QUEENHITHE WARD CLUB



Queenhithe Ward Club Newsletter Issue 5 – Autumn/Winter 2014

This issue highlights the election of one of our members, Fiona Adler as Sherriff.

Houses of Parliament 23rd August 2014

Unfortunately we were restricted to 20 people for this visit despite having paid in full in April! Despite train cancellations, a nearby accident and an incipient public protest, the Group began the tour on time and together.



We began in the Robing room and made our way via the division lobbies to the Royal Gallery (House of Lords). The monarch's throne looks far grander than is apparent when seen on TV. Next, through the Lords' Chamber, where we resisted the temptation to touch the antique Pugin designed tables and chairs, to the Lords corridor until we stood in the Central Lobby, well recognised from TV and filled with statues and sculptured busts of many past Prime Ministers.

Inevitably, we headed towards the end most befitting our status – The Commons, but still had to show restraint and not sit down on the Green leather seats, although by then the temptation was strong.

The Afternoon tea was very much appreciated by the time we reached the Terrace Restaurant and we were able to partake of tea and a little 'plotting' on the Terraces (just like the other members do!). Our guide was superb and we all learned something new including the origin of the word Parliament-taken from the French "parler" – to speak. A most enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

Inter-Ward Quiz 15th September 2014

Once again Queenhithe participated in the annual inter-ward quiz which was held in Guildhall. The

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	Team Name	Dirigitati	- Cran	d Position	
ı	Aldersgate	21	74	7 7	
ı	4 Billingsgate	23	81	3	
ı	s Bishopsgate	17	67	10	
į	Bread Street	31	76	6	
į	Bridge	21	74	7	
	Cordwalner	30	70	9	
	Lime St & Cornhill	22	88	1	
10	Queenhithe	200	82	2	
1	Vintry&Dowgate A	21	81	3	
	Vintry&Dowgate B	18	77	5	
			0	11	
			0	11	

team consisted of Adrian Pearson, Jonathan Evans, Alastair King, Janet Farminer, Paul Renner and Patrick Wilkins. I gave the team very strict instructions, that under no circumstances were they to win. Winning would lead to us having to organize the competition next year. Having said that, they were to leave the evening with a very honourable score, and you will see from the attached score sheet that they excelled and came second. I was informed that if they had played their "joker" differently, they could well have won, (thank goodness they didn't)!

I think this is an annual event which is enjoyed by the team and creates good recognition of the Club, hence it is always worth fielding a team able to demonstrate their knowledge to the other clubs, while having a good time.

Fiona Adler Sherriff

Shrieval Badge Presentation Ceremony



17th September 2014



Many of you will know but for members who don't, Fiona Adler, one of our members, earlier this year was successfully elected Sheriff to the new Lord Mayor. Fiona has already been fully occupied with her duties and the traditional ceremonies associated with the role.

Queenhithe committee was very happy to support a contribution to her Badge and Chain of office. Fiona will wear this at her official ceremonies, her first one being to receive the finished article at a reception at the Girdlers Hall in September. This occasion was probably one of Fiona's less formal ones and David Wootton (Lord Mayor 2011-12) gave the speech to Fiona. He had obviously done his homework to discover Fiona's CV and interests, even revealing her support of Southampton football club. Fiona responded in kind, explaining the significance of each part of her badge which includes the Queenhithe logo. The event was relaxed and enjoyable with plentiful wine and endless canapés.

Fiona and her husband David are our guests for lunch at the Civic event on January 13th at the Guildhall when Fiona will outline her duties in her after lunch speech. (The lunch should be excellent since Guildhall has a new caterer whose offerings can be thoroughly recommended)

Silent Ceremony and Presentation of Addresses 7th November 2014

This was the most amazing afternoon where four of us, plus, of course Gordon and Caroline had the privilege of attending the Admission of Lord Mayor and Sheriffs ceremony in Guildhall. This was followed by the Presentation of Addresses, which included the presentation of a caricature painting to Fiona by Gordon accompanied by five of us, which elicited huge laughter by Fiona – absolutely brilliant.



For those never having attended a Silent Ceremony, and I was one of them, it is one of the most whimsical and anachronistic of the City's traditions. It dates back many hundred years and is watched by Aldermen, City Officers, Masters of Livery Companies and some like us who were privileged enough to have been invited.

Following the Ceremony there was a break before we made our way upstairs at Guildhall ready for the Presentation of Addresses. The photo was taken of our group while awaiting the

arrival of the Lord Mayor (Alan Yardley) and Sheriffs (our own Fiona Adler and Andrew Parmley). Various presentations were made to each person, and gifts appropriate to the person were chosen – our painting was a caricature which we thought would demonstrate Fiona's enjoyment of life in many spheres. We wish her an enormously successful year. I am sure she "will do us proud".