



JOURNAL

2018



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Editors
Cllr Belinda Donovan
Clare Whelan OBE DL
Assisted by John Whelan

© London Mayors' Association
www.londonmayors.org.uk
@LDNMayorsAssoc
10 Rose & Crown Yard
London SW1Y 6RE
email: chairman@londonmayors.org.uk

Do we have your membership details?

We recently 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

The London Mayors' Association

Clare Whelan OBE DL FRSA,
Chairman, London Mayors' Association



Clare addressing the LMA at the Whittington Walk

WELCOME to this year's London Mayors' Association Journal; a record of some the highlights of the past municipal year, 2017-18.

On 4th December 1900, the then Mayor of the City of Westminster, His Grace The Duke of Norfolk KG called together a meeting of all the Mayors of the Metropolitan Boroughs (the Inner London Boroughs), the object being to discuss matters of common interest and protocol. This was the start of what has evolved into the London Mayors' Association which welcomes as full members those who share the common bond of being Mayors and former Mayors of all the boroughs of Greater London and the City of London.

The Association is non-party political. It aims to support the Mayors of the day, to be an advocate for the civic mayoralty and to be an excellent membership association organising a variety of events throughout the year including an annual service in Westminster Abbey, an overseas visit, annual dinner and other events of interest to its membership.

This Journal records some of the highlights of the year which begins, as municipal years do, in May. I hope you will agree this represents a considerable amount of activity for an organisation run entirely by volunteers.

Our thanks to Cllr Belinda Donovan who has commissioned and written many of the articles in this edition, to John Whelan for his help with the editing, to Pat Clark and Jean Lammiman for proof reading, to Richard Nixon for both his patience and his design skills and to Destination Events for the support it gives to the LMA including with this publication. Our thanks also to all those who have helped organise events throughout the year, written articles or supplied the photographs.



The 2017-18 Mayors' induction

Meeting the Lord Mayor of Westminster

Belinda Donovan



Cllr Ian Adams, Lord Mayor of Westminster and President of the LMA

CLLR IAN ADAMS, Lord Mayor of Westminster and President of the LMA (2017-2018) invited the Journal to interview him about his role as the Lord Mayor of Westminster.

The Journal talked to Cllr Ian Adams, Lord Mayor of Westminster and President of The London Mayors' Association, shortly after taking office in his stunning new Mayor's Parlour with a bird's eye view over Trafalgar Square.

Cllr Adams has been on Westminster Council for 16 years, representing Little Venice Ward and is married to Chris, his Lord Mayor's Consort who he has been with for 23 years. They are the first same sex Lord Mayor of Westminster and Consort.

Cllr Adams tells me that he has just hosted in his Parlour a thank you lunch for sponsors of West End Live, which takes place in Trafalgar Square in June.

Cllr Adams was involved a great deal with the local community prior to becoming Mayor and tells me over tea, sipped from his beautiful china from the Mayor's Parlour, how great an honour it is to be Lord Mayor of Westminster.

7th December marks the lighting of the Norwegian Christmas Tree's 71st year – the Mayor of Oslo, together with the Choir are attending a celebratory reception at Westminster City hall for the first time after the Christmas Tree lighting.

The Lord Mayor's favourite event so far was the State Visit by The Spanish Royal family, he tells me that it was surreal to be on the dais in the middle of Horseguards Parade being introduced by The Queen to The Queen of Spain with Prince Harry also present.

Cllr Adams then describes how The Spanish royal family remarked that they had seen him in three consecutive days wearing three different outfits, firstly his

Westminster blue robes, the next day his red Robes which he wears in his capacity as Deputy High Steward of Westminster Abbey and the third evening when he was wearing white tie and tails.

During London Pride week The Lord Mayor hosted a Reception for 200 at Westminster City Hall.

The Lord Mayor especially enjoys visits to local schools and he also greets visiting ambassadors. There are approximately 1,000 Lord Mayoral Events per year.

Cllr Adam says that his two Charities are Age Uk Westminster – he tells me that they are expanding their befriending service, such a wonderful idea for elderly people who might have few friends and family, and The Social Mobility Foundation which gives six formers from a deprived background work experience places that they would not otherwise get.

Westminster comprises the merged boroughs of Marylebone and Paddington. Westminster has three maces that represent each past borough. Cllr Adams pays tribute to his Consort Chris who is being such a vital asset to his Year as Lord Mayor of Westminster.

London Mayors 2017-18

WELCOME to these pages showing the Mayors, Chair, Speakers and Civic Ambassador who served their boroughs during the Municipal Year 2017-2018.

Wandsworth had two Mayors during the Municipal year as Cllr Jim Maddan OBE died in office in September 2017. Cllr Maddan was a popular mayor and dedicated public servant. He is sadly missed. The Lord Mayor of London took office in November, as is the custom in the City of London. His predecessor, Dr Andrew Parmley was featured in last year's journal.



Cllr. Charles Bowman
The Worshipful Lord Mayor of the City of London



Cllr. Ian Adams
The Worshipful Lord Mayor of the City of Westminster



Cllr. Julie Pickering
The Worshipful Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames



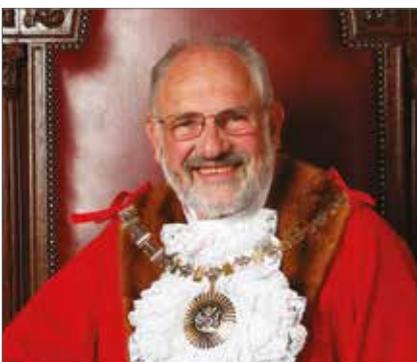
Cllr. Marie-Therese Rossi
The Worshipful Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea



Cllr. Peter Brooks
The Worshipful Mayor of the Royal Borough of Greenwich



Cllr. Abdul Aziz
The Worshipful Mayor of Barking & Dagenham



Cllr. Brian Salinger
The Worshipful Mayor of Barnet



Cllr. Peter Reader
The Worshipful Mayor of Bexley



Cllr. Bhagwanji Chohan
The Worshipful Mayor of Brent



Cllr. Kathy Bance
The Worshipful Mayor of Bromley



Cllr. Richard Cotton
The Worshipful Mayor of Camden



Cllr. Toni Letts
The Worshipful Mayor of Croydon



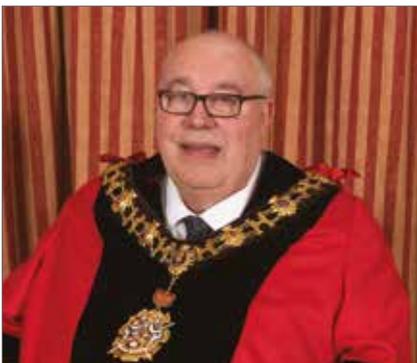
Cllr. Simon Woodroffe
The Worshipful Mayor of Ealing



Cllr. Christine Hamilton
The Worshipful Mayor of Enfield



Cllr. Soraya Adejare
Speaker of Hackney



Cllr. Michael Cartwright
The Worshipful Mayor of Hammersmith & Fulham



Cllr. Stephen Mann
The Worshipful Mayor of Haringey



Cllr. Margaret Davine
The Worshipful Mayor of Harrow



Cllr. Linda Van den Hende
The Worshipful Mayor of Havering



Cllr. Elizabeth Carol Melvin
The Worshipful Mayor of Hillingdon



Cllr. Sue Sampson
The Worshipful Mayor of Hounslow



Cllr. Una O'Halloran
The Worshipful Mayor of Islington



Cllr. Marcia Cameron
The Worshipful Mayor of Lambeth



Cllr. Obajimi Adefiranye
The Chair of the Council of Lewisham



Cllr. Marsie Skeete
The Worshipful Mayor of Merton



Cllr. Joy Laguda
The Civic Ambassador of Newham



Cllr. Linda Huggett
The Worshipful Mayor of Redbridge



Cllr. Lisa Blakemore
The Worshipful Mayor of Richmond
Upon Thames



Cllr. Charlie Smith
The Worshipful Mayor of Southwark



Cllr. Jean Crossby
The Worshipful Mayor of Sutton



Cllr. Sabina Akhtar
Speaker of Tower Hamlets



Cllr. Yemi Osho
The Worshipful Mayor of Waltham Forest



Cllr. Leslie McDonnell
The Worshipful Mayor of Wandsworth

New Mayors' induction

TAKING OFFICE can be a steep learning curve for even the best prepared incoming Mayor, Chairs, Speakers and Civic Ambassador. The London Mayors' Association Induction Day is a chance for those newly in post to learn from those who have been there.



The 2017 Mayors together for the first time



The Lord Lieutenant of Greater London

Every Mayor puts their own stamp on the mayoralty, and every borough is different but the Induction Day, led for many years by Lurline Champagnie OBE, gives an overview of such issues as protocol, chairing a Council meeting and developing and improving community engagement. Most of all, it is an opportunity for incoming Mayors to meet others of 'their year'.

The link between the London Mayors and the Greater London Lieutenancy is an important one and we had as our guest speaker the Lord Lieutenant of Greater

London, Ken Olisa. Thanks to the President, the Lord Mayor of Westminster, the well-attended 2017 event took place in the new Westminster City Council building at 5 The Strand; so new in fact that no one else other than the Lord Mayor had moved in.

We had the building to ourselves and the LMA team admirably rose to the challenge of bringing in kettles and equipment to make the day a big success. Thank you to all the Mayors who attended and to the team that made it such a useful and enjoyable event.



Listening intently



Featuring last year's Journal

New 2017-18 Mayors get a warm welcome

Brian Coleman



THE LONDON MAYORS' ASSOCIATION welcomed an incoming batch of Mayors and their consorts with the traditional drinks reception on July 11th 2017.

Our President The Lord Mayor of Westminster Councillor Ian Adams hosted the event at his new (temporary) suite of rooms at 5, The Strand. While Westminster City Hall is being refurbished the Lord Mayor has a fine parlour overlooking Trafalgar Square.

Sponsored by the LMA's good friend Bob Bone and the London New Year's Day Parade, which is such a key event in the life of our City, Bob took the opportunity to

issue invitations to boroughs to take part in the 2018 Parade.

London Mayors' Association Chairman Clare Whelan OBE DL welcomed the 2017/18 cohort of mayors to office and hoped they would all enjoy participating in the LMA's activities not just during their mayoral year but for years to come. She stressed the unique nature of the LMA and its history stretching back over 100 years as well as its packed programme of events.



The first social event and a foretaste of London's New Year's Day Parade

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times" LMA visit to Regent's Park Open Air Theatre

Brian Coleman



THIS IS THE familiar opening line of the Charles Dickens novel 'A Tale of Two Cities'. The modern day version has been dramatised by Matthew Dunster and staged at the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park in front of 60 LMA members and friends on 1st August 2017.

It had received mixed reviews from the critics and apparently a sex scene had been cut – several past mayors expressed disappointment at this. However, after a hearty supper of Jenny Bianco's excellent Coronation Chicken and a thankfully dry evening a sold out party from the LMA ensconced themselves in the stalls and wondered how much the set of three metal haulage containers had cost? Having accepted the "modern touches " including the fact that the actors playing Sydney Carton and Charles

Darnay looked nothing like each other those of us who stayed to the end rather enjoyed the production and were quite moved by the conclusion.

The LMA has attended a range of productions at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre over the years, where our former LMA chairman Councillor Robert Davis does such excellent work as chairman of the board of directors. As London mayors we are used to taking all sorts of drama in our stride.



Pre-theatre supper enjoyed by all

LMA seminar and lunch for mayoral support staff

The London Mayors' Association is indebted to the London boroughs' mayoral support staff for all the help they give throughout the year. It is also conscious that many Councils are no longer able to staff the mayoral offices in the way they did in previous years. The London Mayors' Association was keen to say 'thank you' and, at the same time, help spread knowledge and good practice across the boroughs.

We therefore held a lunch and seminar at the London Park Plaza Hotel, Westminster Bridge

with topics covered including a briefing about mayoral practice and protocol as well as information about the London Mayors' Association. It was well attended despite it being the same day as the horrendous Parsons' Green tube attack which disrupted several attendees' travel plans. The event was made possible by the generous sponsorship of London's New Year's Day Parade and was much appreciated by all who attended.

Mayors visit the Old Bailey

Belinda Donovan



Charles Hentey, the Secondary for London, our tour guide for the day

There can't be many people who have been served tea by the Consorts to two Sheriffs and the Secondary and Under-Sheriff at The Old Bailey.

35 members enjoyed this unique experience of tea in the Judges Dining Room at The Old Bailey followed by an incredibly detailed and fascinating tour including No 1 Court where Crippen was tried; we even paid a visit to the cells.

A special thank you to Charles Hentey the Secondary for London for such a superb tour and Lindy Estlin, Consort to Sheriff Peter Estlin, who represented The Lord Mayor for this event and Hilary Russell, Consort to the Sheriff William Russell. Between them we were treated royally.

We were incredibly lucky to be present at this event, The LMA



Members of the LMA at the Old Bailey

would like to thank The Lord Mayor, Dr Andrew Parmley for making this possible.

London Mayors' Annual Rifle Competition 2017

Hon Alderman Denis Doe



The Captain receiving the winner's shield presented by the Mayor of Hillingdon

THE ANNUAL London Mayors' Rifle Competition has been held at the rifle range of the Ham and Petersham Club since 1920 and the 2017 competition, held on September 9th was the 107th.

All five competing Boroughs were represented by members of their Mayoralty. We also had the pleasure of the company of Philip Saunders, a senior officer of the Corporation of London.

The winning team from Ruislip, representing the LB of Hillingdon, were worthy winners, and on the day were clearly the most successful shooters both in accuracy and the time taken to hit

all 24 discs. Runners-up were the LB of Wandsworth, followed by the RB of Kingston upon Thames, the LB of Barnet, and the LB of Richmond.

There is a lot of work required by the members of the Ham & Petersham Club to make this event successful on the day and they look after us marvellously, ending with their customary excellent buffet.



The Captain of the Ruislip team, Mike Phipps, receiving the huge Dawnay Cup

Celebrating the Civic Service at Westminster Abbey

Pat Clark



Photographs by kind permission of Westminster Abbey

DO YOU EVER THINK, "What will happen when ..."? I can't say I had given much thought to what would happen when Jenny Bianco retired from catering for the Civic Service, although I knew change was coming when I took on the organising role. I obtained a list of approved caterers from Westminster School, sent off three requests for drinks and canapés quotations and got on with other things.

The first quote came back. John heard my shriek of dismay and peered over my shoulder at the screen. "How much? You'd have to charge £60 a ticket." The other two quotes were no better – at which point I needed a stiff G&T.

I reported to the officers and we decided the necessary increase in ticket price was out of the question so we'd drop the canapés and just go for DIY wine and nibbles. Graham Holland generously volunteered to organise the wine and glasses loan and I arranged to borrow a friend's discount card with a view to leaving every Costco within a 20-mile radius a nibble-free zone. Then came the planning meeting at the Abbey.

The Dean remembered that Jenny had retired from this particular annual engagement and asked how we were getting on with finding a replacement. The Abbey team were incredulous at the prices we had been quoted (and our DIY intentions) and the Dean offered the Abbey's services in arranging for their caterers to provide their standard wine and "nuts and bolts" nibbles. Clare and I had but a single thought – "The Dean saves the day!" – and accepted gratefully. Phew.

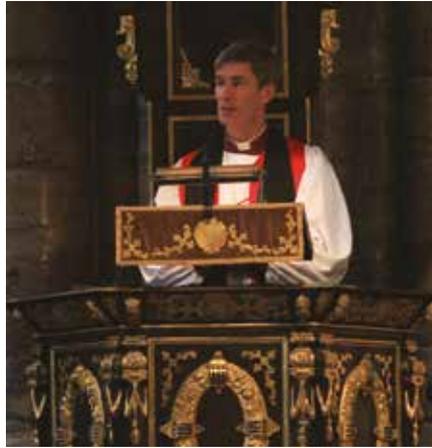
The other news we had for the Abbey was that St Paul's were hosting a special service on the same day ("but, don't they know it's *our* day?") and the Mayors were invited to that as well. This did cause some concern at first but their later service time allowed for the Mayors to attend both.

As always the Service took place at the evensong celebrating the feast of the Dedication of Westminster Abbey, which this year fell on 15th October 2017. For the second year running we had a full house of Mayors and they had a wonderfully sunny afternoon for their procession across the Sanctuary to the Abbey. When all were seated the choir's introit floated through the air like the voices of angels and we were underway. It is always a very special service and this was no exception. Bishop Tim Thornton, the Bishop at Lambeth gave the sermon, recording his thanks for all those who serve as Mayors and demonstrating an impressive understanding of the role and its contribution to our communities. We were joined at the service by members of the Greater London Lieutenancy.

At the reception I was asked if I would be doing it again next year. I do hope so, and that my team of helpers will be happy to assist again. Thanks are due to them, the Committee and the Abbey team, who were very patient, and to Helen Watson whose help and advice last year stood me in good stead for this time. Roll on October.



Scenes from the Civic Service & Reception



Scenes from the Civic Service & Reception



Scenes from the Civic Service & Reception

The Borough Forum meets to support the civic mayoralty

Sean Brennan



IN THE IMPRESSIVE surroundings of the Caledonian Club in Belgravia (courtesy of Stuart Thom) the first Borough Forum reception took place on October 24th 2017.

The successful evening was attended by senior members of the London Mayors' Association including the Lord Mayor of Westminster (President), Clare Whelan OBE DL (Chairman), Ronnie Barden (Vice Chairman) plus Mayors, coordinators, and borough representatives.

In her opening remarks the Chairman welcomed everyone and said how delighted she was to see so many able to attend such an important occasion. The Forum had her full support and she was keen to see its success with every borough participating.

Ronnie Barden (Chair of the Forum) outlined the Forum's success to date with the majority of boroughs participating. He acknowledged the good work of the coordinators and thanked the representatives for volunteering. He reminded everyone that in recent years we have seen the Mayoralty and civic role of the Mayor come under pressure in most boroughs because of difficult budget decisions being made by Councils. Although the effects varied in degree from borough to borough; reductions in officer and office support, budget cuts, travel restrictions, and the lack of continuity were common experiences.

With deep concern and in response the London Mayors' Association established the Borough Forum. Its aim is to set up and establish a network of London Mayors' Association representatives in each borough who are either a Full or Associate member and willing to assist and advise current incumbents. They will be available to provide support and advice to the Mayor and officers as required. They will also play an important dual role by relating news and information from the London Mayors' Association while providing feedback from the mayoralty and borough to the Association.

The borough representatives are supported by a team of coordinators who each have responsibility for two or three boroughs. The full Borough Forum of representatives and coordinators will meet at least once a year. It was a most enjoyable and informative evening with outstanding refreshments from the Club.

Robes and regalia unveil their secrets

Belinda Donovan

JUST A STONE'S THROW from Chancery Lane Underground Station you will find the oldest gentleman's outfitters in London. With its records going back officially to 1689 when Coronation robes were made for King William and Queen Mary this is indeed a special shop.

It is thought that the shop was in business at least 20 years before 1689 as a newly opened shop with no track record would hardly be commissioned to create Coronation robes.

Ede & Ravenscroft do not usually give interviews but made an exception with the LMA Journal so we were very fortunate.

The Journal meets Chris Allan in his fabulous shop. (Ladies: a visit next door to the adjoining shop where I caught a glimpse of some breathtaking outfits for special occasions would be a 'must')

Ede & Ravenscroft have made no less than Coronation Robes for 12 generations of monarchs as well as robes for Earls and Peers but the Journal is here to talk to them in their capacity as purveyors of Mayors' Robes, and at one time Deputy Mayors' Robes as well.

Chris also says that his firm makes the impressive blue robe for our President, the Lord of Mayor of Westminster, the same model is used to clothe The Lord Chancellor, The Speaker of the House of Commons, The Lord Speaker, The Master of The Rolls, The Lord Justices of Appeals The Lord Mayor of London and The Chancellors of The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.



At this point we talk about storage of Mayors' robes, especially those that are decorated with fur which can crack if allowed to become wet. If the fur does get wet then Chris recommends drying it out slowly for three to five days in a well-ventilated room with no additional heat, hanging such a garment near to a boiler or heat has been found to ruin the fur.

When not in use Mayors' robes should be stored at 65 degrees and dry cleaned by their shop ideally once a year. Mayoral robes should last 60 to 70 years if stored correctly.

Ede and Ravenscroft also make and can clean the white frilly 'ruff' that Mayors wear. I learn from Chris that these 'ruffs' are called 'jabots' which is a French term.

I am completely entranced by this wonderful shop – to visit it is like stepping back in time – I admire an ermine clad creation hanging up near to me which is identified as an Earl's regalia.

Thank you to Chris Allan for allowing the Journal a special visit to such a fabulous shop.



'London Welcomes the World' London's New Year's Day Parade & Festival

**DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO TAKE PART IN THE GREATEST PARADE
IN THE GREATEST CITY IN THE WORLD**

PARADE THEME LINKS LONDON TO GLOBAL VILLAGE

London's New Year's Day Parade 2019, will celebrate Britain's multi-cultural Capital and outward-facing ethos.

The theme for the turn-of-year tradition will be – "London Welcomes the World".

And we really do. Millions of people from all five continents – Europe, Asia, Africa, The Americas and Australasia – are represented here, both in our population and in our visitors.

In our great city more than 250 languages are spoken, highlighting just how London really is the most diverse and inclusive city in the world.

London boroughs, from across the capital, will be given the opportunity to showcase their distinct form of diversity, history and show the world opportunity and friendship abounds.

"This will be a celebration like no other – London has always welcomed the world and is open for business" said LNYDP Executive Director Bob Bone.

"London boroughs have been massive supporters of the parade throughout our 34 year history – and we will give them a platform to show their proud heritage and kaleidoscopic cultural make-up."

All London boroughs are eligible to submit entries and are offered £1,000 seed money in the process. Those voted in the top ten by judges and the public share a prize fund of £50,000.

More than £2 million has been raised to date for London charities.

The Parade has benefited London's economy by an estimated £1 billion pounds in the last decade alone – with 5,000 overseas performers and hundreds of thousands of tourists coming to the event each year .

The event on January 1st, which is expected to attract 500,000 to the streets of London, will be distributed live to more than 600 TV stations.

London's New Year's Day Parade runs from Piccadilly (at Green Park Station) to Piccadilly Circus, Regent Street, St. James's, Pall Mall, Trafalgar Square and along Whitehall to Parliament Square.

The Parade plays prominent part in a full week of celebration, (London's New Year's Day Parade & Festival) which includes orchestral, choral and street performances in iconic London locations.

LNYDP is free to all – but grandstand tickets will be available from TicketMaster from the 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.

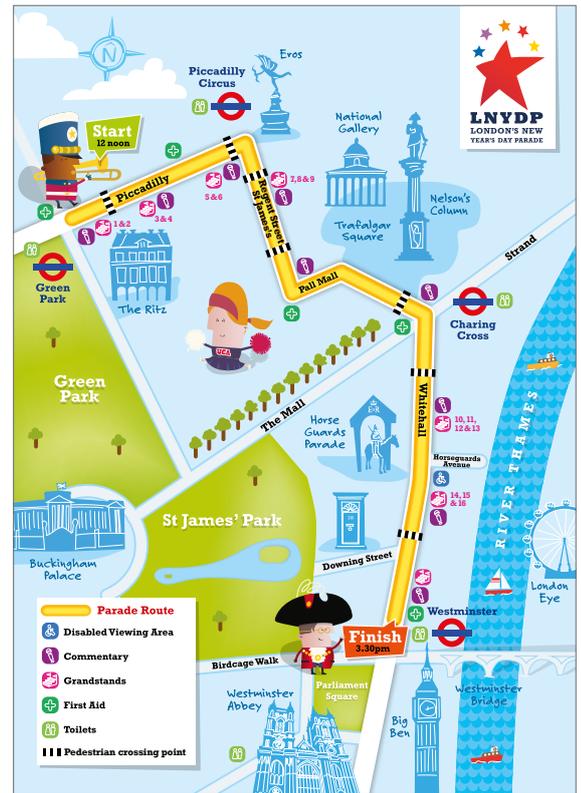
- Boroughs compete for a share of a £55,000 prize pot with the public and a VIP panel of ambassadors and high commissioners picking the prize winners
- Boroughs that enter the event are given £1,000 seed funding to get their entry started
- Destination Events will donate hundreds of tickets for its superb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

LNYP 2018 with its 'SHOWTIME, Roll Up, Roll Up, to the Greatest Show on Earth' theme, saw the City of Westminster win the coveted first prize.

Their stunning 'Westminster's World of Panto' wowed the crowds, the judges and the world.

The Winners for LNYP 2018 Competition were:

- 1st The City of Westminster
- 2nd The London Borough of Harrow
- 3rd The London Borough of Hounslow
- 4rd The London Borough of Barnet
- 5th The London Borough of Sutton
- 6th The London Borough of Barking & Dagenham
- 7th The London Borough of Lewisham
- 8th The London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- 9th The London Borough of Enfield
- 10th The London Borough of Merton



Celebrating the London Mayors' Association Annual Dinner 2018

Belinda Donovan

THE LONDON MAYORS' ASSOCIATION 117th Annual Dinner was held on 3rd February 2018 at The Corinthia Hotel, Whitehall, London. The annual dinner has become one of the highlights of the LMA calendar and this year's dinner was no exception.

Organised superbly by Oonagh Moulton, assisted by Pat Clark and to a lesser extent by your Editor, the Corinthia Hotel welcomed no fewer than 19 sitting Mayors. In addition to the Lord Mayor of Westminster they represented the boroughs of Kingston, Kensington & Chelsea, Barnet, Brent, Bromley, Croydon, Ealing, Enfield, Hackney, Havering,

Hillingdon, Hounslow, Lewisham, Merton, Southwark, Sutton, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest and Wandsworth.

As always, The Corinthia Hotel's menu was superb but this year's was particularly delicious. We feasted on smoked duck with a surprise twist – a cashew nut butter garnish, perfectly cooked lamb served in an outstandingly delicious 'jus'. For those of us with a sweet tooth the dessert was sheer perfection, a delicate white chocolate meringue filled with poppy cream with enough poached fruit garnish to make us feel virtuous.

Outstanding speeches were given by Clare Whelan, our hard working Chairman, as well as our President, Cllr Ian Adams, The Lord Mayor of Westminster, who highlighted the huge amount of work that mayors do in the community to help bring about community cohesion.

Our Guest Speaker, Wing Commander Mike Dudgeon, OBE, DL, Vice Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, gave an extremely inspiring and fascinating speech about his life as an RAF Helicopter pilot both at home and abroad and lately at NATO's rapid response Team. Commander Dudgeon then became Deputy Lieutenant of Hammersmith and Fulham and was promoted to Vice Lieutenant of Greater London, in typically modest style he described believing the letter giving his promotion as Vice Lieutenant was for another individual and was about to forward it on when he realised it was indeed meant for him.



Guests at the Annual Dinner



Guests at the dinner including guest speaker Wing Commander Mike Dudgeon OBE DL (top left)



Guests at the Annual Dinner



To obtain photos go to allweddingspluskids2.co.uk and find "LMA dinner 3.2.18" where a wide selection of photographs are available for purchase.

Guests at the Annual Dinner

LMA visit to Milan, Verona and Como

8-11 March 2018

Rosemary Markham

Day 1 – Thursday, 8 March

Despite the general strike in Italy the majority of our 80-strong party arrive at some time during the day – all pleased to see the smiling faces of Bob and Geri Bone. The Una Cusani Hotel is ideally located for visiting the historical and religious sites of this lovely city. A glass of prosecco, the first of many on this trip, and we enjoy a great lunch.

At 4.30pm we begin a guided coach tour around Milan, including an impressive modern shopping complex and to see a 'green' tower block of apartments with plants and trees on every balcony and on the roof. It is contributing to the fight against pollution in the city – perhaps a thought for London and other cities throughout the UK? The drive eventually takes us to the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie

where we are to view The Last Supper painted by Leonardo da Vinci between 1495-1498. It is a truly amazing and awe inspiring painting, the colours are fantastic and the whole experience very moving. We are extremely fortunate to have this after hours private viewing organised by the City of Milan for the London Mayors' Association as there is a long waiting list for tickets. Our 15 minute slot passes all too quickly and we are back on the coach on the way to an excellent dinner at the El Brellin Restaurant located in the historic Navigli District of Milan.

Dinner over we are taken back to the hotel where the majority choose to head for bed and the rest to the bar.



The LMA was privileged to meet civic leaders

Day 2 – Friday, 9 March



A busy programme

We wake to beautiful sunshine – long may it continue. Breakfast over we all meet in reception and are divided into our tour groups. With such a large party the eight group leaders are going to have to act as 'sheep dogs' keeping everyone together.

Today we are visiting the beautiful Duomo, which took nearly six centuries to complete and is the largest church in Italy. It also occupies what was the most central site in Roman Mediolanum, that of the public basilica facing the Roman forum. It is breath-taking, the height of the nave, the columns, the stain glass windows, the remarkable trompe l'oeil painting of the ceiling – how they did it at such a height is beyond comprehension, it is awesome. After the Duomo we go to the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II – the world's oldest active shopping mall and a major Milan landmark. Shall we buy shoes, bags, clothes at Prada, Gucci, Yves St Laurent, Versace or Louis Vuitton? I wish, or do I really, it's great to window shop. We hurry along to the Civic Hall (Palazzo Marino) for a welcome by the Chairman of the City Council of Milan, Mr Lamberto Bertole, in the lovely Alessie Hall. Before we leave and after the gift exchange and group photo in the Council Chamber, we are given a talk about the history of the Palazzo which is renowned for its grandeur and decoration.

As well as the history, we are told about a bomb in 1943 which totally devastated the ceiling, the floor and rooms below the Alessie Hall. We are even shown a photo of the Wellington bomber that carried out the raid. Using old records, drawings and photographs the Alessie Hall has been totally restored to its former glory – it is quite magnificent. After lunch at the hotel we gather for a walk to the Sforza Castle and Brera district. The castle was built in the 15th century

by Francesco Sforza, Duke of Milan, on the remnants of a 14th-century fortification, magnificent in size and structure with two vast courtyards. The small museum houses The Rondanini Pietà, a marble sculpture that Michelangelo created between 1552 and the end of his life in 1564. In the same room is a death mask of the sculptor – taken apparently a week after he died, but almost un-believable because he looks so young although he must have been in his late 80's when he died (1475 - 1564).

Despite the sunshine, the wind chill is quite something so some of us opt for a delicious coffee in one of the nearby restaurants while others visit the Brera area known as the artistic part of the city where they found many small artisan workshops and shops. The National Library, the Astronomical Museum, and the Botanical Gardens are in this part of the city.

Tonight we take a short walk to the Quattro Mori Restaurant where we have yet another excellent meal, this is turning into a gourmet experience as well as civic trip.



Day 3 – Saturday, 10 March

Today we are visiting Verona, so we gather in reception at 8.30 a.m. as it is a long drive. Because of the worsening weather conditions part of the walking tour is abandoned, however we do stop on the outskirts of the town and take a short walk to visit the enormous Church of San Zeno Maggiore. There are three large aisles supported by impressive pillars in red Veronese marble. The tiled floor and wall paintings are wonderful and we have time to stand and admire them – the age, colour and clarity are amazing.

Back on the coaches we are dropped off close to the Civic Centre. The square is large with an area of trees and plants and a pretty fountain in the middle. We disembark and walk across to the entrance to the Civic Centre and then into the room where we are welcomed by the Mayor, Mr. Mario Landriscina. After the customary speeches, gifts are exchanged and we have another group photo on the steps, fortunately the rain stops for just long enough. We have an hour to shop and stroll around the town before lunch at the Nastro Azzuro restaurant, located just off the main square. Sadly, the weather deteriorates, and it is wet; a few of us brave the rain, but then decide to make tracks for the restaurant where we find at least 75% of our travelling companions already there. Once again we are spoiled with excellent food and wine.

At 3.00pm it's still raining but we start our official tour of the town which takes us first to the Roman amphitheatre which totally dominates one side of the square. The arena is one of the world's greatest examples of a complete piece of Roman architecture and standing in the middle of the arena I could imagine the noise and excitement of days gone by as the crowds awaited the arrival of the gladiators and the lions. From the

amphitheatre we make our way to see the building and famous balcony where Shakespeare's Juliet is supposed to have called out "Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo".

The courtyard is packed with tourists and the balcony a little too new looking for my liking, however at least we can say we have been there. We walk through small squares and past lovely buildings, through the market place buzzing with people looking and buying at the colourful stalls, and on to a church with some fabulous monuments outside. They contain the remains of three of the Della Scala family who ruled Verona during the late 13th and the 14th centuries. Moving on we reach the Church of Sant' Anastasia, another beautiful building with amazing bronze doors. Known as being the place where Shakespeare's ill-fated lovers, Romeo and Juliet were married, it's the architecture which impresses; the soaring columns and important frescoes by renowned 13th-century artists. There is a font at the base of one of the columns which is supported by a crouching man – the statue is quite beautiful and somehow moving.

We then make our way back to the main square to join the coaches for the journey back to Milan. Tonight, we are to enjoy a 4-course dinner in the hotel – it proves, like all the meals we have had, to be excellent. Dinner over and it is time to pack as our bags must be in reception by 8.30am the next morning.



More sightseeing

Day 4 – Sunday, 11 March

Today we are going first for a tour of La Scala Opera House and then on to Como. Sadly it is raining and the bad news is that it is not going to get any better. Bob organises the coaches to take us round to the Opera house, it is just too wet for us to walk.

The interior has recently been refurbished, it took four years to complete during which time all productions were transferred to other venues around the city. It is beautiful, and the visit is interesting. Seeing the auditorium and going through the museum full of old musical instruments, props, busts of singers and actors, paintings and costumes.

Rudolph Nureyev danced on this stage; one forgets that the opera house is used for ballets, shows and concerts as well as operatic performances. Back on the coaches, with the rain pelting down Bob tells us that Como is worse – it's such a pity.

The drive to Como takes about 90 minutes and we are thankfully dropped only a short distance from the city hall. Having left our umbrellas in a pile by the door, we climb the stairs to the reception hall where we are welcomed by the Mayor. He has invited other senior colleagues from the region and councillors to join him for the session. They each talk to us and the dedication to bettering their city comes across loudly. Eventually gifts are exchanged and we all receive information about Como 'in the sunshine' to take away. We walk down to the harbour and board two boats for a tour of the lake. The guide tells us all about the owners of the villas, it is so wet that it is difficult to see the buildings even with the windows open but is an enjoyable trip around the lake nonetheless. Back on 'wet' land we walk around the harbour to the restaurant, trying to avoid the puddles and rivers flowing

across the roads and pavements. Many of our fellow travellers are already there having opted for a cup of coffee in the warm rather than the boat trip. The L'Antica Riva Restaurant, is charming and we are made welcome – well done the Bones again. The perch from the lake on a bed of cheese risotto – is delicious. The almond sponge cake with chocolate sauce to finish is just too lovely. It was a classy meal and much enjoyed by everyone. The wine flowed and time was forgotten until Bob B appears at our table telling us to get moving or the City Airport people will miss their flight. It is still pouring with rain as we emerge from the restaurant clutching our umbrellas which are soon put up as we scuttle towards the coaches waiting at the central bus station.

We get to our seats and settle for the journey back to Milan Linate airport in atrocious weather, which must have been a nightmare for the drivers.

The London City Airport group make it to the gate and on to the plane just in time and those going to Heathrow check-in with time to spare.

Once again this has been another successful, informative and enjoyable (if slightly soggy) LMA overseas visit. I am sure that everyone will agree that the Bone family and Destination Events did a great job in arranging and managing the trip. Roll on next year.



Enjoying Italy's cuisine and culture

Game, set and match at Wimbledon

Belinda Donovan



Cllr. Marsie Skeete, The Mayor of Merton

THE MAYOR OF MERTON and 39 other Members were given a tour of the most iconic of tennis clubs worldwide, The All England Lawn Tennis Club on March 13th 2018.

Starting with coffee in the impressive 'Rolex' Suite – our two tour guides showed us round this incredible club which is steeped in history, starting off from humble beginnings as a croquet club then becoming the internationally-renowned club that it is today.

We then returned to the Rolex Suite to hear a fascinating talk by Roger Taylor MBE, three-times

Wimbledon semi-finalist, on his amazing career – thank you to Oonagh Moulton for asking him to attend.

The Rolex Suite Caterers did us proud and after a truly delicious lunch we were then offered a tour of the Wimbledon Museum which rounded off a fabulous day. A real highlight of the LMA Calendar.



Members of The LMA in the Press Box at Wimbledon



Members of The LMA at Wimbledon

Introducing The Guild of Mace-Bearers

Belinda Donovan



Keith Simpson, Renter Prime Warden of The Guild of Mace-Bearers

THE JOURNAL met Keith Simpson, Renter Prime Warden of The Guild of Mace-Bearers who in February became the first Prime Warden from the Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

Keith was installed by the Mayor of Hammersmith and Fulham in a ceremony in the Council Chamber followed by a dinner locally. He then stepped into the all important role of training all new mace-bearers countrywide on protocol and offering advice. Mace-Bearers are custodians of the Mayor's regalia including robes, hats, jabots, white gloves, as well as the advisors to each Borough Mayor on correct etiquette and protocol. The main training session for new mace-bearers is held in February but Keith is happy to travel by train anywhere in the country to give advice to newly installed mace-bearers.

Keith tells me that prior to the mace being used to represent the monarch in each Borough by being paraded ahead of the Mayor, they were used in court to guard the monarch and also as a weapon.

I am sure that none of us would relish being on the 'wrong' end of a Mace in a battle.

If the monarch is present then the Mace is carried with its head away from the monarch. No one should get in the gap between the mace-bearer and the mayor in a procession. The mace is called the 'Sovereign Head'.

Many maces are beautiful works of craftsmanship. The oldest maces are owned by the Royal Borough of Kingston and Wootton-Bassett.

Keith tells the Journal that it will be the greatest pleasure to be the Prime-Warden and any Borough mace-bearers who want to ask advice about etiquette or how to look after regalia should email info@macebearer.com



The Renter Prime Warden with his colleagues

The London Mayors' Whittington Walk 2018

Graham Holland, Chief Steward – London Mayors' Association Whittington Walk

WHEN I WAS ASKED if I would take on the role of Chief Steward for the London Mayors' Association Whittington Walk in 1993, little did I think that I would still be at the helm 25 years later.



Ready to walk

This year's Whittington Walk took place on Sunday, 8 April 2018. A record number of Mayors confirmed that they would be participating led, as usual, by the Lord Mayor of London.

The Lord Mayor, Alderman Charles Bowman, resplendent in his crimson robes, and supported by his two Sheriffs (and dogs) welcomed mayors, speakers and civic dignitaries and consorts, wives, supporters, and families at the Whittington Hospital's Turning Point Restaurant. Our thanks to Graham Brogdan, and his team, for their hospitality.

After the group photograph taken by the industrious Mario Yanez, the Lord Mayor led the walkers to the statue of Whittington's cat for the traditional pictures.

There were some differences during this year's walk. And one of them became apparent quickly – the rain. For only the third time in those 25 years, umbrellas were unfurled.

The first break came at Islington Town Hall where the Mayor, Councillor Una O'Halloran, provided refreshments for the 80-strong group, for which we were all grateful.

Another change this year was in the new route after leaving the Town Hall. Instead of going through New North Road, the walkers continued along Upper Street. We walked past the attractive 12th century St Mary's Church, through the narrow-cobbled alleyways, with quaint shops and restaurants, while having conversations with bemused locals and onlookers who wanted to know what the robes and chains represented, and why civic dignitaries were getting wet on a Sunday afternoon. Explaining the story of Dick Whittington by going back to events in the 13th century to the eclectic mixture of overseas visitors did prove interesting, to say the least.

The new route continued down the City Road, passing by The Eagle PH, made famous by Anthony



The Lord Mayor of London and Mayor of Islington lead the way



Before we start

Photographs by kind permission of Mario at All Weddings+Kids2 07984 155316

Newley's hit of the 1960s, Pop Goes the Weasel'

After being met by the Lord Mayor's police officers at the City boundary, the Lord Mayor led the walkers into the Mansion House, where an excellent lunch was provided for everybody in the magnificent Egyptian Room. We would like to thank Constable Graham Burke, from Islington police station, who provided the essential police support on the day.

Following lunch, the Lord Mayor of London presented certificates to participating mayors. He and his wife, together with the sheriffs, were thanked for their support on this fundraising event for all the London mayors, speakers and civic dignitaries by the Chairman of the London Mayors' Association, Clare Whelan OBE, DL.

In spite of the weather, which failed to dampen the enjoyment of all those who participated during this fund-raising event, this was once again an event where mayors and civic heads in London were able to enjoy each other's company.

The date for the 2019 Whittington Walk will be confirmed to mayoral PAs by the end of this year. We look forward to meeting as many mayors and civic heads as possible, and hope that it will provide a first-class opportunity to raise funds for individual mayoral charities – irrespective of the weather.



On our way



At Mansion House



Steve Hitchins addresses LMA members



The walkers assembled on the steps of Islington Twon Hall



All Mayors receive Certificates



Joined by Pearly Kings ...



... and others



More scenes from the walk

Meeting Rt Hon the Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Charles Bowman

Belinda Donovan



The Journal interviewed Charles Bowman Lord Mayor of London for 2017/18 shortly after he took office in November.

Meeting over a cup of coffee in his Lord Mayor's Parlour I admire a superb cake which has just been presented to him from The Baker's Livery Company depicting a lawn of grazing sheep.

Charles tells the Journal that his inspiration to become Lord Mayor of London happened when he was aged seven and was brought by his father who worked in the City to watch the Lord Mayor's show and hopes that other young people will be inspired by his year in office.

A chartered accountant by profession Charles, who previously studied architecture has been with Price Waterhouse Coopers for 34 years.

Charles tells the Journal what an amazing honour it is to take up the mantle of Lord Mayor and that he has three objectives for his year in office.

Firstly, as a key business ambassador for London he would like to help in securing the best possible deal for Brexit.

Charles's second aim is to bring back the all important element of trust to business.

The third is to reshape the Lord Mayor's Appeal for a better City for all. Three chosen charities now span three Lord Mayor's year's in Office from 2018-2020.

The Lord Mayors' charities for the next three years to span three Lord Mayors are 'OnSide Zones', 'Place2be' and The Samaritans.

Charles will have 100 days abroad this year, flying the flag for British business and will make almost 800 speeches during the year.

Among the places he will visit are China, India, Asia, Japan and Canada to name but a few. Nearer

home Charles will also visit centres of excellence in the UK, to include Manchester, Edinburgh and Belfast.

How wonderful to have during one's year in office also a royal engagement and announcement of a wedding which he was very much looking forward to.

Charles tells the Journal that Aldermen and Common Councillors are non political and compete personally against each other for City Wards unlike councillors in local boroughs who usually compete against another political party. Alderman and Common Councillors have unpaid roles.

Charles and his wife Samantha have two daughters and they all moved into Mansion House on 10th November and had Christmas at Mansion House with a flurry of Christmas duties. They intend to take their daughters to as many appropriate Lord Mayor's events as they can.

Samantha and their daughters rode at the Lord Mayor's Show, indeed Samantha rode sidesaddle, the last person to do that was a woman called Sarah Trail some 30 years ago.

Mansion House has been the Home of the Lord Mayor for the last 200 years and was built in 1753, prior to that Lord Mayors of London lived in their own homes.

Charles Bowman has an incredible year in store with the idea of inspiring the next generation foremost in his and his family's plans.



2017-18 LMA Officers & Executive Committee

President:	Lord Mayor of Westminster, Councillor Ian Adams
Chairman:	Mrs Clare Whelan OBE DL
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr Ronnie Barden Cllr Oonagh Moulton
Treasurer:	Mr R A Kerlake (Tony)
Secretary:	Mr Graham Holland
Executive Committee:	Mr Michael Adeyeye Mr Bob Belam Mr Sean Brennan Mr Brian Coleman Mrs Lurline Champagnie OBE Cllr Bryan Collier MBE Cllr Belinda Donovan Mr Peter Gardner Cllr Jean Lammiman Cllr Ian Payne
Working Vice-Presidents:	Honorary Alderman Dennis Doe Cllr Heather Johnson Cllr Edith Macauley JP MBE Mr Brian Schama Cllr Hardial Singh Rai

The LMA Year 2018-19

2018

Saturday 2nd June	New Mayors' Induction and Information Day
Tuesday 19th June	New Mayors' Reception
Wednesday 11th July	Marlborough House visit
Thursday 19th July	London Mayors' Association AGM
Tuesday 7th August	Regent's Park Open Air Theatre Supper and performance of 'Little Shop of Horrors'
Saturday 8th September	Rifle Shoot final. Ham near Richmond
Tuesday 11th September	Tour and Tea at the Guildhall, City of London
Sunday 14th October	London Mayors' Association Civic Service, Westminster Abbey

2019

Monday 1st January	London's New Year's Day Parade
Saturday 2nd February	London Mayors' Association Annual Dinner
February/March	Heath Robinson Museum visit (<i>date tbc</i>)
March/April	Whittington Walk (<i>date tbc</i>)
28-31 March	London Mayors' Association Overseas Visit to the Netherlands

LNYDP Festival Concert Series

LNYDP – London's New Year's Day Parade & Festival is one of the world's greatest New Year spectacles. With up to 10,000 performers from across continents, hundreds of thousands of spectators, and a 'live' TV audience of several hundred million, it has entertained London and the world over the New Year festivities (29 December – 2 January) for 30 years.

As part of London's New Year's Day Parade and Festival 2016, Youth Music of the World are proud to present a series of amazing concerts in this superb venue, starring some superb international bands and orchestras.

2018-19 Performances

LNYDP Festival Concert Series

Saturday 29 December 2018

Southwark Cathedral, 12.30pm

Cadogan Hall, 7.30pm

St. John's Smith Square, 7.30pm

Sunday 30 December 2018

Cadogan Hall, 7.30pm

St. John's Smith Square, 7.30pm

Monday 31 December 2018

Southwark Cathedral, 1.00pm

LICF Festival Concerts

Wednesday 2 January 2019

St. John's Smith Square, 7.30pm

Westminster Central Hall, 8.00pm

For more information on all our concerts, please visit lnydp.com



