

ISSUE 37



SPRING 2026

THE FAN MAKER

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF FAN MAKERS



THE MASTER, LIVERYMAN COL ANGELA RICHARDSON AND
THE FREE WARDEN AT THE SHEEP DRIVE

MASTER - ANTONY ROBSON
FREE WARDEN - DINESH NAIDU
FOREIGN WARDEN - CHRISTOPHER TURNER



CLERK@FANMAKERS.COM



@WORSHIPFULCOMPANYOFFANMAKERS



FUTURE EVENTS

20 MARCH 2026

UNITED GUILDS SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

30 MARCH 2026

CHARITY VISIT TO FREE TO BE KIDS

17 APRIL 2026

VISIT TO LANSBURY LAWRENCE SCHOOL

23 APRIL 2026

SPRING COURT MEETING & LUNCH

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CLERK'S CORNER

I would like to wish our members a very happy new 'Company' year. In all Companies except the Bowyers, Masters serve for one year, the most popular months to change over being October and February. Changeovers happen every month of the year including a few in July and August, which means no summer holiday for their Master, Wardens and Clerk. The Master Bowyer serves for 2 years, so they only get a new year every other year! In the months up to the changeover the prospective Master and Clerk work together to plan the year's activities including dinners, meeting dates, the annual Church Service and much more.



Diary Dates 2026/7: Most of the dates for the forthcoming year can be found on the events calendar in the members' only section of the website. There is also information on other activities such as Inter Livery Bridge and Padel and events such as the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch, the United Guilds Service and Elections for the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs.

City Briefings: If you want to find out more about the City & Livery, why not attend a City Briefing? The City of London Livery Committee hold these 4 times a year and all members are encouraged to attend one. The dates for 2026 are 25th March, 19th May, 10th September and 18th November. More information can be found here <https://liverycommittee.org/courses/>



WhatsApp Group: If you have a partner or regular guest, please encourage them to sign up to the WhatsApp group so they can also keep up to date with our events and activities. All members and their regular guests are encouraged to sign up, It is not a general chat site, so you will not be bombarded with intrusive messages, just the occasional post from the Clerk or Committees.

BY CLAIRE CHITTY



MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER



My year ends on 12th February 2026, it being a very great honour, to have served as your Master during 2025, ably and unfailingly supported by my wife Albena. Reflecting on the year, I do so with genuine pride, in what we have achieved together, with deepest gratitude, for the friendship, encouragement, and commitment, shown across our Livery. Membership of the Fan Makers, is truly a two-way relationship: what one gives, is returned many times over- this has guided my year in office.

Throughout 2025 we have continued to strengthen our core values: tradition, fellowship, and charitable giving. Our civic

engagements, and our Company Dinners, and social occasions, have been exceptionally well supported and stand as a clear testament, to the warmth and camaraderie that defines and solidifies our Company, also demonstrating our significant relevance within the City today.

Our impact of the Poor Fund Charity has continued to grow. We have sustained strong support to the benefit of our established beneficiaries, embracing new initiatives, aligned with our values and heritage. I am particularly grateful to the Poor Fund Charity Committee, Chaired by Rear Admiral Paul Hoddinott, for his, and it's, tireless work in ensuring that our giving, remains fully compliant and proportionately responsible and meaningful.

Among the highlights of the year, the establishment of the Rowing/Skerry and Angling Societies, complemented

our existing Shooting and Golfing activities. The completion and submission of the Company's Biodiversity Report and the signing of the Armed Forces Covenant. The updating of Livery operational Compliance documentation and the appointment of a new Deputy Financial Comptroller, Almoner and Librarian.

We also cemented our ongoing working relationship with The King's Foundation, culminating in two highly successful workshop weekends in 2025 at Highgrove, introducing participants to the art of Fan Making. Two further workshop dates at Highgrove have been reserved for 2026. A further separate workshop is planned at the RAC Club in Pall Mall in early 2026. It was also a privilege to attend the naming ceremony of HMS Glasgow, conducted by Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales and the presentation of a Fan to the new Lady Mayor.



MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER CONT'D

In 2026, I look forward to the presentation of the Coronation Fan to Her Majesty the Queen, a moment of particular pride for our Company.

Sound internal financial management has ensured stability, enabling us to keep subscription increases to a minimum.

Finally, I thank the Wardens, in particular the Clerk, the Court, and all Members, for their steadfast support and sage guidance.

I warmly encourage and welcome any Member to become more involved in the life of the Company, to come forward, and contact the Clerk.

With my sincere thanks and very best wishes to you all.

BY ANTONY ROBSON

COMMEMORATING EDITH CAVELL



The Master and Clerk attended the Commemorative wreath laying ceremony in memory of Nurse Edith Cavell at her memorial in Trafalgar Square. The Cavell foundation, supporting nurses and midwives in need is one of the excellent charities supported by the Fan Makers' Charity. Photographed with the Master of the Worshipful Company of Nurses.

BY CAROLE PLANT



CHARITY NEWS

LIVERY FOOD INITIATIVE RECEPTION

The Livery Charity Chairs Group and the Livery Food Initiative held a Thank You Reception at Innholders' Hall on Thursday 9th October. Liveryman Lin McGarry attended and received a plaque on behalf of the Company in recognition of the support we have provided to City Harvest. Established in 2014, City Harvest London food charity rescues nutritious surplus food from farms, manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers, and delivers it, for free, to over 130,000 people a week via organisations feeding those facing food poverty. A team of Liverymen from the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers contributed their time volunteering last year and will return again on 31st October to offer further pro bono services.



VOLUNTEERING AT THE SOUP KITCHEN



On a wet and windy morning last year Liverymen Jon Boot, Paula Lent, Sally Wylie and Assistant Carole Plant joined the amazing Rosa - Chef at The Soup Kitchen; she cooked, and we served 185 meals to the homeless, elderly, lonely and vulnerable individuals in central London. The Soup Kitchen mission is to offer more than just free meals, clothing, and toiletries; they strive to create a sense of belonging for nearly 200 friends every day. Sally and Carole have been a few times before but this was Paula and Jon's first volunteering session and they served soup, porridge, sandwiches, cereal and biscuits before the main meal. Hundreds of cups of tea, coffee and hot chocolate were also served by fellow volunteers from Lavazza.



CHARITY NEWS CONT'D

All in all, such a humbling day for all volunteers, reminding us that we have luckier circumstances and that this is such a small way of putting something back into our London community. Thank you to Rosa, Lauren and team at the Soup Kitchen!

ANY FAN MAKER CAN VOLUNTEER BY CONTACTING LIVERYMAN
GAIL SHARP.

BY CAROLE PLANT

FAN FOCUS



It is likely that a young woman received this New Year fan in December 1858 since the dates of 1858 and 1859 appear to the front of the fan. Father Time using a crutch and a putto holding a swan under his arm are to the left of the leaf, and a young girl dancing and a putto riding a swan are to the right. The whole image represents the passing of the old year and a welcome to the new one. The young girl and Father Time each raise a glass. The sunny Neapolitan scene to the centre is of a couple on a terrace playing castanets and dancing, with the sea and the hillside in the distance. Vignettes of pixies and imps in comic poses are at the base of the leaf. In the surround are sprays of mistletoe and holly. The 27cm sticks are of pierced and gilded bone.

The reverse and vellum leaf of this fan have been painted with five suitors each in a costume and pose that suggest their suitability: hidden behind the figures are letters which together may be read as EDITH. It is understood the fan has an association with Knebworth House and it may be that there is a connection with Edith Villiers, who would have been 17 years of age in 1858.

BY ANNE-MARIE BENSON



FAN MAKERS AWARDS



THE BRIAN MOSS FAN MAKERS AWARD

Liveryman Dr David Moss, inspired by the presentation of the CIBSE Fan Makers bursary to Edythe Qua at the Selection Dinner last year, felt that he wished to honour his father's memory in a similar way.

His father was Brian Moss, a loyal Fan Maker for over thirty years, with a distinguished record in ventilation engineering, who was awarded an OBE for his exemplary emphasis on technical innovation, quality, and people. He became President of CIBSE and received CIBSE's highest honour, the Gold Medal.

The new annual award has been developed

by David Moss and Liveryman Ruth Carter, CEO of CIBSE.

The purpose of the Award is to further academic learning, research and innovation in the field of Building Services.

The award will be made at the CIBSE Presidents Awards Dinner and at the Fan Makers Selection Court dinner to further exemplify the close links between CIBSE and the Fan Makers.

The inaugural winner, Daniel Godoy-Shimizu, was unfortunately not present. The prize was accepted by his colleague. Photographed with Liveryman Vince Arnold CIBSE President, Liveryman Dr David Moss and Sarah Levy (son and daughter of the late Brian Moss).



FAN MAKERS AWARDS



Worshipful Company of Fan Makers CIBSE Bursary awarded to Mergim Muhadri Photographed with Liveryman Ruth Carter CEO of CIBSE and the Master.



Fan Makers' Unsung Hero of the Year from 826 Naval Air Squadron Petty Officer Christopher Jamieson with Lieutenant Commander David Houghton-Barnes.



Heritage Craft Awards, students from Chelsea College of Art, "Rethinking the Fan" Programme Introduced by Assistant Dr Helen Marr.

1st prize Henry Xian,
2nd prize Elvy Hurren,
3rd prize Phoebe Saunders.

Henry was unable to attend.
Helen Marr with Elvy & Phoebe.

BY CLAIRE CHITTY



THE SHEEP DRIVE



On a wonderfully gloomy Sunday last September, I had the pleasure of exercising my right as a Freeman of the City of London by taking part in one of the City's most delightfully eccentric traditions: driving sheep across the River Thames. As a newly eligible liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers, this marked my first time attending the Sheep Drive — an experience I can only describe as "the dream I never knew I always had."

I am fascinated with the age-old traditions of the City of London and its liveries, and this event was very much up my alley (or down my bridge?). There is something deeply satisfying about seeing the modern City momentarily step aside to make room

for a custom that stretches back centuries. For a few hours, Southwark Bridge became less a conduit for traffic and more a living reminder of the City's medieval roots and enduring sense of humour. The contrast between the sheep and the contemporary skyline only heightened the sense that this was something special — London being London at its very best.

I am immensely grateful to the Worshipful Company of Fan Makers for the opportunity to take part, and I very much hope it will be the first of many such occasions in my life as a liveryman.

BY VIKTOR BERTA



OBITUARY

LIVERYMAN LOUISE STOTON



The Worshipful Company of Fan Makers was informed of the death of Liveryman Louise Stoten on 16th September 2025, aged 56.

Louise was a solicitor who in June 2010, driven by a vision to bring a more innovative and personal approach to supporting today's wealthy families, was a Founding Partner of New Quadrant Partners, a boutique private client law firm based in London. In 2020 the firm, under her continued leadership, repositioned to solely provide trust, fiduciary

and family office services. A very capable lawyer, among other notable successes in the legal field, was her being instrumental in the 2009 High Court victory against HMRC (The Trustees of the Nelson Dance Family Settlement v HMRC), which remains a leading case. She leaves behind a thriving firm now based in St. James's, London.

Prior to New Quadrant, Louise worked as a partner at London law firm Payne Hicks Beach, having joined it in 1997 following seven years as a solicitor at DAC Beachcroft. Before her legal career Louise had worked in the banking sector, firstly as a trainee at Midland Bank (now HSBC) and later as a stockbroker at Svenska Handelsbanken.

She was introduced to the Fan Makers' Company by the late Past Master Michael Ross Collins and joined the Livery in 2011. She had been an active member including as a participant in the Shooting Society's activities but was, sadly, diagnosed with stage IV cancer in 2019 which then kept her away from attending Company events.

Louise devoted the last few years of her life to philanthropic causes and acting as a patient advocate and a fundraiser working in collaboration with The Metabolic Terrain Institute of Health. She had been a PAM (Private Asset Managers) Awards judge since 2017. Apart from enjoying game shooting she had interests in horse racing, the theatre and world travel. She spent her final years living in Malta with her long-term partner Paul.

The Fan Makers' Company is most grateful for the legal support Louise had given the Company over the years.

BY JOHN HUGHES

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PRESENTATION OF A FAN TO THE MAYORAL
CONSORT, MR GARY LANGLEY, BY THE MASTER

NEWSLETTER TEAM: LIVERYMAN ELIZABETH HAYES
AND FREEMAN EMILY BRAY



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