.

As a family man, Gerry was an adored husband and father who was enormously proud of his daughters' talents and achievements. At his funeral Babs spoke movingly about Gerry being "strong, confident, challenging and loud. He was enthusiastic, positive, generous, loyal, and loving and he always did the right thing".

All Members who knew Gerry will immediately recognise these qualities, and we will greatly miss his contribution to the Turners' Company. Our deepest condolences go to Babs, Melissa, Ameer and Kit, and to his wider family.

Andrew Sindall
Master

WE ALSO REMEMBER OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY WHO PASSED AWAY IN 2018-19:

Liveryman Robin Ellis (6 August 2018)

Liveryman Brian Farminer (13 July 2018)

Liveryman Ray Key (14 September 2018) ([page 34](#))

Liveryman Malcolm Slaughter (29 March 2019)

THE TURNERS' COMPANY WELCOMED IN 2018-19:

NEW FREEMEN

Edward Batchelor
Janet Farminer
Jerome Farrell
Alison Joyce
Mark Kermack
Michael Maisey
Georgios Michail
Mourtzilias
Rory White-Andrews

NEW LIVERYMEN

Edward Batchelor
Stuart Bradfield
Peter Bradwick
Richard Drummond
Murray
Janet Farminer
Michael Maisey
Paul Shewry
Jon Warwicker

The profiles of Paul Shewry and Jon Warwicker were included in the July 2018 issue of The Turner.

2019-20 APPOINTMENTS:

Master
Andrew Sindall

Upper Warden
Melissa Scott

Renter Warden
Matthew Gaved

Deputy Master
David Batchelor

Master's Steward
Nigel Lusson

Court Assistant
Joey Richardson

Master Emeritus
Christopher Roberts

LIVERYMAN RAY KEY

I first met Ray in 2002 as he waited, along with his great friend Bert Marsh, to be sworn in as a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Turners.

Both men had been awarded Freedom by Presentation - an honour granted by the Company in recognition for services rendered to and on behalf of the Company and in respect to their work to revive, sustain and promote the craft of turning.

The 'Mystery or Art' of turning can be traced in the City of London since the eighth century. One of the first records of a guild of 'Tourners' is dated 1173. The Royal Charter under which the Company operates was granted in 1604.

Ray became a professional turner in 1973. From his earlier career as a patternmaker and then a prototyper in the car industry Ray had been consumed by the shape and form of objects.

He applied this to his turning; labelling himself as a 'Turned Wood Artist', describing his work as being 'about purity of form' and adopting 'a minimalist approach in an ongoing quest to produce objects of beauty and elegant simplicity'

Ray liked the description of his work by Herbert Ypma as having the Japanese quality 'Wabi' literally translated as 'voluntary poverty' or as Ray would probably say 'keep it simple stupid'.

In addition to his vast output of pieces Ray made an exemplary contribution to expanding and promoting the Mystery or Art of woodturning around the world.

He was in constant demand to demonstrate his acclaimed techniques and style in many countries and at club meetings around the United Kingdom.

Amongst his many achievements, he taught for many years at the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Tennessee and gave presentations on numerous occasions at the Association of American Woodturners International Seminars.

He was a life member of The Association of American Woodturners – the only life member outside of the USA.



Liveryman and Master in Turning, Ray Key

He also presented at seminars in Canada, Ireland, Norway, New Zealand, Israel, France and Germany.

Ray was the founding chairman of the Association of Woodturners of Great Britain in 1987 and later became both President and a life member. He was also President of the Worcestershire Guild of Designer Craftsmen.

Ray wrote his first book on Woodturning and Design in 1985 and since then he has written a further two books and made numerous videos, together with regular articles in the woodturning press and associated journals.

He also had an enormous drive to continuously improve his own woodturning practice. I quote Ray's own words that "there is within me a strong perfectionist streak driving me to try and improve... by learning from past mistakes".

He also explained how "looking back at my own work...and even an item made a few days earlier...I think how it could have been improved".

Ray turned this ambition for self-improvement to arranging exhibitions, craft fairs and competitions.

He became a member of the Howe Committee, the craft committee of the Company, and invested his considerable knowledge and enthusiasm into the Company's turning competitions and since 2004 our quadrennial exhibition 'Wizardry in Wood',

As chairman of the Howe Committee for over three years, I witnessed Ray's unbridled energy. I was, on one occasion, asked (rather knowingly) how things were going as the committee is large and often hard to control. I replied that when Ray and Stuart Mortimer were there together it made the chariot scene from Ben Hur look rather tame!

We are not aware of the words of recommendation that led to Ray being awarded the British Empire Medal in 2015 for his services to woodturning.

But we do know that when in 2012 Ray was the first person to be made a Master in Turning by the Company the citation mentioned his extraordinary dedication to the creation and development of the craft and that he was one of the finest professional turners in the world.

Ray, thank you.

David Batchelor
Master (2018-19)



Signature works by Ray Key

FINANCE COMMITTEE REVIEW

The Finance Committee is responsible for monitoring and controlling expenditure, setting and reviewing budgets, and managing the separate investment portfolios of the Company and the Charity. The Committee meets five times a year to attend to these requirements and the Chairman reports to the Standing Committee and to the Court on the key points arising.

In addition to the Master and Wardens who are ex-officio members, the Committee comprises three further members who have particular expertise in finance or investments. Since my last report these have been Assistant Nick Fisher, Assistant Nigel Luson and Liveryman David Bamber, who stood down part way through the year. The Master's Steward has also attended as an observer.

Over the past few months the Investment sub-committee, which is responsible for managing the Company's investments, has been looking closely at several important governance issues to ensure the sub-committee remains compliant with present and future regulation.

Central to this has been a tender between several suitably qualified firms for the provision of investment management services, a process that had not been undertaken for a number of years.

This has resulted in a change of investment manager, with Investec Wealth & Investment being appointed. The committee looks forward to working with the Investec team in the months ahead.

The Company's investments, representing almost of the whole of its accumulated reserves, are invested with the intention of generating sufficient income to finance its overheads and its varied programme of activities, whilst preserving the real value of its capital over the long term.

The Charity's accumulated reserves are invested in five diverse investment funds with the intention of providing a balance of capital appreciation and income.

The Charity's activities and regular programme of gifts are financed by income from this portfolio and by donations made by members of the Company and by the Company itself. These activities also include events that do not take place every year - the biennial Bursary Awards, the biennial Competitions, and the quadrennial exhibition, Wizardry in Wood.

During the year the Charity completed its special appeal, raising sufficient funds to meet in full its commitment to refurbish one of the twelve bells at St Paul's Cathedral. We are most grateful for the many generous donations and the fund-raising efforts that enabled this project to be completed so successfully.

The Company is always delighted to receive legacies as they enable greater levels of charitable activity to be carried out. All Liverymen are encouraged to consider leaving a gift to the Company or the Charitable Trust in their Will and a suitable form of words is available from the Clerk if required.

I should like to thank the Clerk, the Company Accountant and my fellow committee members for their support in ensuring our finances remain healthy and in good order. I am delighted that Assistant Luson has agreed to take over as Chairman of the Finance Committee at the Election Court and I look forward to supporting him in the year ahead.

Andrew Sindall
Chairman, Finance Committee (2018-19)

Summer Reception	Wednesday 17 July 2019	Apothecaries' Hall
Court Meeting and Livery Luncheon	Wednesday 25 September 2019	Apothecaries' Hall
Election of Lord Mayor	Wednesday 2 October 2019	Guildhall
Max Carey Turning Weekend	Friday 1- Sunday 3 November 2019	Portishead
Patronal Service and Luncheon	Monday 21 November 2019	Apothecaries' Hall
Musicians' Carol Service	Wednesday 11 December 2019	St Michael's Cornhill
Livery Dinner	Monday 16 December 2019	Apothecaries' Hall
Winter Court Dinner	w/c 20 January 2020	TBC
Common Hall and Richard Gardner Williams Banquet	Wednesday 26 February 2020	Skinners' Hall
Court and Masters and Clerks Luncheon	Wednesday 18 March 2020	Apothecaries' Hall
Craft Meeting with the Register of Professional Turners	Tuesday 24 March 2020	Skinners' Hall
United Guilds Service	Friday 27 March 2020	St Paul's Cathedral
Spring Dinner	Thursday 23 April 2020	Girdlers' Hall
Election Court and Dinner	Thursday 21 May 2020	Apothecaries' Hall



This Decorated Chalice by Maggie Wright was awarded First Prize in the Turners' Company 2018 Master's Ornamental Turning Competition. See pages 20 & 21 for images of other prize winners in the 2018 Competitions.