

London's oldest and much-loved Pageant, the Lord Mayor's Show, broke with tradition, when the new Lord Mayor, Sir Noel Bowater, took the Salute at the Mansion House instead of at Guildhall.

But the procession followed its post-war trend - that of a martial review - ~~featuring both the fighting and essential services.~~ Though, no doubt, the ~~former~~ <sup>former</sup> ~~elder folk~~ <sup>elder folk</sup> regretted the break with the colourful pageantry of ~~the past~~

Tradition was maintained, ~~however~~, in the choice of the new Lord Mayor - for Sir Noel is the third member of his family to have made the journey to the Law Courts - to take the "Oath of Office".

Near St. Paul's (in the ward of Castle Baynard) Sir Noel (who is an Alderman of the Ward) received an Address of Welcome - presented by the Garter King of Arms.

And so on - through crowded city streets, ~~and through~~, <sup>despite</sup> in the drizzling rain) ~~and~~ ~~greatest~~ shrouded the colourful uniforms - the music of fourteen bands made it a stirring spectacle.

Finally, the Lord Mayor -(in his two-hundred year-old Coach)- arrived at the Law Courts, - ~~still escorted by Pikemen of the Honourable Artillery Company...~~

And amid traditional greetings - Sir Noel Bowater became the six hundred and thirty-first successor to the City's highest office.