



GLASS SELLERS OF LONDON - NEWS

Inter-Livery Pétanque Competition 31st July 2025.



The weather held, so no soggy sandwiches, but great picnics and flowing wines.

The Glassy Team of Barbara Beadman, Vanessa Cutler and Helen Beadman in dark blue trousers, stripey tops and Glass Sellers hoodies drew The Framework Knitters in their first draw. Unfortunately, they are good and were runners-up last year – score 9-1.

The Team was cheered on by the Master James Armitage and Liverymen De Bradshaw, Gwen Rhys and Peter McClain. Helen was hobbling thanks to a DIY injury, untimely descent from a ladder and Peter stepped in to give her knee and ankle a break.



Our final draw was against The Cooks, Bond Family Team, with a creditable 4-4 draw and using some unusual techniques.

We did not win a prize in Pétanque or with the best fancy dress but wait until next time. B.P.Beadman

Annual Camp Visit – 30th July 2025



The Master, James Armitage, Clerk, Paul Wenham and Court Assistant, Oliver Charles, attended the Annual Open Day at the City of London and NE Sector Army Cadet Force Headquarters at Whipps Cross. Following a welcome by Col. Wendy Adams and other senior staff, we were briefed on the work undertaken and the status of membership. A tour of the base allowed us to see some of the projects that the cadets undertake during their training sessions. Following a buffet luncheon with the cadets, we witnessed the passing-out parade and the award presentations.



Mistress in Kew – 9th September

The Mistress, Marion Armitage, hosted a delightful visit to Kew Gardens, followed by Afternoon Tea at Newens, the original Maids of Honour Tea Rooms. Members and fellow Mistresses gathered at the Victoria Gate, where they were welcomed and divided into two groups. Students from the Kew Diploma Course then guided each group through



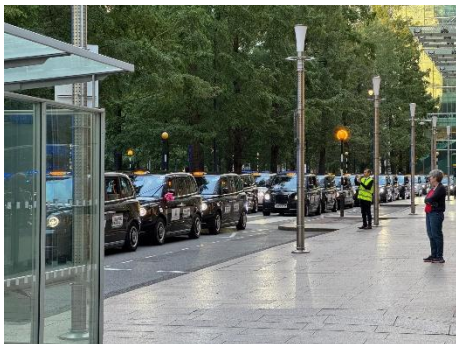
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some of the lesser-known and most intriguing areas of the Gardens, offering insights into their studies and the unique plant collections.

Magic Taxi Tour – 12th September 2025



The Master and Mistress attended the morning breakfast and start of this unique weekend. One of London's most unique annual charity events, the Magical Taxi Tour sees a convoy of licensed London taxis take over 200 children, suffering from a range of chronic, debilitating illnesses and life-limiting conditions, on a three-day trip of a lifetime to Disney Paris. This event has brought moments of great joy and happiness to many children. The amazing convoy reaches over three miles long, and consists of more than 90 taxis, escorts from the City of London Police and Gendarmerie Nationale, London Ambulance NHS Trust vehicles and the AA.



Organised annually by the Worshipful Company of Hackney Carriage Drivers, the event is only possible with the generous support of private donors and sponsors. They contribute the £1,500 per taxi needed to feed, transport and admit the convoy to Disneyland Paris.

The taxi drivers give their time and use of their vehicles for free. Everyone on the trip is a volunteer.

The trip starts from Canary Wharf, where we entertain and feed the children and helpers with the 'Big breakfast' before the giant convoy departs to catch the ferry at Dover.

Master's Autumn Lunch – Saturday 13th September 2025



Members of the Company, Partners and friends were invited to join the Master and Mistress in their garden in Chiswick for a Saturday Buffet Luncheon. Sited close to the Thames and not deterred by the weather, gazebos and covers were arrayed around to give protection from what could have been sunshine but alas turned out to be rain. The amusement was not dampened as the gathering huddled from the showers under cover and were served with a delightful selection of foods, and of course, in Glass Sellers tradition – wine. Coincidentally, it also happened to be the Master's birthday, and a cake was provided with the Company Crest.





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Stourbridge Museum – Tuesday 16th September 2025

PICTURES

The Master, Mistress, Immediate Past Master, Clerk and Members of the Livery visited Stourbridge Museum. A Buffet Luncheon was provided, and we were joined by Glass Artist and Liveryman Allister Malcolm, Terri Malcolm and Freeman Will Farmer. We were also joined later by the Chairman of the British Glass Foundation, Graham Knowles. Will Farmer entertained us with a guided tutored tour of some of the exhibits in the museum, and Allister Malcolm entertained us in his studio with some Glass Blowing – The Master also had a go.
A most entertaining day out.

Isle of Wight – Sailing – 19th – 21st September 2025



A keen sailor, The Master took up the challenge to enter the newly formed [City Livery Sailing Challenge](#) to be hosted at the Sea View Yacht Club on the Isle of Wight. The team included Liverymen, Matthew Tottle, Darren Lad and Artisan Freeman Carl Nordbruch. Freeman Alan Joy aided another Company who were a man down. Twelve teams sailed the Club's famous Mermaids, which have been a feature of Seaview and Solent waters for over 100 years. The competition was for the Princess Royal Challenge Cup.



The winner of the Princess Royal Challenge Cup were the Turners Company.
Crewed by Jeremy Field, Alex Niell, Michael Neill and Mat Webb-Jenkins

A presentation of champagne was made to the Shipwrights Company who won the first race and were second overall. The crew was Guy Main, James Walters, Peter Morton, Chris Griffiths.

The winner of the City Livery Yacht Club Trophy was Jim Miller of the Scriveners, being the highest placed CLYC member. Our own team came in 6th position. Glass Sellers turned out in force for the weekend event, numbering 17 in total, supporting the team.

Court & Livery – 23rd September 2025

PICTURES

Our September Dinner took place at Armourer's Hall a return for us and last visited in September 1971. Following a Court meeting discussing the Company's affairs, we were joined by Members and Guests for the welcoming reception. At the Piano was Beethoven Piano Prize Winner 2023, Jeremy Chan. Company guests included The Master Farmer and Clerk, Opal Seabrook – Glass Artist. The guest speaker, Allister Malcolm enthused and gave details of this year's Glass Sellers Doodle Competition, which had received over one thousand entries for its second year of running.



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The Fare, comprising a four-course menu and wine, was provided by The Cook & the Butler. The final Toast 'To Glass' was proposed by The Master.

Annual Sheep Drive – 28th September 2025



This year's Master led a Group of 10 Members to the [Annual Sheep Drive](#) organised by the Company of Woolman. An annual City event enjoyed by Liverymen, Friends and Families. Steeped in historical tales of the Medieval City of London and its traditions, the event raises money for the Woolman's Charity. In medieval times, sheep farmers drove their sheep across London Bridge into the City of London to sell them at market. Freemen of the City were exempt from the bridge toll that had to be paid by other people crossing the bridge, in recognition of their status as local traders.



Election of the Lord Mayor – 29th September 2025



Members of the Company attended Common Hall following the summons to attend on Michaelmas to elect the new Lord Mayor for the ensuing year. They would take office in November. The Lord Mayor is elected by members of the City's ancient trade guilds – Livery Companies who gather at Common Hall in the Guildhall. Dame Susan Langley DBE was elected as the 697th Lord Mayor of London and will be the first to use the title of 'Lady Mayor'. She will champion a 'Modern Mayoralty' with a long-term strategy to drive economic growth in partnership with Government and industry.

Members were then hosted to a Luncheon at Stationer's Hall with other Livery Companies. Another event filled with camaraderie and fellowship.

Kempton Races – 10th October 2025



Renter Warden, Liveryman David Hinton hosted 'A Night at the Races' at Kempton. Sitting the Panoramic Gallery the group enjoyed an evening dinner, watching and placing bets on the eight races from 16.30 hours till 21.20 hours.

Some lost, some broke even, and one or two left in pocket. A great night of fun and excitement, and requests to do it all again in 2026.



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Dr Johnson's House – 14th October 2025



The writer of the first dictionary, a preserved Georgian House in the heart of the City. The curator supplied early evening refreshments before guiding through the three floors of this historic building, telling tales of marriages, extended time scales and poverty. Mischievous goings on and adventures.



The House is quite amazing and has been restored extremely well and tells an intriguing story of times past.

City & Guilds School of Art – 15th October 2025

The Charity Fund's support of the Glass department at the College brought a group to make a presentation of the inaugural Prize for Outstanding Work in Glass Artistry.

Congratulations go to Fiona McHugh, recipient of the 2025 prize, for her magnificent and moving work that reimagines the possibilities of glass. Fiona completed her Foundation Diploma in Art &

Design in 2025 and is now embarking on our MA in Fine Art.



The award was presented by James Armitage, Master 2024–25, in the presence of Lois Rowe, the Principal.

During the visit, we shared an insightful conversation that touched on the history and role of glass in art, and explored the challenges and opportunities ahead for further strengthening the work within the Glass Studio.

Leeming Dinner and Awards – 23rd September 2025



The Master, Renter Warden and Clerk attended The Excalibur's Awards at RAF Leeming, hosted by Gp Capt John A. Lawson ADC MSc BEng RAF.

Travelling to Yorkshire by train to Northallerton and then on to the camp. We were greeted on arrival and escorted to our accommodation before meeting to be taken to the hangars hosting the event.

A splendid evening honouring the works of excellence carried out during the year. The Master presented the Glass Sellers Award to Flight Sergeant Scott Archer for 'Transparency, Resistance to Breakage and Heat'



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[VIDEO](#)

Admission of the Lord Mayor – 7th November 2025



Annual Banquet - 28th October 2025



[PICTURE ALBUM](#)

We gathered once again at Mansion House for the Annual Banquet. Music supplied by the Royal Marines, Wines sponsored by The Glass and Glazing Federation (GGF). In attendance, the Lord Mayor Locum Tenens, Sir Charles Bowman, and Company guests, including Gp Capt. John Lawson and Mrs Lawson, a delegation from RAF Leeming and HMS Artful, Luxembourg Ambassador to London H.E. Georges Friden, Master Spectacle Maker and Clerk, Master Distiller, and Members from the GGF. Table flowers were supplied by Beards & Daisies.



The Master and a delegation of Glass Sellers attended the Silent Ceremony and the Presentation of Addresses, two ceremonies which start the New Lord (Lady) Mayor's Year of office.

The Silent Ceremony is the occasion upon which the new Lord Mayor of London is sworn into office, and it takes place on the day before the Lord Mayor's Show (which is usually the second Saturday in November).

As the name implies, the actions of all the participants are performed in total silence apart from the swearing of the oath. A procession of richly dressed liverymen and officials, the removal of the outgoing Mayor's tricorne hat and the donning of that of the new, and the presentation of the various symbols of office to the new Mayor. These include the sceptre, sword and badges and all are offered with a bow from their respective officers. The party then leave, also in silence.

There then followed the presentation of addresses at which the Livery Companies present gifts. This year, the new Lady Mayor is Dame Susan Langley DBE. A delegation from the Glass Sellers presented the Lady Mayor with a pair of glass oil & vinegar bottles engraved with the Lady Mayor's Crest and the Glass Sellers' Coat of Arms. The bottles had been created by Past Master David Wilkinson's Company and were from the glass batch used for similar bottles presented to the King for the Coronation. After a short reception, the delegation proceeded to St Laurence Jewry for Evensong.

Lord Mayor's Show 8th November 2025



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PICTURES

On Saturday, the Lady Mayor's Show was a great event. At 9.15, before the start of the show, our horse Winston took us to Mansion House so that our Cinderella coach could be used by the BBC to introduce their live coverage of the show. The



Lady Mayor came out to inspect, we were able to make our second presentation to her in 24 hours, a charming cut Glass Slipper donated by Past Master Barbara Beadman.



Once the BBC had finished their pre-recording, we took the coach to Walbrook at the side of Mansion House and were slotted

into the procession as it went past. Winston behaved impeccably, and Madelyn's costumes were fantastic. We enjoyed being in the procession; the crowds cheered enthusiastically as we went past. After the show, we retired to the Butcher's Hook and Cleaver for well-earned refreshment.

VIDEO

Members Night – 11th November 2025

Gathering at the Guildhall Club once again for another of our Tales of the City Part 4– this time an address by Past Master Founder, Alan Hughes, on 'The Bells of the City'. After a rendition of the famous poem Oranges & Lemons, Alan went on to a graphic and intriguing description of the complexities of casting bells, how they are housed and played.

Mention was also made to the Glass Sellers bell, 'Charles' in the Tower at St. James Garlickhythe.

VIDEO

New Freeman



James Argentieri – Freeman

www.linkedin.com/in/james-argentieri-ba3a162a

James has enjoyed 3 separate events with the Glass Sellers and would like to take his first steps forward as a Freeman. He enjoys the history of the City with all its architecture and looks forward to meeting more members throughout the bust calendar. He leads a 3rd generation family business focused on everything for the garden and home, from landscaping and kitchens to natural stone products and an on site cafeteria. He studied Business Management at Brunel University London, before joining the family business. He lives in Essex with his 2 boys and family. James has been proposed by Richard Gundle.



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Chris Beedel – Freeman

[linkedin.com/in/chris-beedel-661bb024](https://www.linkedin.com/in/chris-beedel-661bb024)

Chris is the Head of Government Advocacy and Stakeholder Relations at the Glass & Glazing Federation. His role involves the championing of glass throughout the UK economy, focusing on areas like education and up-to-date information sharing on glass as well as promoting the recycling of glass. He has a strong background in charity work, has travelled the world from a young age and has settled with his wife in Letchworth from where he can commute into London twice a week, often in and around Westminster. Outside work he enjoys some serious sea fishing every year with his fishing club all around the UK and Ireland. He was introduced by John Agnew and proposed by Ed Adshead-Grant.



Andrew Gosling – Freeman

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/andrew-gosling-47a21999/>

Andrew is the Founder & Chairman of the Food Show Ltd and the owner of the 14 bed Cliff House Hotel in Southbourne. Food Show prides itself on excellent customer service, maintaining the very best client experience by skilled staff who continually exceed expectation with their passion for delicious, elegant food and stunning events. Whether

you're hosting a business lunch, corporate dinner, cocktail party or planning the wedding of your dreams, Food Show will work with you on creative planning, bespoke menus, set design and production to shape and visualise your perfect event.



Alison Vincent – Freeman

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/glassartist/>

Alison is an artist in hot hand sculpted & hot blown glass and has been for over 6 years. She also has a passion for being in the extreme wilderness - especially Antarctica and the Arctic with mountains sea life and ice or far-flung islands with ocean life. Alison started off working for blue chip companies including Mothercare, Coca Cola, Procter & Gamble and Sara Lee as a packaging technologist and then proceeded to launch her own business called AVA packing solutions which she ran successfully for over 20 years. During this time, she attended Aston Business School and gained her MBA. Alison was invited to join The Worshipful Company of Horner's and declined but she feels the fit of the Glass Sellers with her interests and passions are far more aligned. Alison is proposed by Jane Vincent. Alison wants to join as a full freeman as she wants to gain her Freedom of the City and become a liveryman.



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Headteacher of two primary schools and then advisory head over 10 primary schools.

Bill Pohl – Freeman

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/bill-pohl-60b6075/>

Bill served in the army and then retrained by becoming a mature student attending the University of East London, gaining a First-Class Honours Degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering. He went on the work in Project Engineering and Management in subsea telecommunications, including spending several years working in Japan. Bill also built a property portfolio of HMOs and BTL's which he operated and managed over a 15-year period, and sold most of them in the last few years to focus on retirement.



Claire Wood - Freeman

A career over many years in education. Attended James Allen's Girls School in Dulwich and then gained teaching qualifications at Goldsmiths, University of London, leading to a teacher of history. Secondary teacher and assistant head teacher, special education needs and disabilities. Head of unit for children with specific learning difficulties, head of unit for children with physical difficulties.