



Broad Street

Ward's first Chief Commoner for over 80 years



At the Court of Common Council meeting in October last year John Bennett, Deputy for the Ward was elected as Chief Commoner for 2014/15. John took up the office on 1 May and succeeds George Gillon from the Ward of Cordwainer.

John Bennett is the first Chief Commoner from the Ward of Broad Street for over 80 years. The position was last held by a Broad Street member in 1930. Frank Newson-Smith was appointed Deputy for the Ward in 1928, Chief in 1930, was subsequently elected Alderman in 1938, Sheriff in 1939 and finally Lord Mayor in 1943, before which he had been knighted, and was then created a Baronet in 1944. Before then the only other Chief from Broad Street in the last century was one Richard Davies in 1914, exactly 100 years ago, and he too was knighted.

The office of Chief Commoner is unique in that it is a position which is elected by the whole Court of 100 Common Councilmen and 25 Aldermen. But that was not the case just 4 years ago.

Before 2011 the Chief was elected by members of the City Lands & Bridge House Estates Committee, where he or she stood as Chairman of that Committee for a year. As a consequence of the governance review which took place in 2009/10 the City Lands Committee was disbanded and its functions dispersed to other committees, and the decision was taken that the Chief Commoner should be an appointment of the Court of Common Council.

This decision has greatly enhanced the status and standing of the position making it one of the three leading roles, with the Lord Mayor and Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee, of the City of London Corporation.

In commenting on his new responsibilities John Bennett said: "In 2005, when I was elected to Common Council for the Ward of Broad Street, I didn't dream, let alone consider seriously, that 9 years on I would be elected as Chief Commoner. It is a substantial honour and a great privilege to represent Members of the Court with regard to their rights and interests and I shall do my utmost to fulfil the role to the best of my ability."

The role of Chief dates back to 1441 but its modern manifestation is in effect "Leader of the House" in parliamentary terms. The Chief represents the Members with regard to their rights and privileges, but also is the first port of call with regard to Member discipline. The Chief is also very heavily involved with Member development, ensuring that all Members have access to the training courses and experience

to equip them for their roles on the Court and in Committee and that they are provided with the latest technology to do their jobs effectively and efficiently.

Another major aspect of the role is the Chief's involvement in City Corporation hospitality. The Chief chairs the Hospitality Working Party, which decides what hospitality the City Corporation will provide. With the assistance of the Remembrancer the Working Party reviews recommendations for celebrating events such as significant anniversaries or major national or international events, for example the 2012 Olympic Games, and decides what type of function should be held. The Working Party also approves the use of Guildhall by third parties for their banquets, dinners, conferences and lectures. For instance, the Man Booker Prize is annually awarded at a sumptuous event in the Great Hall.

Michael Mainelli, Alderman for Broad Street said: "John Bennett's appointment as Chief Commoner caps a year full of electoral excitement. After 84 years since a Broad Street Ward Deputy has held this distinguished position, Common Council honours John's work keeping our ward at the centre of progress in the City. The entire team wish him every success in his year."

Keith Bottomley, Chairman of the Ward Club also commented: "On behalf of the Ward Club I send warmest congratulations to Deputy John Bennett on his election as Chief Commoner. This is, of course, a huge honour for John personally and for our Club. We send every

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It's 20 for a reason

This July will see the introduction by the City Corporation of a 20mph zone in the Square Mile as part of work to reduce the large numbers of casualties on its streets.

It forms part of the City's Road Danger Reduction Plan and it is predicted that the new speed limit will reduce casualties by around 7%. Other measures already in place include contra-flow cycling, education, enforcement, junction redesign, pedestrian 'countdowns' and traffic light timing adjustments to ensure they are optimised for 20mph driving.

A public consultation on the issue was run in January and February, to which the City received 41 responses, 29 in



support and 12 against. All the City's neighbouring authorities were also consulted and had no objection, and 20mph speed limits will be enforced on all boundary roads with the exception of Westminster.

Transport for London will also conduct an experimental 20mph speed limit on the two City roads belonging to them, between Blackfriars Bridge and Farrington Street and between Norton Folgate and London Bridge. Upper Thames Street, also looked after by TfL, will remain a 30mph road.

More general information about the City's transport policies and infrastructure can be found here: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/transport

Capacity building

As work continues on incorporating greater capacity to London Bridge Station, users are being encouraged to plan ahead for how they might be affected.

The work is part of the ongoing Thameslink Programme which will provide much needed extra capacity on the route running north-south through central London. This will involve 50% more through-platforms at London Bridge and easier connections to the West End and the City.

However, this work will also require changes to many services up to 2018 with some trains unable to call at London Bridge. During 23-31 August no Southern services will call here, some Thameslink route services will be retimed and some Southeastern services may be altered.

More information can be found at www.ThameslinkProgramme.co.uk or @TLProgramme



Hats off to the City of London Festival!

From 22 June - 17 July, the City of London Festival promises to animate the Square Mile in new and exciting ways under the directorship of Paul Gudgin, who saw the Edinburgh Fringe Festival double in scale during his 8-year tenure as Festival Director.

A giant inflatable Bowler Hat in Paternoster Square will play host to over 100 events, including cabaret, dance, debate, comedy, circus and children's theatre. Incredible contemporary circus performers will wow audiences with daring routines inside the 3-storey-high hat, while Henry 'Blowers' Blofeld will entertain cricket fans with amusing tales about the Test Match Special (14 July). The Justice, Money, Power debates will see high-profile panellists tackle subjects such as 'Who Runs London?' (24 June) and 'Can the City be Socially Useful?' (1 July). The London Symphony Orchestra will perform twice



inside St Paul's Cathedral - once under the baton of charismatic conductor Daniel Harding (Bruckner's Symphony No 9, 3 July) and then with conductor Myung-Whun Chung for an Anglo-Korean performance of Beethoven's Symphony No 9 (15 July). World-class jazz artists will perform against breathtaking City backdrops with the new Jazz With a View series (Clare Teal at Unilever House, 26 June and Roberto Pla at One New Change Roof Terrace, 8 July).

Over 100 free events will animate the City's squares and green spaces, including City Beerfest in Guildhall Yard (3 July), plus steel orchestras, playful sculptures and trolley-dancing at venues including Devonshire Square and the foot of the Gherkin.

Booking is now open - visit colf.org or call 0845 120 7502



Registering means having your say

**HAVE
YOUR
SAY!**

The ward newsletter you are reading now is one way your representatives within the City Corporation keep you up to date on how they are working on your behalf.

It also acts as a reminder of who you can contact if you do have an issue with something within the Square Mile - from security to planning, road safety to the night time economy and air quality to broadband provision.

And if you're receiving this it also means you are already on the Ward Lists - the register of voters for City Ward elections. But to keep receiving it we need you to re-register each year. All residential properties and businesses that are eligible to appoint voters will be sent registration forms in September - an early response means we won't have to keep chasing you!

If you are a voter appointed by a business, we would also ask you to spread the word about the unique opportunity that City workers have to register, because there are some firms that don't use their full entitlement or register at all. Each business as a designated person responsible for registration and the Electoral Services team at the City Corporation is happy to help workers find out who their businesses contact is.

Remember that being on the Ward Lists is not just about having a vote in ward, Aldermanic and City-wide elections, it also puts you in touch with Members who sit on the City Corporation's various committees and its main decision making body. They represent you and your interests in the whole range of work the City Corporation carries out.

More information is available from ww.cityoflondon.gov.uk/voting



Broad Street

Who We Are



**Alderman Professor
Michael Mainelli**
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zyen.com
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Committee Appointments:
Planning & Transportation
Gresham (Cityside)
Christ's Hospital (Almoner)
City & Guilds (Council)



John Bennett, Deputy
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cityoflondon.gov.uk
Tel: 020 8579 6890

Committee Appointments:
Policy & Resources
Port Health & Environmental Services
City of London Freeman's School
Guildhall School of Music & Drama (Deputy Chairman)



Chris Hayward CC
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haywardinvestments.com
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Committee Appointments:
Planning & Transportation
Markets
Licensing



John Scott CC
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historystore.ltd.uk
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Committee Appointments:
Finance
Investment
Markets (Chairman)
Culture, Heritage & Libraries (Deputy Chairman)
Guildhall School of Music & Drama
Museum of London

Ward Constables

PC Philip Taylor
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PC Mike Bainbridge
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CONTACT US

To write to any of your Members, to let us know if you wish to receive this newsletter by email in future, or to inform us if you wish to be taken off the distribution list write c/o

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or email
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We are always happy to talk to workers and residents within the Ward about any issues you may wish to raise. Please contact us if you would like to arrange a meeting.

COMMUNICATING WITH THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN THE CITY OF LONDON

Broad Street Ward Club Events 2014/15

2014

- 22 June Sheriffs' Livery Concert, Barbican
- 2 July United Ward Clubs' Soiree, St Botolph's Hall
- 14 July Tour of Shakespeare's Globe & supper, Bankside
- 15 September Tour of London Air Ambulance Helipad & supper, London Hospital E1
- 25 September Past Chairmen's lunch, Guildhall EC2
- 9 October Harvest Festival Service, St Margaret Lothbury
- 15 October Clockmakers' Museum & Guildhall Art Gallery
- November Civic luncheon, Guildhall
- 16 December Carol Service, St Margaret Lothbury

2015

- 22 January Private visit to the House of Lords, Westminster
- 23 February Annual General Meeting, RBS Bishopsgate

For more details of the Ward Club and its events see: www.broadstreetwardclub.org or contact the Honorary Secretary: Judith Rich OBE, 1 Constable's Gate, Winchester SO23 8GE, or secretary@broadstreetwardclub.org

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good wish for a wonderful year. I know that John is looking forward to it immensely and have no doubt that he will carry out the role with great distinction and enjoyment."

You can follow John during his year in office on Twitter: @chiefcommoner

Stop Press

**Chris Hayward
installed as Master
Pattenmaker**

We congratulate Chris Hayward CC who was installed as Master of the Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers in March. His year as Master will be featured in a future edition of the Newsletter.