

The Worshipful Company of Scientific Instruments

A review of 2022-23

Moving Forward, Giving Back.



www.wcsim.co.uk

Contents

Introduction	3
Calendar.....	3
In memorium 2022-23	3
The Master’s Report	4
Sponsorship for education	4
Understanding and influence	4
Edwards Lecture and Master's SIMposium.....	6
Ongoing initiatives	6
Our stake in Glaziers' Hall	7
Future sponsorship	7
Fun	7
Team effort	8
Senior Warden 2023/24 - Jim Webster	9
Junior Warden 2023/4 - Jane Fishwick	10
Committee, Trustees and SIM Hall Ltd Reports 2022/23.....	11
Finance and General Purposes Committee Report.....	11
New members 2022-23.....	12
Education Committee Year 22/23	13
Membership Development & Promotion Committee.....	16
Charitable and Educational Trust	18
SIM Hall Ltd	19
Conclusion	19
Figure 1- Master Philip Thomas	4
Figure 2 - Senior Warden, Master and Junior Warden	9
Figure 3 - Master Aubrey Dunford congratulating new Honorary Liveryman and soon to be Lord Mayor Michael Mainelli	13
Figure 4 - Arkwright Scholars and future Apprentices Autumn 2023.....	13
Figure 5 - Dr Gema Vera Gonzalez	14
Figure 6 - Livery Schools Career event	15
Figure 7 - Master Aubrey Dunford with Past Master Sir Ivor Cohen	16

Introduction

Welcome to the new look Annual Review. This change in format is due to the ever-decreasing requests for hard copy aligned with increasing costs for professional printing plus the need to adjust events according to circumstances. So, there are fewer pictures than in previous years to make it easier to print and some regular items can now be found on the web site to allow for regular updating. Note that many photos can be seen on the News page of the web site. The court members and committee details (including minutes on the members area) can also be found on the web site along with all sorts of other interesting things.

Calendar

Thanks to train strikes and other unexpected circumstances events can be prone to last minute changes and cancellations. Consequently, the calendar is not being published in the Review but can be found on the members area of the web site in a downloadable form which is updated regularly. Please log into the members area to see this. At time of publication, it goes up to October 2025. Also use the members area to book and pay for events as well as update your personal details and view key company documents.

Perhaps one of the key differences now to a couple of years ago is the introduction of local Hubs and Special Interest Groups (SIGs). So, if you are struggling to get into the City of London, for whatever reason, please consider joining one of these groups or starting a group in your own area. Past Master Martyn Wheatley will be happy to support you start a new group up.

In memorium 2022-23

With great regret we record the deaths of the following members

Liveryman Frances Jones on 27 September 2022

Liveryman Kenneth Lambert on 6 April 2023

Liveryman Raymond Hills on 17 May 2023,

Honorary Freeman Jo Watson on 28 May 2023

Liveryman Gabor Lacko on 1 June 2023

Liveryman Michael Rocky on 8 July 2023

Past Master William Lyons on 21 September 2023

The Master's Report

Master 2022/23: Philip Thomas



Figure 1- Master Philip Thomas

The Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers promotes learning and the transfer of skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Now nearing the end of our sixtieth year as a Livery Company, we are one of the one hundred and eleven guilds that make up the City of London's Livery, which, collectively, donate 75 million pounds to charitable causes each year. We play our part by applying our resources to further the science, technology and art of measurement to the benefit of both the City of London and the nation as a whole.

Sponsorship for education

We provide educational sponsorship across the full range from primary school, through secondary and on to university, where we give bursaries, prizes and awards to undergraduates, postgraduates and post-doctoral fellows. We are proud to provide support to over forty Apprentices at any one time, many more than most City Companies. Our Apprentices are

outstanding young people, whom we normally recruit in the sixth form, and who then continue with us right through to the end of their university courses, becoming Freemen when their studies are complete. Each Apprentice will receive advice and mentoring from an assigned Apprentice Master, who will be a Liveryman.

We have strong links with the armed services, and award prizes annually to top-performing students at the Royal Navy's Hydrographic School, at the Royal School of Military Survey and at the Defence College of Aeronautical Engineering.

Our Liverymen, who may be technology managers or university professors or entrepreneurs, for example, give a lot back to the science and engineering community, but the Company also affords them the opportunity to dine regularly in convivial surroundings and discuss both professional matters and the issues of the day with their fellow members and guests.

Understanding and influence

We benefit not only from the Company's physical location within the City of London but also from our technology's position at the nexus of science, business, finance and education. Our easy access to the worlds of media and politics gives us a valuable opportunity to understand the world better, as well as to garner influence for our aims.

Fraser Nelson, editor of *The Spectator*, was our Principal Guest at the first dinner of the Master's Year, which was held on 20 October 2022. Fraser had intended to describe his magazine's initiative to "democratise the data" by



providing universal access to the measurements and information on which political decisions are based. But, as luck would have it, Liz Truss resigned as Prime Minister that very lunchtime. He managed, as a result, to make his important message even more striking by giving us the up-to-the minute bookmakers' odds on how likely it was that Boris Johnson (who was at that moment 30,000 feet above the Atlantic, on his way home) would succeed her and reinstate himself as our Prime Minister!



Sir Anthony Finkelstein, who is President of City, University of London, alerted us early, at our January Dinner on 16 January 2023, to the power of the new AI chatbot, ChatGPT: its potential uses, but also the social problems it might cause.

The Education Trust Supper was held, for the first time in four years, on 8 March 2023, having previously been a victim of the restrictions imposed during the Covid pandemic. Our after-dinner speaker, Michael Simmons, who is a data journalist, explained, to his predominantly young audience, how his magazine processed the social and economic data that is now being made universally available on *The Spectator's* Data Hub.



Julia Pyke, who is Joint Managing Director of Sizewell C, explained to us, at our Family Dinner in April, how she was going about raising the enormous amount of money, over twenty billion pounds, that will be needed to build what will be a very large, twin reactor nuclear power station in Suffolk.

Lord Willetts, whose Foundation for Science and Technology we sponsor, was Principal Guest at our June Banquet, which was held in the historic Armoury House, home to the Honourable Artillery Company. Arriving guests were treated, that idyllic summer evening, to the sight of cricket being played on the square outside, something that is repeated nowhere else in the City.



We were privileged to hear, from Lord Willetts, how the performances of Ministers of State for Universities and Science are judged. His own researches, conducted over many years as a minister under David Cameron, had managed, he said, to crystallise the matter into a simple and elegant scientific criterion: the scientists judge you solely on the amount of money you can prise out of the Treasury!



A month later, at July's Court Supper, Ed Ross, who owns his own small business and is one of our Liveryman, explained to us how artificial intelligence can reduce business's energy bills – a rather important topic, given the tightness of energy supply, now and in the future.

All our talks combined wit with wisdom, and came from the many fields, academia, big business, small business, journalism, and politics, that interlink and contribute to the progress of the art and science of measurement.

Edwards Lecture and Master's SIMposium

We were pleased to hold our first physical Edwards Lecture since before the pandemic. Well over a hundred people attended the event, which was held on 15 February 2023, at City, University of London. It was organised jointly by the Livery, by Edwards Vacuum, a company that was set up by a past master of the Company, the late F. D. Edwards, and which now forms part of the Atlas Copco Group, and by City University, which was represented on the night by its President, Sir Anthony Finkelstein. The



Edwards Lecturer, Prof. Martin Dawson, FRS, linked business with science in his well argued lecture, which explained how and why the Fraunhofer business model was bearing fruit and speeding the development of new laser-based instrumentation at the University of Strathclyde.



This year's Master's SIMposium, Economically Competitive Fusion Energy, which fell within the Lord Mayor's theme of Financing the Future, aimed to find out when nuclear fusion will generate electrical power at a price people can afford. Held at our hall on 3 April 2023, the event attracted a full audience to hear presentations from senior figures from the fusion industry, from the City's financial sector, and from researchers tackling the difficult technical challenges that still remain. LinkedIn posts reporting on the event gained thousands of impressions.

Ongoing initiatives

I led a small delegation to the Swiss Embassy, at the end of January 2023, for a meeting, which our Liveryman Mike Belton organised, with the Swiss Ambassador. We discussed, in the context of the recently signed UK-Swiss memorandum of understanding on cooperation over research and innovation, the similarities and differences in British and Swiss approaches to technical education. Further meetings were held during the year, and informal discussions are continuing.



I arranged a meeting at the Monument in June between the Scientific Instrument Makers and the incoming Lord Mayor, Michael Mainelli, where we took the first steps to "measure the Monument", as part of a programme of City-wide science experiments. Two Company teams will apply cutting-edge new methods to measure the traffic vibrations affecting the tower, a problem which, even as far back as the 1670s, prevented the Royal Society's experimental scientist, Robert Hooke, and his illustrious colleague, Christopher Wren, from using the column in the way that they intended, to prove that the earth orbited the sun rather than the other way round.

Our stake in Glaziers' Hall

It is a surprising fact that three out of five Livery Companies have no permanent hall they can call their own, even some ancient liveryies of hundreds of years' standing. The Scientific Instrument Makers, by contrast, are fortunate in possessing a two sevenths' share in Glaziers' Hall, with the Glaziers holding four sevenths and the Launderers one.

Our investment in Glaziers Hall Ltd (GHL) is for the long run. It allows us to stage all but one of our dinners and suppers in our own hall (we choose to hold our banquet elsewhere). It has enabled us, also, to provide sponsorship to the Foundation for Science and Technology this year, by giving one of our "free" days to its important Future Leaders Conference, an arrangement that is set to continue.

Like all enterprises in its sector, GHL was badly hit by the pandemic lockdown and restrictions. Although overheads were cut to a minimum, and staff were furloughed, our hospitality business made losses during that period, which were partly funded by the government's Coronavirus loan scheme.

I am pleased to report, however, that, post Covid, our Company is starting to enjoy the benefits of the refurbishment of the Hall, which was completed in September 2019 and increased usable space by 35 per cent. Hospitality activity began to recover in September 2021, and we emerged with a new team, new systems, and an interim General Manager, Jonathan Stuart, a Liveryman of the Company. GHL became profitable that autumn, and has since continued to build its team, win customers and improve financial performance.

Will Simmonds joined as the new, permanent, General Manager, in June 2022, and now leads a team of eleven. Advance bookings are looking strong, and we are cautiously optimistic that GHL will continue to grow and win new customers in the coming year.

Future sponsorship

Looking to the future, generous bequests from our late Past Master, David Wallis, and his wife, Edna, should lead to a substantial increase our educational sponsorship in future years. The Company arranged a memorial service at St. Margaret Lothbury on 2 February 2023 to celebrate the life of the late David Wallis.

Fun

The past year has been busy and productive, but there was time for fun, too. This year's Master's Weekend was staged in Monmouthshire, South Wales, from 12 to 15 May 2023, at Cwrt Bleddyn, an historic manor house hotel named after an eleventh century Welsh prince. The thirty seven people attending learned about the area's history, from Roman times (Caerleon and Caerwent encampments),

through medieval (Usk Castle) and on to the Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19 centuries (Blaenavon iron and steel works). We also visited Dewstow, near Caldicot, where the gentleman farmer, "Squire" Henry Oakley constructed his fabled gardens and underground grottoes. This unique horticultural enterprise fell into neglect after his death in 1940, but the Harris family, who purchased the land in 2000, have set about restoring the estate to its former, magical glory.

Nor was fine food and drink ever far away during the weekend, and many guests will retain fond memories of Saturday night's hospitality at the White Hare distillery/ Mad Platter bistro in the centre of Usk!

My Consort, Audrey, and I were able to enjoy the first Royal Garden Party for four years, hosted by the King and Queen, in brilliant sunshine, at Buckingham Palace on 3 May 2023 – just three days before the coronation. I was fortunate, too, in attending a dinner for the King and Queen that the Lord Mayor hosted at Mansion House on my last full day as Master, 18 October 2023.

Team effort

The Scientific Instrument Makers are in it for the long term, and teamwork and continuity of leadership are very important. I pay tribute to my predecessor, Charles Holroyd, who handed over the reins to me in October 2022, for his support during my Master's Year. I am similarly grateful to my Senior Warden, Aubrey Dunford, and my Junior Warden, Jim Webster.

I acknowledge, also, the useful input of members of Court. I have benefited, particularly, from valuable advice from the Senior Past Master, Dr Richard Hartley. I thank Professor Ron Summers for his effective chairmanship of the Charitable and Educational Trust. I am grateful to the Honorary Treasurer, Kevin Breen, and the Honorary Solicitor, Roger Seaton, for their significant and continuing efforts for the Company. I am pleased to acknowledge, too, the work done, year in and year out, by those serving on our committees, on whose diligence the future viability and vitality of the Company depends.

Livery Companies put great demands on their Clerks, who need to have the flexibility to take executive responsibility and keep the organisation on track while, at the same time, acting as a PA to the Master for the year. I am grateful to Dr Misha Hebel for fulfilling this difficult function most effectively, with charm and forbearance! My thanks go, also, to our Assistant Clerk, Karen Fulford, and to Stephen Henderson, our Apprentice Administrator.

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to my Consort, Audrey, both for her work on the Livery's archives and for the very full part she has played the life of the Company.

I wish my successor, Aubrey Dunford, and his wife, Karen, every good fortune, as well as an enjoyable time in the coming year.



Figure 2 - Senior Warden, Master and Junior Warden

Senior Warden 2023/24 - Jim Webster

Upon 'retirement' in 2014 Jim became a Liveryman joining the Court of Assistants in 2016. In 2019 he accepted the newly created post of Recruitment Warden to serve as a focal point for our recruitment initiatives.

As a metallurgy graduate of Leeds University and following a couple of years as a financial analyst in the car industry, Jim got a proper technology job with the California based materials science company, Raychem. He worked there for 19 years in the Electronics Division, ultimately as General Manager of the European wire and cable business. He completed the Advanced Management Programme at INSEAD during his tenure there. Jim then joined Spectris plc (then called Fairey Group) where he was responsible for six of the largest companies in the group, including those in the Materials Analysis and Test and Measurement Divisions and the company's largest acquisition, Omega Engineering. Jim was also responsible for the Asia Pacific and Latin America corporate teams. During his 21 years as a main board director the company progressed from Small Cap to the top end of the FTSE 250.

Jim is a governor of New College Swindon - which has just opened its Institute of Technology following a significant investment by the government – and gets involved in organising local events such as the WrdeUp Music Festival. He and his wife Pauline live in Highworth, Wiltshire where they raised their three children.

Junior Warden 2023/4 - Jane Fishwick

I have been a Liveryman since 2009 and on the Court for four years. I have had a varied career starting with Unilever in dairy science as a microbiologist research associate. I was on the development team for Cornetto amongst many other products for various Unilever markets around the world working on factory scale up at Walls and in Naples. Frozen products are surprisingly technical and I used gas chromatography, electron microscopy, HPLC, mass spectroscopy reverse osmosis, ultracentrifugation amongst a long list of instrumentation.

After 9 years of lab work I then went into sales with Beckman Instruments selling clinical instrumentation to hospital pathology labs and university departments.

After a very traumatic accident and moving to Germany for a short while, I came back to the UK and became a product manager in the Renal division for Baxter Healthcare responsible for peritoneal dialysis. This was a wonderful career working closely with renal consultants in the UK, Ireland and Scandinavia. I was closely involved in many clinical trials and product development to improve patient outcomes and had my name on a number of papers.

I was a founding member of the Association of Renal Industries and invited to join the Renal Association as only one of two non medical members.

Having established myself in the renal field I was asked to set up a new renal division in the UK and Ireland for Genzyme, a biotech company based in Oxford with it's HQ in Cambridge Mass.

After a busy career with a lot of travelling for work I retired at 55 and my husband Brian, Past Master, and I travelled around the world with just a back pack each, a most wonderful and memorable time.

On returning we bought a derelict barn in Norfolk which we renovated and was also invited to join the Livery. I became very involved in judging our Big Bang projects and Women in Science day once a year at the Livery aiming to inspire young girls to think about science as a career option. Later this was also open to boys. We had some excellent speakers including Fiona Woolf one of only two lady Lord Mayors. She was very inspiring and very keen on encouraging more girls into science and engineering. Her brother is a scientist at Cambridge.

I was invited onto the Court and became a member of the Education Committee of which I am now chair as Junior Warden. For the past five years I have organised a programme with Primary Engineer designed to mentor primary school teachers to better deliver STEM in their classes by developing a motorised car. It entails elements of engineering, electronics, accuracy in measurement, arithmetic, and organisation. All the schools are reasonably local to the Hall.

I was installed as Junior Warden in October 2023 when I also welcomed the current Lord Mayor of London, Michael Manelli, to become an honorary WCSIM Liveryman. In November I took part in the Lord Mayor's show, a great event in perfect weather.

As well as chairing the Education Committee I also sit on the Finance and General Purposes Executive Committee, SIM Hall Ltd, Charitable and Educational Trust and the Membership Development and Promotion Committee.

I will be the first female Master of WCSIM in 2025

My hobbies are golf, SCUBA diving (only in warm water!), gardening the arts and travelling.

Committee, Trustees and SIM Hall Ltd Reports 2022/23

These decision-making bodies are made up of members, mostly Liverymen and some Freemen. They review different aspects of the Company and make recommendations to the Court. Decisions that are approved by them are then given to the Clerk's Office to execute. The Chair and members of the 22-23 committees are given below. Please do contact them if you want to know more.

Finance and General Purposes Committee Report

Chair: Master, Philip Thomas

Other Members: Charles Holroyd (Deputy Master); Aubrey Dunford (Senior Warden); Richard Hartley (Senior Past Master); Kevin Breen (Honorary Treasurer); Alexander Hambro (Liveryman); Roger Sutton (Liveryman); Christopher Sawyer (Past Master); Jim Webster (Junior Warden); Misha Hebel (Clerk).

The F&GP, which reports to Court, is the Company's most senior executive committee.

The Master, the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden and the Deputy Master meet four times a year with the Clerk/CEO, the Honorary Treasurer, the Senior Past Master and a number of Liverymen chosen for their managerial and financial experience to

- assure the Company's financial good health,
- consider reports from (i) the Education Committee and (ii) the Membership Development and Promotion Committee,
- receive a statement from Glazier's Hall Ltd, in which the Company has a two sevenths' shareholding,
- discuss items of importance to the Company that are not covered elsewhere, and
- examine applications from new candidates and approve if acceptable.

The Committee keeps the Livery's finances on track by first agreeing a budget, which will be prepared by the Honorary Treasurer, and then examining the management accounts on a quarterly basis. It receives a detailed report on the Livery's investments every three months and interviews the investment manager with the same frequency. These financial procedures were successful in ensuring that the Livery's finances remained sound throughout the year.

The F&GP organised the agenda and date for the Company's first annual general meeting (AGM), which is required every year from now on under the terms of the newly granted Royal Charter. The inaugural AGM, which took place immediately after Court in April 2023, allowed the Master to report on the past year and on future prospects for the Livery. An account of the activities of the Charitable and Educational Trust (CET) was given by the CET chairman, while the Honorary Treasurer was on hand to cover financial matters.

The Company was able, as a result of generous sponsorship from the UK Accreditation Service (UKAS), supported by the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) and the British Standards Institute (BSI), to enter a float, for the first time in our history, in the Lord Mayor's show of November 2023. Our Clerk took on the considerable challenge of organising our entry, at short notice and from scratch, while reporting progress to the F&GP. She needed to coordinate all four contributors' inputs, before entering an

electric vehicle, to be accompanied by marchers drawn from each organisation, into the world's biggest, unrehearsed, televised parade.

The F&GP approved a steady stream of candidates at the Apprentice, Freeman and Liveryman levels throughout the year and their names are given below.

New members 2022-23

<p>Honorary Liveryman Michael Mainelli</p> <p>Liverymen Frederick George Barker Peter Clague Andrew John Coleman (Katherine) Amy Congdon Benjamin Peter Cowan Timothy John Denison Paul Everington Arthur Malcolm George Thomas Heywood James Michael Lynch John Richard Meinke Nigel Henry Rowbotham David Mark Saul Stephanie Smith Callum Stirling Constantios Zervides</p> <p>Freemen (redemption) Ronan Anthony Joseph Battle Garjon Christopher Chan Alecsandra Cristina Maria Court Daniel Dobrowolski Elle Marceline Franks Gema Vera-Gonzalez (Beloe Fellow) Marius Hegedus</p>	<p>Freemen (redemption) cont'd Matthew James Kibble Matthew Owen Dawei Tang (Beloe runner up) Anastasios Vilouris Meng Wu Rui (Renata) Zhang</p> <p>Freemen (servitude) Benjamin A P Noar Samuel James Emmins Hina Raja Bradley Stalker</p> <p>Apprentices Yosif Ali Joseph Birch Lenny Breeds Liam Bridgman Lauren Huggett Rayn Lakha Femi Owolade-Coombes Sourish Sharma Benjamin Sindall Youssef Tazouti</p>
---	--



Figure 3 - Master Aubrey Dunford congratulating new Honorary Liveryman and soon to be Lord Mayor Michael Mainelli

Approval was also granted, at the F&GP's June meeting, for Professor Michael Mainelli to become an Honorary Liveryman. Court was pleased to admit the Lord Mayor Elect on 19 October 2023.

June's F&GP also approved the candidature of Fraser Nelson, the editor of *The Spectator*. He will be admitted, as an Honorary Freeman, at Court in January 2024.

F&GP recommended to Court that Liverymen Simon Flower and Professor Andy Augousti be

appointed Assistants, which recommendation was accepted. They will take their seats on Court in the coming year, and I offer them my personal congratulations.

I should like to express my gratitude to all who served on the F&GP during the past twelve months, and I thank the Clerk for her hard work as both member and secretary and for her effective organisation of the Livery's float in the Lord Mayor's show.

Education Committee Year 22/23

Chair: Junior Warden, Jim Webster

Other members: Philip Thomas (Master, ex officio); Aubrey Dunford (Senior Warden); Ian Gilbert (LSL Rep); Simon Flower (Freeman Warden); Prof. Andy Augousti (University Warden); Jane Fishwick; Michael Belton (Liveryman); John Meinke (Liveryman); Elisabeth Jarvis (Apprentice Warden); Alessandro Raimondo (Liveryman); Pankaj Vadgama (Liveryman); Stephen Henderson (Apprentice Co-ordinator); Misha Hebel (Clerk).



Figure 4 - Arkwright Scholars and future Apprentices Autumn 2023

The Arkwright Engineering Scholarships award ceremony, held at the IET in October 2022, was a well organised event. About 100 scholarships were given out in the morning session the Master attended, with a similar number to be handed out in the afternoon.

Of our contingent, Liam Bridgman, of Trinity School, Croydon, Rayn Lakha of St Paul's,

London and Femi Owolade-Coombes of Whitgift, Croydon attended, but Laura Huggett of Wimbledon High School was unable to be present.

Our Primary Engineer organiser, Jane Fishwick arranged the initial training session for school staff and Company mentors at the Hall on 3rd February in preparation for the projects.

At the end of January number of committee members, including the Master had a meeting with the Swiss Ambassador and his team. The meeting discussed the recently signed MOU between our governments for cooperation on R&D for new technologies and how the Livery might be able to contribute with contacts and ideas.

Following that meeting, Marcus Rothen, Head of their Economic, Finance, Science & Innovation department was a guest at the Education Trust Supper. Held at the Hall on 8th March there were over 50 attendees with Freeman and Apprentices extremely well represented. The guest speaker, Michael Simmons – Data Manager for the Spectator – gave an informative and amusing speech about his work analysing a wide range of public statistics, including those for Covid.

In early April, our SIMposium, led by the Master, focussed on the opportunities and challenges presented by nuclear fusion technology. Speakers, including Liveryman Tom Davis, reviewed the technical solutions required to produce commercially viable generation plant. Guest speakers included Douglas Hanson-Luke, Chairman of Future Planet Capital, who reviewed private sector funding and valuation for the technology. The afternoon poster session provided an opportunity for delegates to ask detailed questions about several aspects in a poster session.

In mid-April following interviews led by University Warden Prof. Andy Augousti, this year's



Figure 5 - Dr Gema Vera Gonzalez

Beloe Fellowship winner was announced: Dr Gema Vera Gonzalez is currently a postdoctoral researcher at Imperial College London. She is working in the area of bioinstrumentation and has developed a technique which enables the simultaneous selection and monitoring of up to four selected cells in the brain – a multi-patch-clamp technique – which will help to provide further insight into brain functioning. She has automated this difficult and tedious process, increasing too the rate of successful monitoring interventions, and the Beloe Fellowship will help her to continue to work on this automation process, as well as the wider dissemination of this novel work.

Following a suggestion from University Warden Andy Augusti it has been agreed that we now include post graduate students of NPL to apply for our scholarships and the Beloe Fellowships.

At the May committee meetings, it was also agreed to review the structure of the Beloe Fellowship competition to encourage more participation. The new awards structure has been approved and now provides the for the winner to receive financial support for 2 years and for the runners-up to receive 2 years of sufficient financial support to enable them to attend up to 3 Livery dinners each year.

In early June my Consort and I represented the Livery at the School of Geospatial Intelligence Garden Party at Dennison Barracks in Berkshire. The award to the best student - Robbie Tait – expressed interest in the Livery and has been invited to our September Meet Us evening.

Late June saw the conclusion of this year's Primary Engineer competition with a celebration at our Hall. Primary pupils from four schools demonstrated the vehicles they had produced with great enthusiasm. Kudos to Jane Fishwick for her organisation.



Ian Gilbert arranged for a demonstration stand at the July Livery Schools Link event which ran for 3 days at The Guildhall. Our stand, supported by several Liverymen and Freemen included a number of science exhibits and challenges which were greatly enjoyed by the many school students who attended – as well as their teachers!

Figure 6 - Livery Schools Career event

The City of London Academy student awards take place in mid-July and I was pleased to attend this year and to present our Maths award and our Chemistry award to the winning students. The Chemistry Award winner – Youssef Tazouti – who is now studying Biochemistry at Queen Mary College was admitted as an apprentice in October.

During the year Ian Gilbert has continued to support the London Nautical School, Charles Dickens School and the City of London Academy Southwark including during the national Science Week.

Funding requests to support science teaching were provided to the London Nautical School and to Hawley Primary School (Primary Engineer participants)

Looking forward we are endeavouring to expand our reach with prospective relationships being pursued with organisations such as In2Science and the Institutes of Technology.

Membership Development & Promotion Committee

Chair: Senior Warden, Aubrey Dunford

Other members: Jim Webster (Junior Warden); Stephen O'Connor (Induction Warden); Martyn Wheatley (Social & Technical Coordinator); Philip Thomas (Master, ex officio); Elisabeth Jarvis (Apprentice Warden); Ed Talboys (London Hub); Simon Flower (Freeman Warden); Paul Rawlings (Recruitment Warden); Misha Hebel, Clerk



Figure 7 - Master Aubrey Dunford with Past Master Sir Ivor Cohen

The role of the Membership Development and Promotion Committee as its name implies is two-fold. One of the key roles is to recruit new members, either as Freeman or Liverymen, and the other is through its provision of events and activities to stimulate the interests and skills of the membership. In this way we intend to help especially the younger members of the company in their career and

professional development. This also ensures the long-term continuity and relevance of the Company.

A member's involvement with the company may start in the sixth form, after being admitted as an Apprentice to the Company, a role that can then continue throughout the Apprentice's university career. We encourage our Apprentices to apply for the Freeman grade once they graduate and later, when they have acquired further experience and begun to take on a leadership role, to apply to become Liverymen. Progress along this path is facilitated by the Apprentice Warden (Elisabeth Jarvis) and the Freeman Warden (Simon Flower).

People also join the company directly as a Freeman or as a Liverymen depending on their experience. The process of bringing new members into the company is managed by the Recruitment Warden (Paul Rawlings who succeeded Jim Webster at the start of the year), who organised successful "Meet Us" events in 2022-23. These "Meet-Us" events allow prospective new members to come to the Hall to meet a few of the Company's senior office holders and to have an opportunity to hear a little about the Company and ask questions. Once a new member has been accepted and admitted, the Induction Warden (Stephen O'Connor) for

Liverymen and the Freeman Warden (Simon Flower) for the Freeman work to make sure that new members are fully integrated into the Company.

As of September 2023, there were 189 Liverymen in the Company, with a further 8 pending, 112 Freeman, with 3 pending, and 44 Apprentices, with 2 pending. We are also expecting to admit Michael Mainelli, who is Lord Mayor elect, as an Honorary Liveryman early in the new year.

Webinars, which proved so popular during Covid lockdowns, were adopted as a valuable addition to the Company's technical programme. However, the number of members attending these was declining and so it was decided to stop the Webinar programme. However, in the year we had successful webinars presented by John Tyrer and Becky Canning. The last Webinar will be given by Carl Hunter early in the new Livery year.

On-line wine and cheese tastings, another lockdown innovation, were continued, and were extended during the year to include port and cheese. December 2022 saw another, on-line Master's Christmas Party.

The other significant developments within the year were driven by Past Master Martyn Wheatley. The first of these was the establishment of two Special Interest groups (SIGs). These attempt to link up member who have an interest in a particular topic, as way of sharing information and a forum to discuss issues of common concern, as well as good networking. The first two SIGs are on AI and on Software.

The other was the establishment of Regional HUBs. Based on the model started by Past Master John Caunt in Oxford, the idea has been started in other centres. A very successful group has been started in Manchester, and Ed Tallboys morphed his informal events role into a group meeting in London. Groups have also started in Cambridge, Bristol and Cardiff.

Past Master Wheatley also continued his very successful London history walks around parts of London, which proved highly popular.

As with any committee the successes are the result of the dedicated, voluntary efforts of its members, which were supported, throughout the year, by the Clerk, Misha Hebel, and the Assistant Clerk, Karen Fulton.

Aubrey Dunford

Chairman.

Charitable and Educational Trust

Chair: Past Master, Ron Summers

Trustees: Philip Thomas (Master); Aubrey Dunford (Senior Warden); Jim Webster (Junior Warden); David Lazenby, CBE (Liveryman); Sue John (Liveryman); Christopher Sawyer (Past Master); Tony Wilson (Past Master); James Popper (Liveryman); Kevin Breen (Hon Treasurer; Liveryman); Misha Hebel, Clerk

The trustees of the WCSIM Charitable and Educational Trust (CET) met on the appointed dates in the calendar with each meeting being well attended as befits the importance of its purpose to the lifeblood of the Livery. Membership has been stable throughout the year, and the Chair of Trustees was re-appointed for a second two-year term. Adam and Co. continued to manage our investment portfolio, and the total portfolio value was £3.13 million at the beginning of the financial year and £3.26 million at the end of it.

The strategy that the CET has adopted over a number of years is to try and keep the capital value of its investments stable, while using any surpluses from interest accrued for the benefit of charitable support. This capital sum has a step increase from time to time as the fund gains from the kind bequests from (usually) deceased Liverymen. It is exactly this process that the CET is – and will be – going through during the 2023-24 financial year. Though Past Master David Wallis pre-deceased his wife Edna, by far the majority of their estate passed to the Charity, and although the exact amount is unknown at present, a conservative estimate of the value of the estate is £2.5 million. It is also highly likely that any monies eventually received will be staged, a detail that may have an impact on choices available to the trustees in subsequent periods.

Impact on what the trustees decide to do with the budget available can be gauged from the following facts:

- 46% of the budget is allocated to the support of young people in all stages of their education (primary school through to post-doctoral fellowships)
- Around 5% of the budget also supports young people via Southwark Sea Cadets and Richmond Sea Scouts, together with the Cutters that they use
- In contrast, only 2% of the budget is used to support prizes and awards in the professions (this figure includes our military awards)

WCSIM is known within the Livery fraternity to punch above its weight with respect to supporting individual students; this year the budget allocates approximately £16,000 to scholars; £26,300 to apprentices (including Arkwright scholars); and £5,000 to part-fund a post-doctoral fellowship. With the anticipation of a known significant uplift to funds, the trustees have some interesting decisions to make in the near future. It should also be mentioned that the trustees remain open to the receipt of suggestions for charitable giving – it is unusual for us not to consider one or two such submissions per meeting. Success is increased should the submission be considered as ‘education-based’ – though not necessarily

aimed at younger people; and the trustees always keep a look-out for opportunities to increase membership at any level as a consequence of follow through from funds awarded.

Finally, it is clear that the Wallis' decision to leave a large part of their estate to the CET will have a profound effect on what the trustees are able to offer in terms of charitable giving and its likely impact. Can I therefore make a personal request to remind Liverymen that it is possible to leave a bequest to WCSIM in your will – no matter how large or small. You will have the foreknowledge that any monies will be managed wisely and put to very good use... ..moving forward by giving back.

SIM Hall Ltd

Chair: Past Master, Christopher Sawyer

Directors: Keith Etherington (Past Master); Philip Thomas (Master); Jonathan Stuart (Liveryman); Aubrey Dunford (Senior Warden); Charles Holroyd (Deputy Master); Jim Webster (Junior Warden); Roger Seaton (Hon Solicitor - guest); Kevin Breen, (Honorary Treasurer); Misha Hebel (Clerk).

This micro-business is the bridge between the Livery and Glaziers Hall Ltd who run the building and commercial side of the Hall along with Lifes Kitchen the caterers.

GHL is owned by three liveries,
The Worshipful Company of Glaziers,
The Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers,
The Worshipful Company of Launderers.

The Hall also provides administrative offices for the Livery Clerks and their staff who organize all the livery events, manage membership and communications, liase with the wider City, as well as provide a secretariat for Livery meetings throughout the year.

In addition, GHL have a highly qualified Management team running Glaziers Hall Ltd, a leading and very successful Events business.

The Hall caters for big, small, national and international organisations, providing high tech conference facilities, full or snack catering for dinners etc.
Clients include Amazon, Whitbread, Michael Jackson Convention, Kraft Heinz, Unilever, EY, Kier Construction, Zoopla, Kings College, also weddings etc.
The hall is constantly invested in to provide first class facilities to be enjoyed by everyone uses and visits the Hall.

Conclusion

The year was a successful one that made the best of the post-COVID environment. There were fantastic speakers and good attendance at events. Changes to organisation structure were planned and new strategies developed. New members came in and sadly some stalwarts were lost. Here's to the future.