

President: Alderman Emma Edhem, Chairman: Laurence Johnstone,
Hon. Secretary: Murray Craig, Treasurer: Stuart Somerville



THE CANDLEWICK WARD CLUB
Founded 1670 Reconstituted 1739

CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2023

Dear Fellow Members,

Greetings to you all once again and I hope you have had an enjoyable and restful summer.

With late summer here and the autumn ahead of us, I hope you will enjoy a short review of our activities so far this year - all have been well attended and enjoyed by our members and their guests.

You will also find below a reminder of our upcoming events for the rest of this year plus a short note from our Treasurer that will be relevant to only a few.

2023 SO FAR:

Our first event, held in March, was a **Riverside Walk** along the Thames north bank towards Tower Bridge. Our member and City Guide, Robert Woolf, gave us an intriguing insight to life near the Thames from Roman times to the present day. We viewed many points including that of the mysterious death of Roberto Calvi at Blackfriars Bridge and the drama of the Millennium Bridge. Afterwards, we gathered at an historic pub near the Tower of London for a convivial lunch.

In April, we had a fascinating visit evening visit to the **Central School of Ballet** at Paris Gardens on the South Bank. In a special performance, the School's talented students gave us a wonderful programme of contemporary and classical dance. Over wine and eats afterwards, CSB's Director spoke to us of the School's history, goals and aspirations - and your behalf, I presented a cheque from the Club to support the students with their studies.

Our next event, in May, was a guided tour of the **New Lambeth Palace Library**, an impressive high-tech building opened in 2021. This included a visit to the state of the art Conservation Studio where the painstaking work required to preserve paper, parchment and other materials. An added treat was an exhibition on Royal Coronations going back to the Middle Ages. After the tour, we went to a delightful Italian restaurant nearby for lunch and refreshments.

In early June, we held our annual **Candlewick Civic Dinner** at Watermen's, the City's only remaining Georgian livery hall. A drinks reception and a splendid dinner with a musical interlude was enjoyed by 60 members and guests including the two Sheriffs and their Consorts. On the Club's behalf, I presented gifts to the Sheriffs and a donation to the Lord Mayor's Charity from which we received a warm thank you.

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Our next event was the **Wren 300 Year Service** held at St Paul's Cathedral. The Duke & Duchess of Gloucester, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City, many other dignitaries were present and a congregation of some 1500. Organised by the Surveyors' and Architects' Liveries our members were treated to seats under the Cathedral's Dome. A champagne reception and lunch at Plaisterers' Hall rounded off a truly memorable tribute to the life of the remarkable Sir Christopher Wren.

There is a write-up with photographs for each event posted on the "Past Events" section of our website so please do take a look.

LOOKING AHEAD:

Tuesday 26th September - City Giving Day

We are again taking part in this exciting annual event supporting the Lord Mayor's Appeal. More than 500 organisations are involved each year including City businesses and professionals, liveries, ward clubs and others. This year our Guided City Walk will be led by our hugely knowledgeable Hon. Secretary – thank you Murray!) followed by an informal lunch at Brown's in Old Jewry.

We still have spaces available for members and guests for this event so please do contact the Hon. Secretary, Murray Craig, if you would like to join us.

Wednesday 25th October

Guided Tour of Westminster Abbey & The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Galleries

As the Abbey website says: "History happens here and it's all waiting to be discovered!" Our tour will explore a place that has touched the lives of kings, queens, heroes and villains since 960AD as well as being the coronation church since 1066 and the resting place of more than 3,000 great Britons. We will also visit the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Galleries situated high above the Abbey displaying some of our Nation's greatest treasures and telling the story of our 1,000-year history.

A Flyer and Application Form for this event will be circulated shortly – please look out for it as numbers for this event will be limited to a total of 20.

Friday 1st December - Candlewick Carol Service and Annual Breakfast

This year's Christmas Carol Service will again take place in the fine and historic Christopher Wren church of St Mary Abchurch in Candlewick Ward and less than half a mile from Guildhall. The Annual Breakfast, one of our Club's most popular events, will be held in the medieval Crypts of the Guildhall, evoking the spirit of Christmas and offering our members and their guests a chance to enjoy a wonderful and convivial feast enhanced with music and good cheer. .

Please do reserve this date in your diaries as it is always a special event in our calendar

I do hope to see as many of you as possible at the forthcoming events mentioned above

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A Note from our Treasurer about Subscriptions & Standing orders

A sincere thank-you to all those who have set up Standing Orders and paid their annual subscription for the current year (starting 1st July 2023).

Would the few members who have not paid please let us have your outstanding subscription as soon as possible.

For those who haven't yet paid and/or set up this method of payment, it is very easy to make the payment online and to set the renewal date as a Standing Order for the 1st July each year. Please pay Candlewick Ward Club the sum of £30.00 to Lloyds Bank, Fenchurch Street branch, Sort Code 30-92-87 and Account Number 00493363.

Members are asked to pay by Standing Order. It really does help with the Club's administration to set up payments in this way. However, if this is a problem please contact our Treasurer, Stuart Somerville - mail@stuartsomerville.co.uk - to talk through other possible options.

The Club last increased its annual subscription in 2021. The annual amount payable is £30 which remains the level for the current year to 30 June 2024.

And finally:

Please join us at as many events as you can and do bring a guest or guests.

If you are bringing a guest then please do consider putting him or her forward as a candidate for membership of our wonderful and historic Club. Our proforma for membership applications is attached and we are keen to encourage.

And finally, if you have any queries or suggestions or would like to help or become involved in any way then please do contact the Honorary Secretary or me.

I much look forward to meeting you during the months ahead.

With kindest regards

Laurence

Laurence Johnstone
Chairman, Candlewick Ward Club



Attachments:

- CWC Membership Application Form