

# The City and Livery Antipodes Dossier

## An exploration of some of the many and varied links between the City of London and its diverse Livery Companies with Australia and New Zealand

Version 1.3 (26th September 2016)

By Paul D Jagger

Court Assistant of The Worshipful Company of Information Technologists

Author of The City of London Freeman's Guide

[www.cityandlivery.co.uk](http://www.cityandlivery.co.uk) @CityandLivery on Twitter and Facebook

### Purpose

This document records some of the many links, both historical and current, between the City of London, its diverse ancient and modern Livery Companies and the countries of Australia and New Zealand. No doubt there are many other links and this document should be considered as forever incomplete and out of date. It is likely that recent wide circulation of this list among the Livery Companies will reveal many other links that hide in plain site.

### Links with Australia

- The Queen of Australia is a Freeman of the City of London and Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Drapers.
- The Worshipful Company of Butchers, The Worshipful Company of Tallow Chandlers and The Worshipful Company of Woolmen admit the Australian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom as an Honorary Freeman of their respective companies.
- The Honourable Company of Air Pilots has a 'region' (local branch) in Australia. The Master Air Pilot visits the Australian region during his or her year in office.
- The Honourable Company of Air Pilots admit the Air Advisor to the Australian High Commission in London as a full Freeman of the Company. The Air Advisor is always an officer in the Royal Australian Air Force.
- The Honourable Company of Master Mariners has close links and affiliations with the Company of Master Mariners of Australia.
- The Worshipful Company of Woolmen have trade links with Australian Wool Innovation: <https://www.wool.com>
- St Mary-le-Bow is associated with Australia through Admiral Arthur Phillip, first Governor of New South Wales. He chose the settlement of Port Jackson (now Sydney) for the penal colony. Admiral Phillip was a Freeman of the City of London and lived in the Ward of Cheap in the City.
- St Mary-le-Bow also hosts various celebrations with the British-Australia Society including an annual Carol Service. The vicar of St Mary-le-Bow is Chaplain to the British-Australia Society.
- Numerous Australian Prime Ministers have been admitted as Freeman of the City of London.
- The Australian Meat and Livestock Trade Association recently opened an office in Smithfield Meat Market (a consequence of the BREXIT referendum result)
- The Court room of the Butchers' Hall is lined with wood panelling, a gift from Australia.

Note: In October 2016 the British-Australia Society celebrated its 45th anniversary at the offices of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia in the City of London (Ludgate Hill)

## Links with New Zealand

- The Queen of New Zealand is a Freeman of the City of London and Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Drapers.
- The Worshipful Company of Butchers, The Worshipful Company of Woolmen and The Honourable Company of Master Mariners admit the New Zealand High Commissioner to the United Kingdom as an Honorary Freeman of their respective companies.
- The Honourable Company of Air Pilots has a 'region' (local branch) in New Zealand. The Master Air Pilot visits the New Zealand region during his or her year in office.
- The Honourable Company of Air Pilots admit the Air Advisor to the New Zealand High Commission in London as a full Freeman of the Company. The Air Advisor is always an officer in the Royal New Zealand Air Force.
- The current Clerk to the Honourable Company of Air Pilots is a native New Zealander
- The Worshipful Company of Butchers have, among their treasures, the meat cleaver used to chop up the first New Zealand lamb imported to the UK. Presumably they ate the lamb at a company dinner.
- The Great Hall of the Butchers' Hall is lined with wood panelling, a gift from New Zealand.
- Head Quarters Ship WELLINGTON is the hall of The Worshipful Company of Master Mariners. The ship is named for the capital of New Zealand which was its base and patrol station from 1935 to 1939.
- Some of the panelling in HQS WELLINGTON's Court Room is part of a gift from the citizens of Wellington which includes all the wood for the bookshelves/cases and some of the books in the Library.
- There is a close affiliation between the Master Mariners and the new HMNZS WELLINGTON. That ship, by agreement with the Admiralty, carries today the ship's badge of the 1935 HMS WELLINGTON (as still used today onboard HQS WELLINGTON).
- The Honourable Company of Master Mariners has close links and affiliations with the Company of Master Mariners of New Zealand.
- St Lawrence Jewry, the Guild Church of the Corporation of London, is linked with the New Zealand Society UK and holds a service on Waitangi Day, also attended by New Zealand's High Commissioner to the UK and members of the Girdlers' Company. This annual service was first held in 1933, the year prior to Waitangi Day being celebrated in New Zealand; The Society repaired after that inaugural event for refreshments at Girdlers' Hall, a tradition maintained to this day.
- The Girdlers' Company established a scholarship at Oxford or Cambridge for a scholar from New Zealand in 1952. This Scholarship has been awarded annually since 1969 and the Scholar has attended Corpus Christi College, Cambridge exclusively since 1983; the 52<sup>nd</sup> Scholar commenced her studies at Corpus in October 2016. The Company also supports a New Zealand medical research fellowship at Green Templeton College, Oxford (this commenced at - the then - Green College, Oxford in 1986)
- The Girdlers' Company has a small garden outside their hall which includes a number of plant species native to New Zealand
- Guildhall has a tapestry that celebrates the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi. The tapestry was unveiled by the HRH The Princess Royal in 1990 and commissioned from the Access Art Trust in Wellington, New Zealand.
- The Girdlers' Company entertain the New Zealand Society UK at their hall on Waitangi Day.
- Every year since 1952 the Girdlers' Company sponsor a scholar from New Zealand to come to the UK and study at Cambridge.
- Numerous New Zealand Prime Ministers have been admitted as Freeman of the City of London.
- Other livery companies with links to New Zealand include: Parish Clerks and the Shipwrights.

Note: The first meeting of Liverymen in New Zealand was held in February 2016 at the Northern Club in Auckland, a further meeting is planned for November 2016 at the same venue.

## About the Author

Paul D Jagger is a Freeman of the City of London and Court Assistant of The Worshipful Company of Information Technologists. He is the author of The City of London Freeman's Guide - the definitive concise guide to the City of London's unique system of government and its links with the City's ancient and modern Livery Companies. In 2016 Paul received the City's prestigious Root & Branch Award from the Lord Mayor of London for this work in promoting awareness and understanding of the City especially their positive impact on wider society.

The cover of The City of London Freeman's Guide was designed in New Zealand.

