

# THE MACE-BEARER

2019



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# THE GUILD OF MACE-BEARERS

## OBJECTS

To uphold and preserve the customs of the civic and corporate life of the Country and Commonwealth and to advise thereon.

To collect and disseminate information that will assist members in the performance of their duties.

To uphold the position and dignity of the office of Mace Bearer within the civic and corporate domain.

To promote the spirit of comradeship and co-operation amongst its members.

To encourage a degree of uniformity in civic and corporate ceremonial without infringing the peculiar and characteristics customs of individual Towns and Corporations

To assemble its members periodically to discuss matters of professional interest.

## IDEAL

The Guild shall be strictly non-sectarian and non-political and shall not seek the status of a Trade Union.

## MOTTO

Semper Fidelis (Ever Faithful)

## The Guild Council

Prime Warden	Chris Hobbs-East	primewarden@macebearer.com
Renter Prime Warden	Adam Tregoning J.P.	renterwarden@macebearer.com
Guild Clerk	Chris Hobbs-East	clerk@macebearer.com
Guild Bursar	<i>Vacant Post</i>	bursar@macebearer.com
Guild Training Officer	Derek Scott	training@macebearer.com
Guild Editor	Alan Spencer	editor@macebearer.com
	Neil Tully QPM (co-opted)	
Area Representatives		
North and North Wales	Geoff Johnson	north@macebearer.com
Scotland	Willy Patterson	scotland@macebearer.com
South East	Adam Tregoning J.P.	southeast@macebearer.com
South West and South Wales	Adam Tregoning J.P. (covering)	southwest@macebearer.com
With The Assistance Of		
Guild Welfare Office	Richard Strudwick	welfare@macebearer.com
Guild Web Master	Peter E Legg	webmaster@macebearer.com
General enquiries		info@macebearer.com





Dear all, well what can I say about my year so far as Prime Warden apart from it's been a privilege and honour to have been able to serve the Guild in this way.

I have to thank everyone for their help and support at my conference in Deal back in February. I hope the members feel it was a great success as I do. It was lovely to share our little seaside town with the members and council. Also the members in turn showed the town how great our Guild is. I have since had nothing but praise and interest about the Guild. So thank you all.

It was a great honour that Deal Town Council agreed to have the Guild silver and standard on permanent display in the Town Hall for my year in office.

The next 6 months will be the busiest as it includes a lot of parades and engagements where I'll be proud to wear the badge and represent the guild.

I look forward to passing the badge over to Adam in Southend on Sea in 2020.





**A**dam Tregoning J.P.  
renterwarden@macebearer.com

## RENTER PRIME WARDEN

I was honoured to be installed as Renter Prime Warden at the annual conference in Deal and would like to express my thanks to all who attended. The Prime Warden, Chris Hobbs-East arranged a fantastic conference and I thank him for his hard work and dedication in making it such a special occasion.

It is a huge pleasure to be able to represent the Guild and I will do my utmost to promote the Guild to the wider Community.

The next Annual Conference will be held in Southend-on-Sea and I look forward to welcoming every one of you to our beautiful Borough from Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020. We have an array of beautiful parks and gardens, the World's longest pleasure Pier, award winning beaches, culture a-plenty and much, much more waiting for you. So, please do try and attend if you are able to and you will be made very welcome.



**A**lan Spencer  
editor@macebearer.com

## GUILD EDITOR



Welcome to my final production of the Macebearer magazine. It has been a rollercoaster ride since taking over as Editor.

I have spent 10 years on the council and feel it is now time to step down and give someone else a chance. I can then enjoy the conferences without having to get involved 'behind the scenes'. At the excellent conference in Deal, well done Chris, those who were there will know that I tendered my resignation as Editor.

It has been quite enjoyable over the years, but . . . there have been times where I felt like banging my head against a brick wall as publication deadline loomed with very little content from members.

I hope my successor enjoys the role as Editor and has as much fun as I have had. I trust all members will take pity on them and send lots of information for articles.

I would like to thank everybody for their positive comments over the years and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the next AGM in Southend-On-Sea where I can take a back seat!

Having taken retirement from chauffeuring but continuing with the odd ceremonial macebearing life has become a little easier all round.





**C**hris Hobbs-East  
clerk@macebearer.com

This year has seen the guild striving forward in many ways.

After great training in February we have been working hard on replacing the old website and opening the online shop. This in turn will end this year being able to join and renew your membership via the website.

I must thank Peter Legg for his great work and many hours sorting this new system out.

Membership is staying steady and we always encourage all members to help increase the membership and awareness of our guild.

It's great to serve on the council and I have seen the guild grow and look forward to seeing it grow even more in the future.

## GUILD CLERK



**bursar@macebearer.com**

New members are now able to sign up for the Guild by completing an online application form. Whether its an application for Full Membership, a Friend of the Guild, Overseas Membership or to convert your existing Full Membership to become an Honorary Member it can all be accessed from the Membership and Subscriptions page. Once an application form has been completed the appropriate invoice will be issued by email and it can be paid online with a debit or credit card, or payment can be made in the traditional ways by cheque or bank transfer. New subscriptions will run for 12 months from the date of joining and a renewal invoice will automatically be issued on the due date.

Existing membership renewals are also being added to this system and so current members will receive a renewal invoice at the start of December due to be paid by 1st January. Whether you pay your subscription yourself, or if you need to forward the invoice on to your manager for payment this system will be much more user friendly and will avoid much of the labour-intensive work for the Bursar in issuing paper invoices/receipts and reminders.

## GUILD BURSAR





## Guild Fees 2019 / 2020

Members	£35.00
Friends	£6.00 (£12.00 in first year)

May we remind members that Guild Membership Fees for current members are due in January. Renewal invoices will be sent out early December.

Late fees may apply if your fees if not paid in time.



## WELFARE

**R**ichard Strudwick  
[welfare@macebearer.com](mailto:welfare@macebearer.com)

It is my sad duty to report the death of Mr Alf Johnson, who passed away in early May aged 88. Alfie ( as he was better known) held the post of Beadle to Marlborough Town Council and was also the Town Crier for over twenty years, in which capacity he was held in high regard by his many friends and colleagues far & wide. We extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to Alf's daughter and other family members. May he rest in peace.

To date (4th June) I have no further news to report but as always urge members of the Guild to make contact if any colleagues are found to be in need

On a personal note I sadly inform you and Guild Colleagues that our eldest daughter, Gaynor, (52) died as a result of a cardiac arrest . Gaynor and our other girls always attended the annual Guild Conference and my wife and I have many happy memories of those earlier days.

Since publication of the last magazine we have welcomed the following new members.

David W. Baldwin	Gloucester,	Heather Hill	Portsmouth City Council
Paul Williams	Gloucester,	Rob Smitten	City of Wakefield M.D.C.



I am sure you all join with me in sending condolences to our Welfare Officer Richard on his personal sad news.





## SOUTH EAST & SOUTH WEST

**A**dam Tregoning  
[southeast@macebearer.com](mailto:southeast@macebearer.com)  
[southwest@macebearer.com](mailto:southwest@macebearer.com)

As I write to you all, I am conscious that many of us have had our roles and responsibilities changed over the years, whilst still maintaining the traditions and heritage of our Mayor's and local Authorities which has probably put extra demands on your time and skill sets. With that in mind, if any of you have any issues, training needs or just need help from the Guild with a query, I urge you to get in touch with your local representatives for assistance, in order that you can get the most out of your membership of the Guild.

We now have a dedicated Facebook page and a newly designed website that will assist you in getting information or to share your experiences with other Macebearers. All members have a wealth of experience that can be tapped into that can help make all our lives that much easier and more enjoyable.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the next Annual Training & Conference in Southend-on-Sea from Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

'Semper Fidelis'



## SCOTLAND

**W**illy Patterson  
[scotland@macebearer.com](mailto:scotland@macebearer.com)

It is with regret I have to report Scottish Councils have severe budget cuts again I think soon the smaller councils will be swallowed up by the larger ones.

While working with Falkirk council I had the opportunity to assist the Provost to the Grangemouth round the houses road race, where the Provost was presenting medals to the youngsters. This in fact took me down memory lane as I won this race way back In 1972 in my days of being an athlete. I feel it is, quite ironic me being employed at Falkirk Council as it was an ex employee Mr Jimmy Malone who first introduced me to the Council Officers Association



## TRAINING OFFICER

**D**erek Scott  
[training@macebearer.com](mailto:training@macebearer.com)

The Guild year started with a great Conference in Deal. Kent 2019

Thanks must go to the Town Council and congratulations sent to our Prime Warden Chris Hobbs-East.

The conference is always a great way to meet colleagues new and old and to learn and share from the vast Knowledge that they bring.

I have been informed that those attending found the training informative and useful and hopefully everyone had a great conference.

Myself and the renter Prime warden Adam Tregoning JP are in the midst of planning the training for next conference 11- 13 March 2020 at Southend on Sea

and hope to see many more members attending to support the Guild.

# Guild Conferen

The Guild conference started as usual with a get together on the Wednesday evening for those who had travelled up the night before.

In Deal Town Hall delegates met up for registration, picking up their conference packs, greeting old friends and the odd cake or two!



Thursday morning everyone came together again for a short parade through Deal from the Town Hall to St. Andrew's Church where the installation took place.





# nce 2019 - Deal

The training sessions for members took place in the Town Hall starting with a session on the care and maintenance of civic chains and badges by Steven and Karen Ottewill. We did not get any pictures of their presentation but they were found by the FoGs recovering with an ice cream!



After lunch was a first for the Guild. Sergeant Guy Mantoura of the Metropolitan Police gave a presentation on the Security of VIPs in Public. Unable to be in Deal, as he had been called away to Wales, through the power of technology, Sgt Mantoura gave his presentation remotely complete with a Q&A session. The presentation was well received by members (and with a certain amount of relief by FoG Geoff Hobbs-East who helped set up the link to Wales).



Next up was Peter Legg. Long time member who gave a talk on chauffeuring your civic party.

Assisting the demonstration on how a lady should leave a car, Keith Simpson donned a Guild Flag skirt to protect his modesty.



See more from Peter later in the magazine.



Thursday night ended with the Guild Dinner in a local Fish Restaurant.



Deal is seaside town after all!

# From the Editor's Wife

I can clearly remember the day the Editor came out of a Guild meeting and casually mentioned that he was now the Guild Editor. I knew then that, whilst the GE has plenty of ideas for the magazine, it would be down to yours truly to actually get the magazine typed up.

Between us we have now put together nine editions of the magazine. It has not been an easy ride. There have been occasions when we thought there would be nothing in the magazine and other times when we have almost come to blows. Many an evening we have burnt the midnight oil trying to get an article just right.

As soon as the final file has been sent off to the printers there was always that dread that something was wrong (luckily we managed to correct the date of the Guild Conference before it went to print one year!!). We live and breath the magazine over six months but the final printed version is totally different and it is exciting when the boxes turn up. It is also at this point that I notice that our proof reading is a little lacking!!

How do I feel knowing that this is the last one? As I type this (in October 2018) there is still a whole magazine to put together so I have not really thought about it. Ask me the same question this time next year— maybe I'll do a short article for the new Guild Editor!!

I hope you have enjoyed the magazines over the last few years and have found at least one or two articles of interest.

**Susan Spencer**



Whilst not a macebearer I have been to one or two events where a mace or two make an appearance. I have always found it fascinating that in front of the crowds the Mace is treated with utmost respect. Behind the scenes however ...

## Oops!



*I hope you treat your Mayors better than this!*



*You almost can't see the joint!*



# http://www GMB On-line

Peter E. Legg  
Guild Website Officer

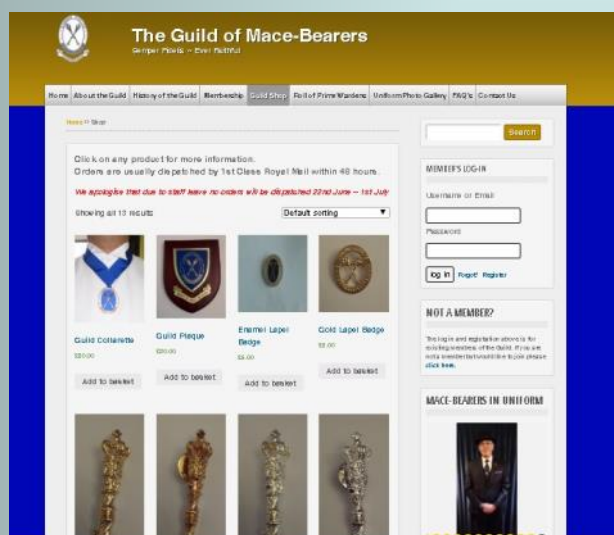
The Guild of Mac-Bearers has had a website since 2003 and in all those years it has only ever undergone two major changes in the way it is set up. In 2016 I started to plan the next big change and finally, after three years of sporadic activity the benefits of the overhaul have started to become apparent.

In 2003 we had a very basic site set up with a few static pages of information designed and hosted by Salford City Council. In 2004 I rebuilt the site in Microsoft Frontpage which gave me the ability to make changes whenever required from my home computer and it continued to be updated using that system until earlier this year. The problem with Frontpage is that it requires you to have the program and a copy of the website on your computer and so I was always conscious that if I ever relinquished the post of webmaster we would need to find someone else with that particular program and knowledge of how to use it. As a result, about three years ago I set about recreating the website in Wordpress, the universal standard now for web builders, a system that has the site hosted remotely so it can be accessed by the site administrator from any computer with a web-browser.

The re-write continued spasmodically as time permitted while I slowly mastered Wordpress but two things occurred this year which finally forced my hand to get on and finish the job. The first was that Microsoft discontinued Frontpage so parts of the site stopped functioning properly and the second was that I was summoned to attend the Guild Conference!

These two issues gave me the kick I needed to complete the job and a couple of weeks after the conference in March the new site was launched. At first glance, nothing much has changed, perhaps a colour makeover and a fresher look for the home page, but the content is much the same, however, in the background, much has changed and there is much more to come.

Users wishing to access the Members-only areas of the site can now register online without having to email me to ask for an account to be set-up, and the biggest improvement has been the introduction of an online shop where everyone can now buy guild badges, ties and other items of memorabilia using a credit or debit card and receive them within a couple of days. Gone are the days of filling in an order form and posting a cheque to the bursar.



Much more is on the way – the next big step is to automate the joining process and subscriptions so (hopefully) by the time this magazine is published new members will be able to apply and pay online to join the guild and automatically receive a renewal reminder and invoice 12 months later. This will not only make life easier for members but will lift a huge burden of paperwork from the Bursar and hopefully dramatically improve the Guild's cash-flow saving us the arduous task of chasing unpaid subscriptions for months.

Ultimately, once all this work is completed I might actually be in a position to hand over the role to someone else – which was actually my motivation for starting the rewrite in the beginning!

Please do visit the site at [www.macebearer.com](http://www.macebearer.com) and let

me know what you think – I'm open to suggestions of what you would like added or changed on the site and if its within my capabilities – and time permits – I'll see what I can do.

# FOGs On Tour



Whilst members were at their training sessions, FoGs and other guests were treated to two very interesting visits.

The first was to Deal Maritime and Local History Museum. This little museum packed a lot into a relatively small area. Particularly moving was a small display on the 11 Royal Marines Bandsmen killed in an IRA bomb attack on Deal Barracks in 1989.



Later we visited Deal Timeball Tower. The Timeball is programmed to drop every day at 1pm. This signal allowed ships to check the accuracy of their chronometers. We had a superb guided tour of the tower and would recommend a visit should you be in the area.



If you are the partner or guest of a macebearer and are coming along to the AGM and Dinner, please come and say hello. A number of friendships have started up purely based on an annual get together. Whilst our partners are stuck inside, we get to see more of the places the AGM is held. We visit some lovely places and often these are opened up just for us.



To become a FoG, either complete the application form on the website or come along to the conference and we'll sign you up there and then.



# Maces, Maces and Maces!

Owen Collier of Royal Wootton Bassett sent in a newspaper article (reproduced here) from the Swindon Advertiser relating to the Swindon Mace.



The Swindon Mace has the cypher of King Edward VIII who abdicated in 1936 before his coronation. There are thought to be only six such examples. One, according to the article is in Canada.



At Portsmouth's Seafarer's service the Maces from Portsmouth and neighbouring boroughs were in attendance (with their Mayor's of course). These maces show the differences in maces in use.



From top to bottom

Portsmouth Great Mace— Silver Gilt dating from the 17th Century (Pre 1678).

Fareham—a wood shaft of lignum vitae with heavy silver and gold plated accoutrements. Dating from 1974.

Gosport—carved from the mast of H. M. S. Victory. Made of Lignum Vitae Wood (and is very very heavy!!)

Havant— A more modern wooden mace



# Lest We

2018 marked 100 years since the end of the war that began on July 28, 1914. By the time the conflict ended four years, three months and 14 days later on November 11, 1918, over 700,000 British military soldiers had been killed. Worldwide it is estimated that over 16million people were killed and over 37 million people injured in the conflict

It was fitting that 100 years after the ceasefire all victims of the conflict were remembered in a series of commemorative events. Below are just few of the events that Guild Members were involved in.



Ripon (credit Ben Middleton)

In Ripon on 14 November 2018 Wilfrid Owen's bugle that he carried during the first world war was played at the Ripon Horn blowing ceremony.

Wilfred Owen was a renowned War Poet and many of his best works were written in Ripon between March and June 1918. He lived in Ripon for a number of months while recovering from shell shock.



Southend (Credit David Bullock)



Remembrance Tuesday 13th 2018 at the War Cross in Seaford Cemetery where there are 253 War Graves from WW1: mainly West Indian and Canadian (with about 16 US citizens amongst the latter), stationed at Seaford, and many of them victims of flu. This commemoration involves local ex-Servicemen and Women, representatives of the Canadian Forces, West Indian Ex-Servicemen, and today the Deputy Lieutenant of East Sussex. The Mayor lays her wreath. The Town Serjeant is holding the Elizabeth 1st Mace. (Credit Peter White)



# e Forget



06 June 2019 marked 75 years from D-Day. Whilst this anniversary was marked throughout the country Portsmouth was chosen as the focus for the national commemoration.

Events were held on 05 June with HM Queen Elizabeth and leaders from Europe and across 'the pond' in attendance, as were over 300 D-Day veterans who later travelled on MV Boudicca to France for commemoration events on the anniversary itself.

The Lord Mayor of Portsmouth, Councillor David Fuller presented the keys of the city to the Queen. Apparently she asked which lock they fitted!.



The Blitz during World War 2 affected many cities across the UK. On the South coast, Portsmouth and Southampton were both targets. In both cities Guildhalls received direct hits.

On 6th November 1940, Southampton suffered a daylight raid. 12 bombs were dropped and one, a 500lb high explosive hit the Civic Centre penetrating to the lower floors of the art gallery killing 35 people including 14 children having an art lesson in the basement.



On 10th January 1941 Portsmouth Guildhall was almost completely destroyed with only the outer walls and tower left standing. The civic insignia had been locked in the vault and miraculously survived intact.



With such important commemorations taking place relating to the two World Wars it is easy to forget other conflicts that have taken place. 37 years after the liberation of the Falkland Isles a flag raising ceremony was held in Portsmouth.

The Falklands flag was gifted to the City of Portsmouth and will now permanently fly alongside the Union Flag opposite the Square Tower in Portsmouth.



# Aldeburgh Serjeant at Mace Retires



Aldeburgh Town Council's Serjeant at Mace, Charlie Walker, has recently stepped down from the role he's held for nearly 27 years.

Charlie, a man admired and respected throughout the county of Suffolk, retired at the end of 2018 and has handed over to another Charlie – local GP, Dr Charlie Townsley.

Aldeburgh's new Serjeant at Mace, Charlie Townsley, divides his time between GP duties and his role as a member of the town's Lifeboat crew. He lives in Aldeburgh with his wife Ali and their two children.

Mr Walker also has a long association with the town's Lifeboat which started as a member of the beach crew and now, he is the Lifeboat Operations Manager. Prior to that, he was the Officer Commanding the Aldeburgh Coastguard.

He is an active member of the George Crabbe Lodge of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, which supports local charities and organisations.

Watched by his wife Beryl, Mr Walker was presented with an oil painting by artist David Gillingwater at the Town's Annual Meeting in March to thank him for his many years of dedicated civic service.

Mr Walker and the Mace Bearer of Ipswich Borough Council, Andrew Beal, have been passing on their wealth of experience to Dr Townsley, whose first civic role will be at the Aldeburgh Carnival in August.

**Lori Hill**

**Assistant to the Town Clerk – Aldeburgh Town Council, Suffolk**



## Join the Guild? – What's in it for me?

If you carry a mace and take part in (or organise) major civic or university processions and ceremonial events then this is the Guild for you. Our members have a wealth of experience of these matters including who should be in a procession, what order they should be in and how they should be marshalled and announced. At less formal occasions the rules of protocol can be just as tricky. Should the Mayor wear his chain at a funeral? Can the Mayoress attend events in his stead? Does the Chancellor always enter last? Who should sit on the host's right at dinner? All these questions and many more are in the domain of the mace-bearer and the Guild of Macebearers is where you can get real answers from experienced colleagues.

As a member you will receive a membership certificate and pin badge and a whole lot more. You get a copy of the Manual of the Mace – A pocket sized book which is a complete road map to success for any new mace-bearer including sections on correct forms of address, (do you know how to announce the Lord Lieutenant?) modes of dress (what should you advise the Mayor to wear for a royal garden party) and suggested formats for all kinds of civic visits (what should you advise your Chairman to do at a local football match?). Members also receive the annual Guild review magazine containing useful letters, stories and pictures, get regular training opportunities, access to the on-line message board and Facebook group and a wealth of information in the Members-only area of the Guild website.



Apply on-line via the Guild website. You can be assured of a warm welcome.





# A Year in the Life

## Sep



The Guild Clerk enjoys the newly delivered Macebearer 2018.

## Oct



A letter of appreciation. I wonder if it was enjoyed with a cuppa and a biscuit!

## Nov



100 years since the end of World War 1.

## Dec



A special Christmas gift.

## Jan



Keith Simpson getting a last chance to show off the Prime Warden Badge.

## Feb



Conference 2019 Get together

## Mar



Prime Warden Installation 2019

## Apr



A Museum visit

## May



Mayor Making—A busy month for members.

## Jun



D-Day 75 Commemorations The wall map at Southwick House.

## Jul



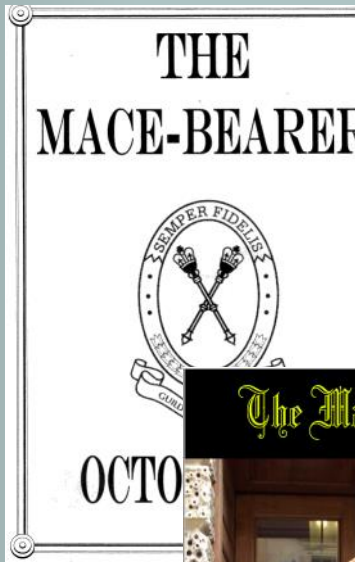
Last minute edits —waiting for those final contributions!

## Aug



Macebearer 2019 Hot off the press (ok this is actually the 2016 edition!)

# My Story 201



This was the last of the black and white version of the magazine. When I took over I had to produce the first colour magazine.



2011



2012



2013



2015



2016



2017

My first magazine of 2011 had a few problems. It was produced in Microsoft Word so we were limited to some of the effects we wanted. It was also time consuming to achieve the look we wanted. It also wasn't until the magazine was printed that we realised the front cover proportions were a little off!!



2014



# 10 to 2019 ...

My final magazine in 2019.

Throughout the years there have been a few typos but I hope everyone has enjoyed the magazine.

I look forward to seeing what changes the 2020 edition brings.



2018



2019

# What happens at your first conference?

Imagine turning up at your first conference, already apprehensive about meeting lots of new people and wondering what the format is going to be. Now imagine, on top of that, as soon as you arrive being told that you are going to carry the Guild Mace.

Well that is exactly what happened to Heather Hill, newly appointed Mace-bearer to the City of Portsmouth and new Guild Member.

The picture and pen portrait below have been supplied by Heather's husband Pat.



*Heather Hill Chauffeuse, Attendant and Mace Bearer City of Portsmouth Lord Mayor*

---

In September 2018 Heather was appointed full time Chauffeuse and Attendant to the Lord Mayor of the City of Portsmouth after covering driving duties as a relief for the previous eighteen months. With the appointment came the post of Mace Bearer of the City of Portsmouth. Currently the major City Ceremonies are undertaken by her predecessor but on all other occasions Heather is 'Serjeant-at-Mace.'

Heather was a professional commercial driver for just over twenty years, before taking her post with the City of Portsmouth, experienced as a Taxi Driver, independent Owner Driver Operator, Midas trained up to 16 seater minibuses with experience and training enabling her to provide service to vulnerable members of the community. Her driving experiences have taken her all across the United Kingdom, France, Portugal and briefly Spain.

Heather has been involved in all the major events with the City's Lord Mayor and Mayoress with the climax of events, so far, attending the Lord Mayor when he presented the Keys of the City to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II when she graced the City for the D-Day75 celebrations on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019 with fourteen other Heads of State.

The City's Silver, Charters, art and valuable memorabilia come under Heather's care with the Lord Mayor's Housekeeper and she is responsible for all his Regalia when on official duties.

Heather is married with four grown up children and lives in Portsmouth.

Heather did a grand job carrying the Guild Mace and we look forward to seeing more of her and Pat at future conferences.





**WALTERS OF OXFORD**

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## **Ceremonial Robes & Gowns**

Walters & Co have for many years enjoyed the custom of many of the Livery Companies In London and other City Councils through the UK, supplying robes for Aldermen, Freemen, Councillors and Lord Mayors and their household including Mace-Bears and Town Clerks.

Gowns and Robes are made in our own workshops, in many different qualities of cloth enabling different price points to be achieved.

**Gowns and Robes start from as little as £250 +VAT.**



### **REPAIRS AND REFURBISHMENT**

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email: [adrian.palfreyman@shepwood.co.uk](mailto:adrian.palfreyman@shepwood.co.uk)

[www.walters-oxford.co.uk](http://www.walters-oxford.co.uk)

# With Geed Collins

Phew what a year! My eldest brother died aged 69 and that made a big hole in the year. He was a musician and had taken my father's Harp to his recording studio. I have now got it in the shop whilst things are all sorted and noticed how similar the carving is to this Mace from a hundred years earlier. I'm hoping to learn a few tunes whilst it's here.



Meanwhile my son Joseph has now, aged thirteen exceeded me in height and still has an interest in the work. Look closely at this photograph and you'll see him tucked down beside a couple of Mace cases back in 2006.

Here he is visiting Bolton Town Hall earlier this year to collect and mostly repair this broken mace shaft , suitably togged up in mask and paper jacket.



Incidentally it was held together with a cardboard and aluminium foil sleeve squished into place by the previous repairers.



In the picture he is moulding wax mace shafts to cast-up in silver as brooches. His pay will finance his school trip this summer so remember they're £ 100 all inc. Gilt or Silver. Inc post.



He officially begins part-time work here after his 14th Birthday in September.



His big sister Sarah whom most of you already know is also now part-time (she has two toddlers) so of course as always I'm super busy. I have been learning to hand paint vitreous enamel these last couple of years, still got a long way to go although I've done about ten jobs so far after a hundred or so I might have become competent.

Just in case you're interested in Diamonds after reading my last column, I made this ring last week for a special lady in remembrance of her husband and mother. It's a four carat diamond with a one carat diamond (her mother's) alongside. Handmade of course, this is worth much more than most maces and perhaps half the value of a typical 18ct gold turn of the 19/20th Century chain. She wears it all the time without worry and there's no insurance cover.



I've also had a chap in last week with a £50,000 watch that he wears constantly. It's strange how insurers are so restrictive with regard to Civic Insignia although only three weeks ago a local town hall was burgled of its collection of legacy chains of office, conveniently displayed in a simple glass case to attract criminals who don't do homework. They took £80,000 value at replacement cost of chains and will if they are lucky get £700 in scrap value for the silver, such a shame. Almost exactly the same thing happened not ten miles away from that town hall just thirty years ago.



The price of gold has risen again strongly this year almost back to where it was at its height in 2012. Valuations prior to 2012 are woefully out of date.

As usual we're available to help with your repairs, valuations and restorations just email on [gedcollins@rocketmail.com](mailto:gedcollins@rocketmail.com) , phone 01282698872 or 07957144283.

## Ouch!!

I'm sure I'm not the only member of the Guild Council who has left writing my piece for the magazine to the very last day before the deadline but I suspect I have the best excuse!

I'm actually writing this in my room in an exclusive hotel in the Arlberg Region of Austria. I'm currently in Lech, a fabulous place best known as a ski resort – it's where Princess Diana used to bring Wills & Harry in the winter, and every summer my boss, Rosemary Conley (her of Hip & Thigh Diet fame) brings a group of well-heeled ladies for a week of fun, fitness and walking in the mountains.

My role in this is to act as Tour Manager – I deal with all the bookings and admin at home and then accompany Rosemary to look after the group and escort them on their wanderings – but not this year.



This year we arrived as usual having flown into Zurich and made the coach trip to Lech and, being hot and sweaty from the journey, I decided to have a shower before dinner. That was where it all went wrong and slipping in the shower I crashed onto the side of the bath breaking one rib and cracking several others.

So, now I'm officially on the sick – barely able to move – much less to be able to yomp up a mountain – and with all the time in the world to complete my magazine report. So here I sit, gazing out the window at the spectacular scenery, awaiting my next meal and wondering how Rosemary is going to get on carrying my luggage to the airport on Sunday. My partner, horrified at

hearing of the calamity, asked if I could get an early flight home, but given the choice of flying home to be on my own while he's out at work – or being waited on hand and foot in a five star hotel – I think I'll just sit it out here a little longer!



**Peter E. Legg**  
Guild Website Officer



- Traditional Silversmithing
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**'Preserving the past -  
creating treasures of the future.'**

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## Flight in a Two Seater Spitfire SM520

Southampton is the home of the Spitfire designed by R J Mitchell. Not far from where I live is the location of the Supermarine factory where these magnificent machines were built. David Knight former Macebearer in Poole was lucky enough to get a flight in one of the few remaining two seater Spitfires.



My wife Marcia bought me one of the best Birthday presents that can be bought, after which we had mutually decided to buy a present together as we have now run out of ideas.

The first date had to be cancelled due to poor weather, the next date was a perfect day, not telling me where we were going, I drove. Our destination was reached Goodwood House by which time I had an inclining of what was on the cards. On arrival we were greeted by a mutual friend who happened to be the director of air operations at Goodwood. The flight was organised through Boulton Flying Academy a general introduction followed by safety briefing, have you changed your mind, now is the time to pull out and receive a full refund, you must be joking!!

After the briefing we were allowed into the hanger where there were a variety of plane and maintenance operations being undertaken, we had free access within the hanger. Flying suits head fire protection and a crash helmet and gloves were supplied

I was the last of the four to fly, the aircraft had to sit for at least 45 minutes between flights, plenty of time to go over the emergency drill as laid down during the briefing, drop the seat open the canopy drop the side flap and prepare to exit. Sitting in the rear seat with the tail back attitude there is little to see, cannot imagine the pilots vision forward, which might explain the weaving on taxing to and in the take off. The Pilot warned of the smoke and s.t when the engine starts, he was right but what a thrill when that Merlin fired, the noise the vibration, the absolute thrill, nothing can express that moment, it has to be lived. A short taxi, bumping along the grass field to the end of the runway, where Marcia is waiting with our good friend Mark in the operation car, communication with the control tower, all communications are duplicated on the headphones, permission to go. The engine revs, the noise, vibration and acceleration, exhilaration in equal measure and we are away.

Once airborne the Pilot asked me if I had any where I wanted to go, Port of Portsmouth a home port for me, oh there is the Queen Elizabeth aircraft carrier – a Touch and Go (not a good idea) flying back along the shipping channel Brittany Ferries Bretagne and the Mont San Michel are about to pass but that Merlin was the attraction, all eyes are on the vintage fighter. Off to St Helens then onto Bembridge ledge along the beach to the delight of those on the sands. On to Selsey I am allowed to take the controls as the Pilots hands are waving in front of me, back in safe hands shall we try some acrobatics, a tentative yes, don't want to make a fool of myself with motion sickness, however the flying suit is equipped with a pocket and sickbag, too ,late a quick victory roll only one word WOW – Ok now a loop, the G force makes it difficult to lift hands off the lap, a barrel roll followed by another roll and all too soon its back off to Goodwood. As we approach Marcia and Mark are again at one end of the end of the runway, permission for low pass and at the other end of the runway and climbing again Pilot to passenger time for another quick victory roll don't you think. A fly round and a return to the runway for a landing, it is over far too soon.

What a Day.



# A Special Look Inside Dover's History

Having the privileged opportunity of restoring historical Council regalia offers a window into the past. Centuries of history can be seen, and it feels as though we are working alongside the craftsmen who designed and made the pieces. The methods have remained the same and it is encouraging to see these skills still present today.

Ottewill Silversmiths and Jewellers Ltd work closely with Dover Town Council to take care of their most important pieces of Town Council regalia.



The most precious of their pieces is The Dover Jewel. Manufactured over a century ago and made of gold, encrusted with precious stones and decorated with elaborate enamelling. The restoration included repairing enamelled sections and replacement of missing stones.

To complete the repair, the piece had to be taken apart and this gave us a unique view into the way it was manufactured. It is amazing to see how the piece is made in sections which are screwed or pinned together to make repair and restoration achievable. The original craftsman was thinking ahead to how the piece was going to be looked after for years to come.

Working with our experts, these manufacturing skills can be passed down to our apprentices as they get a rare view of how these pieces were constructed. It is good to know that the craftspeople of the future will be able to maintain these pieces for years to come.

At Ottewill the team of 20 have a wealth of experience of designing, manufacturing, repairing and restoring ceremonial pieces including maces and badges of office and appreciate the workmanship required to produce a piece that will last forever. We work with chasers, enamellers, modellers and stone setters who have specialist skills in working with these pieces. Sharing the history with our new craftspeople allow them to respect the heritage associated with these pieces and inspire them to create treasures of the future.

**Karen Ottewill**





# How not to carry a Mace!!



*I wonder if anyone would notice if I ran off with this!*

Martin Lewis posted a few photographs of the Mayor Making at Kettering. This picture was too good not to be in the magazine!.

Photo courtesy of Prime Focus Photography.

## Why is there nothing here?

No-one sent in anything to help fill it.

Help your new Editor avoid similar blank spaces in future.

Send in your articles

**Big** or small

[editor@macebearer.com](mailto:editor@macebearer.com)



# Mace, Not Maces



A selection of charity shop finds purchased by the Editor throughout the year.

Spot the Mace!



Flags of the UK



Some spoons created to celebrate the Golden Jubilee



A selection of pin badges.



# s and Other Stuff!



The Coronation coach



Some interesting arms/shields.

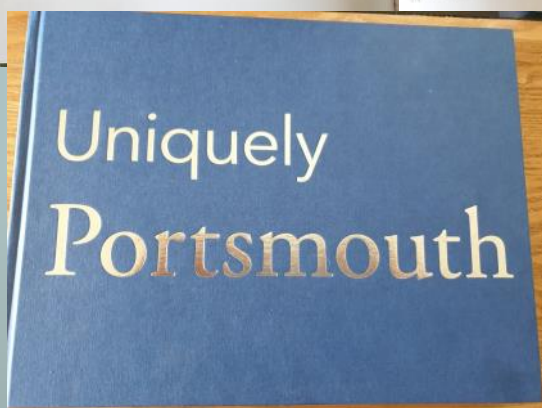
## E d i t o r ' s E n c y c l o p a e d i a



Yours truly in a publication that came out this year.

Pictures by Dan Bernard who, if you remember, was the photographer when the Guild Conference was held in Southampton.

Words by Gail Baird.  
Published by Tricorn Books.





# Puzzle Time

1. In which city is the University of Essex?
2. On which Island of Asia is the village of Bantam?
3. Who was British Prime Minister 1905 to 1908?
4. The Corbillon Cup is competed for by women in which sport?
5. At which castle, was Mary Queen of Scots executed in 1587?
6. What is a Sam Brown?
7. What sort of creature is a Cisco?
8. Which Saint was the first English Martyr?
9. What is the approximate area (in square miles) of Easter Island?
10. What is the official language of Libya?
11. Otalgia is the technical name for what illness?
12. In what year was the musician Paul McCartney born?
13. Which German battleship sank HMS Hood?
14. Who did William Shakespeare marry in 1582?
15. Where, in Hampshire, is the National Motor Museum?
16. Who invented the Kenwood Food Mixer?
17. In which year was Julius Caesar assassinated?
18. On which river is Newport, Isle of Wight?
19. What type of food is Badderlocks?
20. In what year did Louis Bleriot first cross the English Channel by aeroplane?



Answers on page 37



# MICHAELS

*Civic Robes*

# MICHAELS

*Civic Regalia*

*Civic Outfitters*  
*Since 1995*

## UK Manufacturers of Civic Wear & Regalia

Michaels Civic Robe are a proud UK manufacturer of Mayoral & Civic wear. Working closely with Civic Officers and Members of the Democratic services, Michaels have created a long-standing reputation of quality, reliability and customer service.

Since 1995, Michaels are pleased to have worked with every Local Authority & Council in the Country.

Michaels have traditional but modern in-house facilities and an experienced team of seamstresses and tailors, Michaels also offer services for Robe refurbishment, alterations and specialist cleaning of Civic Gowns & Robes.



Mayoral & Civic Robes



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Badges & Regalia

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Town Crier Livery

[info@civicrobes.com](mailto:info@civicrobes.com)

# Where Next?



Mar 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Southend-on-Sea is a resort town on the Thames Estuary in Essex, southeast England. The long Southend Pier is serviced by a small train and has a museum at its shore end. Nearby, Adventure Island is an amusement park with fairground rides and water slides. The Cliff Lift, a century-old funicular, clings to the hillside and offers coastal views. Sea Life Adventure aquarium is home to otters, clownfish and turtles.





## GUILD DINNER MENU

### Starter

Farmhouse Style Leek, Potato and Watercress Soup

Complimented with a chive crème fraiche

### Main

Tender Roast Chicken Breast

Accompanied by baby button mushrooms, smoked bacon lardons, and roast potatoes,  
served with a rich red wine sauce.

Vegetarian Option --Vegetable and Lentil Moussaka

### Dessert

Baked Vanilla Pod Cheesecake with a Crunchy Biscuit Base

Accompanied with a berry compote and Vanilla cream sauce

Coffee and Mints

(Please advise if you have any specific dietary requirements when booking)

## ACCOMMODATION

A special rate for a Double Room at £74.00 per room per night for Conference attendees has been arranged at

The Park Inn by Radisson Palace Hotel, Church Road, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 2AL

*(Please quote Guild of Macebearers Conference when booking)*

Other local guesthouses are available.

## Car Parking

Parking for conference attendees will be at the Royals Shopping Centre directly opposite the Park Inn Palace Hotel. This will be **free of charge for the duration of the Conference**. In order to take advantage of this generous offer, attendees **MUST** forward their Vehicle Registration number to the Renter Prime Warden, Adam Tregoning ([renterwarden@macebearer.com](mailto:renterwarden@macebearer.com)), prior to travelling to Southend.

*Annual Conference*

*&*

*Training*

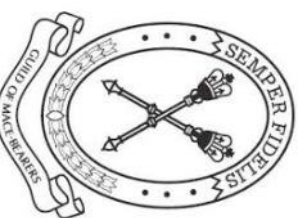
*Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March to  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020*

The Park Inn by Radisson Palace Hotel,

Church Road

Southend-on-Sea

SS1 2AL



## Programme

**Below are details of the formal training. However, members also benefit from the informal discussions with members from across the country.**

### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

- 1800 **Registration** at Porters Civic House & Mayor's Parlour, Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 2LT
- 1900 **Get Together & Welcome** by The Worshipful the Mayor of Southend-on-Sea, Cllr John Lamb followed by a light supper & Tour of the Civic House.

### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March

- 0845 **Arrival & Robing** at the Park Inn Palace Hotel
- 0930 **Installation** – The Worshipful the Mayor of Southend-on-Sea, Cllr John Lamb opens the conference and installs the Prime Warden.
- 1015 **Photo-call**
- 1045 Tea / Coffee to be served at the Hotel
- 1100 **Civic Offices in the 21st Century**—Derek Scott and Paul Mayhew
- 1200 Buffet Lunch
- 1245 **Care and Maintenance of Civic Robes**—Michaelis Civic Robes (under new ownership) Bring your civic robes and, as a special conference offer, Michaelis will inspect them for free and give you a quote.
- 1345 Comfort Break
- 1400 **The Guild in the 21st Century followed by a Q & A Session**
- 1545 **Prime Warden Close**
- 1830 for 1900

**Guild Dinner** – Black Tie or Dark Suit and equivalent for ladies  
Park Inn Palace Hotel, Church Road, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 2AL  
Please remember to bring a prize for the raffle

### Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

- 1000 **Annual General Meeting** (continued) at the Park Inn Palace Hotel
- 1230 **The Prime Warden - Close of Conference**

## Guest Programme

### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March

- 1100 Visit to Southend Museum (A small charge may be payable).
- 1430 Complimentary afternoon tea at Gleneagles Guest House.

### Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

At leisure to explore Southend-on-Sea and it's many attractions, parks, gardens and High Street.

The annual conference of the Guild of Mace-bearers, featuring the 2020 Guild training and Annual General Meeting will be held at the Park Inn by Radisson Palace Hotel, Church Road, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 2AL, from Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

The programme has been carefully planned so that priority is given to training. Please show this programme to your line manager and discuss with them the benefits of you attending. The better trained and more knowledgeable you are, the better you will serve your Mayor and your Council. Accommodation and parking will be the responsibility of the individual member.

The agenda for the meeting is as printed in the Manual of the Mace.

Members attending are encouraged to bring their Mace-bearing uniform. This is worn for the installation ceremony and for the official photograph.

There is a separate programme of events for spouses and other guests.

## FEES

### CONFERENCE AND GUILD DINNER

£60.00 per member

### GUESTS

£40.00 per guest (includes dinner)

Fees are payable in advance **by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020** and can be done on-line via the Guild website.

If you wish to pay by BACS transfer use

Lloyds Bank plc, 24-26 High Street, Wells, Somerset, BA5 2SJ  
Sort code 30-99-29, account number 00413485

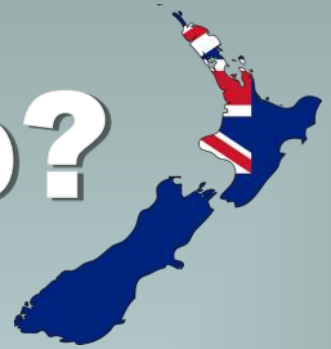
If you still prefer to pay by cheque please make them payable to "Guild of Macebearers"

Send to The Guild Clerk, 5 St. Patricks Close, DEAL, Kent, CT14 6RJ

If paying by BACS or Cheque please send your name, your Guest's name and any dietary requirements to the Guild Clerk (by post or email)



# Can You Help?



We recently received an email from Michael Macmillan in New Zealand with a request for help in identifying some robes and mace.



*This picture was inside an old leather bound family album brought out to New Zealand by family living in Kincardineshire. We believe they arrived in the 1880's. While residing around Laurencekirk the family also extended to Fordoun, Fettercairn, Benholm, Brechin and Montrose. Common family names included Fettes, Alexander, Peat and Milne.*

*The photo was initially thought to have depicted Sir William Fettes (Lord Provost of Edinburgh 1802 & 1804), however with his passing in 1836 this was not possible. No name or other details were on the back of the photo. The facial features however resemble other Fettes relatives.*

*We believe this photo was taken around 1860-1875 and I would like to learn more about the robes, mace and hopefully identify who the person is and when it was taken. Enquiries in Edinburgh and Dundee suggest the robes and mace do not originate from those cities.*

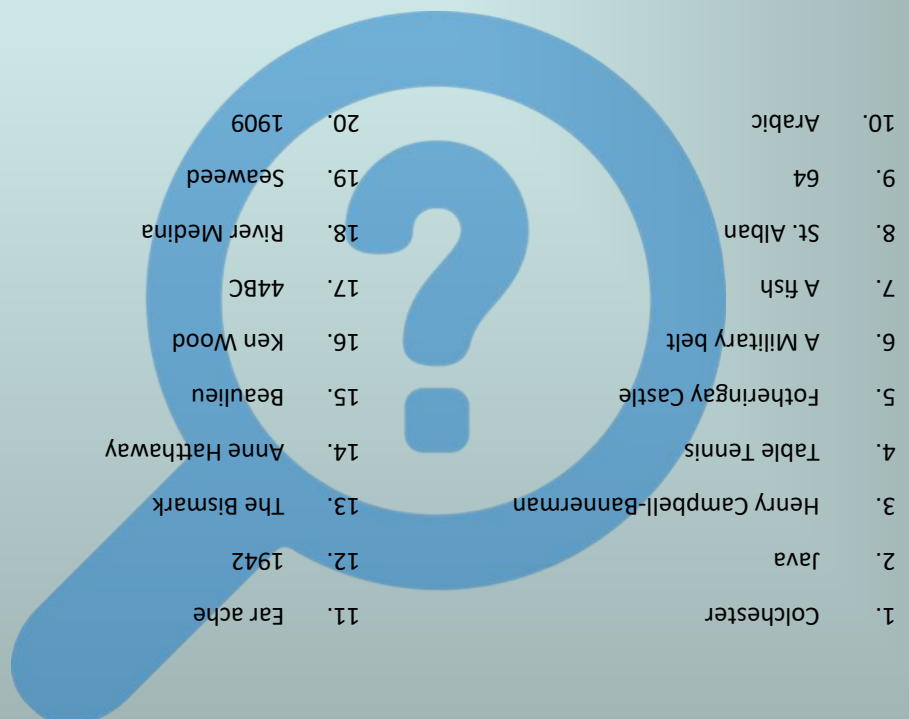
If you have any information that could assist then please contact Michael ([pipiwai22@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pipiwai22@xtra.co.nz))

Michael Macmillan , 10 Invermay Ave, Mt Roskill, Auckland 1041, New Zealand.



If you can help in identifying the robes and mace, please remember to let your new editor know so that it can be included in a future magazine.

Answers to quiz questions — No cheating!!





# The Editor's Last Word

Well this is it!

It has been ten years since I took up my quill as Guild Editor.

I entered the post, not knowing what I was doing, where I was going with it, or how to do it (There are some who may think this is still the case!).

Having never published anything in my life before, all I knew was that I wanted to produce something better than the black and white photocopied editions the Guild was used to.

It was a steep learning curve and, hopefully, over the years the editions have got better.

Ten years on, I have taken partial retirement from chauffeuring but still do the occasional mace bearing for the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth. Eventually, this too, I will pass on to my successor at Portsmouth.

I now find myself running out of ideas and it is getting more difficult for me to produce a Magazine each year so I feel it is time to hand over the reigns to new blood. The new Editor will have plenty of new ideas and a new style to keep you all entertained and I am sure they will produce an equally good and entertaining magazine for you members.

Whilst giving up as Guild Editor I hope to remain with the Guild of Macebearers so you will still see me around at the annual AGM and Guild Dinner.

Over the years, I have met many members, many becoming good friends. I look forward to seeing them all again at the yearly conference. I also look forward to meeting lots of new members in the years to come.

I would like to thank all of you who have contributed to the magazine over the years and would wholeheartedly encourage old and new members to send contributions to the new Editor (I am currently working on my piece for 2020!). On behalf of the Guild I would like to thank our advertisers over the years for their support.

Whilst retiring from chauffeuring I find myself quite busy. It's been a year since my official retirement and during this time I have undertaken the role of local School Crossing Patrol (Lollipop man!) and have recently been retained as the City of Southampton Town Crier. I shall certainly be keeping myself busy.

Thank you all. Ed

P.S. See you all in Southend.







# *mace-bearer*

## *Noun:*

*an official, as of a city or legislative body, who carries a ceremonial mace before dignitaries.*

## *Origin:*

*1545-55, mace + bearer*

# *SEMPER FIDELIS*

