

The Lamp

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For the Nursing Profession - Past, Present and Future

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Welcome to the Winter newsletter. My year as Master is simply flying by and it has been and still is, a great privilege to represent the Company of Nurses as it continues to progress. This newsletter highlights just a small proportion of the work that is undertaken by the Company and also gives information related to our progress to Livery. When I attend events in the City, the Company is very warmly welcomed by other Livery Companies and our presence is being felt in this community. Support for the Company is reflected in the gift of some beautiful goblets which are shown on page 3.

As you will be aware we have recently launched a new initiative, the Friends of the Company scheme, to enable those who are not eligible to join us as Freeman to become part of our community and support the Company's endeavours. There is more information about this on page 2.

We held a "Road to Livery" event online in November last year. Many of you were able to join us to hear about some of the work that goes on behind the scenes and that John Allen, our Honorary Clerk, myself and the Court are working hard to ensure we have everything in place for the next steps to obtain Livery status. Please read page 3 of this newsletter where there is information about becoming Free of the City of London. This is something that Freeman can do in anticipation of the day when we become the Worshipful Company of Nurses. To become a Liveryman to a worshipful company it is a prerequisite to be "Free of the City".

With a career as a University Lecturer and having previously chaired the Education and Professional Development Committee, I was personally delighted when the Company was able to launch its Coaching and Mentoring programme in December. The scheme is run by experienced coaches and mentors from within the Company's membership. It provides a bespoke and personal confidential service to individuals that may not be available elsewhere. There is more information about the scheme on the website.

To progress to Livery, we must be able to show our continued support for the Lord Mayor, City of London and Livery. I must confess that I was slightly daunted when completing my application



"I am sending my warmest wishes to you all"

to join this year's Lady Mayoress' Sleepout in Guildhall Yard. The sleepout is a fundraiser with 50% in aid of the Pret Foundation who tackle hunger, poverty and homelessness and the remaining 50% in aid of The Lord Mayor's Appeal and its beneficiary charities, some of which focus on mental health issues which are often one of the main causes of homelessness. Please think of me on the night of the 16th March and, if you can support me in this fundraiser, you can sponsor me by using the Lady Mayoress' Just Giving page here <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/felicity-lyons3>.

If you use this link above, please also notify us via clerk@companyofnurses.co.uk so that we can keep a record of donations made.

Thank you for your continued support of the Company and for reading this newsletter.

With best wishes

Julia Mingay, Master, The Company of Nurses

DIARY DATES

| | |
|------------|---|
| Fri 24 Mar | United Guilds' Service, St Paul's Cathedral |
| Wed 29 Mar | Education & Professional Development Event |
| Wed 26 Apr | Annual Assembly |
| Thu 27 Apr | Tour of Guildhall & lunch |
| Thu 4 May | Anniversary Banquet |

More dates on the website



Welcome to our new Freemen

PENELOPE CHAFER . AMY COOK . ELIZABETH FENTON . JANET LEWIN . JOHN LOGAN . EMESI OSHO . DIANA TOOLEY . MICHELE WHEELER . WENDY ADAMS . NATALIE FORREST . CAROLINE LEES . SARA LISTER . LUCILLE MCKENZIE . SUSAN READING (PENNY) . MARGARET REDWAY . MARIE RICHTER . RUTH BAILEY . HELEN BARLOW . JANE COLES . JAYNE COOPER-JONES . RASHNE EVERINGTON . SHARON GORDON . RUTH HAWKER . LEANNE HARVEY-THOMPSON . SABINA KELLY . ALEXANDRA MINTER . CECILIA ORCHARD . ERNEST VAN PENUELA . DIANNE YARWOOD . GEOFFROY LESSI-HIGGINS . NICOLA BENNETT-JONES . MARK GILBEY-CROSS . IRENE HEYWOOD JONES . ALISON HILL . EMMA HOBDEN . CAROLINE HUFF . CAROL KEFFORD . ALISON MCCOURT . LYNN MCCULLAGH . MICHAELA MORRIS . FELICITE MURRANT . JUDITH PASHLEY . JANE PATTEN . CAROLYN PILKINGTON . SUZANNA ROSE . PUJ HAN SIN . JANICE STEVENS . RACHELLE TAYLOR . DUNCAN WHITE . ANGELA WILLIAMS

Welcome to our new Freemen who have made their declarations since May 2022. Growing a strong and healthy membership is a requirement for our progression within the Livery. We welcome all nurses who are or have been on the nursing or midwifery register, whether currently working, retired or working in a completely different profession.

Ceremonies are held in the City of London and depending on the time of day may be followed by afternoon tea, drinks reception or a formal dinner. Freemen make their declaration to the Master and their family and friends are most welcome.

"Please encourage any nurses you know to join us, full information how to join including membership forms are on the website"

Janet Oxlade Chair Membership Committee

FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF LONDON

Liverymen constitute the core of a Livery Company - Freemen of the Company of Nurses are encouraged to become Liverymen as soon as we become a Livery Company. To become a Liveryman, Freemen must have obtained Freedom of the City of London. Over 100 of our Freemen have already done this. These very special ceremonies take place in the Chamberlain's Court at Guildhall. Freemen read the 'Declaration of a Freeman' and sign the Declaration Book in front of their invited friends and family. Afterwards, there is the opportunity to view interesting items, photographs and artefacts given by the Livery, including our gift of a Florence Nightingale replica lamp.



Further information is on our website, from the Honorary Clerk (honoraryclerk@companoyofnurses.co.uk) and on the Livery Committee website (www.liverycommittee.org)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Following discussions with the Worshipful Company of Information Technologists, the Information Technologists' Hall has recently become a permanent home for the Company of Nurses. The Hall will provide meeting rooms and storage space including a display area for the Company's increasing collection of treasures.

Postal Address: The Company of Nurses, Information Technologists' Hall, 39A Bartholomew Close, London EC1A 7JN

FRIENDS OF THE COMPANY OF NURSES

As with most modern Livery Companies, the Company of Nurses is entirely profession based and admission to the Freedom of the Company is limited to those whose names are or have been entered on the Nursing and Midwifery Council Register, or equivalent regulatory body. However, this doesn't prevent others from supporting the Company.

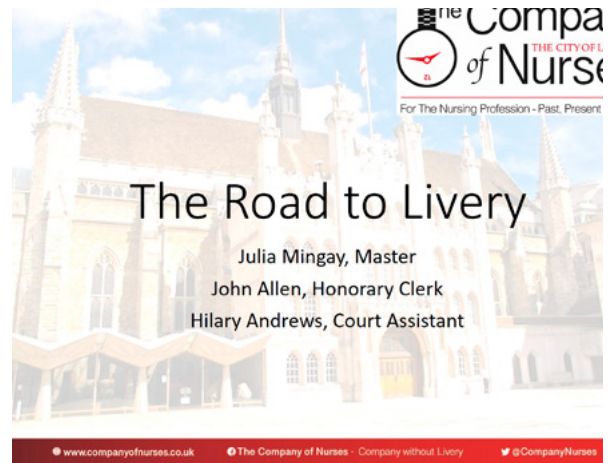
In January 2023 a new scheme was launched so that individuals, businesses and 3rd sector organisations can support our endeavours, thus helping to promote the nursing profession and its values in perpetuity.

Paul, one of the first applicants to become a Friend of the Company has told us why he wanted to join this scheme

“My wife is a nurse (she was a Sister at Guy’s Hospital ICU) and through her, I have learnt so much over the years about what it truly means to be a nurse. Even when they stop formally practising as a nurse, they never stop BEING a nurse. They are an example to all of us and deserve the utmost respect. My wife joined the Company of Nurses and I have attended a couple of events and it is so uplifting to see the amazing work that is being done already, and what the Company has planned for the future and for when full livery status is gained. The Company is very engaged in supporting the current profession – something that is, of course, especially important at the moment. I am honoured to be one of the first Friends of the Company, and greatly look forward to continuing to support the Company and the nursing profession in the future”.

By becoming part of a very special community, Friends of the Company will be able to apply for tickets to our open events and will receive our regular newsletters, so that they can keep in touch with our progress.

We urge you to spread the word of the Friends scheme amongst your friends and family. More information and an application form to download are all available on the website. If you would like further details, please contact friends@companyofnurses.co.uk



THE ROAD TO LIVERY - THE NEXT STEPS

There are 110 Livery Companies in the City of London - the 110th is the Worshipful Company of Arts Scholars who attained livery status in 2014. New Livery Companies start as a Guild and if they meet certain requirements can progress to be a Company without Livery. The Company of Nurses is now working hard to ensure we are ready to be considered for the next stage, to become the Worshipful Company of Nurses.

The early Guilds can trace their origins back to the 12th Century, the Weavers' Company attained their Charter in 1155. By 1515 there were 48 Companies, bringing people together to promote and regulate their crafts and services and maintain high standards. In the modern day, Livery Companies still have the same ethos, to support their trade (profession), education, charity and fellowship. Livery Companies have strong ties with the City of London and the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs are elected annually by Liverymen. The reach of Livery extends outside the City of London and there are Guilds and Companies all over the UK, including York, Shrewsbury, Bristol, Glasgow, Dundee, Edinburgh, Wales and further afield in Dublin, Switzerland and North America.



SUPPORT WITHIN THE LIVERY - PRESENTATION OF GOBLET

These beautiful goblets have been gifted to the Company by the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries and the Barbers' and Cutlers' Companies as a gesture of their fellowship and support. They will be displayed at formal dinners and are a wonderful addition to our growing collection of treasures. The gift demonstrates the fellowship and the genuine support that has been shown to us by the health-related Livery Companies.

They were received by the Master, accompanied by the Immediate Past Master, Wardens and Honorary Clerk at a dinner at Barber-Surgeons' Hall.



SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICE TO CELEBRATE ETHEL GORDON FENWICK SRN 1

Ethel Gordon Fenwick SRN campaigned for the introduction of the nursing register 101 years ago and set up what became the Royal British Nurses Association (RBNA). A service of thanksgiving was held at Thoroton Church in Nottinghamshire to celebrate her life and recognise the restoration of her grave. This was the culmination of over 5 years work by the Ethel Gordon Fenwick Commemorative Partnership, a group of nurses and other interested parties who collectively sought to raise the profile and status of State Registered Nurse number 1.

The RBNA entrusted its funds to the Company of Nurses Charitable Trust in 2020 so these funds can continue to be put to good use as intended by its original benefactors.



“The Rt Honourable Anne Milton, President of the RBNA and Elizabeth Wood-Dow OBE, President of the St Bartholomew’s League of Nurses, both Freemen of the Company of Nurses”.

MEMBERS DIRECTORY:

Over 200 Freemen are now listed on our Members’ Directory on the website and Freemen from Kent and Hampshire have met up. Do log in and see who lives in your area and if you do meet up with local members, please post a photograph on our Facebook page. If you are not listed in the directory please email clerk@companyofnurses.co.uk to be added.



WEBSITE

Our website is updated weekly with your pictures, news and events. View past educational events, watch the Road to Livery talk delivered by the Honorary Clerk, look at our forthcoming events and the photo gallery and read all about the Company and the Charitable Trust. Keep informed about our activities and engage with us through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

See <https://www.companyofnurses.co.uk/>

THE CHARITABLE TRUST:

The Charitable Trust is able to respond quickly to requests for help and examples of these are on the website. In our latest news section, we have a report from Mariana who works with the London Air Ambulance and is the Company scholar on the Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) Masters Programme in Prehospital Medicine.



LIVERY SNIPPET

