

Cripplegate Ward Club

Master: John Sleeman



23 December 2022

Dear Cripplegate Ward Club Members,

Since my last letter in September, we have enjoyed three events. The first was our annual banquet, the second was lunch in the Guildhall for the Lord Mayor's Show and the third was our annual Carol Service.

Being a Past Master Wax Chandler, I thought it appropriate to hold our Annual Banquet at the Wax Chandlers' Hall. Our guest speaker was Sir David Wootton, a Past Lord Mayor. The Master Barber and her Consort also attended. We enjoyed pre-dinner drinks, a three-course meal with wines and a stirrup cup afterwards. Our attendance was 47 which, given the difficulties the City Livery and Ward Clubs are finding in attracting diners, was a good turnout.



The Master and his wife, the Upper Warden and the Under Warden standing in the reception line.



Our second event was the Lord Mayor's show, held as always nowadays on the second Saturday of November. This year's show saw our new Lord Mayor, Nicholas Lyons, parade around the City. Some of you will recall that Nick accompanied the previous Lord Mayor at our Civic Lunch last March.

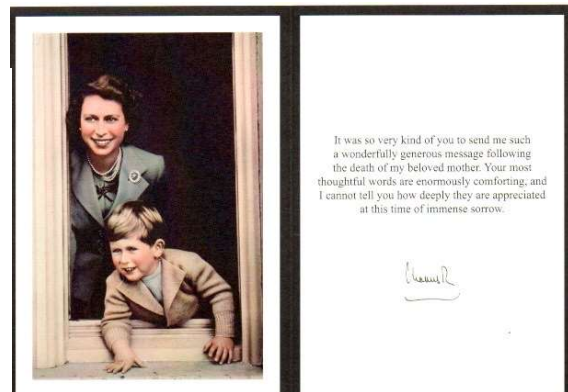
Also in the show was the Past Lord Mayor and present Master of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the River Thames, Sir David Wootton, who was the guest speaker at our Annual Banquet.

After the Show each year we are able to enjoy lunch in the Private Members' Main Dining Room in the Guildhall, splendidly organised (at a very reasonable price) by Mark Grove of The Cook and The Butler.



Our final event of the year was our Annual Carol Service. This year, after a long break, we held the Service at St. Giles Cripplegate – our Ward Church. Father Jack Noble officiated over a splendid 7 carols and lessons service, with wonderful singing by a large choir and magnificent organ playing. This service should be a must for all members in the future.

You may recall that in my last letter I had written to His Majesty the King giving our condolences to him on the death of his mother, her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. I received the following reply addressed to me and all members of our Club from Buckingham Palace just before Christmas.



I wish you all, a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year

With my best wishes

John Sleeman

Master