

This note is one of a series placed in the Clerks' Almanac by the Livery Committee. Most are written by its chairman, of whom you may read more at the foot of the [Contact page](#). They are intended to be of guidance to livery clerks, especially new ones, or those seeking advice on a particular topic. They are not prescriptive, and how individual companies choose to conduct their affairs is, of course, entirely up to them.

Ironbridge Weekend

For many masters, this weekend is one of the highlights of their year, and most would strongly recommend attendance. It is organised by the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, and takes place at their multi site museum in Shropshire, with accommodation arranged at the Holiday Inn in Telford. It usually takes place on the second weekend in June (pm Friday- am Sunday).

It is the only event in the year to which ALL masters and their spouses/partners are invited away for the weekend. As such it is an excellent and unique opportunity for masters to get to know their fellows, for some towards the end of their year, and for others at the start, or midway.

The broad **programme** includes a black tie dinner on Friday evening; all day Saturday touring the Museum sites; the President's Ball on Saturday night; and optional extra activities on Sunday morning, including usually the inaugural meeting of the Past Masters Association after Sunday breakfast.

The exact **date** of the weekend is at the Diary page of this website, and from there a link to more details about the Ironbridge Livery weekend.

The Ironbridge Gorge Museum is constituted as a charity, and this weekend has a discreet fund-raising element to it. This is relatively painless, as all the administrative arrangements are undertaken by Ironbridge, who offer an all inclusive package deal for the weekend (with plenty of scope for flexibility). The Holiday Inn won't be everybody's preferred choice of weekend hotel, but it is the only one in the area capable of accommodating so many. It is strongly recommended, both to meet your fellow masters, and to simplify your transport arrangements (coaches are arranged throughout).

Why Ironbridge? Initiated by Sir Peter Gadsden when he was the Lord Mayor in 1979-80, the popularity of this weekend is largely founded on the relevance of many livery companies to the Industrial Revolution that first began around the Ironbridge Gorge, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

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Livery Committee

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Was this note helpful? Do you have comment? Email nrpullman@btinternet.com