

FIRST LIVE WLCOW EVENT OF 2021 – AFTERNOON TEA AT USK CASTLE



The Master Dr. Kathy Seddon welcomed Liverymen and distinguished guests to WLCOW'S inaugural face-to-face event of the year, Afternoon Tea at Usk Castle on Sunday 13th June and we were blessed with glorious weather.



Although numbers were restricted to 50 for this occasion, it was a sell-out for those lucky enough to enjoy the delicious sandwiches, homemade cakes and the Master's Cambridge cocktail in the beautifully renovated surroundings of Usk castle and gardens.



It was hosted by the Castle Custodian Rosie Humphries, who provided the facilities gratis, she regaled us with stories about the illustrious history of the place which features prominently in Welsh history. On this site Welsh hero Owain Glyndwr fought in a very famous and bloody battle and so it remains a key monument to Welsh history.



However, on this occasion the entertainment was far more sublime as guests were enthralled by the tenor saxophone played by Alexandre Vincent a student of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama who played a mix of Bach, Gershwin and Jazz. Alex who is just 20 and very passionate about his instrument comes from Versailles and confessed later it was his first ever paid gig.



It was an enchanting experience for all who attended, it being the first occasion for 15 months that WLCoW members have been able to meet in person and judging by the hubbub of conversation all afternoon it was very special for everyone to catch up again.





Distinguished guests included Hon. Liveryman, the Lord Lieutenant of Gwent, Brigadier Robert Aitken CBE and his wife Joanna.





The Master opened and closed the proceedings with a warm welcome and very generous thanks to all who had contributed to making the event happen and hoped it would be the start of many more in the coming year.