THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' COMPANY

COURT CIRCULAR

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THE MASTER'S REPORT

"Once-in-a-Lifetime Experiences"

The 11th October 2004 was an important date in my life when I was installed as Master of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Surveyors. At the time, I felt somewhat apprehensive of what was to come. Now nearly twelve months later, I look back on a hugely enjoyable year, full of "once-in-a-lifetime" experiences with a great sense of pride and appreciation of the opportunity given by the Court in electing me to be the 28th Master of the Company. In return, I hope that I have played my part for the Livery as the Company's ambassador in the City and in representing our profession and the role of the Chartered Surveyor in the business community.



Terry Knight, Master 2004/5.

I realise now that it is only when one becomes Master of a Livery Company, that one truly understands the strength of the Livery movement in the City of London. With over 30 000 Liverymen in 107 Companies, this is a formidable body that is not properly understood or widely appreciated. The common purpose of education and charitable giving, promotion of one's own trade or profession and support for the mayoralty link us all together where lasting friendships are established. Of course, there have been many memorable dinners, lunches and receptions which have been great fun and which have also improved my knowledge of so many other companies, but it has been our own programme of events for Liverymen, partners and friends and our links with the Armed Services and our adopted schools which have been the most rewarding.

I would like to thank the Livery at large for the huge support you have shown me over the year. We have enjoyed excellent turnouts to all the social events and Livery dinners and I am so sorry that 40 people could not come to the Queen's Gallery, but we were restricted to a maximum of 80. Maybe, this is an event that a future Master may like to repeat. You will see from the programme for next year that Brian has also arranged some interesting outings and I hope you will support him in the same way. The Livery trip to Barcelona will be a first for the Company and let us hope that a 'weekend away' will become a regular feature of the Livery year as it presents a wonderful opportunity for members and their partners to get to know others better. In this vein, Gilly and I attended the Livery Masters' weekend at Ironbridge in June which was a marvellous social gathering of over 80 Masters and their partners and we were able to cement many friendships.

One of the highlights of the year for me, and I suspect perhaps also for the Senior Warden, was our 'cruise' aboard our adopted ship HMS Echo. The Royal Navy lived up to all expectations and treated us superbly for three days at sea in flat calm waters and Mediterranean blue skies sailing from Devonport to the Isles of Scilly and back. It was not just a 'jolly' as the Navy had to test all the survey equipment during the trip which provided a fascinating insight into the ship's role and the important part it plays in mapping the sea-bed. I had the honour to address the ship's company and presented the Captain with a plaque from the Company and he returned the compliment with one from HMS Echo.

The progress on the education front this year has been tremendous and I must especially thank Pipyn Trustram Eve who acts as our co-ordinator with the schools. I have had the privilege of presenting the Company's prizes to each school, a new initiative which has been welcomed by the Head teachers and children alike. It is clear that they value our support and now we are able to show this in a more meaningful way. I have also presented Company prizes to several university students undertaking surveying degrees but I think we must review our policy to ensure that our charitable giving is used in the best way. Our links with the Chartered Surveyors Training Trust have been strengthened during the year but more help is needed from Liverymen to take on students in their offices for work experience.

The Court has had a busy time and there have been some lively debates on a number of subjects, not least of which has been the implementation of the business plan initiated by my predecessor, Ted Hartill. We have been successful in achieving changes to our Ordinances and now have the ability to welcome into the Company eminent men or women in our profession but who are not members of the RICS. Retired members will also be pleased to know that they can remain members of the Company even though they are no longer members of the Institution.

With Graham Chase and Digby Flower, the current Directors of Pamada, we have successfully completed negotiations with the Estates Gazette to merge our own awards with their Front Cover award. The awards are to be re-branded as the Property Marketing Awards and the staging and organisation of the event will be a partnership between the Company and the Estates Gazette. The Court is convinced this is the right way forward as the Company's risk will be reduced without compromising our status or the raising of money for our charitable fund.

With the improved fortunes of the Stock Market, our charitable fund is recovering its value and our aim during next year must be for it to reach the £1m mark. Our income to distribute to worthy charitable causes is, of course, limited by prevailing interest rates and as these are likely to remain low for some years to come, we do need to increase the size of the fund. Members may ask why and my answer is that the Company wants to increase the amount of help it can offer, especially on the educational front, by providing opportunities for those children in Inner London who are less fortunate than our own. Members may therefore like to consider either increasing their gift aid covenants or making a lump sum payment with their quarterage payment this year. Alternatively, members might like to 'get involved' with our education initiative which they will find very rewarding. Please contact the Clerk if you think you can help. May I also remind Liverymen that a bequest to the charitable fund in their will is a highly tax efficient and painless way of giving.

As Master, I have enjoyed huge support from the Wardens and the Court of Assistants and I want to thank them all for their hard work in running and serving on the various Committees. I also want to thank those Liverymen who have made presentations to the schools and offered work experience to students. Amanda Jackson, our Clerk, has also been tireless in ensuring that my job has been that much easier. Amanda completed 25 years with the Company in January and I was pleased to mark this occasion by presenting her with silver earrings at the Election Court meeting. At the same Court meeting I was also pleased to thank Dan Tynan who is retiring after five years as our Beadle and to welcome Stephen Froggatt as our new Beadle.

One member of the Court and a Past Master also deserves special mention. Delva Patman retires from the Court this year and we owe her a great deal for the contribution she has made to the Company. Delva was our 'Millennium' Master and it was she who formed the Education Committee and established the links with the schools. She has also provided a key link with our Armed Forces. We shall miss her wise counsel on the Court.

Finally, may I wish Brian Lamden, Master Elect, a most successful year to come and hope that he enjoys it as much as I have.

Thank you.

Terry Knight, Master 2004/05

PAMADA

This was PAMADA's 14th year and something of a watershed. We moved venue from the Mayfair Hotel to the recently refurbished Cadogan Hall and attracted the biggest attendance to date with an audience of some 450. As well as a new venue, we introduced four new categories and re-vamped some of the older ones to give a fresh look to the line up. On the sponsor's front, we saw several new names including Slough Estates, Prestbury and Warner Estates with St Martins coming back into the fold after a rest. The judging panel skillfully led by Sandy Whetton managed to pick their way through some difficult decisions and felt satisfied that standards have been maintained.

Our marketing profile was raised with improvements to the website and a fantastic visual display featuring a Monopoly Board promoting the event and the Awards on the night. Thanks to Keith Holly and his IT wizardry in producing what everybody agreed was a spectacular display.

As ever, Judith Egan kept us in check and made sure all timetable dates were adhered to with a result that the event went off smoothly. Particular thanks also go to Nick Leslau who was our presenter on the night and did a splendid job despite both he and I experiencing technical difficulties at the dress rehearsal in the afternoon. As they say, "it will be alright on the night".

On a sad note, we remembered the passing away of David Brend of Adventis Group who died on 9 December 2004. His family were with us and gave a special Award, The David Brend Award for Excellence in Design.

The Victor Ludorum winner was the Land Restoration Trust who were also winners of the Best Printed Brochure, the Best Brochure Entered by a Public or Local Authority and who were also highly commended in the Plain English Award. Creative Lynx are to be congratulated for producing such a strong entry.

Finally, the good news is that over £21,000 was raised for Charity after allowing for all costs.

Assistant Graham Chase



The Master presenting the PAMADA Victor Ludorum to Deborah Holmwood, Communications Director of Land Restoration Trust, with designers from Creative Lynx.







The President of the RICS - Barry Gilbertson - entertaining Masters of Livery Companies who are Chartered Surveyors. Can you name them?

THE COMPANY'S FINANCES

Two particular themes stand out as being of particular importance for the Finance and General Purposes Committee for the last year.

As always, managing the Livery Company's Charitable Funds is of paramount importance. We have been ably supported by Sarasin Chiswell.

Our investment fund is invested in the Sarasin Alpha Charity Fund. It aims to provide capital growth over the long term and to provide an income at or slightly above that available from the FTSE All Share Index, based on a portfolio of investments in global equity, bond and cash markets. Over the year equity and bond markets have performed strongly and the equity exposure in the Alpha Fund, at the time of writing, is near its maximum level (see asset allocation chart) as markets have been focusing once again on the relative attraction of equity valuations versus other asset classes.

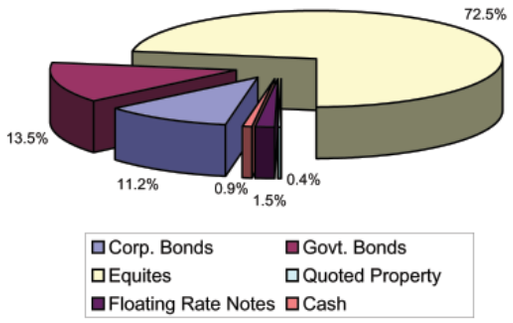
The Fund in light of the above has moved from £706,301 to £875,040 over the year 31 July 2004 to 31 July 2005, an increase of 17.27% (this figure takes into account £60,000 paid in on 19 July 2005). I am pleased to report that our income has enabled us to give over £37,000 to our Charities and major beneficiaries.

The second theme has been the implementation of the business plan that the Court agreed in principle to at the beginning of the year.

In developing the Livery Company activities, the Court is rightly concerned about setting targets which are challenging but achievable; about matching resources in terms of Liverymen's time, and the Clerk's time, and money with aspirations; and above all, being careful about ensuring that the existing position the Company has achieved is not undermined in any way by being too ambitious.

The Company has now been given approval to change its criteria for membership in that we will be allowed 10% of members to be non-RICS. They will have to have been involved in the property profession or industry in a significant manner for a period of five or six years. It is hoped that this will enable the Company to attract people who can make significant contributions to the Company.

The Committee has been working closely with the Education Committee and Charitable Boards to support their activities as it is felt that these will remain very prominent activities for the Company.



In addition however, using the Company's skills in property matters, does it is felt, provide an opportunity to get involved in providing accommodation for other charities and these discussions continue. Currently permission is being sought for the Company to set up a Property Fund.

Apart from skirmishes with the Revenue on staff employment matters, there have been no major dramas.

The Committee has been much indebted to James Harman for his assistance on matters financial and it is felt that the Company's financial affairs are in much better order than they were before his involvement.

Richard Cotton, Junior Warden,
Chairman, Finance and General Purposes Committee

ROYAL PICTURES

Thanks to the ingenuity and persistence of the Master, Members of the Livery were privileged to a private viewing of some of Her Majesty's Dutch paintings in the Queen's Gallery on 24th May. A full house of 80 members and guests (the event was oversubscribed by 50%!) were first given a brief introduction to the pictures on display by one of the Gallery's curators. There then followed an hour's viewing of the exhibition and the compulsory visit to the gift shop. Many a Liveryman was seen walking down the road afterwards resplendent with carrier bags full of gifts and even Christmas stocking fillers! Dinner at Chez Gerard in Victoria rounded off an extremely convivial, even educational, evening.

Assistant Simon Kolesar

THE IRONBRIDGE MUSEUM 'CEREMONY OF THE KEY'

Members of the Livery who attend 'Common Hall' each year may wonder what is the origin of the 'Ceremony of the Key' to the Estate office in the Victorian Town of Blists Hill, one of the museums at Ironbridge, Shropshire. The first act of the newly installed Master is to swear on oath that he will use this large key to open the front door of the Estate Office which, with considerable help from the Company, was reconstructed in Main Street, Blists Hill between 1988 and 1991. The Master and Clerk are invited by the Museum Trust along with, usually, 80 other Masters, prime Wardens and Upper Bailiffs to visit the Museum in June each year for what is called, simply, Livery Day and our Master Terry Knight was no exception this year. As our photograph shows he took the opportunity to carry out his duty and ceremoniously opened the door as required by his oath. But, hang on, who is this mysterious Victorian land agent questioning his credentials?

Those of you who have attended the ceremony will, of course, be well aware that the wicked agent for the landlord, the Earl of Craven, is none other than Past Master Alan Gillett who has been appearing in top hat, frock coat and hideous beard and whiskers ever since the rebuilding was completed with a ceremonial opening by the late Master Anthony Bull in May 1991.

The Estate office is open throughout the museum's season, roughly Easter to Christmas, but the highlight is undoubtedly when the Master conducts the Ceremony of the Key and pays his arrears of rent to the dreaded land agent, whiskers and all!

Past Master Alan Gillet (alias Mr. Pemberton, Agent to the Earl of Craven)

STRING QUARTET COMPETITION 2004

On a late November evening, members of the Livery were entertained by some outstanding musicians of the Guildhall School of Music in the annual String Quartet Competition. On this occasion the event took place in the marvelous rooms of 2, Temple Place, Viscount Astor's former house. Built in 1895 on land reclaimed from the River Thames, it has a magnificent interior, as well as exterior. The weather vane, showing Columbus's ship, is a most prominent feature.

Quartet number 1 comprised four ladies who demonstrated that they had great talents of which playing an instrument was but one. A lively Haydn gave way to a more serious sounding Brahms.

The second quartet consisted of three men and a lady, and they opened with a Haydn Allegro con brio, which was followed by a more modern (1902) piece by Ravel - justifiably played, not only very much together, but with considerable energy.

Quartet number 3 was another all female group. They also opened with a compulsory piece by Haydn and concluded the competition with what, to me, was the prettiest tune to the ear, a piece by Beethoven.

I wondered how the adjudicator would be able to differentiate and rank such outstanding talent. One realised how lucky we are in London that we have educational institutions such as GSM able to attract talent from all over the world. My guests tried to second guess the adjudicator and put the order of success as Quartets 2, 3 and 1.

The adjudicator, a distinguished quartet performer, commented first on the difficulty of playing Haydn in general. He was very direct on individual performances, making a detailed commentary on each quartet and on the individual musicians.

It was just like a master class. The School's Director of Music looked on as the adjudicator spoke so directly to the students. Phrases such as "You were the only quartet to tune up and yet you were the quartet who played most out of tune", seemed very harsh indeed. But it was clearly a world expert helpfully criticising those who may in their turn reach the top of the music world.

The prize went to the second quartet, which made me think my guests had either a better ear for music than I thought, or they were just lucky!

After the presentation of a cheque to the winning quartet, the Master presented the Company's bursary award for 2004/05 to Benjamin Roskams, a highly gifted young British violinist.

Thus entertained, members of the Livery and their guests then enjoyed a splendid supper with the students.

Liveryman Peter Goodacre



The Master performs the ceremony of opening the door on Livery day at Ironbridge.





The Master, and Wardens at the Installation Dinner



OUR WORK FOR CHARITIES

During the last year the Charitable Trust has continued to support the three main charities selected in 2003: (The Treloar Trust, the Christchurch Gardens and the Jubilee Sailing Trust.).

Visits were made to the Treloar School in Hampshire by the Master and Members of the Court. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Charitable Committee met with children who had been on the adventure holiday which had been partly sponsored by a special donation from the Trust. The children had enjoyed a week scrambling through bushes and abseiling down cliffs, in spite of some being in wheelchairs, something many able bodied people would not dare to do. The work of Treloar can only be described as first rate and the Company is delighted to be associated with this wonderful organisation.

Meetings were also held with representatives of the Christchurch Gardens Youth and Community Centre, which is at the other end of the scale, in terms of its setting in the East End of London and the modest aspirations of the organisers. The project provides recreational facilities for "streetwise" young people drawn from local ethnic groups. The aim of the project is simply to give them somewhere to go, rather than be stuck at home or on the streets. Anyone with children this age will appreciate the benefit of providing this outlet for bored teenagers.

The Jubilee Sailing Trust provides support for handicapped people where they can go sailing on the unique tall ships, the Lord Nelson and Tenacious, both specially adapted for disabled sailors. Again, an adventure that many able bodied people would find a challenge.

The Charitable Trust continues to receive the majority of its support from the donations from Members of the Livery and the income from the investment portfolio managed by Sarasin. The performance of the investment portfolio has been satisfactory, with evidence of a recovery from the losses which occurred during the recent downturn in the Stock Market. Let us hope matters continue to improve so that we can benefit more people.

I would like to thank all of those who have been members of The Charitable Board for the last year, both for their help and support in driving forward this worthwhile programme of charitable giving.

Assistant Mickola Wilson,
Chairman Charitable Board

MASTER'S INSTALLATION DINNER

We were very well entertained on Monday 11 October 2004 by the Master at his Installation Dinner in a packed Mercer's Hall with 85 other liverymen and 67 guests. I knew we were in for a feast when a quick glance at the menu, whilst in the receiving line, showed that we would be treated to lamb and not chicken and we were quaffing French wines from a most agreeable years' growth.

Then it is my turn to be welcomed by the great man wearing the trappings of office, and wish him well in his year, however the Master is not alone, but Gilly his wife is here too and so I get a peck on the cheek as well.

One of the lovely things as a Liveryman is perusing the seating plan, and seeing who one's dining partners are to be and then circulating in the reception, a glass of bubbly in hand, to meet other friends, some of whom are present as guests (and the joy of joys to find one or two also being admitted to the Livery during the year).

Mercer is derived from the French for "merchant", and originally the Mercers were exporters of woollen material and importers of silks, linens and cloth of gold. And we think cunning property development belongs to the modern age, but in the early 16th century the Mercers bought a plot of land from the Hospital (effectively a monastery) who had been their accommodating hosts (for a characteristic of the medieval Companies is their association with common worship) and built a chapel with their own Hall above. After Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries, the Mercers bought the Hospital from the Crown, with the proviso that they kept a chapel on the site. Like a vast tract of the City, it was destroyed in 1666. The Mercers built a second hall (probably without the benefit of insurance!) but alas it too burnt down in 1941 during an air raid in the Second World War. Fortunately, the Mercers built another Hall and we were privileged to use it for our own Master's Installation Dinner.

The Master very bravely invited two friends from his school days at St Paul's to be his principal guests. Mr Richard Cunis proposed the health of our Company; very appropriately he is a past Master of the Mercers. The Right Honourable, the Lord Razzall replied to the Master on behalf of our guests. Hilarity and laughter espoused from a true politician, but alas as always happens when imbibing with the wines and the late hour of the night, one forgets the punch lines but remembers being well entertained…..and so we were.

I wonder how many, like me, turned the wrong way onto the long corridor in Mercer's Hall and pondered where the staircase had gone.

Liveryman Duncan Preston

THE COMPANY'S ARMED FORCES SQUADRONS

Life is never boring when it comes to the Company's Armed Forces affiliates . All three squadrons continue to be as busy as ever. Even during the intense schedule of activities, opportunities have been found to enable the Livery to spend some time with them and appreciate just how important both the Reservists and Regulars are to the Country's security. What has never failed to impress is the enjoyment and commitment demonstrated by all ranks.

135 Independent Geographic Squadron, Royal Engineers (Volunteers)

One of the Master's early duties is to attend the Remembrance Day service in November at Ewell. In my capacity as Honorary Air Commodore, I took the salute, being the most senior Officer present and with the road closed to all traffic for the Parade, it was a little daunting. Back at base, the Master presented the Company's Endeavour Award to Corporal Andy Skeet who won it for his excellent work with the Recruit Training Team.

Members of the Livery visited the Hermitage site, during the Squadron weekend exercise on Sunday 24th April 2005. After receiving a briefing from the Squadron OC, Major Amanda Shell, we were able to observe the unit practising their primary role of map supply in the field. There were some brand new recruits being put through their paces and, yes, the weather being inclement as usual, did not let us down. The produce of the Field Kitchen warmed us up and the visit concluded with a tour of the Royal School of Military Survey.

Annual Camp was held in Halton Camp near Lancaster between 10th – 24th September, where the training consists of both technical and arduous adventure training activities. I am pleased to say that the most taxing activity that the Master and I engaged in was to represent the Company at the Regimental Guest Night dinner on Saturday 17th September 2005 at Morecambe Bay.

To put the training into context, it is likely that a number of individuals will be deployed to Afghanistan in early 2006.

7010 (VR) Squadron

Despite the fact that the main hostilities in the Gulf are over, the Squadron continues support to Operation TELIC with personnel deployed to Qatar throughout the year for periods of up to 6 weeks at a time.

2004 marked the 80th Anniversary of the Royal Auxiliary Air Force and I was invited to a private Reception at the RAF Club, Piccadilly, where I was presented to Her Majesty The Queen and his Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh.

The Squadron held a Guest Night Dinner at RAF Henlow on 8th April 2005. The Master and his wife Gilly were the guests of honour and the Master presented the Chartered Surveyor's Award for professional excellence to WO John Sunderland.

A small party of Liverymen also attended the RAF Waddington Air Show 2005 in June which showcased the latest planes or rather platforms, to use the correct terminology, and equipment. 7010 also had the opportunity to demonstrate their specialist technical knowledge before we all watched in awe the aerobatic display of the Red Arrows.

HMS ECHO

It is difficult to comprehend that ECHO had been at sea, on task, for 18 months before returning to Plymouth in September 2005. It is possible because the Ship's Company is made up of 13 Officers, 21 Senior Ratings and 28 Junior Ratings who work on a three watch rotation basis with only 48 of the 62 personnel on board at sea. This system provides the ability to spend extended periods at sea, going alongside only to conduct handovers.

Whilst she was in the Gulf, ECHO surveyed areas around the Iraqi oil platforms which were clear targets for terrorists and as such are patrolled 365 days a year by coalition warships. Extensive surveys of the area were undertaken where not only did she have to contend with large oil tankers, but also hundreds of dhows which use the area constantly. The survey data that is collected is processed on board and made available to the military commanders on station, which is an essential process and part of keeping sea lanes open.

Since departing Plymouth in January 2004, the ship has travelled 77,154 nautical miles, surveyed 298 sq. miles, 16 wrecks, including those of HMS Prince of Wales and HMS Repulse, which was sunk by Japanese aircraft during the winter of 1941, 211 sq. miles of sea bed off Saudi Arabia and 80 sq. miles of the South China Seas. So it is not surprising that apart from my ship to shore telephone conversations with Commander Andy Waddington and e-mails, there was been little physical opportunity to meet up with the Ship's company.

Past Master , Delva Patman



"Lower away".



Away kit for the Master and Senior Warden.



Hermitage Field Training Exercise .







ALL AT SEA

The Master and I took up the offer from HMS Echo, our adopted naval survey ship, for three days at sea.

Having got through the pass procedure and red tape etc, we arrived on board Echo and cast off from the dockyard in Devonport. Negotiating the tricky channel out through Plymouth Sound, we were advised that our destination was to be off the Scilly Isles that evening. Therefore a fast passage to the Scilly Isles, dropping anchor just before a delayed dinner at 1900 hours.

On the way, as Echo was then expecting to be deployed in the North Atlantic for the next couple of months, various tests and checks took place including a man overboard exercise, fire on board exercise and checking of equipment.

After lunch, which seems to be a staple diet of baguettes and coleslaw with no alcohol, we were given a tour of the workings of the ship by the Engineering Officer. Echo was only built two and a half years ago and has very up to date equipment, albeit that the surveying equipment is constantly being kept current, as the naval phrase goes.

Like many cruise ships, Echo does not have a conventional propeller and shaft drive but has two electric motor driven pods which are completely reversible, turn sideways etc, to give maximum manoeuvrability.

On anchoring, we enjoyed dinner in the Ward Room, having got to know the Officers pretty well by now and afterwards, as it was a beautiful evening with flat calm sea, we had coffee on the upper deck behind the Bridge and had a long chat with the Captain, Commander Andy Waddington.

After coffee, the Master managed to find a bottle of whisky in the Ward Room bar and the withdrawal symptoms disappeared, having had virtually no alcohol for 24 hours!

Retired to bed and being the Junior Officer of the Livery, I got the top bunk which apart from a climb is exactly the same as the lower one and they are referred to on the ship as 'coffins' as they are extremely narrow.

Woken at 0700 hours by Bosun's pipe 'all hands', and joined the Ward Room for breakfast. Again a glorious day, so started off in shorts. Watched the ship's motor boat being lowered.. Part of the exercise was testing equipment, including setting up a shore base and checking and in effect adjusting the various systems for accuracy. The ship's motor boat generator was not showing full power so a planned trip in her to St Mary's was cancelled. Instead, the Captain overrode Health & Safety procedures and allowed us an exhilarating 30 knot ride in the ship's RIB – crash helmets compulsory! We had to climb in the RIB on the Boat deck and were then lowered 40 feet into the sea – good job it was a calm sea! We returned to a splendid barbeque with all of the crew and officers on the Quarter Deck.

The whole Ship's Company were then called together on the Quarter Deck for the Master and the Captain to exchange plaques of the Company and HMS Echo.

For the rest of the afternoon, for the second day of glorious Mediterranean weather, we did some serious sunbathing whilst watching various checks on equipment, deployment of multi-beam sonar transmitters etc. We were then given a tour of the surveying ops room and the chart room where the data is processed into various forms of charts for civil and military purposes.

The day was topped off with the pair of us having dinner with the Captain and the Operations Officer in the Captain's Cabin. We put the world to rights with some serious discussions about a whole variety of things including Chartered Surveyors in the Navy.

Next morning, usual wake up call and a healthy breakfast en route to Plymouth. Heavy early morning sea mist developed into fog into the approaches to Plymouth Sound and we were able to watch the proceedings to the anchorage, occasionally deafened by the ship's fog horn. Fog is the one condition the Navy does not like. The lookouts are doubled and it is very eerie to hear another ship's horn but not see her. The possibility of running down a small yacht is very real and we were amazed to see amateurs risking their lives in this way.

Because of the visibility down to 100 yards, the boat which was supposed to transfer us to shore was unable to get out and therefore we were kitted out in full dry suits with Flash Gordon helmets and taken almost to the dockyard gate on the ship's RIB, only to emerge in bright sunshine. The Master and I were photographed and we look as if we were stand ins for Dustin Hoffman in 'The Graduate'!

An extremely enjoyable, quite exhausting but very educational trip and many hours of CPD. What impressed us most was not only the professionalism of all ranks but also the camaraderie and atmosphere between Officers and Ratings. The Captain and the Ship's Company treated us very well and we believe value our connection. We presented the Captain with 6 Company glasses and left two rugby shirts in the Wardroom. The Master promised that we would send a suitable Christmas Box for the entire crew to enjoy in early December.

Brian Lamden, Senior Warden

CAROL SERVICE

It was a 'Silent Night' that heralded us on 20th December last year. While many were scouring shops for last minute gifts, we were drawn to the annual Carol Service. Who could not help but feel the cheer of Christmas when faced with the magnificent sight of a full moon rising behind the dome of St Paul's, as we walked across Watling Street and down Bow Lane, towards the Guildhall.

Many, like myself, marked the carol service by bringing family and friends to join us and the evening did not disappoint.

It was a Christmas celebration that blended the traditional with light hearted and moving narratives to create a special evening of worship and entertainment.

The high standards set by the RICS Singers, directed by Clifford Dann, embraced the assignment with a range of pieces from a traditional 'In the bleak Mid-winter' to 'While Shepherd's Watched Their Flocks' – sung to the tune of 'On Ilkla Moor baht'at'. In between they helped keep the rest of the congregation in tune!

Eight readings, interspersed throughout the service, were evocative of happy and serious Christmases. They included passages such as John Betjeman's 'Advent' read by Alan Gillett through to the concluding passage, from the Senior Warden, Brian Lamden, quoting Tiny Tim from 'A Christmas Carol'.

While all the presentations were excellent, particular humour and insight was provided in 'Carols in the Cotswolds' – from Laurie Lee's Cider With Rosie – presented wonderfully by Virginia McKenna.

For my guests and I the reception afterwards in the church rounded the Carol Service off with the warmth of companionship we associate with our Company.
Liveryman John Speakman

COLLEGE OF ARMS

One of the excellent features of our Livery Company activities is the outings to places which we might not normally see. Just such an outing – or two as we were oversubscribed for one – was made to the College of Arms on 8th and 9th March.

On each occasion the 20 or so members and guests were welcomed in the Earl Marshal's Court by our enthusiastic, eloquent and entertaining guide Mr. William Hunt TD, the Windsor Herald at Arms. Many visitors must have passed the distinguished 17th Century building in Queen Victoria Street without appreciating the fascinating interior and, perhaps more especially, the wonderful heraldic records in the library, dating back to the 12th Century when rulers or army commanders needed to identify their messengers or knights. The original, and for today's eyes elementary, signs on shields, banners and surcoats were available for inspection to prove that the origins of today's achievement of arms can be traced back nine centuries.

William Hunt explained to us, mere mortals, that the Heralds who have been responsible for keeping records of 'arms' and family descents throughout the centuries are still called Kings of Heralds, or Kings of Arms, those of the next rank as Heralds and juniors as Pursuivants. Over the centuries the Heralds have built up a unique registry of armorial and family records while the College itself is one of the few heraldic courts in Western Europe and, apparently, is now the oldest existing such College in the world.

We heard that the duties of the Heralds today are ceremonial on the one hand, such as the opening of parliament and state funerals, and on the other they are responsible for the organisation of the annual service and procession of the Order of the Garter at Windsor Castle. Garter King is also responsible for the ceremony in the House of Lords when new peers are presented to their Lordships.

Our memorable visit concluded with a tour of the library where our estimable guide William Hunt produced a number of ancient tomes from the bookcases to show us the original coats of arms including the Royal Family and other famous people of their day. Finally, we saw some examples of the arms of Livery Companies ending with that of our own Chartered Surveyors' Company. As your scribe, as first Senior Warden in 1977, had arranged this 'achievement' with his cousin John Brooke-Little, then the Richmond Herald, he was able to explain to fellow members the meaning of the heraldic symbols we chose then, not least, the meaning of the motto "Modus ab Initio" (meaning 'Method from the Start').

Our thanks to Mr. Hunt for his excellent tour of inspection and, of course, to the Company's organisers.
Past Master Alan Gillett

INTER-LIVERY TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The Inter-Livery Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament was held at Queen's Club on 15 September, organised by the Feltmakers'.

This year we were represented by liverymen Gordon Edington and Rebecca Mason and their respective tennis partners Rowena Martin and Nick Smith. No medals were won by our teams but they did well amidst fierce competition. Rebecca and Nick reached the final of the Plate competition in which they were runners up, whilst Gordon and Rowena made it through to the knockout stages of the main competition but were eventually defeated by the runners up.



Simon Kolesar receiving his Golf trophy from The Master.



Four of our boys taking part in The Inter Livery shooting day .









Anyone for tennis?

If any Liverymen (or women) would like to play in next year's tournament, please make contact with Laurence Johnstone. County level players and better are excluded but the competition is nevertheless at a challenging level!
Assistant Laurence Johnstone

THE COMPANY'S FISHING DAY

A day's fly-fishing in the Mendip Hills on Chew Valley Lake is one to look forward to and so it was that 18 liverymen and their guests met there on 16 May. The near perfect conditions, warm and overcast with a heavy hatch of buzzers, were promising but it was not until after a convivial lunch in the Lodge that (coincidentally) the wind rose and a gentle ripple over the water offered much better sport.

By weigh-in time, the total bag was 19 rainbow trout at 40 lbs. An improving Michael Baker won the Baker Trophy with a bag of 3 fish (6 lb 12 ozs); the prize for the best guest went to Mike Heckler with 5 fish (10 lbs); and the prize for the captor of the biggest fish went to the ever consistent Alex Shatunowski with a fish of 2 lbs 6 ozs. But you should have heard the stories of the ones that got away!

If you would like to come boat fishing at Chew next year, do let me know at david.w.marsh@btinternet.com. It is a great occasion to entertain a guest. I will give you a full briefing on what to bring and what to expect, but I can only tell you where the fish might be – the pursuit is for you to enjoy!
Liveryman David Marsh

FORE!

This has been a year for quality not quantity for The Company's Golfers.

In the Spring four valiant golfers represented The Company in the Prince Arthur Cup at Walton Heath. Keith Way, Chris Honeywill, Barry Cockerell and Terry Knight took on the 54 other Companies. At lunchtime we were in the lead but conditions rapidly deteriorated with heavy rain and wind. Our performance slipped in the afternoon but we still came a very creditable 3rd, being beaten by only the Feltmakers (1st) and the Insurers(2nd). Well done lads!

The annual match against the Hermes Club was again held at Worplesdon. Sadly the turn out was down with only 6 Liverymen who were not also Hermes Members. However it was truly an occasion for quality not quantity because the Company achieved a well-earned victory!

Finally The Company Golf Day was held in brilliant sunshine at Worplesdon Golf Club thanks to the continuing membership of The Master. 35 points seems to have a magical ring about it, because it was the same winning score this year as it was last. The Master's Cup was duly won by Simon Kolesar seen here (top photograph) being presented with the cup by The Master himself.

INTER LIVERY CLAY PIGEON SHOOT

Once again the Company entered the Inter Livery Clay Pigeon Shoot at Holland & Holland, although for the first time in a number of years with only one team rather than two.

As a whole the event was very well supported with a total entry of 98 teams, comprising 392 guns. Not surprisingly the event was dominated by the Gunmakers who entered four teams and whose A team won the overall team prize and whose Jason Abbott (a professional gunmaker) won the individual prize.

The team as a whole managed a reasonably consistent performance to finish 26th equal which included scores (out of 80) of 62 for Digby Flower (10th equal), 51 for Brian Lamden (21st equal), 47 for David Tuffin (25th equal) and a very credible 44 for Rob Bould in only his second competition to finish 28th equal. Brian Lamden prevailed in the building surveyors duel, on this occasion, in his long standing rivalry with David Tuffin.

THE INTER-LIVERY SWIMATHON 2005

The thirteenth Inter-Livery Swimathon was held at the RAC Country Club, Woodcote Park, Epsom on Monday 9 May. I have taken part before but missed last year so the first thing I noticed (apart from the heat in the sports complex!) was the new and luxurious changing rooms – no more queuing for the showers afterwards.

We started the swim on time and everything went smoothly with most people swimming at least the 34 lengths they had agreed to and some swimming rather more. We completed the Swimathon in record time - just after 7.00pm - which gave everyone time to change and have a drink before dinner.

105 people sat down to a three-course meal in the Cedar Room afterwards and the food was really yummy. Swimming makes you really hungry so we were glad the portions were generous although I would have liked another roll! The Master and Mrs. Knight presided over the top table and the Master welcomed the guests and thanked all the swimmers. He also presented the silver plate to the Master Actuary as the Actuaries' Company had raised the most money for the Lord Mayor's Appeal in the 2004 Inter-Livery Swimathon.

Monday 8 May 2006 has provisionally been set for the Swimathon next year - please let my Mum (the Clerk) know if you would like to swim in one of the Company's teams.
Bryony Jackson

'END OF TERM REPORT'

The Education Committee has had an active year and has continued to strengthen the Company's relationship with its three adopted schools.

At Robert Clack School I was delighted to attend School Prize Giving to present a number the School Awards. Later in the summer we arranged for 50 pupils and staff to travel to Lords for the England v Bangladesh test match. An exciting, high scoring game was enjoyed by all, in brilliant sunshine.

The Company's new School Awards were presented for the first time this year. These have been allocated to reward success in projects that have some relevance to surveying. The Master attended prize giving ceremonies at each school and made the awards in person on behalf of the Company.

The Company's work experience programme for the schools' students was judged by both the Robert Clack School and Central Foundation School for Girls to have been the most successful yet. Unfortunately, arrangements for work experience for pupils of St Saviours & St Olave's had to be postponed as the school was subject to an Ofsted inspection at short notice. I am pleased to report that the school was highly commended by the Inspectors and I extended the Company's congratulations to Dr Irene Bishop, Head Teacher.

At the Central Foundation Girls School we were asked to act as external examiners for the Year 9 Project and arrangements were made for three teams of students and staff to attend a presentation and judging at the Master's office on 8th July. Sadly the arrangements had to be cancelled because of the terrorist bombings the day before, but we hope to assist in the same way in the forthcoming year. However, I am pleased to report that the Master was able to present the Company's award to the winners at the School Students' Achievement Ceremony on the 22nd July, which was also attended by Liveryman Clive Arding in his role as Vice Chair of the Governors of the School.

The annual trip to Ironbridge took place on 7th July despite the event being overshadowed by the tragic events that took place in London that day. Unfortunately, the disruption in London caused the Central Foundation Girl's School to be let down by their coach firm and so did not make it to Ironbridge. I can however report that the students of both the Robert Clack and Central Foundation Schools thoroughly enjoyed their visit and were amusingly entertained by Past Master Alan Gillett in his "role" as Agent of the Estate Office.

Plans, for a one day Schools City Seminar later in the year have been finalised and have been led by Pipyn Trustram Eve and Assistant Elizabeth Edwards. Ten students will be selected from each school for a day centred on the organisation and operation of the City, with the support of the City Corporation at its Marketing Suite.

The Master was pleased to entertain the Head Teachers of all three schools at the Election Court luncheon at Tallow Chandlers' Hall on the 6th July. The Master's speech emphasised the Company's commitment to its Education Initiative and its support for its adopted schools. The occasion was enlivened by the breaking news, announced by the Master, that London had been awarded the honour of hosting the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The luncheon was much enjoyed by all.

Finally this year marked the 25th Anniversary of the Focus on the Changing City Seminar. The course was once again oversubscribed and the delegates enjoyed a lively address from Steve Norris at the closing dinner.

May I thank Pipyn Trustram Eve and all of the Liverymen who have helped me throughout the year. The work we do is most rewarding and if you would like to help this extremely worthwhile programme of work please contact me at dcarter@arrowcroft.com, or Pipyn Trustram Eve at pipynte@jreve.com

Assistant Daniel Carter,
Chairman Education Committee



Past Master Robert Steel presents the Company's endevour award to Colin Joyce on behalf of the RICS South East Region for outstanding endeavour in raising funds for LionHeart.



Steven Norris - guest speaker at the 25th Focus on the Changing City Seminar.





THE COURT AND COMMITTEES 2005-2006

THE COURT

Brian Lamden - Master
Richard Cotton - Senior Warden
David Larkin - Junior Warden
Hugh Stebbing - Past Master
Michael Baker - Past Master
George Gillon - Past Master
Ted Hartill - Past Master
Terry Knight - Past Master
Robert Bould
James Bryer
Daniel Carter
Graham Chase
Lady Jennifer Davies
Elizabeth Edwards
Digby Flower
William Hill
Laurence Johnstone
Simon Kolesar
Ken Morgan
Roger Southam
Jon Turner
Mickola Wilson

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Richard Cotton (Senior Warden & Chairman)
David Larkin (Junior Warden & Vice Chairman)
Brian Lamden (Master)
Terry Knight (Immediate Past Master)
Mickola Wilson
Simon Kolesar
Elizabeth Edwards

Elections Committee

David Larkin (Chairman & Junior Warden)
Brian Lamden (Master)
Richard Cotton (Senior Warden)
Terry Knight (Immediate Past Master)
Laurence Johnstone
Graham Chase

Charitable Board

Simon Kolesar (Chairman)
Rob Bould (Vice Chairman)
Brian Lamden (Master)
Richard Cotton (Senior Warden)
David Larkin (Junior Warden)
James Gillett
Laurence Johnstone
Tim Richards
Mark Farris

Seminar Committee

James Bryer (Chairman)
William Hill (Vice Chairman)
Roger Southam
Frederick Hargreaves
David Thompson
John Woodman
Bill Edgerley

Membership and Communications Committee

Mickola Wilson (Chairman)
Ken Morgan (Vice-Chairman)
Brian Lamden (Master)
Richard Cotton (Senior Warden)
David Larkin (Junior Warden & PR/website)
Jon Turner (Forces liaison)
Lady (Jenna) Davies
Janie Strange
Simon Waugh
Richard Kent
Louise McElarney

Education Committee

Daniel Carter (Chairman)
Roger Southam (Vice-Chairman)
Brian Lamden (Master)
Robert Bould
Elizabeth Edwards
Peter Goodacre
Duncan Preston
Janie Strange
Jonathan Rogers
William MacLeod

PAMADA

Graham Chase (Chairman)
Digby Flower (Vice-Chairman)
Ken Morgan
Andrew Fielder
Colin Peacock
Michael Baker
Chris Dymond
Bob Dyson
James Bowdidge
Philip Brown
Richard Kent
John Williams
Chris Goldthorpe

From the Master Elect

I am extremely honoured and pleased to take over the role of Master of this Worshipful Company on 17th October.



Brian Lambden.

I take over a Livery Company in very good spirit and financial health.

Before anything else, I must thank immediate Past Master, Terry Knight, fully and ably supported by Gilly.

Terry has had a fantastic year with a number of extremely unusual events and has maintained a very high standard of leadership and example.

As well as being in extremely good spirit and financial health we, in common with most other Livery Companies, face challenging times and I am aware of the need to retain the balance of history and ceremony whilst keeping up with the times and attracting an intake of Liverymen of all ages.

Two years ago we developed, a new Business Plan and we continue to move this forward in a number of directions, particularly with regard to our charitable giving and on the education front.

The Charitable Trust funds are in excess of £800,000 and continue to recover by careful management, from the past vagaries of the Stock Market. In the last 12 months, this has been very ably managed by Mickola Wilson. The Trust receives its income from a number of sources and I would like to encourage more Liverymen to give by way of Gift Aid to improve our income and charitable resources.

We regularly continue to review our charitable giving which over the last three years has become more structured and as well as making smaller donations on request, we now concentrate on major and regular donations where our giving has a real effect. I aim to continue this, possibly with increased and substantial giving to one particular charity and as always, supporting the Lord Mayor's Appeal.

In conjunction with the Charitable Trust and the Company's funds, our Education Committee under the Chairmanship of Daniel Carter and very ably supported by Pipyn Trustram Eve has even greater things planned for the future. Our Schools initiative supporting three major schools in poorer Inner London areas is growing by the day. It is very much appreciated by the head teachers and staff of these schools and I hope we can continue to support them by way of visits to Ironbridge and other items such as watching cricket at Lords and a day's training at Harlequin's Rugby Club and an introduction to the City by way of a full day seminar. I also hope we can move forward into a new education initiative phase, perhaps as was originally mooted, to mentor and encourage more of these school kids to go into the profession, either via university or even through our own Training Trust. I believe that this educational side is perhaps the most important side of our work next to the charitable giving and we can have a real effect and reap the reward, both directly and indirectly by recognition in the City.

As an elected member of the International Governing Council, I intend to forge closer links with the RICS, which after all is where our membership comes from.

On a personal front, I am looking forward to working with Amanda, our ever present and hard working Clerk who keeps us all on the straight and narrow. I also look forward to working with my two Wardens, Richard Cotton and David Larkin who will be great ambassadors for the Company.

I am a practising Building Surveyor and as the first building surveying Master, I can assure the Company that the rumour of me being 'a reactionary Master' is incorrect. Nevertheless, as well as a full working programme, I intend that we will all enjoy ourselves.

Looking back on this contribution to the Newsletter for the last few years, recruiting to the Livery is something that has been mentioned by various Masters Elect. We seem to hover around the 340/350 mark of membership with the numbers of new Liverymen just about balancing those resigning or passing away. I would like to see our numbers up to the full allowed compliment of 400 and I don't believe it is difficult for everybody to introduce one member, it just needs a little thought. By increasing the numbers, we give the Court greater flexibility in running the organisation but also keep the Quarterage down for the Livery as a whole.

As a boating man (sorry smelly diesels, not rag and stick), inevitably there will be a nautical flavour to my year, especially on the social side.

We will be dining at Trinity House and on HQS Wellington, the headquarter ship of the Company of Master Mariners and we will also be having a day on the river following the ancient custom of Swan Upping. Ted Hartill's Le Mans trip apart, we are embarking on our first weekend away as a Livery, to Barcelona in March. We have a package booked but I'm sure if anybody wishes to join us, we could fit you in.

I believe that one of the things that attracts and retains Liverymen is variety and we will therefore be using Halls that we've not used for some considerable time, if at all. My Installation Dinner is at Carpenters' Hall which I think is particularly appropriate for a Building Surveyor. We will be dining at Painters' Hall as this Company was my mother Company and introduced me to the City. Finally we will be returning, after I believe too long an absence, to dine at Mansion House with the Lord Mayor on 24th July 2006. I'm promoting this, following Past Master Michael Baker's initiative, as a sons and daughters, friends and family dinner and hopefully we can fill the Egyptian Room.

Hopefully there will be something for everybody, including a trip to the Tower of London to witness the ancient Ceremony of the Keys and a behind the scenes trips to the Rugby Football Union at Twickenham and Christie's Auction House. A full programme and I hope value for money.

Denise and I are very looking forward to our year and are hoping for a full involvement from the Livery; we welcome feedback! My metaphorical office door is always open and more to the point, you are welcome to walk in.

I look forward to seeing you over the year.

Brian Lamden, Master Elect

Events

Some notes for your diary and to book early

Monday 17th October 2005
Installation Dinner - Carpenters Hall

Wednesday 16th November 2005
String Quartet Competition

Monday 28th November 2005
Court Luncheon - Trinity House

Tuesday 13th December 2005
Carol Service - St. Lawrence Jewry

6/9th February 2006
Focus on the Changing City Seminar

Monday 20th February 2006
Property Marketing Awards - Cadogan Hall

Monday 20th March 2006
Spring Livery Dinner - Painters' Hall

24/27th March 2006
Visit to Barcelona

Thursday 27th April 2006
Behind the scenes at Christie's

Friday 12th May 2006
Behind the scenes at Twickenham

Wednesday 17th May 2006
Inter-Livery Clay Pigeon Shooting Competition

Wednesday 5th July 2006
Court Luncheon - HQS Wellington

Wednesday 19th July 2006
Company Golf Day - Worplesdon

Thursday 20th July 2006
Swan Upping - Reading

Monday 24th July 2006
Family & Friends Dinner - Mansion House

W/c 17th September 2006
Ceremony of the Keys - Tower of London