



The London Mayors' Association

JOURNAL

2017

Welcome



Welcome to our first issue of the London Mayors' Association Journal which will be published yearly in time for all new Mayors to receive their copies straight from the press.

Thank you to the Mayors who let the Journal visit them in their fabulous parlours to interview them. Thanks are due to our President, the Lord Mayor of Westminster as well as Dr Andrew Parmley the Lord Mayor of London for his interview and to The Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London and also to our columnists Denis Doe, Helen Watson, Brian Coleman, Rosemary Markham, Sean Brennan and Lurline Champagnie.

Thank you too to Clare Whelan our new Chairman, and to Oonagh Moulton, and Pat Clark who helped shape our featured events with the help of the Executive Committee. A special acknowledgement also to Bob Bone for supporting the London Mayors' Association through sponsorship of the Journal.

Cllr Belinda Donovan

Editor, The LMA Journal

Assisted by Clare, John Whelan and Giles Lucas

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Cllr Steve Summers, Lord Mayor of Westminster

Cllr Steve Summers, Lord Mayor of Westminster and President of the LMA, invited the Journal into his Mayor's Parlour for coffee recently to talk to us about his role as Lord Mayor of Westminster.



Steve was born in Newcastle and came to London to go to university, expecting to return after that, but having got the political bug he ended up standing for Westminster Council, getting elected, and has stayed in London for 20 years.

Steve has chaired planning, and was in the cabinet on the Council for six years. He was lead member for the Olympics and a director of City West Homes for the ALMO. His day job is with PR Firm Bell Pottinger where he is a partner.

The Journal asked Steve if there are any differences between being Lord Mayor of Westminster and one of the other borough mayors. He tells us that the Lord Mayor of Westminster is also Deputy High Steward of Westminster Abbey which involves regularly attending services there. The Lord Mayor of Westminster is also a Member of Westminster School as the Collegiate Church of St Peter.

The Lord Mayor greets visiting ambassadors including recently the ambassadors for Brazil, Bolivia and Argentina and receives visiting mayors, for example the Mayor of Salzburg.

Historically, Queen Elizabeth I passed a law banning any future Mayors of Westminster deeming them to be potentially far too powerful for her liking. It needed to be revoked subsequently to allow the post to exist.

We discussed the Oslo Christmas tree, the tradition now in its 70th year where the people of Oslo give the Borough of Westminster a tree as a thank you for the borough housing their Royal Family during the Second World War. Asked about the highlights of his Mayoral year. Steve tells us that he enjoys carrying out citizenship ceremonies on Mondays, loved going round HMS Westminster, but his great highlight was meeting Her Majesty The Queen.

Asked if he ever has any time in his hectic schedule for hobbies, he replies that he does. Steve supports Newcastle United and is a great cricket fan being a member of Surrey County Cricket Club. **BD**

Chairman's message



I join Cllr Belinda Donovan (left) in welcoming you to this edition of the Journal which aims to keep all current and past London Civic Mayors, their Mayoresses and Consorts up-to-date with the London Mayors' Association's recent activities. Belinda has offered thanks to many people in her introduction but I felt it only right to add thanks to Belinda herself who has put a great deal of effort into the interviews recorded here and putting this Journal together.

Clare Whelan OBE DL FRSA,
London Mayors' Association Chairman

Kate McCarthy, Consort to the Lord Mayor of Westminster



London Mayors' Association Journal spoke recently to Kate McCarthy, Consort to the Lord Mayor of Westminster in between mayoral engagements with Cllr Summers.

We started by asking Kate to describe the kind of events that she attends with Cllr Summers.

Kate says that her work load is not a fraction of that of the Lord Mayor and every event is different. There are a considerable number of events at Westminster Abbey, she says, as the Lord Mayor is the Deputy High Steward. Every event at the Abbey is not only magical but a history lesson every time. Kate and Cllr Summers have covered everything from the Chilean Naval Day to the 100th Anniversary of the Somme to Pilgrimage Day for St Edmund the Confessor. Kate adds that they have the great privilege also of going to Buckingham Palace as well as Regent's Park Open Air Theatre.

Kate says that one of Cllr Summers Lord Mayor's Charities is Greenhouse Sports. Before becoming Lord Mayor, Cllr Summers was Westminster Cabinet Member for Sports and Leisure and led Westminster's preparations for London 2012. Add into this, she says, one of her previous lives as a PE teacher then naturally sports events mean a lot to both of them so they have been a highlight. Last September, she says, they had a Sports and Legacy Day at Paddington Recreation Ground where they were greeted by Max Whitlock our GB Gold Medal gymnast.

Kate then describes their visit to Oslo to choose a Christmas Tree to go in Trafalgar Square. They arrived at lunchtime at the Residence of the Mayor of Oslo. Kate's husband Andrew was also on the trip – they are all from the North East so felt very at home because of their Viking pasts. They all had dinner with the Mayor of Oslo and Cllr Summers was challenged by him to do cross country skiing during their trip, which he did.

The Christmas tree chosen was over 100 years old. They enjoyed Christmas Carols sung by local children as well as Norwegian Forest Coffee. They also got to attend a Full Council Meeting and noticed how young and diverse the councillors were. The Town Hall is apparently where the Nobel Peace Prize is awarded.

BD

Clare Whelan OBE DL FRSA



“

I believe passionately in the civic mayoralty and want to encourage and support London's Mayors in the important role they play in their communities.”

In July 2016 Clare Whelan OBE DL, was elected as the new Chair of The LMA to succeed Robert Davis MBE DL. The Journal met with Clare recently to chat to her about her busy life.

Clare, many congratulations on being elected as the new Chairman of the LMA. You must be really excited about this? Indeed, it is exciting, I am honoured to have become the LMA's new Chairman, although it is a challenge to follow Robert Davis who led the LMA so ably for so many years and whose name had become synonymous with the London Mayors' Association.

I believe passionately in the civic mayoralty and want to encourage and support London's Mayors in the important role they play in their communities. I see the role of the LMA as giving that support, upholding the values of the civic mayoralty and maintaining its traditions, but at the same time ensuring it is relevant to the 21st century. The LMA should also be an excellent membership organisation, offering those of us that share the common bond of having been Mayors of our boroughs and our mayoresses and consorts, the opportunity to enjoy the traditional civic service, annual dinner and Whittington Walk, overseas and other visits. Luckily there is a strong officer team and Executive and so responsibilities are shared between us.

You were a local Councillor for 24 years, holding many senior roles including responsibility for Social Care. Can you let us know a little more about yourself and what your 'day' job entails?

Aside from social care I was also Cabinet Member for the Environment. I was lucky enough to be on the front bench for all my time as a councillor and was Mayor in 2000-2001, the Millennium year. The work of a local councillor is rooted in the community and its greatest reward is helping people solve problems, either individually through casework, or on their behalf through the council decision making processes. I became involved in local government at national level, not least working with others to attract people with diverse experience and backgrounds to put themselves forward as councillors.

Although no longer a councillor my day job involves working with various organisations involved in health and care policy, publishing and market intelligence; my local government experience stands me in good stead, particularly in understanding social care.

You are also a Deputy Lieutenant for the Borough of Merton, can you let us know what a DL does? This role can be a bit of a mystery to the 'uninitiated.'

Deputy Lieutenants (DLs) are appointed by the Lord-Lieutenant to assist him in his duties. The Lord-Lieutenant selects one of his DLs to represent him in each of the 32 London Boroughs, except the City, and it is my privilege to have been chosen as the Representative Deputy Lieutenant for Merton. Representative Deputy Lieutenants, as the name suggests,

represent the Lieutenancy at civic and other official functions within their boroughs, and also promote its voluntary, charitable and youth activities, particularly the uniformed youth groups. If a member of the royal family visits our boroughs they will be greeted by either the Lord Lieutenant or a Deputy Lieutenant.

In Merton we have thriving Air Cadets, Army Cadets, Police Cadets, Sea Cadets, Scouts and other youth groups, all of which offer superb opportunities to young people. Important dates in the calendar include Remembrance Day and Armed Forces Day. We encourage applications for Queen's Awards for Voluntary Service and Enterprise.

Representative Deputy Lieutenants work closely with their borough and in particular the Mayor of the day. In 2016 we celebrated the Queen's 90th Birthday and two highlights of the year were lighting a beacon in Wimbledon village with the then Mayor Councillor Chung, and in July attending numerous wonderful

street parties with the 2016-17 Mayor Councillor Brenda Fraser, both are Mayors who have demonstrated deep commitment to the role of Mayor. I am a relatively new Representative Deputy Lieutenant and owe huge thanks to the team in the Mayor's office for the help and advice they have given me in taking on the role.

Although the borough Mayors' and the Lieutenancy have distinctly different roles, I believe they share many common aims, not least in encouraging people to feel a sense of belonging in our communities, and celebrating the good work that so many do across London. I am keen that the LMA should maintain close links with the Lord-Lieutenant and the Greater London Lieutenancy.

Do you ever have time in your very busy schedule for hobbies or other interests? I enjoy spending time with my young grandchildren and travelling with my husband. I would dearly love to resume tennis which I enjoy.

BD

Fulham Palace – History and Feasting

On 3rd April 2017, 51 of us attended the guided tour and lunch at Fulham Palace, the country home to 131 Bishops of London.



Guests at Fulham Palace

The Fulham Palace guide, Miranda and her colleague took us round this wonderful 'Manor House', the Bishop's Manor being in fact the entire Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham which he administered from there. We heard about the bishops who had really left their mark on history and the Palace. Sadly Bishop Ridley fell foul of the Crown and was burned at the stake at St Giles', Oxford.

We learned that Queen Elizabeth I had spent three nights as a guest at the Palace and how it was documented that a thief had managed to break in and steal her silver on one occasion. We heard that Catherine of Aragon had spent a sadly impoverished time here without her dowry; this was a way of keeping her apart from her future second husband, Henry VIII.

We were shown the stunning Chapel, where the brewery in the room below had to be removed as the alcohol fumes proved too distracting for those at prayer. We were even told that in addition, local rumour has it there is a secret passage from the Palace to a local pub which has never been found.

We ate in the Great Hall on salmon accompanied by delicious spring vegetables followed by a superb tarte tatin cooked with thyme.

Thanks are due to Julie, Miranda and their colleagues for a truly memorable day

BD

Cllr Robert Davis, MBE DL Past Chairman of the LMA



“
Robert started a root and branch reform of the Association ensuring that Mayors and former Mayors (and their consorts) from all the London boroughs became involved ...”

Robert chaired the London Mayors' Association for 18 years and made it what it is today. Robert met the Journal in his office in Westminster City Hall (where he continues as Deputy Leader of the Council) to talk about his time as Chairman.

Robert first attended a meeting of the LMA at its AGM in 1996 when he was asked to chair the meeting as Lord Mayor of Westminster. He subsequently started to get involved with the Association but found the LMA comprised just a small group of members, principally of one party and coming from just a handful of boroughs.

So, after retiring as Lord Mayor in the Spring of 1997, Robert joined the Committee and within a year was elected Chairman with Ronnie Barden as his Vice-Chairman – a successful team throughout his chairmanship.

He then started a root and branch reform of the Association ensuring that Mayors and former Mayors (and their consorts) from all the London boroughs became involved and in particular ensured that all the political parties including the Independents became active.

He also began improving the quality of events including hosting the AGM at different interesting venues such as the London Film Museum, the London Transport Museum and the Banqueting House in Whitehall.

Interesting visits were arranged such as a day trip to Windsor Great Park led by the Chief Executive of the Crown Estate; a VIP tour of Windsor Castle and Frogmore as well as a tour of Clarence House.

In a similar vein, Robert changed the overseas civic visits, upgrading the quality of the hotels and ensuring that everything on the trip was included in the price (previously members had to pay themselves from everything from museum admission to meals). He chose interesting places for the visits including (in the early days) Warsaw (& Krakow), Washington DC and Oslo. Because of these changes the trips became a sell-out – they still are, so do apply early.

And one must also remember, that before Bob & Geri Bone stepped in to help arrange the trips (about fifteen years ago), Robert organised them all himself. It was also Robert who conceived the idea of arranging to visit the British Ambassador in the capital cities visited and to orchestrate for the Ambassador of the country being visited to entertain those going on the trip in their Embassy in London prior to the visit.

He also initiated the New Mayors' reception at the beginning of the mayoral term to encourage the newly installed Mayors to join the Association and meet each other as well as the highly successful annual Diplomatic Dinners where several foreign



Cllr Robert Davis and Nelson Mandela

Ambassadors and High Commissioners joined members of the Association for a black-tie dinner in the Mayoral suite at Westminster City Hall. They were so popular that he had to arrange two a year to meet demand.

Robert also put his own personal stamp on the annual dinner, moving it to Kensington Town Hall and in 2001 (our centenary year) he arranged for HRH The Princess Alexandra to be the guest of honour. After a few years he then moved the venue to the Portman Hotel and subsequently to the Churchill Hotel where in 2009, he arranged for Boris Johnson to be the speaker – causing a sell-out.

He then moved the dinners to the Corinthia Hotel where they are still held today. Helen Watson, whose talent and professionalism with events Robert spotted early on, took over running the annual dinner. It is still one of the highlights of the LMA year.

The highlight of Robert's record breaking term as chairman came in December 2001 when he organised a reception to celebrate the centenary of the founding of the LMA in 1901 by the then Mayor of Westminster, The Duke of Norfolk, at St James's Palace with Her Majesty The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh as the guests of honour. Robert remembers well presenting members of the Association to Her Majesty and the interest taken by The Duke in the insignia of the various mayors he met.

Robert also introduced and designed the various LMA gifts which include the LMA cuff links, umbrellas, coasters and also the superb table gifts on our places each year at the Annual Dinner.

Robert also created the idea of a regular newsletter or magazine. Before he became chairman, there was no newsletter or other communication with members other than an occasional invite to an event or the AGM. He found a designer and printer and would write most of the articles and took all the photos and designed the layout.

Robert retired as Chairman in July 2016, leaving the Association in fantastically good health, very active and incredibly professionally run. In fact, many outsiders believed the Association was run from a professional office comprising several staff, whereas in fact it was in fact run by Robert from his legal practice and Helen from her kitchen table.

So, on behalf all the members of the Association, we thank Robert for all his years of commitment to the London Mayors' Association and for making it such a great representative organisation for the Mayoralty in London as well as fun (and great honour) to be an active member of.

BD

Helen Watson



Dear LMA Members

I have asked for a small space in the Journal to have the opportunity to thank everyone for the beautiful pearl bracelet I was presented with at the AGM when I 'retired' from the LMA. It will be a permanent reminder of the very happy years I have spent with you.

Sixteen years ago I was approached by a friend asking me if I would be willing to attend a meeting to record the minutes, type them up later and mail them out to the Committee Members once the Chairman had approved them.

At the time I doubt anyone, least of all myself, thought I would stay with the Association so long. It has been a real privilege to work with you and to enjoy so many happy occasions. I have met some wonderful people and made many friends and in many ways I am sad to leave. But I will still be around to enjoy the various activities of the Association which I look forward to attending seeing everyone again but without doing any of the work.

Very sincerely
Helen Watson

Helen was secretary of the LMA for 16 years. Originally she was asked if she would attend one Executive Meeting to record the minutes because the usual Secretary was unwell. Soon after the secretary resigned and the Chairman asked if she would continue.

Being assured this would just involve attending executive meetings to record the minutes she accepted. However, not long after the Queen agreed to the LMA holding a 100th anniversary celebration at St James's Palace which she would attend with the Duke of Edinburgh. The Chairman asked Helen to accompany him to the Palace to discuss arrangements with the Queen's Personal Private Secretary. It ended in her being asked to organise other events for the LMA and she continued to do so for 16 years. The reason for this was that the Queen's PPS recognised her immediately as the person who had already dealt with him over the years organising events for the Red Cross which has the Queen as Patron. The secret was out, and the rest, as they say is history.

Helen brings a whole new meaning to the word 'organised' and her LMA events have been planned to the highest professional standard and military precision.

Somehow she is able to weave a quick cup of tea into her still very busy schedule. Helen tells the Journal she always explained in advance to willing volunteers she asked to help at events exactly what they needed to do so that when they arrive everything just goes like clockwork. This has always been a tremendous help because she knew guests were being met and well looked after and other arrangements in good hands while she was available to solve last minute issues and check on other arrangements such as with caterers.

Does Helen have time for hobbies? She somehow manages to be Ladies' Captain of her Bowling Club, she also does tapestry, knitting, embroidery and art therapy to boot. Having been successfully treated for cancer she does voluntary work for Bowel Cancer UK, and is Chairman of the Cancer Services User Committee at St George's Hospital. Helen is currently the Patients representative on two research groups at Imperial College and Patient Representative at St George's Tooting.

A huge thank you to Helen for the enormous amount of work she has put in over the years.

BD

The LMA Annual Dinner

On the 18th February 2017, the Corinthia Hotel in Whitehall played host to 158 Members of the London Mayors' Association and their guests including many Mayors and their consorts and our President the Lord Mayor of Westminster.

The Corinthia's building dates back to 1900 and is truly breathtaking. The Courtyard and Ballroom where the dinner took place were sumptuously decorated and the gorgeous flowers were kindly donated by Bob and Geri Bone of Destination Events Ltd. who organise so superbly the overseas visit each year.

Our guests of honour seated on the top table were Honorary Chief Guest and distinguished Military historian Dr Peter Caddick-Adams, TD PhD FRHistS KJ and Cllr Steve Summers our President, Lord Mayor of Westminster, along with his Consort Kate McCarthy, and Mrs Clare Whelan, OBE, DL FRSA our Chairman. Dr Peter Caddick-Adams gave an illuminating talk on military history, strategy and leadership qualities based on London. He used a mixture of amusing anecdotes and more serious facts.



The Mayoress and Mayor of Barnet



The Mayors of Richmond and Hillingdon



Dr Peter Caddick-Adams, top table guests and mace bearer



The Corinthia Ballroom



Major Denise Capstick



The Mayor of Hammersmith & Fulham



John and Pat Clark



The Mayor of Bromley



The Mayor of Croydon with the Deputy Mayor



Kuldip Singh Sadhra, Cllr Amardeep Singh Jamu, Cllr Hardial Singh Rai and Inder Singh Jamu



The Mayor of Wandsworth



The Lord Mayor addressing the dinner



Jean Trotter and Cllr Bryan Collier



The Mayor and Mayoress of Greenwich



Thanks are due to Cllr Oonagh Moulton and Pat Clark with assistance from Cllr Belinda Donovan for organising such a memorable evening. The food was delicious and beautifully presented. The Corinthia has a new pastry chef who produced the very glamorous chocolate pudding finale.

Photographs by kind permission of Philip Berryman, philip_berryman@hotmail.com

The LMA Annual Dinner



Bob and Wenda Belam



The Mayor of Kingston



The Consort and Mayor of Enfield



The Lord Mayor greets Veronica Kerslake



Peter Gardener and Barbara Smith



The Mayor and Mayoress of Hillingdon



The Consort and Mayor of Islington



Joe and Jean Trotter



Ciar Brennan and Dennis Doe



Cllr Frances Stainton



Cllr Edith Macauley

The Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London

The Journal had the great honour recently of meeting Mr Kenneth Olisa, OBE. The Lord Lieutenant was appointed by The Queen to be Her Representative in the capital in May 2015.



The Lord-Lieutenant, whose life mission has been about social inclusion, has developed a strategy for his term in office, a voluntary post that continues until he is 75. Building bridges for a fairer London aims to enhance all Londoners' sense of belonging, taking inspiration from The Queen's unifying role, alongside the objective to uphold the dignity of the Crown, representing and supporting Her Majesty and the royal family in London's 32 Boroughs. He is supported in his role by a cadre of 100 Deputy Lieutenants, including 32 Representative Deputy Lieutenants – one in each Borough.

Ken is a businessman and philanthropist who started out in IT programmes and then went on to advising and investing, from London to Boston and Brussels. He is the founder of two technology merchant banks and the first British-born black man to serve as a Director of a FTSE-100 company. He is a Past Master of The Worshipful Company of Information Technologists.

As a philanthropist, Ken has been Chairman for 27 years of a homeless charity called Thames Reach, which sends officers out onto the streets of London whose aim is to make sure that no street sleeper should have more than one night on our streets.

Ken also chairs The Shaw Trust which helps those that have been long term unemployed to find work. The Trust also helps disabled people to gain the skills and confidence needed to get back into work.

Ken and his wife endowed the Fitzwilliam College Cambridge Library, his old College, four years ago. He thought that this was the pinnacle of his life until he was appointed Lord Lieutenant.

Ken is asked about a typical day in the life of the Lord-Lieutenant. He tells me that he took part in a Tower Hamlets Citizenship Ceremony at the Tower of London then back to the Lieutenancy Office on Whitehall for meetings before attending the 40th Anniversary of the sinking of the naval research mine sweeper, HMS Fittleton, in the evening, where he met the families of the victims.

Ken has an extremely busy schedule. He still works investing and advising in IT from his business office in Regent Street. He tells me that the Lieutenancy Office hires a car by the hour for when he is in uniform, but when he is in civilian dress he goes by Tube.

Ken was born in Nottingham, his mother being English and his father Nigerian. He attended the High Pavement Grammar School in Nottingham and then went up to Cambridge. He has two children, six grandchildren and lives in the Borough of Richmond.

BD

London Mayors' Walk 2017



The Lord Mayor of London with walk organiser Graham Holland

The London Mayors' Walk has been a pivotal part of the London Mayors' Association for 38 years. From small beginnings in 1979, London mayors have been invited to join the Lord Mayor of London to recreate the original walk of Dick Whittington over 600 years ago in 1397.

Whether fact or fiction, all London's mayors, speakers and chairs of councils come together annually to celebrate the story of Dick Whittington, and to raise money for their individual charities as well as having an enjoyable time in the company of their fellow mayors.

The 2017 Walk, held on 12th March, was no exception. A record number of walkers assembled at the Turning Point restaurant at the Whittington Hospital for refreshments. Speeches were made by the Mayor of Islington, Councillor Kat Fletcher, the Chairman of the Whittington Hospital Trust, Steve Hitchens, the Chairman of the LMA, Clare Whelan OBE DL FRSA and the Lord Mayor of London, Dr Andrew Parmley, who welcomed the walkers to the event.

Following the group photograph outside the hospital, and the obligatory stroking of the cat, the Lord Mayor led the walkers down Highgate Hill for the five mile stroll. It is always a colourful sight watching mayors in their robes and chains walking down the Holloway Road and distracting local shoppers from going to Waitrose. A drop of rain did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of the 70 walkers.

The hallway break was at Islington Town Hall, courtesy of Islington's Mayor. After the break, it was downhill all the way, passing the Alfred Hitchcock museum en route, until the City boundary where walkers were met by the Lord Mayor's City police representatives on horseback.



Participants enjoying lunch



Outside the Whittington Hospital

Photographs by kind permission of Mario at AllWeddingsPlusKids2, 07984 155316

They then led their Lord Mayor into the Mansion House where lunch was provided in the magnificent Egyptian Room for weary walkers, the Whittington Hospital staff, the police and other guests. Following lunch, the Lord Mayor of London presented certificates to the walkers.

The London Mayors' Association would like to thank the Lord Mayor of London and his staff for their help, and for the most welcome lunch. In addition, we are grateful to the police for escorting the walkers, and to the Whittington Hospital and the Mayor of Islington for their hospitality. We hope that participating Mayors were able to boost their charities through sponsorship as a result of the Walk.

We look forward to welcoming new mayors to the 2018 Walk once the date has been confirmed.

Graham Holland



The Mayor of Islington



The Lord Mayor of London



Whittington Hospital Chaplain



The Mayor of Kensington & Chelsea



On the walk



Assembled Mayors



The Mayor of Barnet receiving his certificate



In Whittington's footsteps

Cllr Jimi and Sandra Adefiranye, Chairman and Consort to the Chairman of Lewisham Council

The Journal met Cllr Jimi Adefiranye, Chairman of Lewisham Council and Sandra his Consort in their fabulous Mayor's Parlour in Lewisham Civic Centre, which was opened by the Queen Mother in 1971.



The Journal spoke to Sandra and Jimi in between their hectic schedule of carol concerts and seasonal events in the run up to Christmas. Jimi has been in post for six years now. As you enter their Mayor's Parlour you see the trophy which he tells me was awarded for coming second in the New Year's Day Parade.

We chat about the duties that he and Sandra perform, the formal events, such as citizenship ceremonies, which Jimi enjoys very much.

There is ribbon cutting with the opening of local banks, solicitors, charity shops, to name but a few such events.

They also visit local charitable groups, The Stroke Association for example, to support and highlight the excellent work put in both in their borough and countrywide.

They are proud to have Goldsmiths' College in their borough and the Laban Conservatoire, the ballet school, and hand out graduation certificates to the students.

Other visits are to local schools and nurseries, anti hate crime events and recently Road Peace and United Nations Days.

We speak about the Lavender Trust, the charity that they have supported over six years. Jimi and Sandra started supporting the Lavender Trust in memory of Cllr Beth Wagstaff, a fellow Councillor who tragically died young of breast cancer. Jimi and Sandra organise four events every year in aid of the Lavender Trust, Tea at the House of Lords, Lunch at the breath takingly beautiful Goldsmiths' Hall, a Tour of Deptford which includes a visit to the amazing place where Henry VIII had his ships built and where Peter the Great of Russia managed to work incognito, and a Tour of the Hanivan Museum. They also of course support events that the other borough mayors put on each year for their chosen charities.

As if this was not enough they also receive foreign ambassadors, and are twinned with Antony a town in France, Charlottenburg in Berlin and Matagalpa in Nicaragua. They have a friendship link with Ekurhuleni in South Africa and Kingston in Jamaica. They are also Friends of the French Embassy.

They talk of Archbishop Tutu being made a Freeman of Lewisham in 1990—he was a curate in the borough, a fact that is not widely known.

They mention the large Turkish community in Lewisham and the excellent links they have with that community.

BD

The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley

When not being a Glover, Liveryman Belinda Donovan is a Councillor in, and the former Mayor of, the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. She was given access to interview the Lord Mayor for the London Mayors' Association Journal and was given permission to reprint that article for the Glovers. Herewith the article which was published on 12 December 2016.



The Lord Mayor of London on the Whittington Walk

The Journal had the great pleasure of meeting Dr Andrew Parmley, The Lord Mayor of London 2016-17.

What is the difference between a Borough Mayor and The Lord Mayor of London? The Lord Mayor of London is the UK Financial Services Ambassador representing Industry throughout the UK and he travels widely abroad - Qatar and Kuwait are up to visit next along with Malta which has now assumed presidency of the Council of the EU. The Lord Mayor also links up abroad with embassies, socialising with expatriates.

Recently, he has met the President of Portugal and eight members of the royal family. He has also met the Prime Minister and Lord Chancellor, his feet obviously never touch the ground.

His role, as with other mayors, speakers and chairs is non-political. The Lord Mayor is Head of The London Corporation and chairs two chambers, one being the Court of Alderman which comprises 25 people, the other being The Common Council which has 125 people in total; he is also ex-officio Rector of City, University of London and also Admiral of the Port of London. The Lord Mayor tells the Journal that neither he, the Aldermen or Common Councillors receive any money for the work they put in which is not widely known.

Dr Parmley is a member of no less than an impressive 18 Livery Companies. The Lord Mayor looks after the Livery Companies and is voted in by them. Dr Parmley has received some gloves from the Glovers. He has on display in his office a magnificent organ shaped cake complete with superbly detailed icing sugar music from another Livery Company as well as a wonderfully ornamental sword which he was recently presented with, 'the Brighton Rock'.

The Lord Mayor takes a keen interest in the Committee that looks after the City Bridges, but the Charity most fascinating of all is The City Bridge House Estate. It still has monies from the rents from the houses on the old London Bridge as well as the toll charges which travellers had to pay to cross. This, due to the huge accumulation of funds gives a staggering £20 million to charities each year. This charity funded the Millennium Bridge.

The Lord Mayor is an extremely gifted organist and supports The London Symphony Orchestra, The St Paul's Cathedral Trust as well as Music in Hospital.

BD

Greek Sojourn, LMA Civic Visit 2017

Rosemary Markham



“
Enormous thanks are due to Bob, Geri and Lizzie Bone and Theresa Davis at Destination Events, and to their colleagues in Athens, for all the planning and dedication to detail which made this civic visit such a success.”

It was good to see the ever-cheerful Bob Bone when we arrived in Athens late in the evening of Wednesday, 29 April. During the 40-minute drive into the city our guide pointed out the Church of St George, the Patron Saint of Athens, perched on the highest point of the City and the 'Glass Man' – an impressive sculpture designed to celebrate the 2004 Olympic Games. We also had our first view of the Acropolis.

Following a rapid check-in, we had drinks in the garden before enjoying a sumptuous buffet dinner during which our 'Group Leaders' were identified and we were given our instructions for the following day.

Thursday, 30th March

We started our tour of the City by visiting the Panathinaiko Stadium – the only stadium in the world built by 144 AD entirely of marble. It is also the venue for the Olympic flame handover ceremony to the host nation. Driving on we passed many impressive civic and national buildings and got a glimpse of the guards outside the Parliament building in their distinctive military uniform. We passed the Temple of Olympian Zeus, too quickly for photographs, heading for the Acropolis. It's quite a climb, but we took the gently sloping pathway and stopped half way to view the Theatre of Dionysus, dedicated to the god of plays and wine and reputedly the birthplace of Greek tragedy. Higher and better, the major restoration work to the entrance of the Acropolis meant that we could really appreciate the splendour of the building as we passed through the arch and had our first view of the Parthenon and the (replica) figures of the Caryatid Porch of the Erechthelion. So ancient – it is truly awesome. All too soon we left for our meeting at City Hall with Giorgos Kaminis, Mayor of Athens; an American-born Greek professor of constitutional law. He spoke well about relationships (Brexit), the struggles Greece is still experiencing and his hopes and plans for Athens going forward – we could all appreciate his



Our group below the Parthenon



Cllrs John Hinckley, Jean Lammiman, Oonagh Moulton with Dr Brian Coleman at the Parthenon

sentiments. Gifts were exchanged, a silver salver for him, a chunky glass plate for our Chairman. A delicious lunch was provided at the Thissio View Restaurant, well named for the wonderful views of the Acropolis. Photos taken we walked in the warm sunshine to the Acropolis Museum for an in depth guided tour after a warm welcome from the President, Professor Dimitrios Pandermalis. He is clearly very proud of this splendid new building which houses a myriad of artefacts discovered during archaeological excavations over the years. We walked back to the hotel through Plaka, the historical area of old Athens, full of winding streets, shops and cafes. Later, after a formal reception at the British Embassy where we were welcomed by the Ambassador, Kate Smith, CMG, we dined royally at the Psaras Taverna, just a short walk from the hotel.

Friday, 31st March

Today we drove to Nafplio, via Mycenaea some 90 kilometres southwest of Athens in the North Eastern Peloponnese. After a two-hour drive we arrived at the tomb of Agamemnon, or Treasury of Atreus, which is



Frank White and Ronnie Barden take a break



Sightseeing in Athens

one of several 'beehive' tombs found in the area of the ancient site of Mycenae. The tomb, built around 1250 BC, has a massive entry doorway, the lintel is cut from one solid piece of stone and weighs around 120 tons. The spectacular internal domed ceiling rises to a height of 13.5m, hence the name. Moving on a short distance we approached the Lion Gate entrance to



Rosie Daniels (right) with the Mayor and Mayoress of Waltham Forest at the Parthenon



Cllrs Angela and David Harvey with the Mayor of Nafplio



The LMA Group outside The Parliament Building



The Mayor of Aegina with Clare Whelan



Tony Kerslake, Ciar Brennan, Sean Brennan and Veronica Kerslake enjoying local specialities at a café in Nafplio



Enjoying lunch in Perdika

the fortified citadel of Mycenae, a truly well-chosen defensive position, with superb views over the surrounding area. The fantastic contents of the on-site museum helped to bring the site and the people who lived there to life. The next stop was Nafplio and a tour of the Palamidi Fortress, another impressive fortification set high on an escarpment above the town. Afterwards, we met the Mayor of Nafplio, Demetrios Kostouros in the old Hellenic Parliament building who extended a warm welcome and plea that we return as tourists. The Arapakos restaurant on the waterfront provided a delicious meal, after which there was some free time for shopping. Our return journey took us via one of the bridges over the Corinth Canal where we stopped for 15 minutes to take photos and admire the view and engineering skills of the construction workers. Set in the heart of the Zappeiou Gardens, the Aegli Zappiou restaurant had great views of the Acropolis and we enjoyed an excellent meal. The meal over, we strolled back to the hotel and were reminded that we had an early start next morning and that our suitcases should be in the lobby by 7.00am.



The Mayor of Athens addressing the LMA delegation



Presentation of the silver salver to the British Ambassador

Saturday, 1st April

On Saturday, we left the hotel early and drove to the port of Pyrrhus and the hydrofoil to the island of Aegina. The Sanctuary of Aphaia, with its panoramic views of the mainland was a special place and the locally-grown pistachio nuts purchased at the café were delicious. Some free time in the town of Aegina allowed for last minute shopping and then we drove to the tiny fishing village of Perdika and the Remetzo restaurant where we were lunching. We are joined by the Mayor of Aegina, Dimitrios Mourtzis, who arrived surrounded by the paparazzi taking photos – we are obviously big news on the island – and who extended a warm welcome. The waiters brought plates loaded with fresh fish, salads and delicious meats. We were totally spoiled. We could not leave without a 'Zorba' dance - many of our number joined in enthusiastically – it is all so wonderfully Greek and a great way to finish the trip. We returned to Pyrrhus, picked up our coaches and headed for the airport and home.



Refreshments in Athens City Hall



Aegina harbour



Dinner in Athens



Contemplating the climb of the Acropolis



The village mayor leads the dancing outside at his restaurant in Perdika



Dorothy Jones and Philip Kelly at the Parthenon

Annual General Meeting 2016

Helen Watson

Cllr Steve Summers, Lord Mayor of Westminster and ex Officio President of the Association chaired a packed Annual General Meeting held at Westminster City Hall on 19th July 2016.

Following the reports on all the activities of the Association during the past twelve months Cllr Robert David MBE DL presented an outline of the proposed revised Constitution and Articles of Association. A show of hands indicated the revised version was unanimously agreed by the full members eligible to vote.

The Lord Mayor announced that following Cllr Robert Davis' resignation as Chairman one nomination had been received to succeed him, therefore a former Mayor of Lambeth, Mrs Clare Whelan OBE DL FRSA was elected unopposed as chairman for the forthcoming year. There being one nomination for Treasurer Mr Tony Kerslake was re-elected for a further year.

An election was held for the two Vice Chairman and ten Executive Committee Members. While the votes were being counted the Lord Mayor invited everyone to take refreshments in his reception rooms during which the election results would be declared.

Subsequent to the count the Lord Mayor declared Mr Ronnie Barden and Cllr Oonagh Moulton had been elected Vice Chairmen and announced the names of the ten elected Executive Members, the nominated working Vice Presidents and the new category of Patrons.

Congratulating the members elected to office the Lord Mayor formally closed the Annual General Meeting.

'The Pearly Kings and Queens'



In many Boroughs the Pearly Kings and Queens are so much part of our Mayoral year that the Journal decided to find out more about these pillars of London life.

One chilly Sunday the Journal went to Covent Garden where it had been given permission to sit in on one of their meetings. The Pearly King and Queens' church is also the Actors' Church, St Paul's, Covent Garden.

To become a Pearly King and Queen you almost deserve a sainthood. You need to earn your spurs by proving you can raise vast sums of money for charity, standing on street corners for hours in often very cold weather with a collection tin.

You need to sew on by hand all the pearl buttons which are often shared out to new recruits.

Each borough has a Pearly King and Queen – this is usually transferred down the generations and the loyalty is incredible.

The Journal would like to record its personal admiration for the lifetime of commitment given by Pearly Kings and Queens everywhere.

BD

Don't forget the Consort

The Journal met recently with the Consort to the Mayor of Merton in between engagements with her Mayor to ask her about 'a day in the life of a Consort', Gillian Fraser is Consort to her mother, the Mayor of Merton.



The Mayor of Merton with the Lord-Lieutenant and Consort Gillian Fraser

Gillian says that she has had many wonderful new experiences as Consort to the Mayor of Merton (2016-17). She praises Carl, The Mayor's driver, who picks her and her mother up from home and escorts them at all events. Carl also makes sure that they are wearing their chains and badges.

Gillian says that they have been lucky to be invited to so many community events as well as award ceremonies and ribbon cuttings. They have also been invited to many events featuring ethnic minorities, for example The Chinese Association Chinese New Year, and The British Muslim Association of Merton Eid Festival Party. Gillian says that she and her mother have been well received and looked after where ever they visit. She would like to thank her local community for their kindness.

Gillian also enjoyed attending the Lord Mayor's Show as well as the New Year's Day Parade.

Evensong at Westminster Abbey she found amazing and surreal. Her favourite moment was spending Christmas Day with charities for the homeless. She says that this has changed her concept of Christmas Day completely.

The charities the Mayor of Merton are supporting are Age UK and a mental health charity called Avanti as the Mayor points out that people can be affected by mental health issues at any time in their lives.

We ask Gillian what her advice would be to consorts and mayoresses starting this year. She says she would simply say 'enjoy', it's a magical experience and an honour to be chosen. If you are a sociable person, she adds, the position will suit you down to the ground.

New Mayors' Reception

Helen Watson

Following the 2016/2017 London Borough Mayoral Elections the new Mayors all had the opportunity to meet and discuss the prospects for their forthcoming busy year in office as their borough's first citizen.

The event hosted by the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Cllr Steve Summers, was also attended by officers and executive committee members.

This relaxed and friendly occasion proved the perfect platform for new mayors to hear about the activities of the LMA and dates were given for functions already planned.

Bob Bone explained the impact that the mayors, with their borough's input, could have on the Annual London Parade which provided the perfect opportunity to highlight the London boroughs. At the same time Bob Belam, the new Membership Secretary, chatted to mayors about joining the Association and was kept busy giving out application forms and taking completed forms for those members who chose to join immediately.

Many thanks to Bob Bone and Destination Events for sponsoring the event and to Jenny Bianco and her team for providing the catering.

London's New Year's Day Parade & Festival – it's 'Showtime'

Don't Miss Your Mayoral Moment



“

How appropriate that Westminster won in the very year that LMA Chairman Robert Davis stood down ... it was as though Mary Poppins herself had dropped in to make it happen.”

Bob Bone, Executive Director of LNYDP

Strike up the band, set the lights, get ready to raise the curtains and prepare to be centre stage at the turn of the year – at London's New Year's Day Parade & Festival.

It's the highlight of the holiday period – and any mayoral year – as you and your borough could be in the shop window of the World.

All boroughs are invited to participate in the 2018 event.

Don't miss your moment in one of the greatest street spectacles and raise substantial sums of cash for your chosen charity in the process.

And the theme for 2018? we hear you ask – It's 'Showtime'.

Parade Executive Director Bob Bone an honorary life member of the LMA said: "Roll up Roll up to the Greatest Show on Earth.

"This city is the epicentre of entertainment – and has been for centuries so we wanted to reflect that at LNYDP – one of the World's great street spectacles.

"Our performers can interpret the theme in any way they like so we can expect tumblers, trapeze artistes, theatrical delights, show stopping songs, colour and calliope – or all the fun of the fair – 'ShowTime' comes in all forms and hues."

Past Lord Mayor Councillor Steve Summers believes that LNYDP should be on the top of every new mayor's to do list.

"Yes it raises a huge quantity of cash for our charities and generates an estimated £100m for London at the turn of year, yes it puts our city on the global stage – but more than any of that – it's the most fabulous fun.

"I couldn't imagine starting the year any other way." said Steve.

The parade, which is broadcast live in the UK and in many countries around the World, is expected to attract more than 500,000 spectators to the streets of the West End.

LNYDP, now in its 32nd year a cherished turn of year tradition, features entries and performances from across the Capital and from numerous nations.

The Parade & Festival is by no means a one-day wonder. The entertainment runs throughout the festive season with a superb concert series staged at some of the Capital's most iconic locations – including Trafalgar Sq, Southwark

Cathedral, St John's Smith Square, Cadogan Hall and Westminster Central Hall.

A combination of the public and a panel of international ambassadors and high commissioners will decide the borough winners – judging on entertainment value and how well they reflect the theme.

The parade, which will feature performances from more than 8,000 people from numerous nations, has already been in the planning for more than two years.

All the fun starts at 12 Noon on 1st January – near the Ritz Hotel on Piccadilly, the parade then runs to Piccadilly Circus, Regent Street St. James's, Waterloo Place, Pall Mall, Trafalgar Sq., Whitehall and ends in Parliament Square.

LNYP is free to all – but a limited number of grandstand seats will go on sale this summer.



LNYP & Festival – how it raises money for your charity

London's New Year's Day Parade & Festival is by no means a one-day wonder.

- Boroughs compete for a share of a £55,000 prize pot with the public and a VIP panel of ambassadors and high commissioners picking the prize winners
- Boroughs that enter the event are given £1,000 seed funding to get their entry started
- Destination Events will donate hundreds of tickets for its superb gala concert on January 2nd to boroughs that participate in the parade – which can be sold for charity donations

LNYP 2017 with its magic of the movies theme 'Lights, Camera, Action, saw the City of Westminster win the coveted first prize for the first time in years.

Their stunning all singing all dancing Mary Poppins tableaux wowed the crowds, the judges and the World.

The Winners for LNYP 2017 Competition were:

1st	Borough of Westminster	£10,000
2nd	Borough of Lambeth	£9,000
3rd	Borough of Harrow	£8,000
4rd	Borough of Sutton	£7,000
5th	Borough of Hillingdon	£6,000
6th	Borough of Barnet	£5,000
7th	Borough Havering	£4,000
8th	Borough of Lewisham	£3,000
9th	Borough of Bromley	£2,000
10th	Borough of Croydon	£1,000



Pat Clark, former Mayoress of Havering

Pat you are well known already to the LMA – you are our link with the wonderfully iconic Westminster Abbey which to many people, along with the Houses of Parliament, represents London.



Can you tell us which Borough you live in and how long you have been a member of the LMA? I live in Havering and have been an LMA Associate Member since 2008.

Can you let us know particular points of interest in your Borough? The name Havering is a reference to the Royal Liberty of Havering which occupied the area for several centuries and which now forms part of, and gives its name to, the London Borough of Havering. We stretch further eastward than any other London borough, being a Zone 6 borough, and are the only borough to include a settlement outside the M25. We are 50 percent Green Belt. We have the highest proportion of elderly population in London.

Can you let us know some interesting facts that we may not be aware of about Westminster Abbey? The Sanctuary outside the Abbey was at one time rather a curse to the city as it became the home and head-quarters of the low and disreputable, and was rather a den of iniquity. It grew into an asylum for vagabonds, debtors, thieves, highwaymen, coiners, and felons, who could defy the law as long as they remained within its precincts. They formed a community of their own, adopting a common language and a code of habits. In 1471 Elizabeth Woodville, the Queen of Edward IV, escaped from the Tower to Westminster, and registered herself and her companions as "Sanctuary women;" and it was in the Sanctuary that she gave birth to Edward V, who was "born in sorrow and baptised like a poor man's child." **BD**

Visit to Queen's Club

Helen Watson

Built on farmland, Queen's Club was originally the only multi-purpose built sports club in the country. It was well known for hosting Oxford/Cambridge fixtures and other national sporting events including rugby and soccer. We visited on 26th September, 2016.



With the advent of Twickenham for rugby and Wembley for soccer, Queen's gradually evolved as a major tennis club and stadium with one of the very few real tennis courts, rackets and squash.

After a most interesting talk about the history and the club's current function, given by Andrew Stewart the CEO, we were taken on a tour of the grounds. The Head Groundsman explained the fascinating, intriguing and complex year round work involved in making the immaculate grass courts ready for the annual world renowned pre Wimbledon tournament which attracts the top players. After being shown the special shoes now made for the top grass court players we were privileged to have the club's professional players demonstrating both real tennis and rackets while at the same time the complex rules were explained.

At the end of the tour lunch was served and much enjoyed in The President's Dining Room.

The LMA was most privileged to be given the opportunity to have this special event as this is not a usual practice at Queen's Club.

We are most grateful to Simon Mansfield who was instrumental in our being granted this special opportunity, to Nicky How who made all the arrangements, and to Andrew Stewart who outlined the Club's interesting history.

The New Mayors' Induction Day

Lurline Champagnie



The Induction Day was held on Saturday 4th June 2016 in The Lord Mayor of Westminster's Reception Rooms & Committee Rooms at Westminster City Hall.

The day started at 9.00am and concluded after lunch at 2.30pm. The Induction was mainly Interactive workshops led by former London Borough Mayors with opportunities for discussion between themselves.

Mayors, mayoresses and consorts who attended found these discussions helpful in managing their year ahead. The programme included an informative speech from Wing Commander Ed. Partridge, Clerk of the Greater London Lieutenancy, on The Importance & Significance of The Representative Deputy Lieutenants of the London Boroughs.

The day was organised by Mrs. Lurline Champagnie OBE, Past Mayor London Borough of Harrow, New Mayors' Induction Conference Organiser.

London Mayors' Annual Rifle Competition

Denis Doe, Honorary Alderman and Vice-President LMA



Cllr Martin Seymour with John Adams

The 106th Annual Rifle competition held its final on 3rd September 2016 at the range of the Ham & Petersham Rifle Club. The final has been held there since 1920.

Of the 10 Mayors taking part, each being represented by a local Rifle Club, five qualified for the final. These were the Royal Borough of Kensington-Upon-Thames, and the London Boroughs of Barnet, Harrow, Hillingdon and Richmond – the host borough and last year's winners.

The top Mayor in the three interim rounds was in fact the London Borough of Havering, but at the last moment the Club representing the Mayor, the Romford Rifle Club, had to withdraw, Richmond (the Ham and Petersham Club) having come sixth, took their place.

After 10 rounds, Kingston and Hillingdon were level. There was then a shoot-out. Hillingdon won, once again they were the champions. They have come top in every year but two since 2007. All credit to their club, the Ruislip Rifle Club.

Cllr Martin Seymour, last year's Mayor of the London Borough of Richmond, stood in for the Mayor who was booked by the Great River Race, where, as the challenger, she must be present. The shield winner was John Adams, Captain of the Ruislip Rifle Club. The Shield is the Harsant Shield, donated by the former Mayor of Harrow, the late Major Harsant, is kept by the winners for one year.

There were 10 present and past Mayoral guests, plus a senior officer from The City whose Club did not qualify.

The Ham and Petersham Club looked after us well, a great afternoon.

The Civic Service

Pat Clark



So there we were, on the first day of the LMA trip to Seville in March 2016, waiting for our group to gather when Helen Watson came over.

"Did you know that I am retiring as Secretary and we need someone to run the dinner and the civic service?" she asked. There was no escape and resistance was useless. Having expressed an interest in looking at the civic service ... that was that.

In May the briefing began. It continued from then until moments before the service. Draft letters and forms, proofs of tickets all had to be drawn up and/or checked and re-checked and then sent to print. Lists of responses were compiled and updates on numbers sent to Jenny Bianco. We met with the Dean and the Abbey team for a briefing and finalising choice of hymns. A few weeks later, Ticketing Day arrived and we made our way to the Abbey armed with envelopes, comp slips, stamps, and Sellotape for the allocation and despatch of tickets.

The ceremonial notes arrived from the Abbey. Only 28 pages to read and inwardly digest. Everything is set out - who does what and when. Nothing is left to chance.

The day arrived. The weather was ... undecided so it was best to leave the hat at home thinking that damp straw would not be a good look. By the time the team gathered in Dean's Yard the first mayors had already arrived and so we were off. Happily no-one was delayed so we were able to brief everyone at the same time. Unhappily, it started to rain so we opted for plan B which meant taking the procession in through the cloisters and not across the Sanctuary to the West Door.

The choir excelled itself, as usual, and the Dean's sermon was thoughtful and interesting to anyone whether of any faith or none: not easy to achieve.

Slipping away to check all was ready for the reception I made my exit from the Quire into the main body of the Abbey and was astonished to see so many people. The Dean had said that the service attracted more and more of the public each year and he was absolutely right: it was a very good turnout.

And then to the reception where, once everyone with special dietary requirements had been located, I could relax and enjoy my glass of wine. Many thanks from a novice organiser to Helen and my contacts at the Abbey and Westminster School who were very patient and to all who made the event such a success.

Report on LMA visit to Regent's Park Open Theatre

Brian Coleman

On 15th August 2016 a fine and warm summer evening, 61 Members of the LMA and their guests including our President, Cllr Steve Summers, The Lord Mayor of Westminster, descended on Regent's Park Open Air Theatre for a performance of 'Jesus Christ Superstar'.



The Mayor of Merton, Lord Lloyd-Webber and Cllr Oonagh Moulton

Although virtually an annual fixture these days in the LMA Diary, there is always great anticipation in advance of this visit due to the high quality productions which the Theatre is now known for. The artistic excellence and popularity among Londoners and tourists is due in no small part to the expert guidance of the Theatre's Board of Trustees expertly chaired by our Past Chairman, Councillor Robert Davis MBE, DL.

After a refreshing glass of Pimms and an excellent supper professionally catered by our Member, Jenny Bianco, the assembled guests were delighted to be joined by none other than the Show's composer, Lord Lloyd-Webber who posed for pictures with Members before sitting through his own show mouthing the words.

Apparently Councillor Robert Davis had lunched with the multi-award winning Composer the week before in Majorca (as you do!) and invited him to pop in knowing that he would be at the theatre that evening.

Those of us who had read the many positive reviews were anticipating a musical treat. We were not disappointed, the quality of the cast especially, Tyrone Huntley playing Judas, the musicians and the staging meant that this production of what is now a 45-year old show was full of vitality and punch as well as musical high spots. The well-deserved standing ovation from the packed audience saw many mayoral chains rattling.

Many LMA Members commented on what a perfect evening they had enjoyed, the weather, the food, the production and the company of friends had all been excellent. Thanks to Robert Davis, Jenny Bianco and her team and the efficient staff of the Open Air Theatre for making it a delight to organise this event.

Tip for LMA Members if we go next year, apply early for tickets as sadly six members had to be declined as over-subscribed.

Jenny Bianco's Coronation Chicken Recipe

Jenny has kindly agreed to share her famous Coronation Chicken recipe which those who attended the performance of 'Jesus Christ Superstar' were lucky enough to enjoy in the pre-theatre supper.



The LMA Journal would like to take this opportunity to thank Jenny Bianco for providing such delicious food for the LMA over the years, making each event extra special.

Coronation Chicken

- 4 chicken breasts
- vegetable stock cube
- 2 tbsp honey
- 3 tbsp curry powder (mixture of madras and medium)
- 3 tbsp white wine
- 4 tbsp mango chutney
- 225ml good quality mayonnaise
- 100ml double cream

Place chicken breasts in an ovenproof dish, brush with olive oil and season, dissolve vegetable stock cube in a pint of boiling water and pour over chicken. Place in oven 180°C uncovered and poach for 25 mins. Cool in stock.

Make the sauce-simmer the curry powder and honey together in a small heavy based saucepan for a few minutes-watch carefully because it catches and burns easily. Add wine and chutney and cook for a further 3 minutes, then leave to cool.

When completely cold, stir the curry mixture into the mayonnaise. Whip the cream and then fold into the curried mayonnaise. Slice or dice the cold chicken and mix with the sauce.(If possible, leave the Coronation Chicken overnight in the refrigerator.) ENJOY

Cllr Oonagh Moulton, Mayor of Merton 2010-11



London Borough of Merton

Merton is a diverse borough with busy town centres in Wimbledon, Mitcham & Morden and large open spaces such as Wimbledon Park and Morden Park and lots of smaller parks and recs as well as the large Commons of Mitcham and Wimbledon. Merton also has some fascinating historical sites from Merton Abbey Mills, the Clock Tower and picturesque Cricket Green in Mitcham plus the famous Windmill on Wimbledon Common and pretty Wimbledon Village complete with two riding stables. However it is probably most famous for being the home of one of the world's greatest sporting venues – The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club (AELTC).

Congratulations on being elected as Vice-Chair of the LMA.

I was delighted to be elected as Vice-Chairman of the London Mayors' Association in June last year. I have responsibility for events and have enjoyed helping to organise the Annual Dinner and overseeing a variety of London trips with Belinda.

You have been a local councillor for some time and are Shadow Leader of Merton Council, can you describe your Borough and give us details of particular places of interest?

I was first elected Councillor for Wimbledon Park Ward in Merton in 2002 15 years ago in May. In that time I have served on a variety of committees and scrutiny panels. I have held Shadow Cabinet and Cabinet roles in Children and Education portfolios. I was first elected Leader of the Conservative Group in May 2013 and have just been re-elected for 2017-18.

What were the highlights of your year as Mayor?

I was honoured to be the Mayor of Merton, an extraordinary year in which I enjoyed meeting so many unsung heroes, children and organisations from across the Borough.

Highlights: The opportunity to be released from meetings and to get out and meet so many extraordinary people and supporting organisations.

Highlight of the year: Invitation to attend the Royal Box for the opening day of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships. Tom (my Consort) and I were treated to lunch with Mr & Mrs Federer – Roger's parents and then he treated us to five sets of superb tennis. That year the opening day on Centre Court went on until just before 11pm when finally Djokovic beat his opponent in another thrilling match. By that time I was left sitting in the Duke of Kent's seat and everyone was on tenterhooks as their planning conditions stipulate that play has to stop at 11.00pm.

You must have a hectic life with a full on career and a family. Do you have time for any hobbies or special interests that you can share with us?

I have a very full on life but when I can I enjoy spending time with my husband and friends and our three boys, walking our family dog and trying to fit in aqua workouts. I would like to get to the theatre more which I love but in recent years I have come to value Nordic Walking on Wimbledon Common as a great way to clear the head and blow any cobwebs away. **BD**

Tom Moulton

The Journal met Tom Moulton to discuss the very important role of the Consort – what would we do without our Consorts and Mayoresses who give us such support during our Mayoral Year?



Tom was Consort to Cllr Oonagh Moulton, Past Mayor of Merton I started by asking him about the highlights of being a Consort.

Tom says there were many highlights including meeting a broad range of wonderful people in the community who worked as volunteers and changed other's lives for the better. He stresses how humbling it was to meet these people.

The Journal asks Tom if he can describe 'a day in the life' of the Consort to the Mayor of Merton. Tom tells me that he maintained his day job and usually therefore accompanied Oonagh in the evenings and weekends. Typical weekend events centred around meeting volunteers who do public service and worthy beneficiaries.

Tom's advice for new Consorts is to get to know London and all its 32 Boroughs and ensure you get copied into the briefings given to the Mayor ahead of the event you are attending. By doing some of your own research and preparation with the Mayor, the Consort will be set up to give more support to the Mayor and being well-informed ensures you can give more to the event and those you are meeting.

BD

The terrorist attack on Westminster and Service of Hope

Clare Whelan

Much of this Journal records enjoyable events our LMA members have attended, joyous occasions where we have celebrated the Mayoralty or enjoyed the company of other Mayors and former Mayors. But there are more serious occasions when it is important for the Civic Mayoralty to show solidarity across London and to demonstrate to citizens and visitors alike that we will not surrender to terrorism or hostile acts against our city and its people.

The London Mayors' Association joined many people throughout the world in condemning the terrorist attack on Westminster, expressing condolences to the bereaved and sympathy to all affected by those events. The LMA pays tribute to those who showed such great courage in the face of the cowardly attack; our police, the emergency services and the public. First of all, we must be proud that Londoners responded resolutely to the unprovoked assault on our great city. It is also a source of pride that at short notice the London Mayors' Association, through Pat Clark's good offices, ensured that every Borough in London was represented at the moving Service of Hope at Westminster Abbey following those events

These sad events reinforced the importance of the Mayoral role in showing strong community leadership, helping all citizens feel a sense of belonging to their place and celebrating and encouraging the forces for good in their boroughs. We congratulate all those Mayors who so visibly demonstrated this in the days following the attack, as they do on a daily basis.

Cllr Nadia Shah, Mayor of Camden 2016-2017



Cllr Nadia Shah, is at 37 the youngest Mayor out of the 32 London Boroughs and the first female Mayor of Bangladeshi origin. Nadia is a Councillor for Regent's Park Ward and was elected in 2014.

The Journal meets her after her Wednesday Citizenship in her Mayor's Parlour in Camden Town Hall which looks directly onto St Pancras Station. There is a portrait of The First Earl of Camden painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds RA hung over the mantelpiece.

Nadia started off in banking but found her real metier when she was very young in volunteering with young children and was very happy to return to it, having decided to quit banking despite early promotion.

The Borough of Camden is actually a combination of three Councils, Holborn, St Pancras and Hampstead. She is proud to represent such a diverse Borough consisting of so many different cultures which they are truly happy to celebrate.

Camden hosts many Universities – SOAS University, University College London, Central School of St Martins and of course the London icon, London Zoo! Camden is also home to Camden Lock, Regent's Park and Primrose Hill, The British Library, British Museum, The Crick Institute as well as Open University.

Nadia has chosen as her charity the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families, started by Sigmond Freud's daughter which helps children and young people suffering from depression and mental health issues. The theme of Nadia's year goes back to her roots with volunteering in her younger days, having a child and adolescents theme. **BD**

The Borough Forum

Sean Brennan

The LMA's new constitution required the Executive to establish a borough representative Forum with the aim of moving the Association forward by creating stronger links between the Executive and its borough members. The new Chairman, Clare Whelan, asked LMA Vice Chairman Ronnie Barden to set up the Forum. He invited Sean Brennan, Linda Kelly and Graham Holland to join him on the Steering Group. Ronnie will be chairman and Sean leader of the Forum.

It was decided that a team of approximately ten to twelve Co-ordinators with responsibility for two or three boroughs would provide the initial framework. They would work with their own borough plus one or two others. They would establish links with a recent former Mayor, ideally still a serving councillor, who would then establish links with the current Mayor and Mayoral office or secretary. Ten potential co-ordinators were invited to join and all agreed.

The inaugural meeting took place in late January. It was a very positive and productive meeting. The purpose of the forum was very central in the discussions and we came to the following conclusions:

1. A communications network between the boroughs and the Executive.
2. To assist the Mayors in office and their officers.
3. To enhance and widen the reach and status of the LMA.
4. To encourage the boroughs to support their Mayoralty especially now where staffing has been cut back.

The inaugural meeting of the Forum with co-ordinators and their borough representatives will be arranged once they are in place.

The Executive places great importance on the success of the Forum, especially in present circumstances. Progress so far has been very encouraging with positive responses from a number of boroughs. It is very much work in progress at present but there is much enthusiasm and support for its success.

Kevin McGrath DL, Deputy Lieutenant for Hammersmith and Fulham



Kevin is Deputy Lieutenant of Hammersmith and Fulham, taking over from Sandy Cahill a couple of years ago. He was also High Sheriff of Greater London in 2014/2015.

Can you let LMA Members know about the role of Lord- and Deputy-Lieutenants? The title Lord-Lieutenant is given to the British monarch's personal representatives in each of the United Kingdom's ceremonial counties. They have performed various tasks throughout history including raising local militia units and numerous ceremonial duties.

Today the responsibilities of Lord-Lieutenants include:

- arranging visits of members of the Royal Family and escorting royal visitors;
- presenting medals and awards on behalf of the sovereign, and advising on honours nominations;
- participating in civic, voluntary and social activities within the Lieutenancy; and
- liaising with local units of the armed services and their associated cadet forces and youth groups.

Deputy Lieutenants carry out many of these responsibilities in their Boroughs.

Were you born in Hammersmith and Fulham and what else do you do apart from this role? I was brought up on the White City Estate before moving to East Acton in my teenage years. I am a chartered surveyor by profession and run a commercial property investment company. I am also involved in several charities particularly in the areas of criminal justice; the arts, cancer and education.

You are famous for having started the Clink restaurant in High Down Prison Sutton, how long has it been going for and what inspired you to start it? We started work on the project in 2007 and the restaurant opened in 2009; we now have four restaurants in Highdown; Brixton; Cardiff and Styal prisons as well as two horticultural programmes and an events operation.

BD

Lunch for Mayoral Support Staff



Margaret Humphrey, Camden, Eileen McQuaid, Brent and Ita Hartzenberg, Hammersmith and Fulham

On November 10, 2016 44 guests sat down to lunch cooked by the wonderful Jenny Bianco and hosted by our President Cllr Steve Summers, Lord Mayor of Westminster.

After a speech by Clare Whelan the LMA's new Chairman, everyone feasted on mediterranean chicken and tiramisu cooked par excellence by Jenny.

Those who run the Mayor's offices of the 32 London Boroughs, as well as Joe and Ed, who look after the Lord Lieutenant were invited. They all work long hours to keep their Mayors' offices running like clockwork. Thanks must go to Pat Withers for organising everything from the Lord Mayor of Westminster's office.

Helen Watson, the previous organiser of this lunch for many years, also made an excellent speech. **BD**



2016-2017 London Mayors' Association Officers and Executive

Chairman:	Mrs Clare Whelan OBE DL FRSA
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr Ronnie Barden, Cllr Oonagh Moulton
Treasurer:	Mr R A Kerslake (Tony)
Secretary:	Mr Graham Holland
Vice-Presidents:	Mrs Lurline Champagne OBE Honorary Alderman Dennis Doe Mr Peter Gardner Cllr Heather Johnson Cllr Catherine Rideout
Executive Committee:	Mr Michael Adeyeye Mr Bob Belam Mr Sean Brennan Mr Brian Coleman Cllr Bryan Collier MBE Cllr Belinda Donovan Cllr Jean Lammiman Cllr Edith Macauley JP MBE Cllr Hardial Singh Rai Cllr Mark Shooter
Civic Service Organiser:	Mrs Pat Clark

The London Mayors' Association Year 2017-2018

2017	
Saturday 3rd June	New Mayors' Induction Day
Tuesday 11th July	New Mayors' Reception
Thursday 20th July	London Mayors' Association AGM
Tuesday 1st August	Regent's Park Open Air Theatre Supper followed by performance of 'A Tale of Two Cities'
Thursday 7th September	Visit to the Old Bailey, followed by tea
Saturday 9th September	Rifle Shoot, afternoon, Ham near Richmond
September	Thank you event for Mayoral Support staff (date tbc)
Sunday 15th October	London Mayors' Association Civic Service, Westminster Abbey
2018	
Monday 1st January	LNYP, London New Year's Day Parade
Saturday 3rd February	London Mayors' Association Annual Dinner
March	Whittington Walk (date tbc)
7th-10th March	LMA visit to Milan and Verona, Italy

Do we have your membership details?

Bob Belam

Last December we asked you to complete a membership information update form.

Many of you have kindly returned them to me and I have been able to change addresses, email addresses, telephone numbers and in many cases add mobile numbers we never had.

Thank you to all those who responded.

With over 1,200 members it is difficult to keep track of you all, and we know you like to keep up with information, even if you are no longer able to participate in some of our visits to wonderful places.

Sadly, we also found that a number of members had died, and we were still sending information.

With this in mind can I please ask you to send any changes to me at:

Bob Belam, 92 Douglas Avenue, Walthamstow, E17 5BW or email bob.belam@gmail.com



