

A Letter from the Master

I hope all Liverymen and their families are keeping safe from the dreadful C-19 virus and following the appropriate health guidelines, which are even more important now than at any other time.

It is with great sadness we lost Dr Mary Caroe to the C-19 virus. Mary was the consort to Past Master Martin Caroe (1933-1999) and was a great supporter of the Company. Mary regularly attended our Carol services at St Magnus. I was pleased to have arranged with Mary the Vann Centenary Celebrations in 2008. We had wonderful time with afternoon marquee cream tea in her garden, talks and tours of the house.



A Plumbers' Table at the Vann centenary. Some you may know!

In these difficult times families are losing loved ones, and our thoughts go out to all those families. Indeed, our thoughts equally go out to all those who are working tirelessly to save lives and those who are facing financial hardship.

On a happier note, I am delighted to be able to serve the Company for a further year as Master. It is a great privilege to do so and I thank the Court for allowing this to happen. I will certainly be in good company for The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will also be continuing.

All our events have now been cancelled from our Banquet to the Summer Festival. Also, many people have been disappointed the Master's Break in St Mawes had to be abandoned. But arrangements for St Mawes will be underway as soon and the hotel is open again. The Company lecture is now postponed to next year.

In these tough and challenging times, the Company is as important to me as I hope it is to you. We have survived for over 650 years and long may we keep the Company strong and vibrant.

We are keeping in touch through the Company website. It now has a dedicated Liverymen and Members' Corner where all of us can inform the Livery of our activities during the lockdown. I hope you use it.

Committees have been meeting via Zoom. We will be constantly reviewing the position in the light of further developments, and I will of course keep you in touch with the way thinking is evolving.

Both Bridget and I take country walks through the fields of Kent for our exercise and we are shopping locally with the butcher, baker and candlestick maker. The village is almost empty, just like those early postcards one sees with one or two motor cars and the odd person standing. A lost age almost regained. Perhaps we will return to a slower pace of life.

The chair is still beckoning, although I have given up making the treacherous ascent for obvious reasons. The curtain dust sheet remains on the floor.

Above all, please look after yourselves and keep well. I very much look forward to meeting with you again soon.

All the very best,

Peter and Bridget