



# THE FAN MAKER

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## Life in Japan during the Pandemic



### The effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Japan by Freeman Kanji Isaac Ishizumi

*Fan Makers are truly global, in this article Freeman Kanji Ishizumi, Fan Maker to the Japanese Court, reflects on life in Japan during 2020*

It is Japan's traditions rather than 'AbenoMasks' that have kept the coronavirus death toll low

Despite the huge number of Chinese tourists who were in Japan during January and February this year, the country still has a very low death toll from novel coronavirus.

One could argue that it is just a matter of time until developments in Japan mirror those in Europe and America. One could also argue that Japan just does not perform as many PCR tests as the West does.

On the other hand, one might assert equally reasonably

that, rather than adopting the test-trace-treat policy, Prime Minister Abe just distributed two defective masks to every household in the country!

That said, in judging whether or not one country is more or less affected by coronavirus than others, it would seem fair to compare the respective death tolls in terms of differences regarding PCR testing and T-T-T policies.

At present, though, there is one indisputable fact: the death toll from coronavirus in Japan is still very low compared with that recorded in the West.

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and Dinesh Naidu

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## Special Appeal (Continued from Page one)

Below I outline some of the reasons why Japan is experiencing such a low death toll from coronavirus. I strongly believe that Japanese social and cultural traditions comprise the main and probably decisive factor in this situation. It definitely has nothing to do with the distribution of 'Abenomasks'!

1. The habit of wearing masks in trains, buses, offices, stations and other public places, which has been in evidence throughout the nation since long before the coronavirus outbreak.

2. The custom whereby people greet each other by bowing deeply without shaking hands, hugging or kissing. Bowing deeply by bending one's upper body, thus naturally maintaining a distance of at least two meters from the other person, as well as uttering one's greeting while facing downwards - this custom is most prevalent among elderly people. This factor has contributed most to the low death toll among elderly people in Japan.

3. The tendency not to speak with people one does not know when in a queue or in a public facility such as an elevator.

4. The tradition of not speaking loudly at parties or other social gatherings. Japanese people tend not to have parties at their homes because their houses, and hence their living rooms, are not big enough. There used to be the perception in the West that Japanese lived in "rabbit hutches", but at least such circumstances have enabled Japan to avoid the spread of coronavirus at parties held in people's homes.

5. The custom of covering the mouth with one's hand so as not to show one's teeth when speaking or laughing. In

the West, white and even teeth are a symbol of health or wealth. In Japan, by contrast, the unique practice of ohaguro, whereby the teeth are dyed black through a traditional process, existed until recently. Having one's teeth dyed black used to be something of a status symbol in Japan. Along with Japan, it was also a common practice in some other countries including the Philippines, Laos, Vietnam, Thailand, India, and China. Ohaguro has a long history which dates back to before the Heian Period (794-1185). Indeed, traces of dye on recovered bones and teeth have been discovered from the Kofun period (250-538). During the Edo period, which spanned the years from 1603 to 1868, it was also practiced by the most senior men in the aristocracy and by men who had imperial links. For those highly-ranked people it was considered to convey the message "I never serve but one master", and therefore it was regarded as rude to open one's mouth widely to conspicuously show one's social status and loyalty in speaking to other people. This custom of not showing one's teeth even if they are even and white still survives in contemporary Japan even though Ohaguro as a formal practice has more or less disappeared.

6. Wrapped food on display at convenience or supermarket stores, which supply most of the daily food for the entire population

7. The entrenched tradition of maintaining social distance to show respect and to enjoy tranquility, for instance as evident in tea ceremony seating arrangements.

8. The custom for Japanese ladies to cover their mouths with a fan or with the hem or train of their kimono when coughing, sneezing or laughing.

## Terry Waite to attend Fan Makers' end of year party



On the evening of 10th December we were due to meet together for the highlight of the Fan Makers' year, the

Mansion House Banquet. The Master's principal guest was due to be Terry Waite, who most will know for his nearly five years in captivity at the hands of Islamic Jihad in Lebanon, four of those years were in solitary confinement.

Since his release Mr Waite has supported a number of humanitarian causes and been a prolific writer.

Terry Waite has agreed to join us on the evening that we would have been together in the Mansion House. Put it in your diary, invite family and friends to join us for what should be a special evening.

Currently the format for the evening is being developed, but please bring guests, albeit in different locations and let's have a party with as many Fan Makers as possible present for an evening with a true national treasure

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

Continuing the series of pen portraits of members of the Court, this week we catch up with Messrs Assistants Christopher Turner and Bob Gatehouse

## Assistant Christopher Turner



Chris was introduced to the WC of Fan Makers by his Father Past Master Lawrence Turner and was thoroughly impressed with the ethos of Livery and the friendliness of the Company; he was delighted to be inducted in 2005.

After university he commenced a career in Pharmacy and it was during pre-registration training in hospital that he met his future wife Angela (a nurse) at a Halloween Doctor's Mess Party.

Following a short stint in retail he realised that his true interest was in pharmaceutical manufacturing and

proceeded to manage a sterile fluids and dressings facility. He later joined the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (Department of Health) in the Inspection and Enforcement Division. The role included the inspection of manufacturing sites in the UK and overseas specialising in Biopharmaceutical Products including vaccines, blood and tissue processing.

In 2004 he joined the family engineering business Static Systems Group Plc which designs, manufactures and installs life safety critical alarm systems predominantly for the NHS, prisons and export markets.

Married to Angela with two grown up children, home is in Shropshire, but they spend as much time as possible in Dartmouth where they have a second home and a sailing yacht. When time and weather permits they love to sail to the Channel Islands and the Brittany coast.

Other interests include skiing and music (especially opera).

My Inheritance Track\

Richard Strauss: Four Last Songs

It reminds me of a happy time travelling across France in a MG Midget with Angela during the early part of our relationship.

## Assistant Bob Gatehouse



Bob is a strong advocate of the Livery Companies and their heritage. Having been apprenticed to Westland Helicopters at the age of 15, part of his training included City and Guild qualifications that paved the way to University as part of a Graduate Apprenticeship Program. Daughters Katie and Rachel are following in similar footsteps as apprentices to the Fan Makers. Bob's son Alec is currently studying Fashion Buying and Merchandising at the University of the Arts, London and

will be introduced to the Fan Makers when Livery Dinners recommence.

Outside of the Fan Makers Bob has worked in Commercial Aviation for his entire career. He spent a decade in the USA working for Honeywell and then Boeing, with his wife Helen. Boeing moved the family to Belgium and then London. At this time Bob was introduced to the Fan Makers by Mick Thackeray, a Boeing colleague who has now retired to Seattle.

Most of the Gatehouse family's spare time is spent on the Solent yacht racing or motorboating. Recently he has been nominated as the next Rear Commodore Membership of the Royal Thames Yacht Club. In 2012 the family won the City Livery Yacht Club's Inter Livery Regatta, representing the Fan Makers. Bob has also organised the Fan Makers participation in two Lord Mayors Flotillas. As part of this activity a Fan Makers skerry was commissioned and placed with a charity supporting young people in Richmond. Bob has an outstanding action to set up a Rowing Society for the Company.

Bob has played an active role in the Livery, Recruitment and Young Members Committees for the Company.

My Inheritance Track:

Something from Gary Moore, Eric Clapton or Pink Floyd will do nicely.

# 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 four editions of *The Fan Maker* featured the Beadle's Staff, the Poor Box, a Rode Bowl and four beautiful fans. In this edition we look at The Bridge Fan and a special Medal.

## Object no.11: The Carlton Restaurant Fan



*French for export  
Circa 1925 .Double paper leaf  
Wood sticks (2 + 8)  
11½inches, 29 cm.  
AR No. 362*

The handkerchief shape leaf of this fan is printed in blue, black, pink and gilt with a lady and gentleman wearing stylised 18th century costume raising champagne glasses to each other. On the left is the name of the fan maker Maquet Gr. Paris\*. The reverse is printed in apricot, with a floral pattern surrounding the words Carlton Restaurant, London\*\*. The wood sticks have silvered guards and a metal pivot pin.

Provenance: Presented to the Company in 2013 by Professor John Salter, Master in 2009.

\*Occupying premises at 10 Rue de la Paix, Paris, Maquet were best known for printing perfume fans for L. T. Piver.

The restaurant in the Carlton Hotel, Haymarket, London opened in 1899. C. J. Phipps designed the hotel and the architect Charles Frederic Mewes (1860-1914) was employed by Cesar Ritz (1850-1918) to design the interiors in the style of his hotel in Paris. They included a magnificent Palm Court. The famous Auguste Escoffier was engaged as Chef (New Zealand House stands on the site of the Carlton Hotel today.)

## Object no.12: The Armada Dish



*English sterling silver-gilt, bearing hallmarks for London 1998 with the sponsor's mark for Mappin and Webb.  
Diameter 405mm (16") Weight 65oz*

Presented to the Company in 2007 by HH Jeremy Connor, Master in 2007

Photograph courtesy of Searle & Co Ltd

The dish is a replica of the Armada Service that resides in the British Museum, and was formerly owned by Sir Christopher Harris (c1553-1625). Sir Christopher Harris was a Vice Admiral of Devon under James I and a Commissioner of Booty at Plymouth under Sir Walter Raleigh, and was a close friend of Admiral Sir Francis Drake.

The service was said to be made from captured Spanish silver and gold. During the Civil War the service was buried by the Harris family on the wild moorland of Dartmoor.

It was never recovered by the Harris family and only discovered in 1827 in a cave by farm labourers sent to make the cave bigger for potato storage by the Splat family company. The Splat family sold the service in 1911 for £11,500.

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# Inter-Livery Clay Pigeon Shoot

The Shooting Society. An update from Past Master John Hughes

Social distancing and other Covid-19 related safety measures were very much to the fore at the 26th Anniversary Annual Inter-Livery Clay Pigeon Shooting competition held at the Holland and Holland Shooting Grounds over two days, 8th-9th September.

Scheduled to shoot on the 8th, it was an encouraging first stand (the 'Bolting Rabbits') for the Fan Makers' Company team at which just 5 points were dropped out of 32, with Nino Cafolla recording a full house (Nino also recorded a maximum 8 at the 'Startled Duck'). However, following variable scores posted by all at the next 8 stands our abilities were brutally exposed at the challenging 'Rocketing Pheasant' with an aggregate team score of just

6 points out of a possible 32. In our defence this was our final stand immediately following a substantial lunch and with the sun having just crept round to the back of the high tower largely obscuring the trajectory of the clay. Actually, we considered ourselves fortunate to see let alone hit any of the targets presented. A disappointing score at the Flush Stand could

largely be put down to poor prior organisation of individual team members' responsibilities.

There being a number of notable regulars absent from the Fan Maker line-up and with livery companies limited to

just one team it was very much a case of 'echoes' of Allan Wells' 1980 100 Metres Gold Medal performance at the (USA boycotted) Moscow Olympics as John Hughes, with a score of 52 out of 80, claimed the Bodin Cup just ahead of a very competitive Nino Cafolla (49 scored).

It was a pleasure welcoming Richard Jeffery back to the Fan Makers' colours after an absence of a few years spent in North America and, also, the newly admitted to the Company, Clive Golland, who was appearing at his first inter-livery shoot.

With little or no queuing at stands (in our case, we had completed all but one stand by the suspension of shooting



for lunch at midday), the team was in agreement that holding the shoot over two days, thereby restricting each day's entries, worked incredibly well and added to the enjoyment. Refreshments were all taken out in the field, with a steady and plentiful supply of rations throughout the event (including the 'now famous' sausage rolls at elevenses) and, particularly discernible this year, were the extra efforts made by organising, catering and shooting ground staff to provide a safe, competitive, and fun day-out.

At the end of hostilities, the team retired to the lawn and

sunshine outside the clubhouse for a very welcome gin and tonic, to toast the memory of Liveryman Hugh Nolan, a keen supporter of the Company's Shooting Society, and to reflect on our very respectable midway position on the leaderboard.

## Update from the Master

Disappointingly but not really surprisingly we look as if we are into another six months of lockdown and few physical social contacts. I must congratulate the "entertainments team" for putting together a more outward looking programme for the rest of this year.

We have already had talks about life at Lansbury Lawrence School and two of the homeless charities that we support, as well as a fun cheese and wine tasting organised by the Livery Committee. Please do look at the programme and join as many of the talks and interviews that you feel able to join.

I am very aware that a lot of our members do not join on those virtual meetings, either put off by the technology or by having spent the day working from home on zoom or

equivalent calls. If you have ideas as to what we can do for to broaden our reach over the next six months please let me know.

Over the coming weeks we intend to speak to all our members to stay in touch.

Finally can I thank many members of the livery who sent Libby and me message of goodwill as I struggled I hospital with the COVID virus, they were really appreciated by both of us. I am pleased to be home!

**Colin Bramall**

# Forthcoming Events

The autumn programme is now complete and we are planning ahead in to January. Deliberately this is a more outward looking programme, looking at how our affiliates are dealing with the unusual circumstances.

There will be a further event to be announced which will launch the 2020 Commemorative Fan designed by Steward Parvin, the Queen's dress designer.

**Wednesday 21st October 7.45pm for 8pm** Robin Corti from 14 Richmond Sea Scouts Boating Centre in discussion with Assistant Bob Gatehouse about the Fan Maker skerry.



**Wednesday 4th November 7.45pm for 8pm** Professor Liveryman Peri Pilidis in conversation "Fans, Aircraft Propulsion and the environment"

**Wednesday 18th November 7.45 for 8pm** Wing Commander EM Rickards, commanding officer of II(AC) Squadron will be talking about life in an operational RAF squadron during a pandemic

**Wednesday December 2nd 7.45 for 8pm** Honorary Freeman Malcom Cox will discuss The Making of Fan Sticks

**Friday December 4th 6pm** Fan Makers' Carol Service, there will probably be a virtual carol service!

**Thursday 10th December** Terry Waite will join us for a special end of year event

**Wednesday 6th January 7.45pm for 8pm** Commander Louise Ray, Commanding Officer of HMS Westminster will discuss recent events involving the ship and how they are dealing with staying COVID safe.

## A Thought for the Day from Our Chaplain

Fellow Fan Makers

It is a confusing time. In my church office are three sets of instructions as to who is allowed to go to a funeral or a wedding. Each has come on successive days!

This is going to take longer than any of us thought. I try to be grateful for the things that I have: basics such as food water and shelter. I have a family and I have a job. We have the fellowship of our Livery Company. Our prayers should rightfully be with all those who fear for their jobs, their homes, and have none of the things we so easily take for granted.

David Reindorp