

# The Worshipful Company of Feltmakers of London

## Summer Newsletter 2011

### Welcome to the Summer 2011 edition of our e-Newsletter

This third e-newsletter marks the end of our first year of publication as we started in Autumn 2010. Since the



Alderman Alan Yarrow

Spring edition just over four months ago, all the planned events took place successfully and articles on them can be viewed on the website, ([www.feltmakers.co.uk](http://www.feltmakers.co.uk)), except, of course, the Livery Lunch and the Inter-Livery Tennis Competition, which take place in September, (see below).

Away from our own Feltmaker events, it's worth mentioning the election of the Sheriffs which took place on 24 June. What is interesting about the election process for the Sheriffs at Guildhall is that each of the candidates makes an address to the assembled Liverymen, giving an opportunity to hear directly why they feel they deserve one's vote. What was unusual in this case was there wasn't a clear winner in the show of hands for the Lay Sheriff, so a poll had to be arranged. This took place on 8 July and, following the count, Alderman Alan



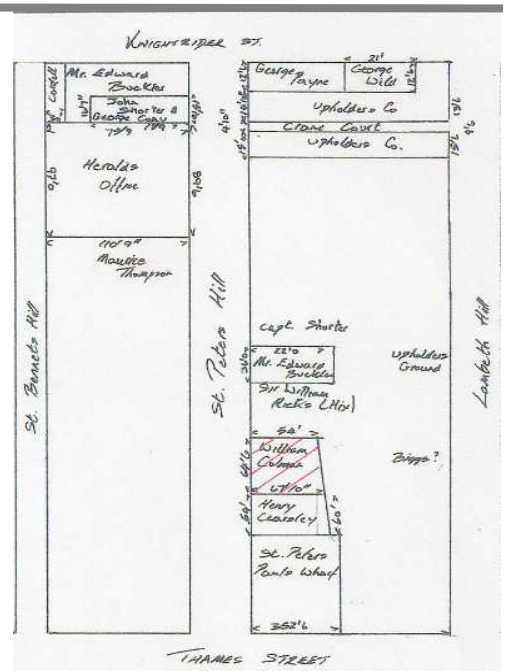
Wendy Mead

Yarrow (husband of our Court Assistant Gilly) and Wendy Mead were duly confirmed as the Aldermanic Sheriff and the Lay Sheriff respectively. The election of the Lord Mayor will take place at Guildhall on 3 October and you will need to contact the Clerk if you wish to attend the election and/or attend the lunch which follows.

## The Feltmakers' Hall

No, the Feltmakers' Company has not been ignoring the recession by building new premises. Many liverymen may not be aware that we used to have our own hall, but research by liveryman Alastair Hay which he has reported to our Historical Committee, has discovered some details of the company's original hall, which was destroyed in the Great Fire of London in 1666.

Livery halls then, he reports, were not the impressive buildings we know today, but functional wooden-framed warehouses and stores with usually an upstairs room in which the court met to discuss business. Our hall is likely to have been leased or rented and was situated in St. Peter's Hill, not far from Pudding Lane where the great fire started. This road does not now exist, but was near the river, off Thames Street, as the contemporary sketch map by William Colman, shows. For a summary of Alastair's report,



[click http://feltmakers.co.uk/research-into-the-siting-of-the-original-feltmakers-hall.](http://feltmakers.co.uk/research-into-the-siting-of-the-original-feltmakers-hall)

## 2011 Provides an Upsurge in Interest in British Millinery



British hat designers have benefitted from this year's two Royal Weddings, that of Prince William to Catherine Middleton in April and then in July, that of Zara Phillips to Mike Tindall, and also to the 300th anniversary of Royal Ascot week in June. This is very good news for the milliner liverymen in our Company as Royal Hatmaker and



Feltmaker Rachel Trevor-Morgan explains in her article on our website -

click <http://www.feltmakers.co.uk/2011-shows-an-upsurge-in-interest-in-british-millinery>

## Forthcoming Events for your diary

**The next main event in our diary is the Feltmakers' Livery Lunch to be held on Wednesday 7 September, at Tallow Chandlers' Hall.**

The Livery Lunch is a fairly recent initiative, that provides Liverymen an opportunity to bring their wives, husbands or partners to meet each other and enjoy a good lunch in a much less formal atmosphere than, say, at the Banquet. Previous lunches have been very popular



Enjoying lunch in Tallow Chandlers' Hall after the Election of the Lord Mayor in 2010

and have been held at the Cavalry and Guards Club in Piccadilly, but this year we will meet at the splendid Tallow Chandlers' Hall in the City. Many Liverymen will know this hall, and have enjoyed its hospitality, but for



Last year's Livery Lunch

spouses and partners, this may be a rare opportunity to visit this

ancient hall. If you haven't already booked for this lunch, you can download the Clerk's application form by clicking <http://www.feltmakers.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Liverey-lunch-2011.pdf>, but note that he needs to receive these by 1 September.

## Other Events for your diary

**Thursday 15 September**

**Inter-Livery Tennis Competition at Queen's Club**



A previous Inter-Livery Tennis Competition at Queen's Club

This inter-livery competition is organised by the Feltmakers' Livery Society on behalf of the Feltmakers' Company, and is always an excellent event in the livery's sporting and social calendar. As usual, this year it is being held at the prestigious Queen's Club in West London see

<http://www.queensclub.co.uk>.

Entrants from across the liveries enter the competition as mixed-

doubles pairs and the standard of tennis is high, as is the standard of the dinner at the club in the evening. Even if you are not playing, spectators and diners are most welcome and you should contact the Clerk or Sarah McLeod to arrange your attendance.

**Monday 3 October**

**Election of the Lord Mayor at Guildhall followed by Lunch at Tallow Chandlers' Hall**



The Lord Mayor is elected each year by members of all the livery companies who assemble at Guildhall. This is a magnificent ceremony which does not stint on pageantry and Liverymen are encouraged to attend to perform their civic duty.

As usual, this year, Feltmakers are invited by the Tallow

Chandlers' Company to join them, together with members of several other selected livery companies, for lunch at Tallow Chandlers' Hall after the election ceremony. To arrange attendance at the election and also for lunch, please contact the Clerk.



**Friday 7 October**

**Installation Dinner at Haberdashers' Hall.**



Back to our 'home' at Haberdashers' Hall for the last main livery dinner of the year, the Installation Dinner, at which we welcome our new Master, Eda Rose-Lawson, as well as our new Fourth Warden, Peter Simeons, both of whom will have been confirmed in office by the Court at its meeting just prior to the dinner. The new Master's guest speaker will be Sir Mansel Aylward CB MD FRCP FFOM FFPM, a physician and specialist in rheumatology and rehabilitation, therapeutics and clinical pharmacology who is currently Director of the Centre for Psychosocial and Disability Research at Cardiff University. Both Sir Mansel and his wife Angela were school colleagues in Wales of our Master designate, and have remained friends ever since. If you have not yet booked to attend the dinner, click here to download the Clerk's application form from <http://www.feltmakers.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Installation-dinner-2011.pdf>

**Monday 12 December**

**The Feltmakers' Carol Service at St. Mary-le-Bow church in Cheapside.**

This year, the Feltmakers' Carol Service is to be held at St. Mary-le-Bow church in Cheapside, famous as the home of Bow Bells, which feature in the Oranges and Lemons nursery rhyme and the legend of Dick Whittington, who supposedly turned when he heard the bells calling him back to become Lord Mayor of London. The true sign of a Cockney is said to be that they were born within the sound of Bow Bells. Although an ancient church dating from 1080, it was destroyed in both the great fire of 1666 and in the second world war in 1941. The present building was rebuilt and re-consecrated in 1962, and it is the first time we have held our carol service here. Feltmakers look forward to the carol service as the start of the Christmas celebrations and as always, it will be followed by supper, which will this year be served at the church, itself.



Our Chaplain, the Very Reverend Colin Semper, at a previous carol service held at St. Bartholemew the Great

## The Feltmakers' Website

Don't forget to visit our website [www.feltmakers.co.uk](http://www.feltmakers.co.uk) which is updated regularly and includes information and reports on all Feltmakers' events.

## Feedback

This is our third e-Newsletter and we would be really grateful if you could send us your comments on its format and content. Thank you.

Please send an e-mail to us.

## Editorial Committee

Judy George, Christopher Horsburgh, Edward Hutton, Eric Shawyer, Peter Shirley, and Peter Simeons

e-Newsletter design by Peter Shirley

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Please note that the Feltmakers' e-newsletters are sent to members and apprentices of the Feltmakers' Company for whom e-mail addresses are registered with the Clerk