

A little summary of the 1st Meeting of City Consorts

Anticipation was high, the temperature higher,
The first ever meeting to become a C2 flyer
It was at Baker's Hall, July 18th , 2017
We were welcomed, one and all, to meet the new team.

From Livery companies, the Consorts came
Past, present and future, we were all the same
The chatter, laughter and warmth in the room
What was to come in the next door saloon?

It was explained, quite simply, our badges had a letter,
A PM, P or F Consort, you knew who you were
"Mix yourselves up, it doesn't really matter
Just grab a chair and sit anywhere."

First off was Debbie Rynda, the Mistress Glovemaker
With questions for Past and Present Consorts as an ice breaker
What do you know about your Livery? Were you afraid?
For Future Consorts their fears were being allayed.

We broke for sandwiches and cake and of course tea
Having thoroughly addressed the rules of when to have a pee!
So far, so good and oh what a lark!
We hadn't even mentioned the C-word - Clerk!

After tea, Von stood and gave us a briefing
Her reasons for starting the City Consorts meeting
She showed us helpful notebooks - blue and white
And A Guide to being a Mistress for a Year, whose author was in sight.

Sonya Zuckerman, Past Mistress Cooper and a Liveried Arts Scholar, told us
quite clear
About why she and Pauline Stewart wrote their Guide to being Mistress for a
Year
It was for precisely the reason we had gathered today,
To be prepared when we entered the fray.

Next up was Jonathan Grosvenor, Clerk of the Chartered Accountants
Who hastily assured us he was also a Glovemaker
As editor of the City of London White book
He encouraged and urged us to take a good look.

He told us about the information therein
The Lord Mayor, Mansion House and City of London Sheriffs,
The Old Bailey, Court of Common Council and Aldermen too,
Elections, Livery companies, Halls and the entire hullabaloo.

As we left happy, looking forward to the next future event,
New friendships formed and current ones content
Noted relief on Present and Future Consorts faces
Secure now with some knowledge, no matter how awkward the places.

18th July 2017.

On a more serious note and on behalf of everyone present we would like to offer our sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude to the following:

Firstly Von Spofforth, Past Mistress Chartered Accountants and Liveried Baker, who is the driving force behind the concept of City Consorts.

To Debbie Rynda, Present Mistress Glover and Mille de Margary, Past Mistress Salter who came up with the ice-breaker questions.

To Millie de Margary, Past Mistress Salter, our Treasurer.

To Claire Chitty, Future Mistress Chartered Accountants and our Secretary gathering details, memberships and monies.

To Baker's Hall for letting us have the use of their 'saloon' for the afternoon.
Thank you very much, to all of you who organised and to those of you who attended.

We very much look forward to seeing new and/or old faces at our next gathering of Consorts.

Hannah Constantinidi
Mistress, The Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers