

# Annual Review, 2020-2021



The Company of Cutlers in Hallamshire

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## THE OUTGOING MASTER CUTLER, NICHOLAS .D.O.WILLIAMS, 2020-2021

*Taken from his speech at the 2021 Installation*



I am confident that should I look back at Masters' past speeches on this occasion. That I would find many who said that it only seemed like yesterday that they had stood here in anticipation of the year ahead. I guess that I should stand here and say that it only seemed like the day before yesterday. That I stood here in anticipation of the year ahead.

It is said that two years as Master is unique, apart, of course, from the Masters during the two Great Wars. But the precedent was actually set during the mid-nineteenth century, when a number of predominantly Steel Men served multiple years. Notably John Brown and Mark Firth. Not bad company.

Precedent or not. Susie and I were delighted and very honoured, when in April 2020 we were asked to consider continuing for a further year. Had we not, our year would have ended on March 17<sup>th</sup> 2020, at the joint awards with the Armourers and Braziers. But more importantly, James and Jo's actual year would have begun on July 19<sup>th</sup> 2021, when life outside began again and he would be standing here now. Having not had the opportunity to do much.

A constant question that I've been asked is whether it was a disappointment to have had my year disrupted by the Pandemic. Of course it was. But far, far more important is that we have all survived and are grateful for that. As I said at the Feast, we must think of those who have suffered and continue to suffer due to Covid. The loss of loved ones. The loss of employment. The fear and uncertainty. And our hearts go out to them.

It has been an honour and a privilege to have worn the magnificent badge of office. To meet many inspiring and interesting people, to experience some truly memorable occasions. Perhaps not as many as previous Masters. But as so many have said, how instantly recognizable the badge is at those events that I attended. Guests would fondly share recollections of their visits to this Hall and our Region. You realise then, if you had not before, the high regard in which this Company is held and the privilege you have to be Master.

I am pleased to report that the Company remains in good order. Our numbers of Freemen remain static at the mid 360's. But more are always welcome. 400 for 400 is our target for our anniversary in 2024. My grateful thanks go to the Freemen's committee for the tremendous support they give the Company. My special thanks to Rachel Abbot who has just stepped down as Chairman and my best wishes to Richard Gould who has taken up the mantle. You have a hard act to follow. We have lost a few of our Friends of the Company but continue to recruit more. So necessary, as they play such an important role and, along with our Freemen, they collectively give us a strong voice, a voice that I have been proud to amplify. It was such a pity that we were unable to hold so many of the events for our Freemen and Friends due to the Covid restrictions. But thank you for sticking with us and your continued support.

But as true manufacturers we did innovate with Jamie's Ready meals and Christmas Hampers. I'm sure that we still have Pies, complete with Hendo's in stock in the freezer. We had a Zoom virtual Black tie dinner party. Shaming some, when we stood for the Loyal Toast. Smarter top half than bottom half, Master Elect.

In July, I was honoured with the presence of the Lord Mayor of the City of London and his Shrieval Party at a very enjoyable Forfeit Feast. The first post lockdown event for many. The serious business part of the visit had been covered earlier in the day with a briefing by 24 businesses representing our Freeman and Friends. Followed by a visit to one of our Freeman's recently acquired companies, Castings Technology International. This was an MBO from the University of Sheffield, which saved over 60 skilled jobs for the Region. Typically, the Yorkshire Post only reported that he had visited Leeds financial sector, with a sentence stating that he was going on to Sheffield. I despair! Where is this Leeds?

Then last month, I was delighted to secure the presence of the Secretary of State for Overseas Trade as the principal guest at my 16 month delayed Cutlers' Feast. More so when she cancelled the night before, ostensibly due to her promotion to Foreign Secretary. This gave me the opportunity to welcome a young local MP, to respond to the Senior Warden's outstanding speech. As well as General the Lord Houghton, Constable of the Tower of London, who gave the response on behalf of the guests. This was also an opportunity for me to return some of the generous hospitality which I had received at many Livery Halls in London and elsewhere.

The Feast is always an opportunity to showcase the region as was the following day when 25 Livery Companies and other guests visited AESSEAL Ltd. And were royally er "entertained" by Chris Rea. It proved an absolute eye opener to manufacturing in our Region. Really showcasing the very best. What a pity that Rotherham Council doesn't appreciate what they have there.

Through our Charitable Trusts, I am proud to have continued the tradition of supporting local charities. During our two years we distributed over £114,000 to 93 deserving causes across our region.

I would like to thank the Mistress Cutler, Susie for all of her support and hard work these two years despite the challenges to her health during spring and early summer this year. And of course, our eldest son's severe illness back in the early part of 2020. It is so good to see them both almost fully recovered and Susie back thoroughly enjoying her role for the remainder of our time in office.

And thank you too to the magnificent staff in this great Hall who have supported us throughout our term; without their help this would not have happened. Especially, as for most of the time, they were all brand new in post. With a new Clerk, Secretariat and Beadle. It is so good to see both our Clerks Emeritus here today. Colonels Peter Gardner and George Kilburn. And thanks too to my Chaplain, Stephen Hunter who has been an immense support to both Susie and I throughout our tenure. I know that you didn't sign up for two years, but thank you.

To the MAC, the Master's Advisory Committee who eighteen months ago were meeting almost weekly and the Chairs of the Company's committees - thank you for keeping the Company on track both whilst I've been away enjoying myself! But more importantly during the challenges of

the pandemic. I believe that we have come out stronger and certainly wiser. To all of the Members of the Company, thank you for your support during my year. I hope that I've managed to live up to expectations and upheld the reputation of the Company – thank you for the trust you placed in me.

Susie and I have had an incredible period in office. A time that we shall remember and cherish forever. To our successors, James and Jo Tear, we wish you both a very successful and enjoyable year. We know that you will not only have a blast, but will maintain the high standing of the Company, whatever and wherever you go. THANK YOU.

Mr. N.D.O. Williams, TD., DL, Outgoing Master Cutler

### [THE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT, 2020-2021](#)

We reported last year that the 2019/20 year was unprecedented for the Cutlers' Company. 2020/21 has been equally, if not more, challenging.

When the pandemic hit at the end of March 2020, the Cutlers' Hall closed for events and functions and effectively remained closed until July 2021. As a consequence, there was no income from hospitality during that period. This has obviously had a major impact on the Company's performance, but as we noted last year, we entered the pandemic in a strong financial position thanks to previous years of strong trading and positive investment returns.

We have maintained strong cost and cashflow controls and have continued to take advantage of Covid support schemes including CJRS and rates relief. We are also grateful for the ongoing support from our Freeman and Friends during this crisis period.

We have taken advantage of the prolonged period of closure of the Hall to accelerate the refurbishment work ahead of the Company's 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Security and fire alarm systems have also been upgraded. This work has been done with the support of grants from the Preservation Trust.

Our investments continue to be managed on a "medium risk" mandate by Investec, with the objective of maximising total return. This year has seen a continuation of the recovery from the low point in March 2020, driven by the vaccine rollout worldwide. This has resulted in a significant increase in the value of our portfolio.

The impact of the above means that whilst the Company incurred a substantial trading loss for the period, the investment gains substantially offset this, leading to only a modest overall loss for the year. Looking ahead, whilst the Hall is now open again, the expectation is that recovery will be slow until customer confidence fully returns. Accordingly, we have taken a prudent approach to hospitality turnover in the short term. The recently approved budget therefore shows another loss.

## EVENTS AND HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE REPORT 2020-2021

This report continues where the previous year's report ends, namely that the year commenced with no operation as a result of Covid-19 and the succession of lockdowns. All company events were cancelled, and third-party events were deferred, in the main, until late 2021/early 2022. Thankfully relatively few customers cancelled their bookings. Full advantage was taken of the Government's furlough scheme and of business support from the City Council, but as the catering business was not able to recommence operations, in line with Government advice, until July 2021 it will show a significant loss. However, the prospects for the last quarter of 2021 and early 2022 look very promising and the return of Cutlers Company events are very welcome. The challenges in meeting this demand will be the supply network and availability of both agency and zero hours staff. Thankfully the core team was retained during the closure of the business and as the prospect of reopening became clearer, staff were recalled from furlough to commence the deep cleaning and preparation for active business.

During the year there were no reportable Health and Safety incidents but despite the anticipated poor financial performance, there was investment by the Company in new kitchen equipment. The aged industrial grade dishwasher has been replaced and a new gas range installed, the previous one had only four out of twelve burners actually working! The rest facilities for agency staff have also been improved during the year thanks to the support of the Halls Committee. Also during the later part of the year the replacement of the former Sales Executive has commenced.

Attention is drawn to the title of the Committee; it was decided that the name should change to Events and Hospitality Committee to more accurately reflect the nature of its remit and this was approved by the Company at its June 2021 meeting.

As in previous years the Committee would like to take this opportunity to record its gratitude to our relatively new CEO, Colonel Philip Bates, for his calm and steadfast leadership of the team during a particularly challenging period. Our thanks go also to his dedicated front of house and kitchen team who now demonstrate a single-minded purpose that provides the Company with an exceptional staff and which bodes well for the future.

Mrs Pamela Liversidge OBE DL FREng  
Chairman, Events and Hospitality Committee

## HALLS COMMITTEE REPORT, 2020-2021

The life of the Hall continued to be dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic during the year of this report, however advantage was taken of the need to close the building to all but essential staff during the successive lockdowns. The refurbishment of the Drawing Room and of the Reception Room was completed, including the replacement of the tired curtains and sheers. The new lighting and decor has transformed the two rooms and only replacement of the carpets remain to be done prior to the quadricentenary in 2023/24, subject to availability of funding. The closure of the Hall also provided a unique opportunity to refurbish the entrance foyer, corridor to the Hadfield Hall and the principal staircase, without negative impact on the business

operation of the building. This work, which included upgrading the lighting and power, has transformed the environment of the entrance. The stripping, cleaning and resealing of the mosaic floor in the Foyer and corridor was particularly striking. It was found in removing the former decor that similar colour schemes to the new one had been used at some point in the Halls history.

The award of grants by the Preservation Trust for the maintenance and refurbishment of the Hall is greatly appreciated by the Hall's Committee and the membership of the Company. In addition to the developments mentioned above, monies were also made available for the replacement of the soft furnishings in the Mistress' Room. Although this isn't a public room it is an important space for the Master and Mistress and their guests, and its tired and aged appearance was not a credit to the Company. It is anticipated that the Master and Mistress' suite will be redecorated in time for the 2023/24 celebrations.

The refurbishment of the Hall was undertaken alongside the annual maintenance and care of the building which, as is usually highlighted in the annual review, is driven by the long-term strategy of the Company, namely to:

- Ensure that the Hall is a safe place to work and to visit
- Maintain the integrity of the fabric of the building and where repairs are found to be necessary, that the entire area is investigated, and wider work is undertaken to avoid having to revisit these areas which are often difficult and costly to access.
- Take measures, where appropriate to achieve energy efficiencies.
- Ensure the internal and external cosmetic appearances of the hall reflect the quality and status of the Company and conform to the requirements of its Grade 2\* listing.

In the later part of the year the Committee commenced consideration and investigation of a maintenance contract with one or two named companies. In addition, a full security review was undertaken primarily as a result of the burglary in May 2021. An immediate measure taken was the replacement and upgrading of the security alarm system which had been scheduled for replacement in the next few years. The loss of silver and other artefacts and the damage done by the intruders were covered by our insurers but sadly a number of items will be irreplaceable.

It was agreed that the Hall would be opened to the public as part of the City's Heritage Weekend on 11 September 2021. The tradition of offering tours of all parts of the Hall to Members of the Company would also restart in October 2021.

It is usual for mention to be made of the gift given by the Master and Mistress of the year, however the pandemic resulted in the current Master and Mistress serving two years hence their gift will be acknowledged in the next year's review. A full list of gifts received by the Company during the year is shown in the Archivist's report.

The annual review is a welcome opportunity for this Committee to express its gratitude to our Clerk/CEO, Colonel Philip Bates, and his small but dedicated team for their commitment and hard

work during this difficult year, which has seen our most valuable asset end the year in much better condition than it started.

Mrs Pamela Liversidge OBE DL. Chairman; Hall's Committee

## EDUCATION AND SKILLS COMMITTEE REPORT, 2020-21

The Covid pandemic created a series of unprecedented discontinuities for the Education Sector which impacted upon the Company's Better Learners Better Workers (BLBW) and other activities. Undaunted, the time was spent revisiting the Company's Education Strategy now re-named the Education and Skills Programme, more relevant to its purpose and activities.

This new strategy has been extensively shared with Freeman and delivery partners across the region. At its core is a new 1- year BLBW programme, which builds upon the success of the original 2-year programme that helped over 1,000 young people from across the region to achieve, and in many cases exceed, their own ambitions and improve their educational outcomes. The new BLBW programme, fully compliant with the needs of the Gatsby benchmarks, focuses upon the year 9 year-group but will also retains the option for year 10's to have a sector specific programme focusing upon engineering/ manufacturing, the NHS or construction sectors.

The new BLBW programme will continue to have a broad reach across the regional schools of South Yorkshire spanning all 4 authorities, but we remain grateful to Sheffield City Council for their continued support and enthusiasm. The original BLBW scheme had embedded within it a strong purpose to improve social mobility for young people in the region; this is retained at the core of the new scheme but will be complemented by objectives to improve the gender balance, diversity and inclusion of the participating students including an inset programme for students with special education needs and disabilities.

There is also an aspiration to engage with primary schools with a view to encouraging younger people to understand their opportunities in the world of work. The OECD and others have published findings that, by the age of seven, children are already facing limits on their future aspirations in work through 'ingrained stereotyping' and barriers to social mobility through background, gender, and ethnicity. This will form part of a future work programme once the initial priority of re-launching the new 1-year programme has been achieved.

There was obvious disappointment that we were not able to hold our annual Ambassadors Awards evening in the Hall for a second successive year especially since that, despite the interruptions of the lockdowns, 112 Ambassadors had fulfilled the requirements of the programme and were due to receive their passports. A video recognising their achievements has been made and circulated widely. The evening was also to be the occasion when would have presented the inaugural Teachers and Schools Awards; these too had to be done remotely. Our congratulations go to all of the Awards winners, and we look forward to holding the event in person next year.



My thanks go to all members of the Education and Skills Committee and, in particular, to our Chief Executive, Sarah Ward, John Barber and all of the sector champions who worked tirelessly to help make this whole programme happen.

Nicholas Cragg, Chairman, Education and Skills Committee.

## ARCHIVIST'S REPORT, 2020-2021

The disruption caused by the pandemic has given some space and time to redecoration of some of the public rooms in the Hall. The two rooms on the first floor, revealed the previous decorative schemes. The Reception Room (left) once had gold flock wallpaper and a red carpet while the Drawing Room had plain cream walls with pale green panels. Both rooms are now painted cream, with detailing near the ceiling, and they look much larger and lighter.



The opportunity was taken to rehang the Henry Clifton Sorby's portrait and Sir Hugh Neill's portrait in the Old Banqueting Hall. A charming watercolour of the Neill Room in the 1920s/30s, replaced of the Sorby portrait on the ground floor. The portrait of Charles Atkinson and the Beadle has been cleaned and looks much better. It also suggests that the painting of Joseph Jewitt, the Beadle, might have been done by a different artist. The cost of cleaning was covered by Christopher Jewitt, Master Cutler in 1994.

During lockdown and working from home, the opportunity was used to check over the accessions databases and to list photographs. Over the years, several volunteers have photographed a few the archive records, particularly those relating to the cutlers' marks and apprentices and Freeman registers. Hundreds of these good quality photographs were informally labelled in the folders relating to their source, but it has been possible to label them individually. Also, all the photographs by Chris Seaman of the Company's events have been saved with the dates of the event, rather than the digital number sequence.

The database used for the accessions and records of the Company's collections was created by my predecessor, Dr Julie MacDonald in 1990. The program called 'Cardbox' has been adequate for recording the data, and especially for including photographs. It has been decided that the files are becoming unwieldy and Excel spreadsheets will be used, having a simpler method of searching and organizing. The spreadsheets can then be linked to the images.

Working with the new CEO to the Company, Colonel Philip Bates and the Hall's Committee, we have been able to formulate a new Collections Policy, to assist the process of accepting gifts. There are some items, large and small, in the Hall, which have very little relevance to the Company, its history and functions. With the new scheme, items offered to the Company are measured on a points scale of positive and negative aspects – e.g. is it very relevant to the Company and Sheffield or will it have long-term issues of upkeep and display? It has been applied on two or three occasions and has found to be useful.

## GIFTS TO THE COMPANY 2020-2021

The Company is grateful for the gifts given to the Company.

Mr C Jewitt. Gift to cover the cost of cleaning and restoring the portrait of Charles Atkinson and Joseph Jewitt.

Colonel and Mrs G Kilburn. The 2020 Year Piece. A silver model of an elephant, based on one given to the Yorkshire regiment in 1919.

Relatives of Mr T. Reed, Master Cutler, 2005-2006, a large box of papers and books relating to his year of office.

Mr and Mrs N.D.O. Williams, Master and Mistress Cutler 2019-2021 – A Sheffield hallmarked year piece for 2021. A silver decorated with images representing the lockdown caused by the Covid-19 pandemic

Mrs C. Winnard A collection of Sheffield table knives, Frank Mills samples.

Dr Joan Unwin, Archivist

## THE SHEFFIELD DEFENCE COMMITTEE REPORT 2021

TRADE MARK REGISTRATIONS – No new applications were filed by the Company during the year.

TRADE MARK RENEWALS - No trade marks for the mark SHEFFIELD were renewed in the period 1 October 2020 – 30 September 2021.

### COMPANY AND BUSINESS NAMES INCORPORATING “SHEFFIELD”

Approval was given to the use of “Sheffield” in 64 Company or Business Names, Approval was withheld for 12 applications

1	ACE Taxis Sheffield Limited
2	City Building Services (Sheffield) Ltd
3	Clean Air Sheffield (CIC)
4	Deepcar Motor Company (Sheffield) Ltd
5	Dynamic Die and Steel (Sheffield) Limited (sent 18/01/21)
6	Eden Court Sheffield Ltd
7	Five Star Cleaning Sheffield Ltd
8	Genie Bio Clean Sheffield Ltd
9	Greek Orthodox Community of Sheffield (CIO)

10	H&H Property Improvements Sheffield Ltd
11	Inspire Sheffield Ltd
12	J & R Sheffield Machinery Limited (sent 18/01/21)
13	Kinship Carers & Families Sheffield
14	Livingcare Sheffield Limited
15	MAID2CLEAN Sheffield
16	Modest Wear Sheffield
17	Only in Sheffield Ltd
18	Pressure Cleaning Solutions Sheffield

19	Property Care Sheffield
20	Property Improvements Sheffield Limited
21	Royal Riverside Sheffield RTM Company Limited
22	SAFE (Sheffield) Limited
23	SAS Projects (Sheffield) Ltd
24	Securitech Solutions (Sheffield) Ltd
25	Sheffield & Rotherham DAB Ltd
26	Sheffield Air Conditioning Services Ltd
27	Sheffield Alarms Ltd
28	Sheffield Area Kidney Association
29	Sheffield Car Company Ltd
30	Sheffield Care Association - reissued letter required for records
31	Sheffield Cheesemasters Limited
32	Sheffield Digital Academy Limited
33	Sheffield DocFest Limited
34	Sheffield Electric Scooter Services
35	Sheffield Elite Football Academy
36	Sheffield Engineering Company Ltd
37	Sheffield Health Services Ltd
38	Sheffield Heart Limited
39	Sheffield Mount Carmel UK Limited
40	Sheffield Museums Trust (CIO)
41	Sheffield Pharmacy 4U Limited
42	Sheffield Pride Ltd
43	Sheffield Private Tutors Ltd
44	Sheffield Property Renovations Ltd
45	Sheffield Reads C.I.C
46	Sheffield Rentals Ltd
47	Sheffield Roofline Ltd
48	Sheffield Slim Double Glazing Limited
49	Sheffield Station Gym Limited
50	Sheffield Sushi Ltd
51	Sheffield Training Academy Limited
52	Sheffield Tribology Services
53	Sheffield Vineyard Church
54	Sheffield Vintage Engineering Ltd
55	Sheffield VOIP Services Limited
56	Sofia's Kitchen
57	Storage Solutions Sheffield Limited
58	The Christmas Dinner Sheffield (TCD Sheffield ) C.I.C.

59	The Sheffield 1000-1 Charity
60	Trade Centre Sheffield Limited (sent 18/01/21)
61	Union Church Sheffield
62	Verismart Sheffield Limited
63	Wholesale Blade Company Sheffield Limited
64	Wilson Brothers (Sheffield) limited

## THE CUTLERS' HALL PRESERVATION TRUST REPORT, 2020-2021

As stated in previous reports, the primary objective of the Trust is “to preserve and maintain, for the benefit of the townspeople of Sheffield in the County of York and for the nation at large, the historical, architectural and constructional heritage of the Cutler’s Hall.”

The Trustees would like to take this opportunity to thank Freeman and Friends for their continued support without which meeting this objective would not be possible and one of Sheffield’s most important buildings could not be maintained in such good condition.

This last year has, once again, been far from normal as the pandemic has continued to affect adversely all our lives. The Hall has remained closed until recently with staff furloughed or working from home and all events and functions either cancelled or postponed.

However there appears to be light at the end of the tunnel and several events have now been held in the Hall as the restrictions are eased and some degree of normality returns. Those who have been able to visit the Hall will no doubt have noticed that the Cutlers’ Hall team have not been idle and some major redecoration works have been completed.

These works, started last year, are part of the preparations of the Hall for 2024 when the Company celebrates the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its establishment by Act of Parliament in 1624. Overseen by the Halls’ Committee and funded by the Trust, the redecoration has lightened the Receptions Rooms and transformed the mosaic floor outside the Master’s Foyer.

In addition, the Trust has been able to continue its support for Educational Award Schemes: once again £10,000 has been allocated to support the Cutlers’ Company initiative “Better Learners – Better Workers Scheme”; the Awards run in conjunction with the Worshipful Company of Armourers and Braziers will resume in 2022, in an enhanced form; a new award is being introduced in conjunction with The Sheffield UTC Academy Trust.

However, despite the resurgence in the stock market, there has been a reduction in the Trust’s reserves due to the expenditure incurred in supporting the work in the Hall. The Trust remains well above its minimum reserves level but the Trust’s Council of Management is monitoring the position and appropriate action will be taken if necessary.

Finally, the Trustees would like to thank Colonel Philip Bates and Mrs Carolyn Winnard, the Trust’s secretary and accountant respectively, for the work they have done during very challenging times in ensuring that the Trust continues to achieve its objectives.

Christopher J Jewitt DL Chairman  
10<sup>th</sup> August 2021

## THE CUTLERS' COMPANY CHARITY DISTRIBUTIONS 2020-2021

The Company's Charities have made donations of £105,799 to the charities listed below :

ADIRA
Anthony Nolan
Asperger's Children & Carers Together
Back Up
Bluebell Wood Childrens Hospice
Cavendish Cancer Care
Combat Stress
Galeed House - Datic Trust
Delphi Trust
Depaul UK
Disability Sheffield
Enable (Sheffield)
Epilepsy Action
Family Action Sheffield
Family Action Sheffield
FareShare Yorkshire
Firefly
Framework for your future
Goldigger Trust
Happy Days
Ignite Imaginations
Paces Sheffield
Roundabout
Rotherham Hospice
Royal Society for the Blind
Ruskin Mill Freeman College
Ruskin Mill Freeman College
Saffron Sheffield
Sharewear Clothing Scheme
Sheffield Dial-a-Ride

Sheffield Family Holiday Fund
Sheffield Hospitals Charity
Sheffield Mencap & Gateway
Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind
South Yorkshire Chaplaincy & Listening Service
South Yorkshire Community Resilience Fund
Southern Light Community Church
St Luke's Hospital
St Wilfred Centre
StopGap Sheffield
Stocksbridge Community Care Group
The Sunday Centre (Victoria Hall)
Support Dogs
Titans Community Foundation
Transport 17
Westwood 2015

## THE MASTER CUTLER'S CHALLENGE 2020-2021

*Taken from the outgoing Master Cutler's speech at the Installation in October, 2021.*

My Master Cutler's Challenge was severely hampered by Covid. However, the much reduced number of "Challengers" did manage to raise in excess of £120,000 for Weston Park Cancer Charity. This, whilst short of the £200,000 I had hoped for, is really quite impressive, considering the restrictions they were working under. My thanks go to both the staff at Weston Park for their unstinting support and enthusiasm throughout the whole challenge and, of course, to all the Challengers themselves. As I said at the End of Challenge celebrations and prize-giving, the Challenge might be short term, but the relationships built are very definitely for the long term.

Nicholas William. Master Cutler, 2019-2021

## THE MASTER CUTLER ELECT, 2021-2022



*Taken from his speech at the Installation, October, 2021*

I would like to start by saying what a huge honour and privilege it is, to be installed as the 382<sup>nd</sup> Master Cutler - a position that has been bestowed upon a manufacturer from this region since 1624.

I became a Freeman of the Company in 1995, but unlike the three other people made Freeman that day, who, I must add, I am delighted to see are all here today. I was not a director, but became a Freeman by being, and I quote, 'A Maker of Cutlery, having worked in and been instructed in the trade of Maker of Cutlery by his Father Paul James Tear'. My apprenticeship at Thessco, our family business that has only been owned by two families since it was founded in 1760, was entirely under the supervision of Past Master, Paul Tear. I am just sorry that he is unable to be here today to see me addressing you, as Master Cutler.

If any of you are running a book on how long it will be before I drop the Mistress joke, get ready to stop your clock. I can think of no other person in the world that I want to have by my side over the next twelve months than you, Jo. Having been married for over twenty-eight years, it is with enthusiasm that I can now boast having my first Mistress. I must say however, that like anyone who takes on a Mistress, it appears that my life has just got a whole lot more expensive.

Jo and I are both very excited about the year ahead and although we start out with some trepidation we would like to assure you all that we will do our very best to maintain the reputation of the Company as successfully as those who have gone before us. I, personally, will **also** be trying my hardest **not** to be the first Master in our 398 year history to lose the badge.

As a metal basher of this parish, I am very proud of the Manufacturing Industry that I stand here today and represent and, as I recently indicated in my Senior Warden's speech, I am particularly proud of the contributions we have made in the production of ventilators, the manufacture of vaccines and the supply of vital equipment to the NHS. With this message still ringing in my ears, I propose to use my time as Master Cutler to further Champion the manufacturing industries of the Sheffield City Region, also to promote our educational programme 'Better Learners Better Workers' and to raise awareness of the charitable work carried out by the Company. I look to do all three of these not only locally but also nationally and where possible even further afield.

I aim to use every opportunity to promote the fantastic achievements that the region's manufacturers have made in recent years, but also, and possibly more importantly, to increase the awareness of the part that both traditional and digital manufacturing will play in our quest to achieve a net zero carbon economy.

The Mistress and I would welcome the opportunity over the coming months to visit as many of our Freeman's companies as possible. Your stories will strengthen the message I look to champion in my year in office.

The fantastic work that the Company's Education and Skills committee has achieved, since its inception in 2012, must be applauded. Today more than ever. We, as manufacturers, are finding ourselves facing difficulties with skills shortages. I would like to wish Past Master Cragg and his committee, the best of luck with launching the latest generation of the 'Better Learners Better Workers' programme and the part it will play in developing our next generation of employees. Please be assured you have my continued support.

The charity sector has been one of the hardest to be hit over the past eighteen months, with the majority reporting at least a fifty percent reduction in their incomes due to Covid-19. The Company of Cutlers prides itself in the charitable work it has carried out over its near four-hundred-year history. We all have a social responsibility, but even more so after the recent pandemic, to help get this sector back doing the incredible work it does in our community.

Jo and I are thrilled to announce that we will be continuing the tradition of the Master Cutler's Challenge, even if not the tradition of doing a parachute jump, and we are particularly delighted to announce that during our year in office we will be supporting the charity Cavendish Cancer Care. As a charity, they have adapted themselves remarkably over the pandemic and the support service they provide, both in person and online, to people affected by cancer, including to their carers and loved ones, is humbling to see in action.

It remains my great pleasure to thank the Immediate Past Master and Mistress. Nick and Susie you are only the third Master and Mistress Cutler in recent history to stay in post for more than one year. The previous two times being during the first and second world wars. Might I suggest your Churchillian approach to the recent war, this time against the enemy Covid-19 throughout your term as Master as Mistress Cutler, must be applauded. I am sure Nick, particularly with your military background, that you would have welcomed the

opportunity to fight in France, to fight on the seas and ocean, so even to fight on the beaches, but unfortunately, Covid travel restrictions didn't allow this.

You did however fight in the hospitals with both Harry and Susie, spending several months overcoming their individual challenges. You also hosted us over zoom and you even found time to welcome your four new grandchildren - all of them Harry's.

Meanwhile throughout the whole pandemic, you have tirelessly supported your charity and as recently announced at the Master Cutler Challenge closing celebration. There will be a no more fitting tribute to your efforts, than to have a feature placed in permanent recognition at Weston Park Cancer Charity for your incredible contribution as Master Cutler over the past two years.

You never surrendered - Nick and Susie. I personally thank you for the guidance support and friendship that you have given to Jo and me, particularly over the last two years.

James Tear, Master Cutler, 2021-2022.



## Appendix 1

### FRIENDS OF THE COMPANY OF CUTLERS IN HALLAMSHIRE FOR THE YEARS 2020-2021

We are sorry that Mr B Simpson and Gleesons have stepped down after 10 years as Friends of the Company, as well and Mr Kevin McCabe of Scarborough International Group. The Company is extremely grateful for the support they have given to us over the years. The Company are delighted to welcome Mr Kevin Shaw of Castle Square Corporate Finance as a new Friend of the Company

#### Our current Friends are:

Abellio East Midland Trains	Ms L Etheridge
AESSeal plc	C J Rea Esq
Barber Harrison & Platt	J Warner Esq
Barclays Bank Corporate	A Marsh Esq
BDO	S Talbot Esq
Henry Boot PLC	T Roberts Esq
Brewster Pratap	N Brewster Esq
H L Brown & Son Ltd	J J Frampton Esq TD
Castle Square Corporate Finance – New Friend	K Shaw Esq
CMS Cameron McKenzie Nabarro Olswang LLP	F Askham Esq
DLA Piper UK LLP	Mrs P Billing
Doncaster Sheffield Airport	R Hough Esq CBE
EtiCloud	S Tomlinson Esq
Finance Yorkshire	A McWhirter Esq MBE
Freeths LLP	J Berry Esq
Grant Thornton	Mrs E L Davies
Graywoods	Mrs D Lockwood
Handelsbanken	O Dean Esq
	S Tweedle Esq
Hawsons	C Hill Esq
Highlander IT and Telecoms	R Massie Esq
Peter Hoare	Ms H Clewes
HSBC Bank Plc	A Follington Esq
IFM Insurance Brokers Ltd	M Barlow Esq
Investec Wealth Management	J Lanchbery Esq
Irwin Mitchell LLP	D Peters Esq
Mark Jenkinson & Son	A Little Esq
Keebles LLP	P Trudgill Esq
KPMG LLP	Ms P Sanderson
Lupton Fawcett LLP	Miss M Phillips
Make UK	Mrs J Smith
Meadowhall Centre Limited	D K Pearce Esq
NatWest	L Douglas
Peak HSE	Dr J Herbert

PriceWaterhouseCoopers	T Dodd Esq Regional Marketing Manager,
Professional Energy Purchasing Ltd	Ms L Spencer
Progressive Safety Footwear Limited	H J Topham Esq
Sheffield Hallam University	Professor C Husbands
Shorts	A Irvine Esq
Pennine Pneumatic Services – New Friend	A Martlew Esq
United Learning Trust	Sir J Coles Esq
University of Sheffield	Professor K Lamberts
Wake Smith	J Baddeley Esq
Work-Wise	J Barber Esq
Withers & Rogers	D McWilliams Esq
Yorkshire Bank PLC	B Brien Esq

#### Changes in Friends' Representatives

Henry Boot PLC	Tim Roberts Esq – Chief Executive Officer
DLA Piper UK LLP	Ms Petra Billing – Office Managing Partner
Grant Thornton	Mrs Emma Davies – Partner
HSBC UK Bank South Yorkshire	Andrew Follington Esq- Head of Corporate Banking,
NatWest	Liam Douglas Esq – Relationship Director Commercial Banking
PriceWaterhouseCooper	Daniel Parker Esq– Regional Marketing Manager ADDED TO EXISTING FRIEND Tom Dodd - Director
Wake Smith	John Baddeley Esq – Chairman
Yorkshire Bank PLC	B Brien Esq

## APPENDIX 2

### FREEMEN OF THE COMPANY OF CUTLERS IN HALLAMSHIRE FOR THE YEAR 2020/2021

Although the pandemic restricted many activities of the Company, the following people were granted their Freedom by the Company in 2019-2020.

Rebecca Joselyn	Designs in Silver
Charlie Day	Charles Day Steels
James Day	Charles Day Steels
Simon Dunn	Edward Pryor & Sons
Kevan Holloway	AMRC – University of Sheffield
Alistair Morris	Powerstar
Katherine Payne	Brett Payne Silversmiths
David Ray	Edward Pryor & Sons
Andrew Skinner	Revert Alloys & Metals Ltd
Stephen Beverley	CATRA (Cutlery & Allied Trade Research Association)
Adam Bradley	Corrosion Resistant Materials Ltd
Paul Jacobs	Handmade Scissors/Ernest Wright
David Richards	WANDisco
Christopher Seymour	William Cook Holdings Ltd
Matthew Stanway	Tractel UK Limited

#### LIST OF FREEMEN, 2020-2021

* Abbott Mrs R E	* Atkinson C J, OBE DL	Bennett E
* Abdy R I	* Baker O R H	* Bennett M S
Akid Professor R	Balfour A M	* Beresford J H
Aldrich G	* Baragwanath J, OBE	* Bergin J C M F
Allday D J	* Barker C S, DL	Bettac Mrs A
Allan J	* Barker G K	* Bibby B T
Allen A C	Barlow D L	Biggin P E
* Allen A D	* Barnsley C R	Birtles P
Allen A P	* Barrett, T J L	* Blake T J
* Allen Mrs J C	Bartlett G C	Bland P S
* Andrew N	* Battersby Mrs S	* Bly M H
* Andrews P R	* Beare D J E	Bolam E
* Andrews R	* Beckett W A	* Bolton J M
* Arber G E	* Beeley J	Boon S A
	* Bell B E	* Boot E J
	* Bellingher Mrs K N	Botterill D M
	* Belton D C	* Bottomley P

Bowes J M B	* Cook Sir Andrew, CBE	Fearnehough R A
* Bowie N M	Cook Mrs A J	* Fearnehough R McN
* Bramah J C	Cook K J	* Field Dr R D, OBE
Brand J	* Cook R S	Firth H C
* Bridge G W	* Cook W J	Fisher A H
Bright I	* Cooke K	* Fitzgerald Dr F, CBE
Brightmore E A	Cooke R	Flather D W
* Broadbent P	Cooper L	* Fletcher D
* Brookes, A C	* Cooper Mrs M	* Fletcher P K
* Brooks R E	* Corbett S	* Ford D W, CBE
* Brown Dr C	* Cotton C B	* Forster G
* Brown C D	Cowley N L	* Fothergill R D J
* Brown G S	Cox M W	* Foulerton Mrs C
* Brown Mrs V M	* Cragg N P	* Foulerton G H A
Brownhill P R	Croft W A	Fowlds A J
* Broxholme M A	* Culley H E	* Fripp T G
* Bruce P G	Cunliffe B S	* Fry R G
Bruce P S	* Cunningham J J	* Fulton J W
* Bruce R S	Damms M	Furr P C
* Buckley Sir George	* Davies Dr I G	Gale I D
Burleigh W G	Davies R A	Garratt E P
* Burnham M E	* Davis N A	Germain O E
Burns P	* Day J C W	Gibson M
* Buxton J M	Dean Q R	Gilmartin P A L
* Caldwell J	Dengel T J	* Goater D P
* Campbell D I H	DePatie R E	* Gorman J J
Campbell W A	Dickinson H	Gould P C L
* Carlisle Sir Michael, DL	* Douglas J A	* Gould R M R
* Carr A C	Doyle J B	* Grant C J
* Carr R A	* Doyle S F	* Gray B A
* Carr R J	* Drohan S R	* Green S H R
* Carson A M	* Dronfield M J	* Greenshields M W T
* Carter M	Ducker R S	* Grey D, MBE
Catley R J	* Dunkley J J	* Grey M J
Chamberlain P	* Eastwood K	Grey Mrs S L
Chaplin Professor C R	* Eccleston Prof R S	Guylee S F
* Chapman Dr S J	Edmonds M J	* Hague R P
* Charlesworth K	* Edwards J R	Hall Dr D
Childs M P	* Edwards P D	* Hall D J
* Clague J R	Egley A	* Hall R
* Clark D B, CBE TD DL	* Elliott T R	Hall R S
* Clark J F B	* Ellis C J	* Hall S
* Clark W A	* Ellis F P	Hammond T R
* Clay M	* Etches J M	* Hannah J S
Cocker D	* Eyre A	* Hanson, Miss M
* Colley J K R	* Facey H D, MBE	Harding-Terry J I
Colley R B	Falck F	* Harrison Mrs E L, CBE
Collier S A	Farquhar I	* Harrison J L
Collinson N	* Farris C A	Harrison N J
* Collinson R D	* Farris R E	* Harrison T E
* Colton A J	Faulkner R D	Hartley D J

Hartley K A	* Jenkinson C S	* Lowe P
* Harvey Dr J T	* Jewitt C J, DL	* Lyons S M
* Harvey Mrs J T	* Jewitt J R	* MacDonald N A
Hattersley J A	* Jewitt T D	Machin T J
* Hayes P J	Jinkinson K B	Maconochie N S
Hayes W J	* Jones Dr A H	* Mackenzie G R, OBE
* Hayward J T S	* Jones I	* Maddock M
* Heaton C C S	Jones T N	* Mallett M J
Heeley M J	Jonsson S O L	* Manning M S
Henderson J V	Jowitt G M	* Mardapittas Dr A
* Henley M A	* Kavanagh D J	Margereson R
Henson R	* Kenny Dame J A, CBE DL	* Marrison W P
Hickey Mrs V J	Kilbride P	* Marston G J, OBE
* Hinckley G C, OBE DL	* Kinna Ms A	* Maskrey N
* Hodges A C	Kirby C	Mather R C
* Hogg P J	Kirby M	* Matthews S P
* Holdsworth I	Kirk Mrs B R	* McClean A
* Holes P	Kirkby Miss K L	* McGee J E
* Holland C G	Kirkby P W R	McGovern N
* Holloway M B	Kitchen D E	* McKay C
Holmes P	* Klein B E	* McKelvie D
* Homer H	Knaggs K	McKenzie B
Honeyborne Dr C H B	Lammers P	* McLellan C
* Honeyman Dr G A, CBE	* Lane I P	McMurray W
Hood M A	Lang A C	McShannon G A
Hoole C B	Langford P J	* Mellor C
* Hopkinson L C	Larkin A G	Melton Dr K N
* Hopton P J	Latham D	* Metcalfe P R
* Horne Dr G	* Latham M	Middleton C J
* Horton M J	* Latimer D	* Middleton V S, OBE
* Houlston Mrs N A	Lee C E	* Midgley M L
* Housley H, MBE	* Lee D S W, DL	Mitchell P J
Hovsepian Professor P E	Lee M J	* Mitchell S
* Howell M G	Lee M R	Money Mrs A
* Hoy P B	* Lee N H W, OBE	* Moore J E
Huddy G	* Lee P W, CBE DL	* Morley M W
* Hudson, C P	Leonard P J	Mould J C
* Hudson J	Levesley J M T, TD	* Muncie C R
Hutton N J A, MBE	Lindley P M	* Murdoch N
* Hux H	Linley H	* Murphy K
Hydes R S	Lister A J	* Murphy S J
Ibberson J S	Lister Mrs J M	Musgrove K
* Ingram S	Littleford R A	Myers R
* Inman C	Liversidge A W	* Napier T M, CBE
* Jackson A W M	* Liversidge D B, CBE	Naylor F
* Jackson C L	* Liversidge Mrs P E, OBE DL	* Naylor M C
* Jackson K R	Lloyd A G	* Naylor N
* Jarvis P M	Lockey A D	* Neal Mrs J M
Jemsby U L	Lockwood J	* Neal J S
* Jeffrey N	Longden C W	Needham J
Jenkins M L	* Lord M S	* Newborn J

* Newman J H, OBE	* Ritson M	* Thacker Baron M E of
* Newman P J	* Roberts D	Fetternear
* Nicholls I R	Roberts G	Thompson G
Noble J T	* Roberts Sir Samuel, Bt	Thompson G L
O'Brien T M	* Robinson Miss J L	Thorpe D R
* Ogley T A	Robinson W	* Tissiman J J, MBE
Oughton T D	* Rodrigo P P	Tolley J P
Owens Professor D H	Rowley M A	* Torres K L
* Oxley G	* Royle G	Toye G
* Oxspring P R	* Ruddlestone R	* Tsakiropoulos Professor P
* Panter G W	* Runciman I G	* Turner C J
Parker A J	Russell G M, TD	* Twigg G
Parkes R J	Saunders D M, RD	* Ungethum Prof Dr M
* Parkin A K	Sayles D	Unsworth J B
* Parkin J E	* Scaife D R	Vander P J
Parkin P H	* Scaife R J	* Vaughan M A
* Parramore M	* Sellars C	Vaughn G J
* Partridge Dr A	* Senior A D	* Vessey T M
* Payne R B	Sharp J J	* Village A N
Peace C	* Shaw D B	Villamuera Mrs H A
* Pedder A P, OBE DL	Shaw S	Viner B J
Peel G H N	* Shaw S M, BEM	* Viner R S
Peile R W	* Shepherd J G	Waern H J
Percival L T	* Shield M	* Wadsworth M V
Perrins M R	Siddall A J	* Wainwright J C
* Perry P	Siddall P R, MBE,	Wainwright K
Petersen R J	* Sirett C M	Wainwright S P
Phinn J A	Skinner P J	Wales D
Phinn M A P	* Skinner P N	Walker C
Piggott J	Sloan I W	* Walker I G
Pitts B	Smith G F	Wallis A L
* Pogson Mrs L A	Smith G H	* Walters C
Poppleton A M	Smith I J	* Walters R S
* Posthuma A O	* Snellgrove D L	Warburton A K
* Prest R J	* Speirs Prof W B	Ward B, OBE
Priestley L H	Stancliffe S	Ward D R
Price N A M	Startin G H	* Ward G J
Price Dr S	* Steel P J	* Ward Miss S L
Pritchard O J	* Stephenson C L, TD DL	* Ward T W, TD
Proctor C J	* Stephenson O G	Ward W R
* Quinn G P	* Stone D R, OBE	Warner-Adsetts Mrs B C B
* Rae D K	* Swain J B	Watkinson D
Rafter P T	* Sykes Sir Hugh, DL	* Watson S J
Randall Dr D	Taberner A A	Watt A A
* Rathbone M	Tapley A D	* Webber M C
* Rea C J, OBE DL	* Taylor A N	Welburn R W
* Reid A D B	Taylor D	* West A M
Renshaw-Smith G	* Tear J A	* West Professor A R
* Renwick A J S	* Tear Miss J C	Westwood S
* Ridgway Professor K, CBE	* Temple M J, CBE	White G
Rigby J D		Whittaker Mrs D F

* Wild J B	Wise G W	Wragg M
Wild T W S	Wiseman P J	Wright F B
Wilde Mrs D	Wolstenholme N W	* Wright M G
* Wildgoose J M	* Wood J C	* Wright Mrs P A
Williams G R	* Wood M R	* Wright P E
* Williams N D O, TD DL	Wood P P	Wright R K
Wills T A	* Wood R	Yates Professor J R
* Wilson Mrs A C, MBE	* Woods A	* Young D
* Wilson G J	* Woods G W	Zubak J
* Wilson P W	Wooffinden P C	
* Wilson P W F	* Worrall T W	

To date these years, we have been advised of the death of the following Freemen:  
2019/2021

C L Bassett Esq  
B Beatson Esq  
F R Jones Esq  
B Ainsworth Esq  
E Barron Esq  
D Willingham Esq  
R Fowler Esq

**THE COMPANY OF CUTLERS IN HALLAMSHIRE  
IN THE COUNTY OF YORK FOR THE YEAR 2021-2022**

James Andrew Tear **Master Cutler**

Dame Julie Ann Kenny DBE DL **Senior Warden**

Charles James Turner DL **Junior Warden**

**Searchers**

Philip Paul Rodrigo      Cameron Alexander McLellan

Keith Robert Jackson      Jane Louise Robinson

Ian Robert Nicholls      Peter Brian Hoy

**Assistants**

John Edward McGee

Christopher John Jewitt DL

Douglas Brian Liversidge CBE

John Clive Bramah

John Joseph Tissiman MBE

Alan David Bedford Reid

James Henry Newman OBE

Pamela Edwards Liversidge OBE DL

Neil Andrew MacDonald OBE

Anthony Paul Pedder OBE DL

David Grey MBE

Craig McKay DL

Kenneth Cooke

Nicholas Peter Cragg

Nicholas David Oliver Williams TD DL

Marie Cooper

Peter John Hogg

Mark Vincenzo Wadsworth

Alex Mardapittas

Victoria Mary Brown

Sarah Louise Ward

John Richard Jewitt

**Clerk**

Colonel Philip John Bates MBA FIOD

**Clerks Emeriti**

Colonel Peter David Gardner OBE

Colonel George Andrew Kilburn MBE DL



