

## Her Majesty The Queen Grants Royal Warrant to the London Embroidery house Hand & Lock

London based embroidery atelier, Hand & Lock are delighted to announce they have been granted the honour of a Royal Warrant by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

A Royal Warrant of Appointment is granted as a mark of recognition to people or companies who have regularly supplied goods or services to HM The Queen, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh or HRH The Prince of Wales or their households.

The prestigious embroidery house was founded in 1767 and has supplied numerous royal households over its long history. This new royal warrant is the first the company has held since M. Hand Ltd and S. Lock & Co. merged in 2001. The previous warrant had been held by S. Lock Ltd for embroidery services for the senior Royals.

The new warrant recognises the work Hand & Lock have done for the Royal household over the last decade. This includes the company's work on the uniforms of Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms. Hand & Lock embroidery can be witnessed first hand at ceremonial occasions where these key members of the Royal entourage are dressed in full regalia. Since 2012 elaborate golden epaulettes, waist sashes, pouches, collars, cuffs and back skirts have been hand embroidered and supplied to the palace.

Welcoming the announcement, company Director Jessica Jane Pile said '*The staff of Hand & Lock are all delighted to have their craft recognised by Her Majesty the Queen. The specific project we have been working on has been a source of great pride.*'

The first Royal Warrants were issued in the 15th Century with one of the first recipients being William Caxton the inventor of the printing press. Later, Queen Victoria popularised the practice issuing over 1000 Royal Warrants during her 54 year reign. Now the Royal Warrant holders include companies as diverse as Burberry Clothing, Cadbury Chocolates and Jaguar Landrover.

Hand & Lock have previously worked with the charity arm of the Royal Warrant Holders Association, raising funds for the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QEST). For the embroidery house's 250th anniversary 13 one-of-a-kind bags were embroidered in collaboration with top British and international designers. The bags were then auctioned in association with Sotheby's with all the proceeds going to QEST, to support the next generation of crafts men and women.

## ENDS

For further information and high-res images please contact Robert McCaffrey or Ella Yeoman: robert@handembroidery.com / ella@handembroidery.com 020 7580 7488

NOTES TO EDITORS: The world's leading specialist embroidery house, Hand & Lock can trace its history back to 1767. In their central London atelier the company serves the embroidery and embellishment needs of Royal Family, top European design houses, the Royal Armed Forces, Savile Row and members of the public. The company offer a range of services from hand monograms and bridal customisation to goldwork blazer badges to machine embroidered logos. H&L offer all their clients our expert embroidery knowledge whether the job is a single small item or a large scale order. Since 2001 the house have promoted a programme of embroidery education and encouragement by creating the annual 'Hand & Lock Prize for Embroidery' and establishing the 'Hand & Lock School for Embroidery'.