

## **THE MASTER'S BLOG WEEK 7**

### **COMPANY COMMITTEES: 4 AND 5 DECEMBER 2017**

As Master, I am ex-officio a member of the Company's Committees and this week sees the start of the current cycle of Committee meetings. At the Finance Committee we review the draft annual accounts for the year to 29 September (which look to be in good order). The Education Committee continues its review of awards and bursaries and agrees a proposal to put to the Court regarding the Company's silver medal (which has not been awarded for some time). The Technical Committee discusses the Annual Lecture and receives a report on the WaterSafe Installer Scheme. Finally, the Social Committee reviews recent events and discusses arrangements for forthcoming events and visits.

These are a couple of busy days, but it is encouraging to note progress on quite several issues.

### **ST MAGNUS THE MARTYR CHURCH: 6 DECEMBER 2017**

In advance of the Company Carol Service next week, I pop into St Magnus the Martyr church this morning for a short practice on the organ. I am delighted to meet the organist, John Eady, and receive excellent guidance from him on the instrument.

### **PARISH CLERKS' ST NICHOLAS DAY EVENTS: 6 DECEMBER 2017**

Although, by choice, not a Livery Company, the Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks can trace its history back to 1274. Its patron saint is St Nicholas and tonight, on the Feast of St Nicholas, we gather in St Sepulchre without Newgate for a moving service of Holy Communion conducted by Reverend David Ingall and the Right Reverend Ric Thorpe, Bishop of Islington. The church's choir makes a significant and very musical contribution to the service.

On conclusion of the church service, we process, led by the Psalm Drummers (who had also participated in the service) to nearby Cutlers' Hall for a reception and dinner at which I am one of only two Livery Company Masters in attendance. Bishop Ric is the principal speaker and gives a most encouraging report about the establishment of new churches in London. Master of the Parish Clerks, Steve Plumb, conducts the evening with both dignity and humour and it is absolutely fascinating to witness the Parish Clerks cross-toasting each other- something which I haven't seen before and which is probably unique to this gathering. I feel privileged to have been invited to this special event.