



# The CARMAN

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## CARMEN'S HALL TAKES SHAPE £1,160k lease paid; £1.2m costs; £646k raised

Carmen's Hall is taking shape. The final payment of the £1,160,000 leasehold cost has been made, and over £646,000 have been raised towards the £1.2m cost of restoration and development. The building is valued at £4m. The roof has been replaced, and the lift installed, while work on separating church and Company ground floor space is now complete. Services are being connected, and work has started on office space and the museum.

In July the Court approved a £100,000 loan, and in October the Benevolent Trust set aside £50,000 towards educational facilities, while three Past Masters and one Assistant have given £125,000. Some 140 Carmen have added their donations direct or to the Loving Cup while altogether 20% of members have made a contribution.

The Heritage Trust has applied for grant aid from four sources, one

of which has agreed £58,500, and possibly more, while the Car Club has donated £12,000. £10,000 gift aid is anticipated.

Total Hall costs will exceed £1.2m, so a further £600,000 is needed, half of it now. Plans include a car draw, fund raising events and at existing events, and a special group is forming to attract member and corporate funding.

*Full reports pages 6 & 7.*



New Master Col Simon Bennett TD VR hires the Gilbey cart from Liveryman James Hyatt at Clothworkers' Hall on 16 October.



Retiring Clerk Walter Gill and incoming Clerk Julian Litchfield.

## Transport education

With transport education the prime focus of future Carman benevolence and of Carmen's Hall, a new group of Carmen is developing policy and programme to serve the industry and help young people, especially in inner London state schools.

Chaired by new Assistant Andy Miles, the Education Panel is exploring schools' needs, existing support elsewhere, industry requirements, and organisational links, to avoid duplication.

The group is working closely with trustees to optimise Carmen's Hall,

reviewing lectures, anticipating apprentice enablement, educational awards and charitable bursaries, and aiming to reflect the same values of Carmen's longstanding and continuing support as for Christ's Hospitallers and other City-linked scholars.

## Clerk leaves

After nearly 20 years' service, 17 as Clerk, Walter Gill has retired, and Captain Julian Litchfield RN has taken over the Clerkship, at the October start of the new Livery year. Carmen gathered at the members' dining room in Guildhall on 30 September to bid farewell to Walter. The Senior Past Master recalled his appointment, recognised his outstanding service, recorded his achievements, including the Presidency of the Fellowship of Clerks, and thanked him on behalf of all Carmen, adding the Company's appreciation for his wife Helen's support.

Incoming and outgoing Masters Simon Bennett and Stephen Britt gave their thanks and presented Walter with members' gifts, including a special and unique pen. Walter spoke of the pleasure and privilege of serving the Company, and also welcomed the new Clerk, who had helped to arrange the event.



Then Master Stephen Britt joined new Assistants Andy Miles and Graham Hayden, elected to the Court on 03 July at Barber Surgeons' Hall.

## COURT CHANGES

The Court election took place on 3 July at Barber Surgeons' Hall, when two new Assistants were elected – Andy Miles and Graham Hayden, following the customary Common Hall forum, and presentations by all candidates. Voting in person and by post reflected some 15% of the electorate – much the same as in preceding years. Assistant Chris Parlane has since retired, and Past Master Graham Westcott has been appointed Emeritus.

## Letter to Carmen

Dear fellow Carman

Two decades after the Millennium, Carmen face a challenging future, with surface transport under-staffed, over-taxed and vulnerable to Brexit impacts, an ageing membership, reducing attendances, ongoing losses and a highly competitive market for time, money and benevolence.

Happily that future also includes a newly chartered commitment to transport education, to serve our industry and support young people. It also offers a new home as Carmen's Hall develops and our new Clerk takes office.

As we excavate the past in Fleet Street, bones, skulls and past schools come to light, reminding us of people and purposes past, enabling our platform for the future. Restoring an old school, we enable new schooling. Carmen's Hall is our future home and our help for tomorrow's movers.

The engine of that help is our fellowship, and that depends on our members, events and good governance. Our fellowship depends on a new dynamic, for ageing companies simply die if they do not adopt disruptive change and reinvent themselves. Let's travel further than Thomas Cook.

Our Livery is ageing as we live longer, and our pleasures age with us. Old Carmen enjoy high value venues and menus, but new Carmen may not sustain long lunches and late nights. We need new Carmen and they need value for time and money.

Our charter commits us to public benefit, our Hall to public access, education and charitable operation. Future options include more public interface, more young blood, wider industry reach and a wider range of events.

Carmen can still offer exceptional events at wonderful places while enjoying afterwork exchanges like Thirst Thursdays, transport lunch workshops, family weekend outings – and exchange more information and ideas in-house.

Carmen can reach out more, welcoming those interested to our hall, history and museum. We can invite achievers and experts as fellows. We can attract young people as trade and master apprentices. We can invite modern minds to membership and management, enhancing court and committee.

Carmen decades ago included women, welcomed foreigners, embraced different ethnicities, beliefs and orientations. Without harming heritage we extend fellowship to all who accept Carman values and contribute to Carman futures.

It is time for change. Otherwise our time will pass. Let's not make old bones, but make our moves scite, cito, certe.

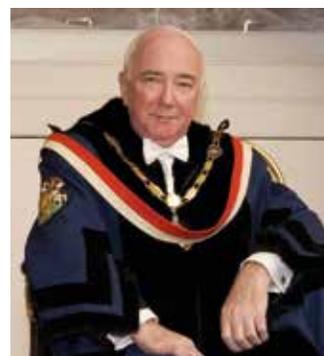
Clive Birch  
Senior Past Master



Carman principal award winners with (left) Awards Chairman Assistant Leon Daniels, and (centre) Master at Mansion House on 12 March; left to right: Merit, Crow, Environmental and Royce recipients.

## Bike, bridge, tech, steam Michael Power

At Mansion House in March the Company's industry awards were presented by Lord Mayor *locum tenens*, Alderman Ian Luder CBE and the Master on 12 March, when Ricardo Ltd received the Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation Award for excellence in recognition of over a century of world leading technology and innovation. The Award of Merit went to Network Rail Thameslink for restoring and redeveloping the 1836 London Bridge station, and the Herbert Crow Memorial Award for knowledge enhancement was given to the Boiler & Engineering Skills Training Trust for protecting steam power. The Environmental Award was presented to Will Butler-Adams for rethinking city transport with the Brompton electric bicycle.



Carmen sustained a major loss in October, with the death of Past Master Emeritus Michael Power, the architect of Strategy 500, reformer of the Company's standing orders regulating governance, and a giant among Carmen. He brought a challenging intellect to Court debate, served as a longstanding trustee of the Carmen's charity and, with his wife Ilse, was a dedicated supporter of core Carman events. He clothed his daughter Danielle during his 2005–2006 year as Master.

Before Mastership, he raised more than £100,000 over six years in cart marking revenue. Renault fleet director before retirement, he also had a facility for languages, public speaking and music. A Carman Singer, he uniquely led his Master's carol service with a solo rendition in fluent German of *Holy Night – Heilige Nacht*.

Michael Power led debate with vigour, direction and conviction, encouraging change while respecting tradition, contributing wise counsel and clear objectives. Widely read, with a forensic memory, he enlivened Carman fellowship with wit and wisdom.



Brig Chris Murray CBE proposed the Company toast at Clothworkers' Hall on 16 October, coupled with the Master, whose 'two citizen' army reserve career in industry and the military included war service in Bosnia, and started at 16, flying solo as an air cadet.

## Good to talk ...

On 1 November 2018 then new Master Stephen Britt hosted an informal reception at Guildhall in the members' dining room, and spoke to his theme 'It's good to talk', inviting members to talk to 'someone new', not only that evening, but in future years, and the need to bring new people into the Freedom.

'We have no limit on the numbers of Freeman and, in an industry booming with the exponential rise in home deliveries, suitable applicants should not be hard to find.'

The Master reminded everyone that at the Installation lunch he had tasked the Wardens to recruit more Freeman, and he exhorted members present to do so too.



Outgoing Benevolent Trustees Liveryman Mary Bonar and Past Master Bob Russett; incoming trustees Assistant Andrew Turner and Liveryman James Davis.

## The Gallant Clerk

First among over 12 final candidates, Capt Julian Litchfield RN was formally appointed Clerk to the Company at the July Court, and took office during the October Court meeting. With 36 years' Naval service, since 2011 retirement he served the Governors of Milton Abbey School as Bursar and Clerk.

Graduating from Britannia Royal Naval College in 1981, he served at sea and ashore, with a focus on HR, administration and logistics, working for the Second Sea Lord, later in the UK's Washington embassy, then NATO, finally serving as Chief of Staff HQ Defence School of Personal Administration.

He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Development and a member of the Association of Royal Navy Officers, and married to Anne.

## In memoriam

Carmen have lost Liverymen Steve Abel, James McClure, Hedley Jeune, James Watson, Edward Lawrence, Tom Anderson and Freeman Patrick Kelly as well as John Guttridge, who served on the Company's behalf as chairman of the Camberwell Housing Society.



Masterful double delight on the Carmen's bus at the Lord Mayor's Show on 10 November 2018 with Master Stephen Britt and his 2019 successor Simon Bennett.



The special minibus funded by Carmen – named 'Carmen' by Oasis staff – on duty in the Isle of Wight with ex-service users in recovery: some of those helped by Oasis and by the Carmen.

## THANKS TO TRUST

Because the help afforded by the Carman Benevolent Trust is often aimed at individuals, it is not possible to publicise recipients or results – partly for data protection reasons, but largely because the Trust does not feel it right to publicise the difficulties of individuals.

A few months ago, trustees received a letter from a lady called Anne, who referred to the help the Trust gave her grandson. His parents had divorced and it fell to her and her husband to give financial assistance. The Trust helped with his school fees. Because of this he had been able to go to university, where he had achieved an MSC

(with merit). Anne paid tribute to that help. With his hard work and dedication, the Trust's assistance had given the right support at the right time. Said Chairman Past Master Neil Coles, 'it goes to emphasise the unseen work of the trustees – help offered that is rightly never seen by the majority of members of the Company'.



Charity golf day at Cuddington Golf Club on 5 September – the latest Bruce Owen Trophy winning team (which included Nathan Salter) l – r: Dafydd Pugh Williams, Robert Pawson, and Richard Williams, with the Master.

## Action against loss

In 2019 then Master Britt led an investigation into Company losses. Membership income had been flat for five years, despite the Livery ceiling of 500 recently reached, but currently standing at 476. Company accounts have shown losses for two years, with the risk of a continuing deficit.

Apart from lifetime subscribers and honorary members, paying Liverymen number 449, and Freeman 156. Over a third of members have been Carmen for over 20 years, and over half are aged over 60. 10% are less than 50 years old.

An income shortfall against budget was largely due to the failure of members to update

standing orders, and unsuccessful attempts to collect underpayments. Fines and fees were accordingly increased by 5% with continuing annual CPI-related increments, and steps taken to move all members onto direct debit.

Life membership will be reviewed and corporate membership is under active consideration.

## From the Master

I wasn't expecting so many cats to be let out of the bag by my guest at our Installation lunch. Thank you, Brigadier Chris!

Our new Clerk, Julian Litchfield, adroitly took the helm for his first Installation ceremony at St Margaret Pattens, followed by cart hiring the magnificent W&A Gilbey gin van drawn by Rolo – who really stole the show with many selfies taken. A huge thank you to Liveryman Jimmy Hyatt.

Then it was a quick costume change and off to Mansion House to join the Fuellers. I was thrilled to be granted their Honorary Livery and to meet their new Master HRH Prince Edward, and so cement the Carmen's relationship with the Fuellers rekindled by Stephen Britt and Shравan Joshi.

As depicted in the 1966 *The Frost Report* comedy sketch, I know my place. I was therefore delighted to meet Dr Jeffrey Bines, Master Fan Maker – no. 76, and Captain Jim Barclay, Master Mariner Master – no. 78, at the Fan Makers' Court Dinner. I am looking forward to being sandwiched between them at future events!

Crowning my first week was a visit to King Edward's School, Witley for their Admissions Day, where I met our new Carman scholar. She will be a great ambassador for school and Carmen.

I am looking forward to representing Carmen at the Lord Mayor's Thanksgiving and Wreath Laying Services and conducting my first ceremonial duties, admitting Freeman, and presenting our Sea Cadet Unit with the affiliation document at Walthamstow.

During my year, we will enjoy our amazing core events and other activities, designed to broaden attendance, and attract our Freeman and Apprentices; – from crawling around a disused underground station, to operating interesting machines, tasting events, and my Master's Special Event at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

My charity for the year is Horse Time focused on those affected by traumatic experiences, running courses and supporting veterans struggling to transition successfully into civilian life, and also emergency service personnel.

Alongside that is our St Dunstan's Heritage Trust, our charity to build our home. I plan to hold my Master's Reception there, as soon as building work allows. Please do consider a donation to our charity, which will help other guilds, small charities, and London schoolchildren with a learning centre for transport education for public benefit.

I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible, and wish you all and your families a wonderful Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Simon Bennett

## From the Immediate Past Master

Every 'Immediate' Past Master will say this but 'What a year'!

I've visited many venues, mostly in the City, some in central London and a few elsewhere, including The Brigantes in Whitworth Hall, Manchester on the hottest day of the year.

Amongst those 'elsewhere' were also our military affiliates, including our recently adopted cadet units. It was on those occasions when our presence was most appreciated, primarily for the support we offer through our awards and bursaries.

To witness sunset ceremonies at Deepcut, Brize Norton, Wittering and Hendon was a real honour and a source of great pride in representing all Carmen.

For me, it doesn't stop there because, within weeks of stepping down, I will be mixing again with my Masters' year group, 'Apollo 19', to maintain and build on the friendships we've developed whilst on 'The Circuit'!

The name 'Apollo' has other meanings for me too. When you next see me, stop me and ask.

My year also had its challenges and disappointments.

My main worry a year ago was overseeing our Clerk's succession, which was handled expertly by Past Master Emeritus Nick Meyer and his Administration Panel. We must thank Nick and all Carmen that contributed to that process and say 'welcome and good luck' to our new clerk, Capt Julian Litchfield RN.

My biggest disappointment this year was the poor response to our Heritage Trust appeals. As I write, less than a quarter of Carmen have responded.

Thank you to everyone who has given so far but, for those that haven't, it's not too late to contribute to our new home, Carmen's Hall.

Finally, thank you all for your support during my year as your Master but special thanks to the handful of close friends and Past Master mentors who've encouraged me throughout, and also my dear wife Linda, who kept the show on the road in my absence.

And remember ...



The 12F (Walthamstow and Leyton) Sqn band of the Air Cadets entertain Carmen in Guildhall Yard on 17 July before cart marking.

## Marking carts and Carmen

Lord Mayor Alderman Peter Estlin congratulated Carmen on cart marking, marked carts and then spoke warmly of outgoing Carman Clerk, Walter Gill, on 17 July at Guildhall Yard, while Sheriff Liz Green joined the Carmen for lunch.

Forty seven carts were entered, including an 1890 two horsed charabanc celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Women's Land Army. After lunch, two awards were presented. The first was the new annual City of London police medal, awarded to PC Matthew

Beaumont, explosives then drugs dog handler, and operational police planner, responsible for Royal and Commonwealth events and cart marking, now retired and working with the Corporation. The second, the Lifetime Achievement Award, went to the Senior Past Master.



PC Matthew Beaumont receives the City of London Police Award from the Master and Sheriff Liz Green at Guildhall on 17 July.

## COULD YOU BE A TRUSTEE?

The Carmen Benevolent Trust consists of seven trustees – four from the Court and three from Liverymen. From time to time, trustees retire or vacancies occur and trustees put forward proposals for replacements.

The trustees are keen to broaden the range of candidates. Apart from being Liverymen of the Company and legally eligible, there are no specific requirements. The trustees welcome all those who would like to manage and extend the work of the Trust, and will be especially pleased to consider those who may increase diversity.

The Chairman of the Trust (Past Master Neil Coles) or the Honorary Secretary (Liveryman Chris Godbold) will be pleased to discuss the responsibilities and time commitment involved. Contact them at [neilc@wattim.co.uk](mailto:neilc@wattim.co.uk) or [carmenbentrust@hotmail.com](mailto:carmenbentrust@hotmail.com).



Senior Past Master Clive Birch MBE thanks cart marking Carmen for the Lifetime Achievement Award at Guildhall on 17 July.



Officials and guests at Clothworkers' Hall on 16 October.

## From the Ben Trust

I'm pleased to report on a year that had quite a lot of change to the Trust's strategy and our investment advisor.

The Trust is rationalising its grant awards to concentrate on the core objectives of its charitable deed, which will see emphasis on education in school and beyond, especially in relation to transport, in order to make children aware of its importance and the possibility of pursuing a career in the many avenues the trade affords.

Our existing connections with the old City schools – Christ's Hospital, City of London Freeman's and King Edward's Witley – will continue as before, together with our funding of a pupil at St Paul's Chorister's School. During the year the trustees made funds available to add a further pupil for the entire secondary education period at City of London Freeman's.

The trustees also decided to change our financial advisor and we are hopeful that the more defensive position offered by Seven Investment Management in these rather unstable times will continue to be the correct decision after a promising start. My particular thanks go to Richard Pollitzer who studied the pros and cons of several companies; we are fortunate to have a trustee with such extensive market knowledge within our ranks.

Two trustees retired during the year, having served their terms of office, and a sincere 'thank you' goes to Past Master Bob Russet and to Liveryman Mary Bonar for all their hard work, particularly when the Trust changed to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation a couple of years ago. This entailed much legal work and again we were fortunate to have two trustees with a fine grasp of the legalities involved, with Mary offering considerable knowledge of such matters from her legal background.

We welcomed Assistant Andrew Turner and Liveryman James Davis to our team and, both having extensive business and financial backgrounds, we look forward to their advice and ideas.

Finally the trustees decided to make a grant to the Heritage Trust, to help with the educational facilities the new building develops to fulfil the long term aim of having premises that can offer space and facilities specifically for lectures, workshops, training and advice in accord with the Livery's transport ideals.

Neil Coles  
Chairman



Costumed Car Clubbers at the Goodwood Revival on 13 September – with a 1949 Bedford OB.

## HELPING SPEAR

The focus of the Carman Benevolent Trust is now very much on the transport and logistics industries and education. One recent grant (of £4,500) was to the Spear programme through the Junction Community Trust in the London Borough of Wandsworth.

The Spear team will use the grant to help transform the lives of many young people through its six-week pre-employment programme and one-year ongoing support of those securing employment through the programme.

Areas of deprivation arise in many areas of the UK, and parts of London are no exception. Indeed some areas of the capital are

among the most deprived in the whole country, and the Carman Benevolent Trust is working towards the establishment of ongoing relationships with schools, other educational services and community programmes to help to lift young people out of the cycle of despair which can lead to further social problems.



Master Simon Bennett is clothed as an honorary Fueller by outgoing Master Fueller and honorary Carman Shravin Joshi CC; left Prof Averil MacDonald OBE, incoming deputy Master Fueller to HRH Prince Edward, herself clothed as an honorary Carman the same day, 16 October.



The annual Carmen's pledge was presented at St Michael Paternoster Royal on 27 March by then Apprentice Caitland Lomas, Liveryman Linda Britt and Freeman Heather Britt.

## Walter Gill

At the Installation Court on 16 October at Clothworkers' Hall, the Company formally bade farewell to its Clerk of 17 years, who joined the Company 20 years ago as Assistant Clerk. Presentations were made after lunch by outgoing and incoming Masters Stephen Britt and Simon Bennett.

Walter Gill joined the Company at the dawn of the millennium as Assistant Clerk, taking senior office in 2004, and retiring at the October Court. One of six children from a Sunderland working family, he gave 23 years' service to the Army, culminating as a senior warrant officer in NATO.

He managed three office moves, saw major increases in awards, events and military interface, supported 20 Masters - and played the game for Carmen with club and racquet.

In the Company's 500th year he provided the essential administrative platform for major celebratory events and delivered the detail which saw 90% of the City's Masters share the Carmen's foundation, in a year which welcomed a revised charter, new benevolence, and a future Hall.

Beyond the Company, respected throughout the City civic, and not least as the one to whom new Clerks invariably turned for advice and assistance, in his final year of office he was the elected President of the Fellowship of Clerks – a tribute to him and to the Company. Throughout he had the unstinting support of his wife, Helen.

## Carmen buy life-saving bus

Spring 2018 saw the Benevolent Trust launch its first major transport-related funding appeal. Donations were sought towards a specially adapted minibus for a small charity dedicated to helping the addicted to recover their lives. The bus cost £38,000, and Carmen raised some £30,000, which was celebrated at the Charity lunch, when the Master presented Oasis CEO Colin McGregor-Paterson with a cheque.

In Guildhall at Cart Marking, he received the keys to the new vehicle from the Master, after a lookalike minibus had been marked, the original being held up by the licensing authority. Since delivery, the vehicle has been christened 'Carmen' by staff and users, and been put to extensive use, including a life-affirming sponsored journey and walk across the Isle of Wight for ex-service users now in recovery.

# CARMEN'S HALL

## One step forward and another step down

The last Livery year saw the start, after numerous delays, of repair, restoration and development of the Old School in Fleet Street - the Carmen's future home, Carmen's Hall. With multiple permissions and approvals and clearance from archaeologists, hat and boots could at last be newly tailored, so the roof was stripped, and ground floor prepared. By August the roof was renewed, and the lobby included the new lift.

Following earlier delays due to discovery of a vault and plague bones below the lift lobby, new problems emerged, as later excavations in the courtyard exposed more uncharted underground surprises - steps down to who knew what, and more bones and skulls. The church also disclosed new requirements. Work once again ceased, so the contractor could only pick at minor works without the essential services into the building across the terrace.

Then authority stepped in, to refuse approval for the new glazed entrance, thought to have been passed by all concerned. Faced with unexpected expense, costly delays, and limited finance, the Heritage Trust had no choice but to accept the inevitable - the planned office move must wait a little longer.

Casting around for simple ongoing work, to save time and money, the Trust architects discovered more welcome surprises, below stairs

inside. Here were stored memories of the past - two notice boards for previous schools onsite. One announced St Dunstan's Girls School, Headmistress E.V.Peyton, and offered preparation for public exams for moderate fees. The other ante-dated the 1834 building itself, and presented Neale's 1705 Mathematical School's good general education for small fees, Headmaster Mr A Wright.

In October, work recommenced on the courtyard and on service connections, though electricity could not be connected for many weeks, as delays had overtaken the original date. Work also started on the first educational facility, the museum, thanks to grant aid, where the mezzanine roof will be restored with a new rooflight, and interior works implemented on walls, floor and ceiling.

It is tentatively planned to start work on the second floor office accommodation before Christmas, if there are no more surprises, and funds flow satisfactorily.



The new roof at Carmen's Hall.



Schoolchildren wait for the teacher in tomorrow's learning resource centre at Carmen's Hall.

## Money matters

It was called 'The 500 Legacy'. In 2014 Carmen planned parties for 2017 and another 500 years of Carman fellowship, challenge and achievement. A fund was launched for a City property 'in the £2-3m range', the virtual Loving Cup was created, and the Legacy Fund was launched.

By 2015 HRH Prince Michael of Kent had offered Royal patronage, and half a million had been pledged, events dedicated to the fund, and a building found. A year later, the charter was revised, a new benevolent deed and trust formed, party plans laid, while the pledge Fund was paused to achieve these major moves forward.

In 2017 Carmen celebrated in style, formed a new Trust and company limited by guarantee, and acquired the Old School for £1,160k on a 125 year extendable lease. The Fund stood at £43,000 pledged or given for restoration and development, with a £580k benefaction loan securing the lease.

As website, emails, brochures, events and speeches sought Carman support, three Past Masters and one Assistant gave a total of £125,000, several Carmen four figures, and others smaller sums, while the Loving Cup attracted a stream of modest giftfuls. By 2019 finance for the necessary work stood at £267,000

### Double the money

This year Past Master benefactors doubled their original interest-free loan to pay the entire cost of the leasehold. Original works

estimates increased to over £1m, due to inevitable uncovering of more repairs, the unexpected discoveries underground, new church interventions, and surprising consent issues. Carmen were asked for support, and for £300,000 asap.

Meanwhile the Court decided to lend £100,000 from reserves to enable ongoing work and the Benevolent Trust set aside £50,000 towards educational facilities, while the Car Club gave £12,000, and Gift Aid claims were in hand for some £10k.

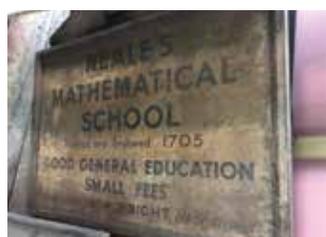
Applications for grant aid were lodged with three landfill tax refund trusts linked to waste management companies, and one responded positively with £58,500 funding towards the museum.

A draw is planned, for a car supplied at cost by an Assistant, an auction event to attract external support, and sponsorship options, while the Court has been asked to expedite corporate membership with charitable funding.

As things stand some 20% of the membership has so far contributed.



Left: *Memento mori* at Fleet Street - the initial underground discoveries; right: disappearing steps near the river Fleet, entering a crypt - more discoveries. Below: Ms Peyton and Mr Wright laid the ground for Carmen's educational futures at the Old School.



# Building futures

When complete, Carmen's Hall will offer a comprehensive, flexible facility for fellowship, administration and benevolence. It will meet both trusts' objects – to develop transport education, and satisfy the revised charter's requirement to enhance the occupation of Carmen for public benefit. The building will be run as a charitable enterprise.

With a restored, grand and welcoming entrance featuring Elizabeth I and the mythical King Lud, Carmen will enjoy historic displays in lobbies and stairs. A modern lift will give access to three chambers – a traditional but modern Hall for lectures, events and meetings, a museum, and offices alongside a learning resource centre.

Carmen's Hall will welcome Carmen and their friends to receptions, lunches and talks, with relevant refreshment facilities. Individual members will be able to drop in to consult staff, enjoy the members' coffee bar, and meet fellow Carmen. They can mount, run or join meetings in well-equipped spaces, and observe or contribute to the educational programme.

## Tomorrow's movers

The programme will aim to inform youngsters, support older children, facilitate students – about transport, career options, and training. It is intended to offer workshops, seminars, lectures, and advisory sessions.

While prioritising charitable work, the Hall will generate revenue streams, offering smaller Liveries and charities affordable hot desks, a smaller scale and competitive event venue, and high quality meeting spaces.

It is planned to contain Carman costs, increase charitable funds and provide low cost events, while enabling training and careers for disadvantaged young people, and feeding high value entrants into the Carmen's industry.

## Carmen's school story

Carmen have for centuries supported City of London schools and scholars. Three in particular have benefitted – Christ's Hospital for orphans and poor children, Bridewell for vagrant children, which became King Edward's School Witley, and the Freeman's School for poor and destitute children.

In 1582 the City authorised Christ's Hospital to have 'the rule charge oversight and government of all the Carts Carres and Carmen', which meant the marking of carts and a steady income from Carmen. Charles II's Royal Mathematical School there presages Carmen's Hall at the Old School in Fleet Street, previously Neale's Mathematical School. An act of 1838 saw cart marking leave the school and removed its authority over the Carmen.

In 1973 Carmen returned, with two prizes and in 1974 Carman Alderman Sir Christopher Leaver became the first donation governor when the Court's benevolent Fund gave £2,000 to fund a pupil – Owen Dutfield started school in 1977. He was the grandson of a Past Master and first of nine scholars with Carmen's benevolence.

Bridewell shared Christ's Hospital's original foundation, separating in 1557, acquiring its new appellation in 1860, and Witley premises in 1867. In 1981 Sir Christopher was Lord Mayor, became Vice President and found that pupils were not funded beyond the age of 16. The

Court agreed to fund high fliers into the sixth form. Past Clerk the late Geoffrey Pearce added prizes, later increased by the Company, and his widow Jean bequeathed £84,000 to the school.

The London workhouse was closed in 1829, its proceeds enabling the 1854 Brixton school for orphans, which move to Ashted, Surrey in 1926, becoming the City of London Freeman's School a year later. In 1989 the late Master Gerry Long had three grandchildren there, which led to initial Carmen's prizes, and in 2011 Past Master John Older proposed a Carman bursary – the first such Livery support.

Currently, Carmen support two Christ's Hospitallers throughout their seven years at the School, three sixth formers at Witley, and help three sixth formers at Ashted, while maintaining prizes at all three, with regular personal support from Benevolent Trustees, principally Past Master Older. Carmen also support disabled scholars at Treloar College.

*The CARMAN is indebted to Past Master Older for his detailed records*



Students gather in the Museum – a foretaste of Carmen's Hall.



Carmen and others will gather in the Court Room.

## GETTING SMART

The Carman Benevolent Trust recently granted £6,000 to Treloar's school in Alton, Hampshire to enable the purchase of two SMART boards to be used in the classrooms. This is especially important for those with mobility issues and Judith Conners, Treloar's Liveries' Manager, was fulsome in her praise for the donation.

Treloar's was founded by Lord Mayor of London Sir William Purdie Treloar in 1907 and provides education, care, therapy, medical support and independence training to young people with physical disabilities from all parts of the UK and overseas. It is a registered charity which the Carman Benevolent Trust has happily supported over the years. In 2019, both OFSTED and the Care Quality Commission rated Treloar's as 'outstanding'. A number of students, staff and trustees of Treloars occupied a special area at this year's Cartmarking, accompanied by the Company's Hon Schools

Liaison Officer, Past Master John Older.

SMART boards transform the learning experience, enabling sometimes complex operations and teaching materials to be seen clearly by each person in the classroom. Three representatives of the Trust travelled to Alton with their partners to present the cheque and afterwards tour the school to meet other staff and students.

Speaking after the presentation, Trust Treasurer Jim New expressed his admiration for the work of all at Treloar's: 'It was a humbling experience. Who could fail to be impressed by all that is going on at Treloar's?'



PM Neil Coles presents £6,000 to Treloar's school for young people with disabilities: l – r: Trustee and Treasurer Jim New, science teacher Richard Acason, PM Coles, students Sally and Sherwin and Treloar Chief Executive Jessica Taplin (Photo by Chris Godbold).

# In service to the Crown

Past Master Carman HRH the Princess Royal joined members and their military guests at Drapers' Hall on 24 April for the Joint Services Dinner, a highlight of the Carmen's year and a gracious commitment by herself. There she and the Master presented the military awards for 2018, the RLC Safety Award and a special award. 230 attended – the largest turnout of the year after Cart Marking, when Vice Admiral Sir David Steel was the other guest of honour.

The special award went to Hairy Bikers Dave Myers and Simon King for their two-wheeled services to the City of London, meals on wheels and history for young people, while the SOE Institute of Road Engineers received the Safety Award for its workshop accreditation scheme.

Lt Jake Ardley RLC was the Sword of Honour winner as one of the Corps' strongest junior leaders while Carmen's Soldier of the Year was Pte Christopher Weaver, No 1 of 199 soldiers in 1 Regiment RLC and an exceptional athlete.

The Royal Navy Cup went to Sub-Lt Shelley Probert RN as the multi-tasking Logistics Officer at Culdrose, a key to the inaugural

embarkation of HMS *Queen Elizabeth*, and the Royal Navy Medal to PONlog (CS) Christopher Scott for sustaining submarine HMS *Trenchard* at sea, crucially during a major incident.

The new Royal Fleet Auxiliary Award was given to Leading Hand Supply Chain Jamie Robert Farrell, who pioneered new RFA Solid Support, and established supplies for the build of Tide Class tankers in South Korea.

Flt Lt Matilda Cope RAF received the RAF Cup for her remarkable performance during Hurricane Irma relief, handling tasks across 1,000 miles, four dispersed bases, remote locations and eight aircraft types from three nations. The RAF medal went to Cpl Dan Ashford, leading a six-man team repatriating a murder victim from Lebanon, handling diplomats, undertakers, embassy staff in a high threat environment. The 24 Sqn Pollitzer Cup was awarded to Master Aircrew Timothy Upham, operator, manager and ops planner for 34 years.

The 19 Tank Transporter Sqn award was earned by Cpl David William Morgan, chemical and biological instructor responding to the Salisbury nerve attack, who also enabled armoured materiel in Oman. The 2 Mechanical Transport Sqn RAF award was received by SAC Jonny Evans for high profile tasks dealing with defence attaches across Europe, training students, and coaching rugby.



Christopher Morton, Carman Beadle, retired in 2019 after 18 years' service, here in front of Carmen's Hall.



Her Royal Highness and the Hairy Bikers.



Carmen visit the Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship *Argus* at Portsmouth on 7 June.



Master Simon Bennett welcomes the latest Carman presentee to the sixth form at King Edward School Witley on 18 October.

## Inspire Suffolk

The Carman Benevolent Trust donation at the January 2019 Charity Lunch paid for 12 young people to spend the second week of their Prince's Trust TEAM programme on a residential course in Norfolk.

The experience of being away from home (for many of these young people, the first time) has many benefits: building confidence, helping to find mechanisms to cope with anxiety issues, understanding the value of teamwork, group dynamics (who are the leaders, those happy to follow instructions, and the practical members of the team etc), controlling anger issues (the fact that the loudest voice isn't necessarily the one to be heard), independent living (cooking, cleaning), and understanding how these lessons can be used in their everyday lives, particularly when going into the work-place or back into education.

All the group at some point mentioned the transformational effect the residential element of the course had on their progression and all now have specific routes, either into work or education.

Residential cost is a significant expense for the charity. That, transport, food, and staffing was all covered by the Carmen's generous donation.



Military award winners with the Master, at Drapers' Hall in April.