



The Company of Cutlers' Hall's Committee Report, 2017-18

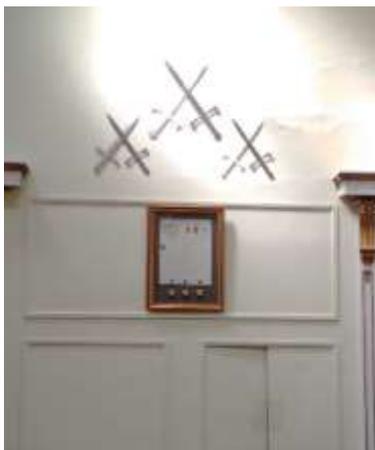
During the year the Hall's Committee, on behalf of the Company continued to implement the long standing strategy of:

- Ensuring the Hall is a safe place in which to work and to visit
- Maintaining the integrity of the building's fabric and, where repairs are found to be necessary, that the entire area is investigated and wider work is undertaken to avoid having to return to those areas which are often difficult and costly to access.
- Where appropriate, measures are taken to achieve energy efficiencies.
- The internal and external cosmetic appearances of the Hall reflects the quality and status of the Company and conforms to the requirements of its Grade 2*listing.

The Hall's Committee is grateful for the grant from the Preservation Trust to fund the regular repairs and renovations. The most significant expenditure was the on-going replacement of the Hall's electrical distribution boards. Until this is complete the building is granted a one year certificate rather than the full five year certificate.

The extensive renovation of the Hadfield Hall has been justified by the increasing use by third party hirers and is now often their first choice of room. The final element of this project is the replacement of the old curtains.

Major progress in the plan to ensure that the Hall is in pristine condition for the Company's quadricentennial year (2023/2024) was made in 2017/2018 by the refurbishment of the Old Banqueting Hall (OBH). This room has been transformed by the installation of modern,



flexible lighting and by redecorating the walls in a muted and light colour. Cleaning of the roof lights and the cupola has enhanced the overall atmosphere and the minstrels' gallery has been brought back into use. Stripping out the old, redundant wiring and fixtures and replacing the latter with modern systems has contributed to the clean, smart appearance. The Committee is grateful to this year's Master, Mr Ken Cooke, for his gift of 3 stainless steel crossed dagger profiles which have been mounted at high level on the wall opposite to the minstrel's gallery. This major refurbishment project was completed within the allotted time frame and well

within budget. The Preservation Trust made this work possible with its greatly appreciated grant.

The Archivist, Dr Joan Unwin, continued to produce permanent display boards of knives and larger objects, ably assisted by Mrs Penny Kilburn. She also undertook a full audit of the Company's silver collection, which was enlarged by the gift of a pair of miniature silver gun

cannons. The Company and Hall's Committee are grateful to Past Master and Mistress Richard Edwards for their generosity.

The Hall was opened to the public, as part of the wider Heritage Weekend, on 9 September 2017 and again on 16 September 2018.

Excellent progress has been made during this last year in implementing the Hall's long term strategy and rolling plan of improvements, this is in no small measure as a result of the hard work and dedication of Colonel George Kilburn and his team. The Company and Hall's Committee are most grateful to them.

Mrs Pamela Liversidge OBE DL
Chairman
Hall's Committee