

THE MASTER'S BLOG 36

SUNG EUCHARIST FOR THE FEAST OF ST. JAMES- SUNDAY 22 JULY 2018



We are in the church of St James Garlickhythe this morning at the suggestion of the recently- installed Master Parish Clerk (who is a church warden there). The service marks the Feast of Saint James (which is actually on our wedding anniversary on 25 July). On entering the church, we are pleased to meet the organist, Alderman Sir Andrew Parmley (former Lord Mayor and current Master Vintner) and his wife, Lady Wendy. We also meet the Master Joiner and Ceiler and the Master Turner at the service.

Although the form of worship is not quite what we are used to, we enjoy the service, especially the organist's music and the lively sermon preached by Fr Tim Handley. The service is followed by a "feast" and what a feast it is too.

QUIRKS, CABRETTA AND CAKE- MONDAY 23 JULY 2018

Quirks are triangular inserts at the base of fingers and thumbs on gloves, cabretta is a soft leather made from South American sheep and cake is something which you enjoy with a cup of tea. All three are on the menu this afternoon at the London College of Fashion in Golden Lane at an event hosted by the Mistress Glover for Livery Consorts.

The Mistress Plumber enjoys a presentation on the history of glove making and a talk about the Mistress Glover's own large collection of gloves (which were on show) before partaking in the final part of the heading- the cakes!

LUNCH WITH WARDENS AND ACTING CLERK- MONDAY 23 JULY 2018



As an indication that my days as Master are numbered, today I participate in what will be my final Master's and Wardens' informal lunch gathering where we chat over issues relating to the Company. Today is a good opportunity for the new "team" to talk about their plans and aspirations for what will effectively be the next three years. The weather outside continues to scorch but we all choose a light lunch followed by a wonderfully refreshing limoncello ice cream dessert.

BARBER-SURGEONS' CHARITY LUNCH- WEDNESDAY 24 JULY 2018

The Mistress is off to Barber-Surgeons' Hall today for a Charity Lunch for Mistresses/Consorts in aid of Treloar's School and College. Guests at the lunch include the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs' consorts. After coffee, there is a talk about the history of the Hall and one of its paintings- Holbein the Younger's "King Henry VIII and the Barber-Surgeons"- which shows the joining together of the Barbers' Company and the Fellowship of Surgeons in 1540. There is then a presentation about "The History of Damask" which includes a reference on its use in paintings, including those by Holbein.

The visit is rounded off by a delightful lunch and the chance to chat to other Consorts, old and new.

PLUMBERS' GOLF DAY- THURSDAY 25 JULY 2018

When asked if I would like to present the prizes at the Plumbers' Golf Day at New Zealand, I had visions of a long-flight to the Antipodes. I was quickly made aware that I had invited to the New Zealand Golf Club in Surrey (which turned be a 35-minute train journey from Clapham Junction).



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About 40 golfers (both Plumbers and their guests) have gathered and I join them as they come off the course (the first tee-off time having been 0815am). The Golf Club has provided an excellent lunch and I present the prizes to the prize winners before some off the keener ones head back out onto the course in the 35C+ temperatures. The Plumbers' Golf Society is an active part of our Livery and it is good to be with them today.

There is a tradition that the City and Livery effectively close down in the month of August and my next scheduled commitment is on Saturday 1 September 2018 so there will be a four-week gap before the next Master's Blog will appear.