**Life as an Alderman in the City presented by Alison Gowman (Ward of Dowgate) – 4th February 2021**

On Thursday 4th February 48 members of the City Consorts along with many past, present and future Masters enjoyed a fascinating talk from Alderman Alison Gowman. As a member of the Court of Aldermen, the oldest continuous municipal democracy in the world, Alison gave us an insight into the role of the modern-day Alderman. She discussed her work in Dowgate Ward and how it links to both the City Civic and the Livery Companies. Using a selection of photographs, she introduced us to the City Bridge Trust, fire dogs, underground tunnels, and much more as well giving us a glimpse of events we would not normally see. Alison has been approved to be a candidate for Aldermanic Sheriff in 2021 with the expectation, that subject to election, she will progress to Lord Mayor.

In 2019 Alison published a book entitled ‘The City of London: Who, What, Why?’ which is a really useful guide to life in the City.  It is priced at £10 (plus postage of £3.50) and can be ordered from Alison directly at Alison.Gowman@cityoflondon.gov.uk .

All proceeds from the book go towards the Museum of London’s work with special educational needs children ensuring access for all to the heritage and wonder of the Museum’s collection via the Plaisterers' Charitable Trust. On Alison’s behalf the City Consorts has donated £150 to support this work at the Museum of London.

Carol Law

Events Committee