



THE FAN MAKER

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News from our affiliated school in Poplar



Lansbury Lawrence Primary School is in one of the most deprived areas of London. It was opened in 1951 as a showpiece of the Live Architecture Exhibition for the Festival of Britain. The Fan Makers has maintained close ties, over many years and currently three Liverymen serve on the Governing Body. Recent donations from the Poor Fund have contributed towards the purchase of multi-sensory equipment for the nursery.

The nursery welcomes 78 children from the age of two years in half day sessions. Such is its success that it is not always possible to offer all its children places in the main-stream school. The recent Ofsted inspection praised the rich learning environment and quality of pastoral care.

Owen O'Regan and the Senior Management team's response to Covid 19 has been truly impressive. Within days, home learning packs were sent to all children and on-line teaching was instigated whilst the school remained self-sufficient and open for children of Key Workers. Thirty lap top computers have been issued ensuring that all pupils have access to on-line resources.

School policies have been modified and an account manager has been allocated to every child to provide pastoral support to the families including seminars for parents. The breakfast club has continued to operate delivering pre-packaged meals to children at home.

Staff and parents have responded positively to its reopening plan which is focussed on getting back into a normal routine as effectively as possible. The School has now opened for Reception and years 1 and 6 for two days a week. Classes operate in "Bubbles" to minimise the crossover of staff and children between teaching groups. Mealtimes and PE classes take place in the playground.

The school has risen to the challenges with great enthusiasm and we applaud them for their successes. The school's web site is well worth a visit for further information. <http://lansburylawrence.towerhamlets.sch.uk/>

Liveryman Geoff Cannell
Governor of the School, Co opted onto the Court

Getting to know you: Members of the Company and their taste in music

The Almoner

John Allen



John was introduced to the Fan Makers by his father, Jim Allen (Master 1976) He was admitted to the Livery in 1971 and next year will be celebrating 50 years with the Company. His theme during his year as Master in 1998 was *Communication*, and he designed and produced the Company's first website and newsletter. In addition to being Almoner, he is currently Chairman of the Court Selection Committee. For him the Company has always been *'a haven where one can enjoy fellowship with others who share common values'*.

John served in the Metropolitan Police for 31 years. He attained the rank of Chief Inspector and was latterly a manager within the Royalty Protection Department at Buckingham Palace. His longstanding involvement with the Livery clearly influenced his choice of second career. He served as Clerk to the Cutlers' and Gunmakers' Companies and, although now retired, is Honorary Clerk to the Company of Nurses. He indulges in videography, shooting and magic.

My Inheritance Track:

'Jupiter' from *The Planets Suite* by Gustav Holst which allows me to explore the largest planet in our solar system from the comfort of my own armchair.

Follow us on twitter @Fan_Makers



Follow us on Instagram:

@worshipfulcompanyoffanmakers



Past Master

John Naylor



John was born into a family company of heating and ventilating engineers which in its heydays made heavy duty fans for the BBC and designed and installed all building services for the ground-breaking NatWest Tower in the City of London. John was introduced to the Fan Makers by his father Liveryman Donald Russell Naylor and admitted in 1987. He became the Master in 2015 and during his year his recurrent theme was to refresh the Company's ties with the modern mechanical fan industry in its many forms.

John graduated as a building services engineer and during his career has run construction and consulting companies and project managed major building developments in the UK and overseas . He has acted as an Expert Witness and worked with Boris Johnson when Mayor of London. John organized the annual Fan Makers/CIBSE Bursary Award at London South Bank University for building services degree students and represented the Fan Makers as a judge of the City of London Sustainable City Awards.

After leaving school John sought adventure in Australia. Starting as a jackeroo in Tasmania he proceeded to cut sugar cane and pick tobacco in northern Queensland before building a boat in Alice Springs and taking to the bush as a crocodile hunter. Returning home and before settling down John was hospitalized after fighting a bull in Spain (the bull won). John and his wife Jennie have three children and five grandchildren and have recently retired to live on the coast in West Sussex. John still loves to shoot, drink good red wine and research the extraordinary JFK era in America.

My Inheritance Track:

I'm a great Bob Dylan fan but now when I wonder what life has in store I'm uplifted by the pure wonderment of Peter Maxwell Davies and 'Farewell to Stromness'.

Lord Mayor to talk to Fan Makers - 22nd July 2020

The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell, has accepted an invitation to be interviewed at 8pm on 22nd July. All Fan Makers and their guests are welcome to join what should be a memorable audio visual event. The Lord Mayor was unable to be with us last December at the Mansion House Banquet, so we are delighted he has been able to agree to meet us in our homes! We hope that many members of the Livery will be able to join the event. If you are not confident with the technology, please contact Martin Davies, our Honourable Clerk, who will be able to help you.

The History of the Fan Makers Company in 20 Objects

Like many Livery Companies, the Fan Makers has a collection of historic artefacts, some of which may be familiar to you, others not. The last two editions of *The Fan Maker* featured the Beadle's Staff, the Poor Box and two beautiful fans. In this edition we look at an unusual medal and a Chinese export fan.

Object no.5: The George V Coronation Medal. June 11, 1911



The Company has a long tradition of presenting fans to royal ladies to mark significant occasions, dating back to Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897 and continuing until the recent presentation in 2019 of a fan to the Duchess of Sussex to mark the occasion of her marriage. This George V Coronation Medal was presented to Past Master Oscar Berry in 1911, on the occasion he presented HM Queen Mary, on behalf of the Company, with a fan to mark the Coronation that year. The medal is inscribed around the rim with the words "Oscar Berry. Master Fanmaker. (Coronation) 1911. London." The fan resides in the Royal Collection. Oscar Berry is the great grandfather of Jonathan Bewes, our current Free Warden.

The medal was designed by the Australian sculptor, Bertram Mackennal, and it was the first time a Royal Commemorative medal had been struck. Made in Silver and measuring 1.3 inches in diameter, it was awarded to dignitaries, officials and members of the armed forces, both in Britain and the Empire.

Object no.6: The Crown and Monogram M Fan



*Chinese for export
Circa 1790
Ivory (2 + 28)
9 3/4 inches, 25 cm.
AR No. 111*

This fan is of a type made in China and exported to Europe via the East India Companies. It is very possible that it was especially commissioned for HRH Princess Mary, Duchess of Gloucester and Edinburgh (1776-1857) who was one of the eleven children of King George III and Queen Charlotte. Its central shield, carved and pierced with the initial M surmounted by a crown, would seem to suggest this.

The reserves are carved and pierced with pagodas within scrolled surrounds an overall the fan is decorated with roundels of flowers, leaves and tendrils. The tops of the sticks are carved with a circular motif and held together with a cream silk ribbon.

Provenance: Presented to the Company in October 1973 by HRH Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone. Formerly in the collection of the HRH The Duchess of Teck (1833-1897).

Brief Update from the Master

Strangely, time seems to be flying by, I believe that we have found a programme of interest for the Livery which seems to be engaging over half our membership. We should not be complacent on what we offer and I am always on the look out for new good ideas. I meet with other Masters once or twice a week sharing what other Livery Companies are doing. I have received a few suggestions from our members and I am always happy to receive more. As the year progresses we may try some new ideas.

The Livery's Management Committee is constantly looking for the right time to restart physical events, we want no one to feel obligated to attend, putting themselves at risk.

Rest assured when the time is right we will be back!

I hope that you and your families stay safe and well.

Colin Bramall, Master

Forthcoming Events (Free of Charge)

The Programme of events which we published in the newsletter delivered to your home in early March is clearly looking largely like a work of fiction, though we do hope for some form of resumption as soon as the Government believes it to be safe.

In the meantime we are organising a series of interviews and talks which are free of charge, these will include a Toast by a member of the Court to the Livery Company and the opportunity for you to join a Virtual Stirrup Cup where, in the comfort of your own home, you will be put at random into a group of four to six people to enjoy company of other Fan Makers. (Please bring your own bottle). There is no obligation to join the Stirrup Cup.

Success will be judged by when we meet again, you will know many more Fan Makers.

The events which we have in the diary at present :

Wednesday 1st July 7.45pm for 8pm Freeman Jacob Moss "*Street Fans*"

Wednesday 15th July 7.45pm for 8pm Past Master Paul Hoddinott will be in conversation with Liveryman Rob Owen OBE about the "*St Giles Trust*" which works to prevent young people join gangs and to aid the resettlement of those leaving prison.

Wednesday 22th July 7.45pm for 8pm The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell in conversation with the Free Warden, Jonathan Bewes

Wednesday 29th July 7.45pm for 8pm Liveryman Tom Saunders "*The Art of Decorative Painting*"

Wednesday 16th September 7.45pm for 8pm Owen O'Regan, Head Teacher, Lansbury Lawrence School

ALL THESE EVENTS ARE NOW OPEN FOR BOOKING THROUGH THE EVENTS SECTION IN THE MEMBERS' AREA - THE CLERK IS UNABLE TO TAKE DIRECT BOOKINGS

A Thought for the Day from Our Chaplain

This morning at my weekly clergy zoom meeting we are beginning to look at how we open up post-lockdown.

Please redouble your prayers and thoughts as to how we do this safely as a nation, without risking another spike.

The parish priest of my neighbouring parish is the same age as me and we were at college together. I remarked to the meeting that however grim I looked on zoom, he looked worse!

Loving our weekly meetings.

Stay safe.

Every blessing,

David Reindorp
Hon Chaplain