



The Master Michael Neal (standing, right) presided over the Carpenters Primary School Christmas party at Carpenters' Hall in December

Message from the Master

Michael Neal reports:

I was proud to be elected Master in July. As I write this article in November, I have now represented the Company at 34 Livery-related events. One of my earliest visits was to a Mumming Ceremony in the magnificent Ironmongers' Hall. In mediaeval times, the Master of a livery company might process around livery halls lead by a troupe of Mummers (or dancers) to the sound of bagpipes and drums. We have records of this being a regular activity in our ancient Hall. This made me realize what an

important part of the Master's role it was to represent the Company in other livery halls. Each hall tells a very different architectural story of the history of the trades of the City. Being involved with the construction industry and a keen architectural historian, I find this particularly fascinating.

As for our affiliation to the Services, my first act as Master was to present the Champion Pilot Prize to Flight Lieutenant Tom Hansford at my Installation Lunch and I hope to visit IV(R)

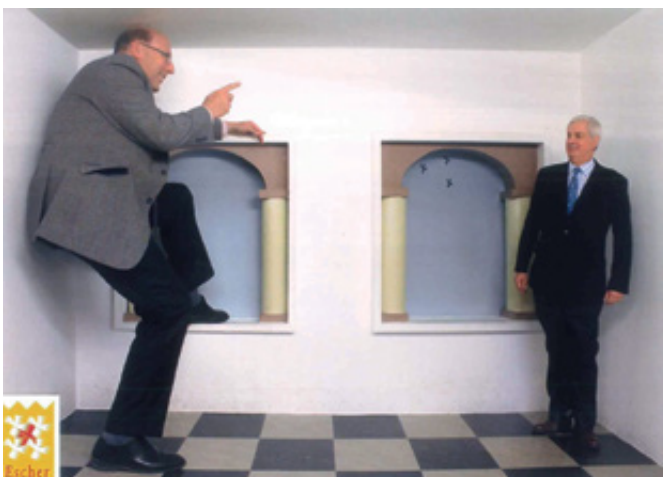
Squadron RAF on Anglesey in the Spring. The Senior Warden led a party of Carpenters to a dinner in the Mess on HMS DARING in August, where they learnt that the Ship has been undergoing some modifications and will have sea trials in the Channel in the coming months. I have also been entertained by 4 RIFLES in their new barracks at Aldershot. I inspected the Memorial Wall, which had just been rebuilt at the head of the parade ground in such a position that it can be seen by every Rifleman. The transporting ► p2



Strictly Come Dancing at Carpenters' Hall in October

of materials and rebuilding was carried out by a team from the Building Crafts College which proved to be a useful commercial exercise as they had to estimate for the work and arrange the transport, as well as digging the foundations in preparation for the brick and stonework.

Strictly Come Dancing at Carpenters' for the Livery and Freeman's Reception seemed to gain good reviews. The Wood Awards held in the Hall produced some exceptional architectural and furniture exhibits. Our lead sponsor's Arnold Laver Gold Award was presented to the Fishing Hut designed by Niall McLaughlin Architects (the designers of the remarkable Edward King Chapel, Cuddesdon, 2013 Wood Award winners). We were delighted that our erstwhile Building Crafts College Furniture student, Emma Leslie and now at Workshop East, won the People's Choice prize for her slatted chair. A few nights later the



On their recce of the Hague the Master tells the Clerk a few things about the construction industry

Building Crafts College held its annual Prize-giving and their guest of honour was Mrs. Jo Thwaites MVO of Historic Royal Palaces, who applauded the Carpenters' and the College's support for the teaching of craft skills.

Plans for the Company Visit to The Hague in May 2016 are taking shape and the Clerk and I undertook a recce there in October. The City's architecture, art and landscaping are breathtaking and the highlight is probably the Mauritshuis Museum. I hope that many Liverymen will enjoy this visit next year. The 350th Anniversary of the Great Fire of London takes place in 2016 and we are considering what contribution we might make to this, in the knowledge that the Fire did not have a happy outcome for the Carpenters' trade.

I wish you all a happy New Year and look forward to 2016 as Master of the Carpenters' Company with great enthusiasm, in the knowledge that I have the best of support from the Clerk and his team at the Hall.

Election Court



The Election Day Court procession on 21st July led by the Beadle approaches All Hallows Church

BUILDING CRAFTS COLLEGE



In October the College held an Open Day for a party of Liverymen, shown here in the stonemasonry department with Instructor Nigel Gilkison (left) and Principal Len Conway (third left)

The Principal, Len Conway, reports:

As usual, the start of the academic year has been busy as our new and continuing students settle in to another year of study. By the October half-term break, the College had enrolled about 400 students, with more to be enrolled on a range of courses during the year. The College has also hosted many visitors. These included a meeting of the London Region Construction Training Group, Health and Safety Training sessions by Carey's Plc, Balfour Beatty contractors, Taylor Wimpey Contractors, L&Q Housing Association, the Construct Concrete Employers Association, the Prince's Foundation for Building Community, SPAB, the Stone Federation, the Ealing National Trust Historical Society and members of several other Livery Companies, as well as our own patrons, the Carpenters'

Company. Most visitors receive a presentation from the Principal before embarking on a tour of the College, which includes the Gibbins Road campus, where students work on construction-based courses, such as concrete formwork, maintenance and general construction.

As the College staff focus on at the daily business of running a busy College, it is not always that easy for us to understand how outsiders may view the BCC or how we measure ourselves against our own mission and themes, which we articulate as follows:

- Our Crafts – excellence in teaching traditional crafts.
- Our Youngsters – Giving our young people skills for life.
- Our Community – Creating opportunities and building careers for adults.

- Our Employers – Providing a flexible response to the needs of our industry partners.
- Our Environment – Conservation of the historic environment and sustainability.

Feedback from visitors who come to the College is always positive and we are very appreciative of what they say. This term, however, we have also had the opportunity to obtain the views of one expert responsible for assessing how well the College advises, guides and, supports students during their college life – in other words our management of the 'Learner Journey'. This assessor was from an organization called MATRIX which administers the necessary MATRIX kite mark. He visited the College to carry out a three-day inspection so as to ascertain if the BCC should receive this coveted accreditation on which the granting of Government and other contracts depend. The BCC achieved this accreditation and it was interesting to see the outcome of this 'view from outside'.

The Inspector interviewed College staff, external partners and students and reported comments anonymously. The overall judgement of the College was that "All staff at the BCC demonstrate a real passion for supporting learners from all backgrounds and academic abilities, to be successful in learning their craft, understanding their chosen industry sector and helping them gain the skills to be successful employees within their chosen industry. Partners were able to confirm that the organization has a good ▶ p4

Building Crafts College continued

reputation and is held in high esteem within the different industries that they support.'

Some of our partners were quoted in the report saying:

'The staff are really hands-on, with tutors being really knowledgeable and supportive.'

'Retention at the BCC is excellent. They are able to identify learner needs and support them through to success.'

'I have tried other trainers but come back to the BCC. They are not the cheapest but they are the best.'

'When we finish our contract in this part of London it would be my desire to pick the BCC up and take them with us.'

This view from outside has been encouraging for all at the College. We feel that the Building Crafts College has been scrutinized by an expert who sees the work of many colleges around the country and it is good to see that we come out of this comparison so well.



Middle Warden Rachel Bower inspects a student project during the College Open Day

Study Trips

The Building Crafts College now has a well-established calendar of European study trips. The autumn term has seen the visit of Stonemasonry students to Florence. In October, 14 students, led by Nigel Gilkison and Jim O'Brien, travelled to Italy to see the Pietra Duron Museum, the Palazzo Vecchio, the church of Santa Croce and the Duomo in Florence. The highlight of the Florence trip is having a specially arranged visit to the masons' workshop at the Duomo where students are able to see the current

conservation stonework taking place and to talk to the masons involved. The second leg of the visit takes the group inside the Carrara marble quarries to see the source of this world famous stone.

Later in this academic year Joinery students will visit Hamburg as the guests of the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce and Historic Building Degree students will visit Venice to study, at first hand, the work of the famous Venetian architect Andrea Palladio.

End-of-Year Show

The End of Year Show was held at Carpenters' Hall from 25th-27th June. Over 300 visitors saw examples of work by students representing all areas of College provision. These included what was considered to be a very fine display of furniture, a spectacular tracery window exhibit produced by the Stone Masonry

Department and a specially constructed arrangement of concrete formwork produced by the team at the Gibbins Road campus. This was certainly the busiest show to date and it was pleasing that so many of our students' friends and family visited the hall to see the works on display.



The Show at Carpenters' Hall

Prize-giving

On the evening of 12th November the College held its annual Prize-giving event at Carpenters' Hall. The event was very successful with over 270 people present, including Company members, award winners and guests. The Ceremony was opened by the Master before handing over to the Chairman of the College Governors, Past Master Giles Downes, who spoke of the activities and achievements of the College over the previous academic year. Our Guest of Honour, Mrs. Jo Thwaites (Senior Project Manager with Historic Royal Palaces) presented awards to 66 graduates and 22 prize-winners, many of whom had friends and family members in the Hall. Mrs. Thwaites then gave an excellent speech in which she linked the history of the Carpenters' Company with the work of Historic Royal Palaces and spoke



Guest of Honour Mrs. Jo Thwaites (left) presents the College 2015 Student of the Year award to Lily Marsh

Prize-giving continued

of her admiration for the work of the Building Crafts College. Mrs. Thwaites has been responsible for the conservation and restoration of many landmark buildings such as Kew Palace, Kensington Palace and, recently, the Banqueting Hall in Whitehall. In recent years, Jo has been a great friend of the College hosting numerous visits by College, groups to her projects and facilitating placements and internships for many of our students with Historic Royal Palaces.

It is a pleasure to announce that the Building Crafts College 2015 Student of the Year, revealed at the end of the Prize Giving ceremony, was stonemason Lily Marsh. The Master closed the proceedings allowing all present to take refreshments and celebrate the achievements of our students.

Achievements

The College has seen students and staff achieve a number of awards so far this year. Fine Woodworking student Donat Fatet has been recognized not only for winning the Carpenters' Craft Competition but also for taking second place in the Joiners' and Ceilers' national wood-carving competition.

Fine Woodworking graduate Emma Leslie topped an excellent year, in which she received the Carpenters' Company City & Guilds award from the Princess Royal, being awarded a City & Guilds Medal of Excellence and by the granting of a highly commended award at the national Wood Awards. In addition, at the same event, she also achieved the Peoples' Choice Award.

Also at the Wood Awards the College was very proud to see Gary Butler, one of our visiting lecturers who is senior partner of the conservation architects practice Butler Hegarty, receive a highly commended award for one of his historic timber frame projects.

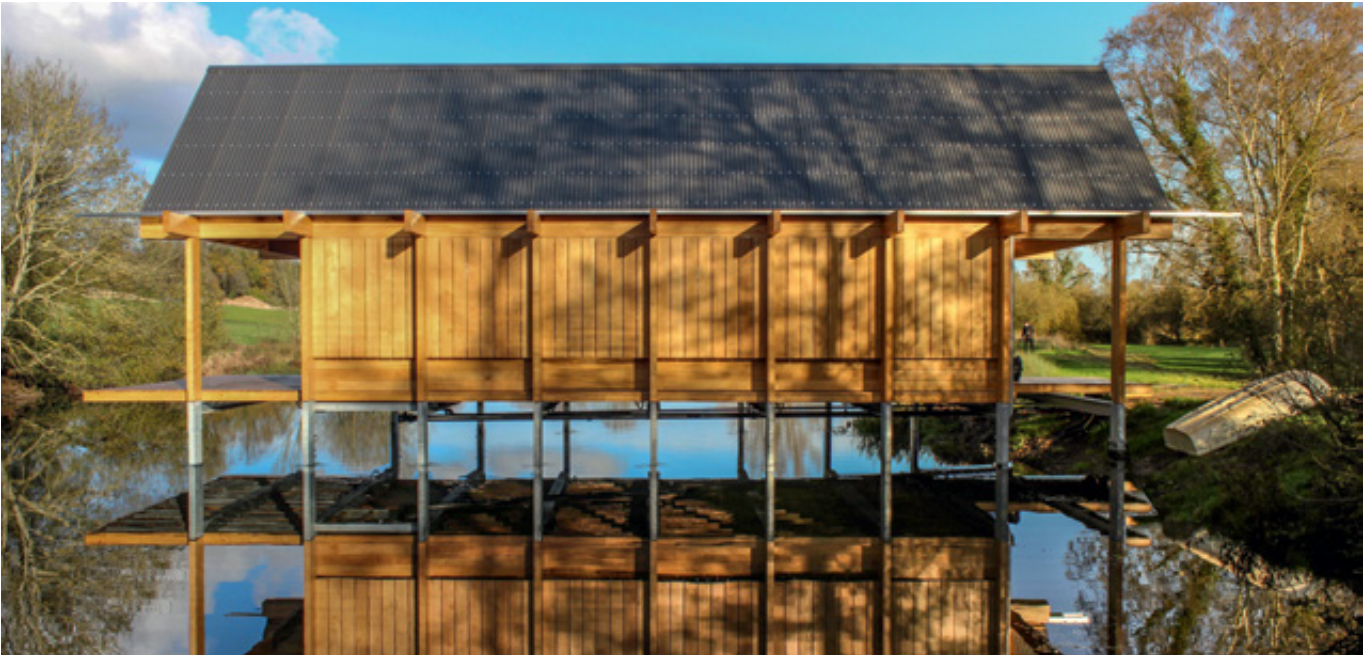
In September, the Principal travelled to Dumfries House in Scotland to see three Building Crafts College graduates, Andy Thompson, Kieran Batchelor and Joel Hume, receive Certificates of Achievement from HRH The Prince of Wales. This was in recognition of completing the Prince's Foundation for Building Community Crafty Apprenticeship in 2014/15. It was especially pleasing to see carpentry student Andy Thompson receive the programme's Award of Excellence. At the same time, the Principal was able to see the work of three other Building Crafts College students, Ben Wright, Mark Laidlow and Lily Marsh, who have places on the 2015/16 scheme and are working at Dumfries House.



Freeman Emma Leslie (second right) received her City & Guilds Award from HRH The Princess Royal in May 2015

CRAFT

Wood Awards 2015: Excellence in Architecture and Product Design



Arnold Laver Gold Award winner The Fishing Hut



The Constellations Bar won the Commercial & Leisure category



Arcadia Nursery by Malcolm Fraser Architects

Miss Francesca Gregson of Friends & Co reports:

The winners of the 44th annual Wood Awards were announced by broadcaster and architectural historian Mr. Tom Dyckhoff at Carpenters' Hall on 10th November.

The Fishing Hut by Niall McLaughlin Architects netted the Arnold Laver Gold Award, the Winner of Winners, as well as being top in the Private category. Built as a secure place to store boats and fishing tackle, it also serves as a meeting place and shelter for anglers. The judges thought that the project was delightful and even remarked "who wouldn't want one of these?".

Winner of the Commercial & Leisure category was Constellations Bar in Liverpool - a collaboration between brothers Hugh and Howard Miller, a furniture maker and a practicing architect.

Arcadia Nursery by Malcolm Fraser Architects in Edinburgh won



Bryanston School's Tom Wheare Music School

the Education and Public Sector category for its intelligent use of space and the feeling of calm and contentment – remarkable in a building for the under-fives!

The Studio by Bradley van der Straeten won the Existing Building category. The Studio was inspired by time spent in a VW campervan and self-built by the architects.

The Interiors award was taken home by Hopkins Architects for Bryanston School's new Tom Wheare Music School in Dorset. The judges praised the use of a single timber for most of the auditorium finishes and the care that had been taken with detailing.



The Studio uses birch plywood throughout this small, imaginatively designed London house

The Observatory: The Study & The Workshop by Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios was the winner of the Small Project category. The Observatory comprises two prefabricated cabins, an artist's studio (The Study) and a public shelter (The Workshop) that can be transported to remote landscapes and coastal locations in the UK.

The Structural Award went to Canary Wharf Crossrail station by Foster & Partners for its magnificent roof.



Small Project winner The Observatory

In recognition for its speed and size a Special Award was given to the BSkyB Believe in Better Building education facility by Arup Associates.

This year the judges felt that the projects in the Bespoke Furniture & Product category were so strong that two Bespoke awards were given. Endgrain by Raw-Edges Design Studio received a Wood Award for the exciting use of colour, while Ves-el by Gareth Neal in Collaboration with Zaha



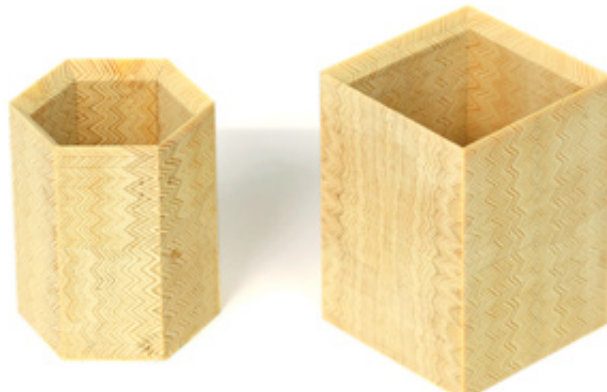
Canary Wharf Crossrail's spruce lattice roof

Hadid won for its process and sculptural finish.

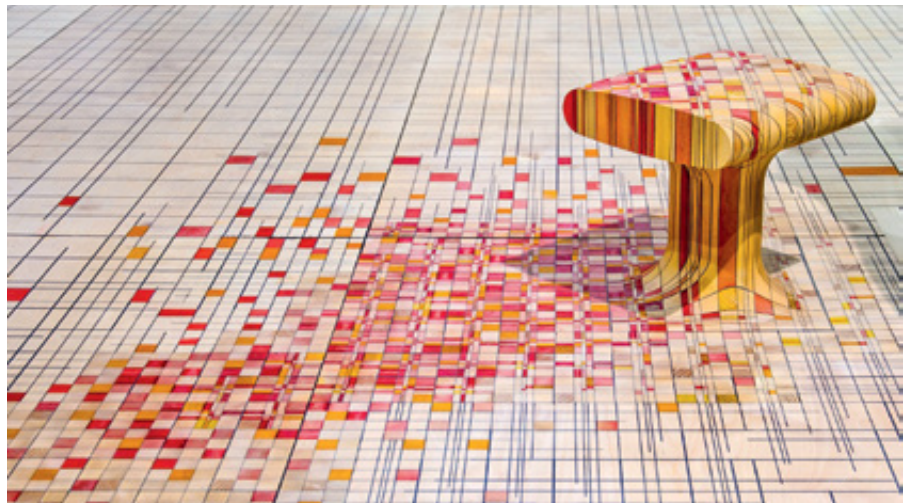
New for 2015 was the Student Designer Furniture & Product category with prizes of £1,000 for winner and £500 for people's choice. Winner of the category was Royal College of Art graduate Simin Qiu's End Grain Stationery

set inspired by the wooden floor of the Barbican theatre. The Student Designer People's Choice Award

went to Emma Leslie for her Slatted Chair, made whilst studying at the Building Crafts College. ▶ p10



Simin Qiu's End Grain Stationery, first winner of the Student Designer category



Winners of the Bespoke Furniture & Product category Ves-el (left) and Endgrain (right)



Slatted Chair by Freeman Emma Leslie



The Judges' Special Award went to BSKyB's Believe in Better Building

Carpenters' Craft Competition

By Liveryman John Taylor, Chairman:

The prizes for the national winners of the Carpenters' Craft Competition were presented by the Master at Carpenters Hall on the occasion of the Court Craft Luncheon on 6th October 2015. The standard of entry was extremely high with test pieces submitted by some 70 students from Colleges across the length and breadth of the UK. All entries were first judged at a regional level. The two best pieces from each region then went forward

to the national judging held in July. The winning test pieces were on display in Carpenters' Hall and guests attending the Luncheon commented on the outstanding skills of a new generation of carpenters. Special mention was also made of the key role of college tutors in nurturing this talent. Once again, particular thanks go to the Competition Manager, Freeman Chris Higley FIOC, for his dedication and hard work, and to all those involved in the administration and judging of the test pieces.



Winner Over 21: Donat Fatet, Building Crafts College



Winner Under 21: Liam Mudie, Inverness College

The Institute of Carpenters 125th Birthday at Carpenters' Hall

Sharon Hutchings, Administration Manager writes: 2015 has been a special year for the Institute of Carpenters as it is our 125th birthday: so this year's Members' Day was a real celebration. As in previous years, we are very grateful to the Worshipful Company of Carpenters for allowing us to use Carpenters' Hall for our annual event - without such generosity; it would be a far less grand affair. This year, we were joined by just short of 100 members, as well as some of our external suppliers and supporters. The day began with an exhibition from our members and sponsors showcasing their work and IOC activities, and was followed by the AGM. The legalities of the AGM itself were dealt with swiftly, which meant that IOC President William Avery had the pleasure of presenting an Illuminated Address to Brian Streater FIOC in recognition of his services to the IOC.

We were then delighted to welcome our guest speaker Barbara Wallis. Barbara completed a two-year, part-time course in Vernacular Architecture at Oxford University. Her major project was a study of the threshing barns

of four parishes adjoining the Thames and Chilterns. Her interest in farm buildings and their carpentry was inspired by her late husband Christopher, a civil engineer and carpenter who was a member of the IOC and who specialized in the restoration of windmills and barns. Barbara gave a fascinating talk on the carpentry and joinery techniques seen in the vernacular buildings of the Chilterns.

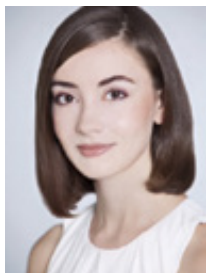
We had a delicious, leisurely lunch which, as it was our 125th birthday, was topped off with a celebratory glass of fizz (thanks to IOC Corporate member IronmongeryDirect!). After lunch, our international visitors from IOC Member College Biberach (Germany) gave us an overview of the German carpentry industry (very different to here in the UK) and how they have successfully been developing an international relationship with colleges in the UK thanks to the IOC. And last, but not least, we also sang Happy Birthday and ate cake. As IOC President William Avery said, "This year's event was an appropriate and enjoyable celebration of our 125th birthday. Here's to the next 125!"



The Institute of Carpenters 125th birthday party at Carpenters' Hall

CHARITIES AND GRANTS

Student Grants



In September 2015, Lauren Lodge West took up her place on the Artist Masters - Performance (Vocal Training Soprano) programme at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. She writes:

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the Worshipful Company

of Carpenters for your generous support of my studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. As a postgraduate student from the Queensland Conservatorium in Australia, where I studied with Margaret Schindler, and having attended the Guildhall School on a six-month exchange in 2012, I was ecstatic to be offered the chance to return: your scholarship enabled me to accept my place on the Guildhall Artist Masters programme.

On the concert platform, I have been a soprano soloist in Handel's *Messiah*, Haydn's *Creation*, Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* and Schubert's *Mass in G* as well as performing as a soloist with the Queensland Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra; here in London I have been singing in the chorus with the Guildhall Symphony Orchestra and the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

In the few weeks since my arrival, I have already been afforded experiences and opportunities not available to me in Australia, and in the coming weeks I will sing for two of my idols, the soprano Emma Kirkby and the great accompanist and musical scholar, Graham Johnson. I am confident that the Guildhall School is the ideal place for me to build on my skills as a performer; thanks in no small part to the Carpenters' Company, I will treasure every minute of my time here.



Mustafa Noor is studying Civil Engineering at City University. She writes:

My time at City University London has been really enjoyable and fruitful. Having completed a wide range of projects, some of which were assessed by renowned

engineers, I feel that I have developed a larger and more refined skillset. As part of the three-year course, two field trips were scheduled which served

to provide a realistic perspective to the theory that we covered at university. Outside the classroom I have been involved in a number of societies, one of which is Engineers Without Borders (EWB); I have found the experience to be very rewarding as it is an international society striving to make positive impacts on parts of the world which need some encouragement in terms in development.

My current goals are two-fold: in the short term, to qualify as a chartered engineer; my long-term ambitions are to be in a position where I am able to help make a tangible difference to the lives of those who are less fortunate, hence the reason behind my involvement in EWB. However I also have a keen interest in structures, and I am not averse to the prospect of operating as a structural engineer.

The Carpenters' Company scholarship has helped so much throughout my time at City University; thanks to your help I have been able to completely focus on my studies and as a result, I am on target to achieve a first class degree. In the future, I really do hope I can become a sponsor myself, as I know how much it has helped me and how much it could help students in the future.



Mary Pattinson is studying Civil Engineering at Imperial College, London. We began sponsoring Mary in her first year. Here, she writes:

The course is very demanding and challenging, but I have enjoyed my time at Imperial and being

surrounded by like-minded people. When I finish my degree I hope to find work relating to Crossrail or a similar large-scale infrastructure project, helping develop the future of London transport.

Last Easter, I joined a group of other engineering students on a trip to Bucharest in Romania, organised by the CivSoc (a student-run society for the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering). The University also arranged for us to tour two key sights around the city: the first was Palace of the Parliament, the world's largest civilian building; and the second was an underground metro station which was under construction. Both visits

were extremely interesting but I particularly enjoyed the visit to the latter.

I am incredibly grateful for the support provided by the Carpenters' Company: thank you for alleviating

the financial burden of my studies. Without the generosity of the Carpenters' Company I would not have been able to experience the education and career-defining trips that I have been part of in the past few months.

Carpenters & Dockland Centre

By Liveryman Mark Horn:

Although loose plans have been circulating for medium or long-term redevelopment of the Carpenters' Estate, no definite proposals have been adopted and no timescales assigned. Therefore, the Carpenters and Docklands Centre in Stratford has continued to pursue its activities in an environment of uncertainty. They have developed strong links with local corporate bodies, including Lend Lease and the Financial Conduct Authority

who have generously donated both time and money to assist in maintaining and improving the building. Having created new lavatories for children linked directly to the clubroom, it is now much easier for the play-care staff to manage the children and this has opened up the rest of the facilities during school holidays and afternoons, where previously, access was limited because of child safety issues. Much of the Centre has been redecorated and we have replaced all the sports

hall lighting with brighter low energy fittings. All of this work helps to make the Centre more popular and more sustainable. Long-term user groups include the Bengali women's group, disabled footballers, women's fitness, art, badminton and Judo clubs, and these all continue to thrive. The Centre has welcomed new user groups this year; a refugee organization for unaccompanied minors in East Ham, a board game club and a local community choir known as Singology.

Rustington Court Visit



On 9th July the Court visit to Rustington Convalescent Home included lunch in the grounds with staff and patients

Court Visit to Whiteley Village



The party on the site of proposed new homes at Whiteley Village

By the Master Michael Neil:

Members of the Court were treated to a most interesting tour of Whiteley Village on a fine autumn day in October. We were met by Chairman of Trustees, Peter Wilkinson and Chief Executive, Chandra McGowan and given an outline of the history of the Village. William Whiteley of Whiteley's Stores, who was murdered in 1907 by a disgruntled relation, left a bequest amounting to £1m to provide homes for, in his words, 'aged poor persons'. After much searching, 225 acres close to Walton were purchase in 1911. The greatest architects of the time were invited to design the layout and a scheme by Frank Atkinson based on layers of octagons was chosen. Those architects who had not won the layout design, such as Sir Reginald Blomfield, Sir Aston Webb and Sir Ernest George were then commissioned to design individual

houses. While the octagons create a classical formality, the landscaping provides a balancing informality. Within the 225 acres are cricket, rugby, football pitches and a fishing lake. There are two churches, a museum, a village hall, a shop and a Post Office, as well as a hospital for Villages. The homes cater for more than 350 people, who are looked after by more than 150 staff.

At lunchtime we met our erstwhile Godalming Almsmen, Bob Wardle and Barry Stephens. Their move to Whiteley Village had clearly been a great success and they were enjoying the remarkable facilities that the Village provides. Barry, who is a fishing enthusiast, told us that the lake would now have to be restocked with fish! We were also able to visit Bob's home: it looked immaculate and he was very pleased with being able to tend a bit of garden.

All being well, Richard Wyatt's Trust will merge with Whiteley Village in order to create new homes in a larger scheme that is proposed within the 225 acres. It is also proposed that the names of Richard Wyatt and the Carpenters' Company will be remembered and recognized at Whiteley Village henceforth. We were able to stand on the site of the proposed scheme and it did look magnificent. The building work is some way off yet and there is much discussion still to take place. However, all Court Members could see that a link in the future with what is the largest single site of almshouses in the UK and with the economies of scale that this brings has to be a good way forward for the Richard Wyatt's Trust.

Carpenters Primary School



Two of the pupils from Year 6 who were presented with prizes in July by the Master Mike Felton

By the Deputy Master, Mike Felton:

The Concert and Prize-giving Ceremony for Year 6 is one of the highlights of the Master's Year. Last year's Master, Mr Mike Felton, accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. Ana Frappell, along with the Beadle, Mr. Colin Wilson, enjoyed a truly memorable day in July. Also present were School Governor and Past Master Mr. Martin Samuel and his wife Rosemary. The party was warmly welcomed by the Head Teacher, Miss Diane Barrick and Deputy Head, Ms Bronwen Hook, along with other members of staff. Ahead of the Concert, we were able to see the children in class and at play while learning of the considerable progress that is being made by all

children, particularly those in Year 6. It was soon time for lunch (in my case a delicious vegetable curry), after which the School put on an amazing performance of Aladdin to a packed house of parents, families and Governors. All the sets had been designed by the children who managed the scene changes themselves. So much work had gone into it, so our congratulations to all of the actors, especially Aladdin, and to the drama teacher Ms Charlotte Tucker. The Concert was followed by the Prize-giving Ceremony. The Master and his daughter Ana presented books as prizes to 60 children in Year 6, who had all done so well during the year.

Carpenters' Company Charities from 1700 (part two)

The Archivist Julie Tancell reports:

By 1700, as an organization of over three centuries' standing primarily founded to look after the needs of its members, the Carpenters' Company already had a long established tradition of charitable giving.

In comparison to the generosity of the seventeenth, the eighteenth century would provide fewer new charities, but would see a broadening of the Company's charitable giving. The first part of the century saw Company pensions and gifts of food and money distributed to poorer Company members much as usual, as for instance in January 1710 when the Court voted £30 to be given as 'extra on account of the dearness and scarcity of bread'. The Court had invariably voted about £20 for this purpose every quarter as an additional gift to the pensions paid to 100 poor members. In January 1722, £35 was voted for immediate distribution among the poor members and widows with (as was the usual practice) several members of the Court deputed to distribute the monies at the homes of the recipients, heading east, west and south of Carpenters' Hall. In 1734-5 pensions to the 100 poor members were increased by the Court to eight shillings. Wealthy members continued to leave money in particular for the poor of the Company, such as in 1736 when Samuel Burgin, the Master, and Colonel John Williams, the Middle Warden, gave £100 and £60 respectively for payments for the next 16 Freeman due to become pensioners. In effect this made 116 pensioners, noted by the Clerk Edward Jupp in 1848 to be 'a very large number for so limited a company'.

By the 1740s, charitable giving dipped, perhaps inevitably due to the Company's own straitened finances with the Hall largely let and income from members and its properties in decline. The Company attempted some savings, such as cutting the monthly Court dinners and Court day breakfasts, but still found itself obliged to cut charity payments and in 1743 it was decided to reduce Company pensions from 100 to 60 as the pensioners died. The axe fell on the charities left to the Company by deceased members in 1752, when a committee examined the accounts and the Court reduced spending from £80 to £20 a year in line with the actual income produced by the bequests.

Although reduced, pensions and gifts continued to be paid, along with grants for scholars and bequests left for the benefit of poor members. In his will of 1768, William Reynolds left £300 (three per cent South Sea annuities) in order to add to Company's list of pensioners nine poor Freeman of the Company and pay to each of them 20 shillings a year. As well as money payments, the charities of Wyatt, Day and Read all specified an annual dinner

to be given to poor widows and Freeman, a practice taken up by Liveryman William Robinson, who in 1764 gave £150 to provide a second dinner. He also provided money for two dinners for the Company's own 60 pensioners. None had previously had any Company dinners, and in 1766 he gave another £150 so that the pensioners could have two more dinners a year.

Although the Company was keeping a careful eye on its charitable spending, it was around this time that the Court began to consider funding charities beyond the usual pensions and gifts to members and the specific trusts left to their care, partly no doubt due to the increasing proliferation of charities in general at this time. Previously, any spending beyond these limits had been at the request of the Lord Mayor (a practice which the Company continues today with the Lord Mayor's Appeal). In 1752 they contributed five guineas to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and in 1757 they gave £100 to the Marine Society, in 1759 another £50 and several smaller sums on later dates. In 1764 10 guineas was donated to



The Company Almshouses at Twickenham, 1842. Only the ten central houses were built



Company Almsmen and Court members at Twickenham, about 1890

a fund raised at Babson's Coffee House for the 'poor Protestant Palatines lately come to this country' and in 1765, £20 was given for the sufferers of the 'dreadful fire at Rotherhithe', £40 on behalf of those in Barbados and a few years later in Antigua. 15 guineas was given in 1763 to the rebuilding of the Broad Street Ward Schools and in 1794 20 guineas to distressed weavers.

The nineteenth century was marked initially by similar levels of giving with pensions remaining static apart from the grant of £5 a year which William Higgins (Master in 1791) gave in 1803 to add to the general funds to support the poor of the Company. In 1819, Court member Robert Ashton presented a petition on their behalf, and a committee was formed and recommended quarterly pensions be raised from 12 to 16 shillings. The Company continued to practice economy with regards to its finances until the 1830s, particularly with the dilapidated Hall to upkeep. However, increasing commercial property development and railway building produced a capital windfall which enabled

the Company by the end of the century to have become a patron of technical education, build its own almshouses and reinvigorate the Hall estate.

The Company had been looking to establish almshouses for its own members for many years. The sale of Company lands in Bermondsey and Stratford in the early 1830s for the construction of new railways realized over £2000, which, augmented by a gift of £500 from Mrs. Hannah Acton (a relative of a Past Master, Nathaniel Wright), funded the project. In 1839 the Middle Warden, William Fuller Pocock, negotiated the purchase of eight acres of land in Twickenham and designed ten almshouses, completed in the winter of 1841, for 'decayed Liverymen or Freemen of the Company of the age of 55 years or upwards, or the widows of Liverymen or Freemen, of the age of 50 years or upwards'. Pensions were provided from a number of existing charities, but an appeal was launched in 1843 to raise additional funds, and in 1845 Mrs Charlotte Buhl, the widow of John Frederick Buhl (Master in 1817), left a further £500 for poor relief.

The houses survived World War Two with only minor damage, but in 1947 the Company was obliged to sell the site to Twickenham Borough Council. The Council undertook to re-house all the Almsmen and built a new block of flats in 1950 for the elderly on Hampton Road, known as Carpenters' Court.

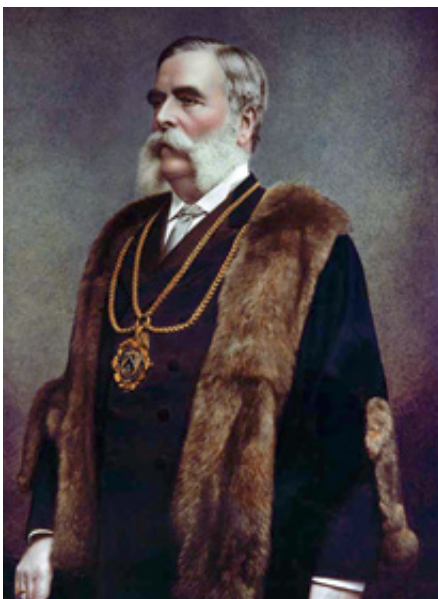
The late nineteenth century saw a significant change in the direction of the Company's charitable ambitions, partly driven by an influx of influential members (perhaps the most notable being Professor Banister Fletcher and his son Sir Banister) which gave fresh impetus to support for the Carpenters' craft. Besides the support given to establishing the City & Guilds Institute in 1878, amongst other innovations was the establishment of the Trades Training School near Regent Street in 1893, still existing today as the Building Crafts College in Stratford, East London. The School attracted a number of gifts and bequests for prizes, as it still does, such as the Alfred Preston Prize in 1927 and G. C. Barnes ▶ p18



The Trades Training School in Great Titchfield Street

prize in 1928, and also bursaries for supporting students such as £1000 in 1937 from the John Williamson Trust for student grants. Each of the Company's Liverymen today continues this tradition by annually donating £150 to the College. In 2001, the College relocated to Stratford, East London where the number of enrolments has risen twentyfold to nearly 1,000 and the College has developed close links with the local schools and community.

The Company's Stratford estate has also been a focus for charitable giving. Purchased by the Company in 1769, the land is now in the heart of East London, then, a tiny village in Essex. By 1900 the Company's land was divided between the residential estate of workers' cottages and industrial leases for factories. Encompassing both the needs of the residents and its aim to promote technical education, the Company funded a Technical Institute on the estate giving hundreds of local boys education in carpentry, plumbing, and related subjects between 1886 and 1905. In 1927,



Sir Henry Harben, founder of Rustington Convalescent Home

the Company opened a centre to provide social and recreational facilities for the residents, but after its closure during World War Two, the Company redirected its charitable giving towards the Carpenters' and Docklands Youth Centre. Although the residential estate was purchased by the local council in the 1960s this support continues to this day.

Another important focus for the Company was the bequest by Sir Henry Harben (Master in 1893) of Rustington Convalescent Home in 1911. Built by Sir Henry in 1897 on a nine acre site he purchased for the purpose for over £50,000, it was designed as a place for working men to convalesce after an illness or accident and become fully active again. He left the management of the Home on his death to the Carpenters' Company, although as with previous charities left to the Company's care, it was not always fully supported by the original endowment fund. Sir Henry's daughter, Mary Woodgate Wharrie, gave generously on several occasions enabling the Home to continue to provide convalescent care for both men and women into the twenty-first century.

One of the most important individual bequests of the twentieth century was made by Albert Evan Bernays, Master of the Carpenters' Company in 1941 and 1942. Long involved in education, he left the Company almost £35,000 in 1960 with no restrictions on its use. Part of his generous gift was used to fund an initiative for a UK/USA exchange scholarship for architects and builders from 1964 to 1997, jointly organized with the Carpenters' Company of the City and County of Philadelphia, and to provide two bursaries at King Edward's School,

Witley. The Company already supported scholars at the School, but the new bursaries of £300 each per year were specifically for the support of two children from Richmond or Surrey. The Company continues to support King Edward's School with two students currently receiving bursaries. The twentieth century also saw the establishment of bursaries for students at other schools, such as Christ's Hospital and the City of London Schools. Bursaries for students training in the building crafts, music and the arts also became a strong feature of the Company's charitable programme, with the Guildhall School of Music Osborne Award and Pysden Scholarships at the Building Crafts College both examples of gifts and bequests by members.



Alfred Evan Bernays

The Company today administers five charitable trusts, the Building Crafts College, Rustington Convalescent Home, the Carpenters' Company Charitable Trust, Wyatt's Almshouses and the Norton Folgate Trust. The numerous charities accumulated by the Company over the centuries have largely been amalgamated into the Charitable Trust and Norton Folgate Trust as the result of a major restructuring in the 1990s.

World War Two Roll of Honour

James Hamilton Martin RNVR

Lt. James Hamilton Martin RNVR was born in 1899, the son of Hugo Hamilton Martin and his wife Mary. Educated at Harrow, he was commissioned into the Grenadier Guards at the end of the First World War and after demobilization began work in the City, becoming a Liveryman of the Carpenters' Company by Redemption in 1925. He went to sea first as a seaman and then as a deck officer, joining the British Australian and New Zealand Antarctic Research Expedition under Sir Douglas Mawson in 1929-30 and 1930-1 on board the RRS Discovery, the ship previously used by Robert Falcon Scott. He became a member of the Royal Geographical Society in 1931 and in 1932 joined the crew of the Norwegian sealer Quest to learn about ice navigation, joining the Arctic expeditionary groups at Oxford and Cambridge on his return.

He joined the British Graham Land Expedition to Antarctica under the leadership of John Rymill between 1934 and 1937, on the Penola. Soon after the outbreak of war, he joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (RNVR). He served on HMS Willamette Valley (X 39), a special service vessel (SSV) with the cover name Edgehill, a decoy boat with concealed guns. Lt Martin died on 29 June 1940 when his ship was hit and sunk by torpedoes fired from U-boat 51; there were 24 survivors of the 39 crew.

His obituary in the Royal Geographical Society's journal records that his 'contribution to exploration came from his knowledge of the sea, and his career is without parallel in recent times... He was naturally modest... and quite unconscious of his own remarkable qualities.'

Geoffrey Ernest Robertson

Pilot Officer Geoffrey Ernest Robertson was born in 1917, the son of Arthur (Master of the Carpenters' Company in 1939) and Emily Robertson. He became a Freeman of the Carpenters' Company in December 1941. During World War Two he served with the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, 149 Squadron. The Squadron was re-formed in 1937 at RAF Mildenhall, Suffolk as a night-bomber unit and played a prominent part in the early offensive against Germany, Italy and enemy-occupied territory. Initially equipped with Heyford bi-plane bombers, then Vickers Wellingtons, the Squadron converted to Short Stirlings in November 1941.

In April 1942, the Squadron moved to RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk and on 20th August 1942 it was from here that five Stirlings set off on a 'gardening' mission. A night flight dropping mines at low-level into the sea, Operation Deodars was directed at the Gironde Estuary on the French Atlantic coast, Bordeaux being an important German and Italian submarine base. Although aged only 25, Pilot Officer Robertson and his crew (all under 26) had previously flown a number of missions including over the heavily defended industrial Ruhr in Germany.

Possibly some damage was sustained from anti-aircraft defences and the radio equipment may have been inoperative as the crew headed back home, but when they reached Dartmoor in the early hours of August 21st the Stirling crashed into the side of Gibb Hill in Luton, killing all seven airmen.

Ivor Watkins Birts



Lt. Col. Ivor Watkins Birts was born in 1910 in Kensington, the son of William Thomas Watkins Birts, Senior Warden of the Carpenters' Company in 1941 and his wife Lilian (nee Stephens). He became a Freeman and Liveryman of the Carpenters' Company in 1931. He took a BA at Merton College, Oxford, and qualified as a barrister, but later practiced as a stockbroker. He married Josephine Bain in 1934 and had two children, Carol and Douglas.

On the outbreak of war, he joined the Royal Artillery, serving at Larkhill, Salisbury Plain and South Eastern Command, Home Forces. He was promoted to Captain in 1941 and Major in 1942. He was posted to General Head Quarters in Cairo with MO4, the Middle East and Balkans branch of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) and subsequently in Eritrea. In November 1943, he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel as GSO 1 (General Staff Officer Rank 1) and served with Force 133. This was a subsidiary SOE headquarters in Bari, Southern Italy under Cairo set up to control operations in the Balkans and Northern Italy and support the Greek and Yugoslav resistance movements.

He died on active service on 17 April 1944 with other military personnel attached to SOE and MI6 on board a plane which exploded over the English Channel near Newquay, Cornwall.

AFFILIATIONS

HMS DARING

Update by Weapons Engineering Officer,
Lt. Commander Rachel Singleton, MBE RN:

The period alongside over the summer conducting defect rectification provided some welcome 'harmony time' and several opportunities to engage with our affiliations. In particular, we were able to send a large contingent of Ship's Company to the exquisite Carpenters' Hall for the Court Lunch in July, enjoyed by all. Another highlight was the rare opportunity to thank both Ship's Company and their long-suffering partners by holding a Summer Dinner Dance, which was sponsored very generously by the Carpenters' Company. In August we enjoyed the chance to re-pay the Carpenters' excellent hospitality by hosting an Affiliates' Capability Demonstration and Mess Dinner onboard.

The start of September marked a clear change in tempo as we approached our long-awaited return to sea. As the final preparations were made

to the Ship's material state, we embarked on a training programme of key exercises to rekindle the perishable skills of navigation, seamanship, firefighting and damage control. Well supported by additional training staff, we were put through our paces and embarked on a challenging programme of sea trials and training before sailing south for a long overdue visit to our affiliated Island of Guernsey. At anchor in the Little Russel, we opened the gangway to local dignitaries, press, commerce, schools and the general public, running demonstrations and tours and enjoying the chance to show off the Ship's impressive capabilities. We also enjoyed a number of sports fixtures including both football and rugby matches and nine members of the Ship's Company were joined by a local cycling club to ride 70 miles around the Island in commemoration of the 70 years since the Bailiwick's liberation, raising money for a local mental health charity, Headway Guernsey.



DARING at anchor in Guernsey, courtesy of Jon Le Ray Photography

After setting sail from Guernsey, we returned to Portsmouth in October for a short maintenance period. Beyond the clear engineering benefits, the main focus of this period was a visit by the Ship's Lady Sponsor, The Countess of Wessex, and her children, Lady Louise Windsor and James, Viscount Severn. The day had a clear family focus and the Ship's Company was able to bring partners and children onboard to have lunch and afternoon tea with the Countess and her family. We returned to sea in November for some sea trials to build up to a live firing of the Ship's main missile system before the end of the year, in preparation for an operational deployment in 2016.

Award for Excellence



Chief Petty Officer Andrew Morris (pictured here on board DARING) was presented with the HMS DARING Award for Excellence at the July Court Lunch

Affiliates' Day – Alongside at Portsmouth

The Senior Warden Alistair Gregory-Smith writes:

We began by boarding a small boat for a guided tour of the Harbour before embarking on DARING where we were greeted by the Commanding Officer, Commander Philip Dennis MBE RN, and some of his officers. The other Affiliates included the Worshipful Company of Pewterers, the Royal Dragoon Guards and No. 11 Squadron RAF. After changing into 'Black Tie' we joined a reception in the helicopter hangar, where the CO gave us a warm welcome and in his opening address set out the programme for the evening and an outline of DARING's busy schedule ahead. This includes a nine-month deployment in the Persian Gulf in 2016.

Next came a tour of the Ship, guided by Lt. Cdr. Rachel Singleton MBE RN, our Liaison Officer on DARING. We started by visiting the Bridge with

its array of screens, complex equipment and a 'ship's wheel' which resembles the steering wheel of an F1 car! Then onto the engineers' Control Centre

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(Left to right) Senior Warden Alistair Gregory-Smith, Liveryman David Woolley, Lt. Cdr. Rachel Singleton and Past Masters Michael May and Martin Samuel on board DARING in August

Affiliates' Day continued

followed by the Operations Room in the heart of the Ship for an anti-missile capability demonstration.

After the tour, we gathered in the hangar for drinks and made our way to the afterdeck for the formal sunset ceremony of lowering the flag, which was most impressive. We were then treated to an excellent dinner in the Wardroom, the food and wine

were delicious and we witnessed the Royal Navy custom of toasting the Queen and the Royal family whilst seated (historically to avoid hitting your head on low deck-heads). We then retired to the Wardroom Anteroom and the CO very kindly showed me to his cabin to see the Carpenters' Company's first gift to DARING, a magnificent table made by Liveryman Nick Gutfreund.

DARING is a remarkable Destroyer, and throughout our visit the officers and crew could not have been more welcoming and helpful, looking after us so well and taking great pride in showing us their magnificent ship. It was a great opportunity and privilege to visit DARING and we felt very proud of our affiliation with her and her crew.

4 RIFLES

Update by 2Lt. Pete Henriques:

We moved from Bulford to our new residence at New Normandy Barracks in Aldershot, at the same time as preparing for our imminent High Readiness Year.

A Company completed, live-firing tactical training exercise on Ash and Pirbright ranges, which saw Rifle Sections going through both day and night attacks. B Company ran two days of individual field craft and navigation skills, as well as an introduction to the complex art of sniping. In addition, B Company led a Junior NCOs' Development Course, which focused on teaching Lance Corporals the basics of tactical

planning and giving them a greater understanding of command. R Company took to the skies with the assistance of the RAF and ran several exercises involving helicopter-mounted insertions, assaults and vehicle check points. Embracing an Army-wide mantra to enhance night-fighting skills, R Company also embarked on an exercise at Corsham using the tunnels to conduct Company-level attacks under 'black light' (infra-red) only. The Junior Officers of the Battalion were also tested on a demanding Escape and Evasion exercise. This involved two days of rigorous problem-solving and planning under arduous conditions while attempting to evade capture by the



4 Rifles Cricket team win the Army Cup

Wiltshire Constabulary Police Dog unit on Salisbury Plain and surrounding areas.

As a Battalion, the main effort has been to develop and train in our new role as Mechanized Infantry. This was tested initially in early September on Exercise Swift Bugle on Salisbury Plain. Here each Company spent a week training on our Mastiff armoured vehicles to attack a variety of enemy positions, both urban and rural. A great deal was learnt by all and any lingering doubts about how the vehicles might perform outside the Afghan desert, for which they were originally designed, were put to bed. The Battalion as a whole was then tested over the course of a two-week long Command and Staff Tactical Training Exercise in Warminster. This saw all the vehicle crews operating in computer-based simulators with the Battalion HQ able to plan missions and control operations. Once again this proved a great success with the Battalion taking another step forward in its training competence.

While the practical application of the Battalion's new Mechanized Infantry role is vital, the conceptual side has certainly not been overlooked. To learn more about this, the key commanders conducted a battlefield tour to Normandy focused on Operation Bluecoat (1944). Supported by an academic from the Army Staff College, two excellent days were spent walking the battlefields and discussing the implications for modern-day warfare.

The Battalion's sporting calendar has also been busy. Several teams, including the boxing, football and

rugby teams have all achieved notable victories of late, but potentially the greatest credit should go to our cricket team. After a hard-fought match against the Royal Gurkha Rifles, they have earned themselves the title of Army Champions.

The Chosen Rifleman



At the Court Lunch in November Rifleman Ryan Layton-Smith (centre) was presented with the Chosen Rifleman award by the Master, accompanied Lt Col Carl Boswell (left)

RAF



Up-date by Flight Lieutenant Sarah Brown, IV(R) Squadron:

This year IV(R) Squadron has been taking steps to increase the number of students and the number of Qualified Flying Instructors on the Squadron.

Despite poor weather conditions, we have trained 49 students in total. Our recent graduates left IV(R) Squadron in November 2015 progressing to the Typhoon and

producing our first 'Creamie' (a person specifically selected from a student course to instruct future students before being posted to an operational squadron - i.e. the crème de la crème), who is returning to IV(R) Squadron as an Instructor. The most significant change has been the arrival of the new Officer Commanding, Wg Cdr Paul Mounsey. Having taken over, he successfully completed his Instructor Training in time to set off to Solenzara with the majority of the Squadron to take part in flying



Hawk TMK2 operating out of Solenzara

training overseas. In addition, in November four personnel deployed to Dubai in order to attend the Dubai Air show to showcase the capabilities of our Hawk aircraft.

RAF continued

The Squadron has continued to maintain its connections and support of the local community and charities. In August, we hosted our yearly visit by children and families from Ty Gobaith Children's Hospice in Conwy. The children thoroughly enjoyed seeing the aeroplanes and visiting the Squadron.

In addition, IV(R) Squadron hosted a 'Blue Skies Programme' whereby children from disadvantaged backgrounds visit the Squadron and its personnel. During their visits, they have the opportunity to see all aspects of the RAF and are given the opportunity to learn various skills. This has been a very rewarding programme for all personnel.



Ty Gobaith visit in August 2015

Champion Student Pilot Award



The Company's Champion Student Pilot award was presented to Flight Lieutenant Tom Hansford (right) by the Master in July, with Wing Commander Paul Mounsey pictured left

SPORT

Company Tennis

Liveryman Lawrence Mallinson writes:

The Carpenters' tennis evening at Hurlingham on 9th July started off as an almost entirely Barnes-Yallowley family affair. London Transport's workers having successfully brought the Underground to a standstill, only those arriving by car had made it on time. Sussex by car had proved to be much closer than Carpenters' Hall by all transportation options - many of which had been tried by the Master and Clerk as they battled their way across London to arrive just in time to provide very welcome half-time refreshments. The action as always was fierce, if not quite matching the quality on display just down the road



The Hurlingham Club hosted the Carpenters' Tennis 2015 evening

at Wimbledon. By a method fathomable only to those that understand the Carpenters' unique take on democracy, I was awarded the magnificent Hutchons Tennis Cup - inarguably the finest trophy I have ever won. I am looking forward to having it placed in front of me whenever I dine with the Company this year.



Lawrence Mallinson is presented with the Hutchons Cup by the Master Mike Felton

Inter-Livery Tennis

Liveryman Rupert Eveleigh reports:

Again, another fine day on 9th September at the Queens Club for the annual Inter-livery Tennis Competition organized by the Feltmakers' Company. The sun shone most of the time and the organization and tennis facilities were all to the normal high standards, although this may not have been the case with all of our tennis performances! The Carpenters put forward two teams: I partnered Freeman Caroline Wolstenholme and Liveryman Geoff Rhodes partnered Freeman Janie Binney. Both teams managed to sit 'mid

table' in their respective group stage matches and therefore progressed to the plate knock-out competition. To ensure a swift tournament, the knock-out matches were kept to a

very short, best of seven games. This enabled Carpenters One to proceed to the Quarter Finals by winning a couple of the early games before their opponents settled. On reviewing our

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(left to right) Geoff Rhodes, Janie Binney and Caroline Wolstenholme and Rupert Eveleigh at the Inter-livery tennis

Sport continued

performances, and though the Carpenters' Company was not represented in the final stages, we did nevertheless win more games than we lost, so a successful day. The final

was much closer than in recent years but again saw the Tallow Chandlers' bringing home the trophy. The Tournament was followed by an informal drink rather than the normal dinner

as the Queens Club is in the midst of extensive refurbishment works. It was however a thoroughly enjoyable finish to a good day of tennis.

Inter-livery Skiing Trophy



The new Company Skiing Trophy, commissioned by Liveryman Mark Horn from Matthew Whiteley, Maker-in-Residence at the Building Crafts College

Company and Other Web Sites

The new Carpenters' Company site was recently launched (www.thecarpenterscompany.co.uk) and we hope to have the Members' Area up and running by the New Year. All Liverymen and Freemen will receive instructions on how to access the Members' Area and will be offered the opportunity to opt-in to paperless communication in due course.

The Building Crafts College site was launched in August (www.thebcc.ac.uk). We hope to have launched the Rustington Convalescent Home's web site (www.rustcon.co.uk) by Christmas.

Calendar

2016

March	
11th	United Guilds Service
15th	Livery Spring Dinner

April	
5th	Company Craft Lecture on the Great Fire of London in 1666
7th	The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch, Guildhall
21st	Company Golf, Woodcote Park, Surrey
22nd	Company Clay Pigeon Shoot, West London Shooting School, Uxbridge

May	
12-13th	Company Visit to The Hague
19th	Inter-livery Golf, Walton Heath, Surrey

June	
8th	Court Summer Dinner
24th	Election of Sheriffs, Guildhall

July	
7th-9th	Building Crafts College End-of-Year Show in Hall
13th	Company Tennis, Hurlingham
14th	Court Visit to Rustington Convalescent Home
19th	General Court of the Livery and Election Court

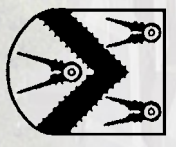
August	
2nd	Installation Court

September	
29th	Election of The Lord Mayor

October	
4th	Livery and Freemen's Reception
19th	Livery Wine-tasting

November	
12th	The Lord Mayor's Show
16th	Livery Dinner
22nd	Wood Awards Ceremony in Hall
24th	Building Crafts College Prize Giving in Hall

December	
5th	Carpenters Primary School Christmas Party in Hall



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Planning permission gained for
our proposed development at
Rusington Convalescent Home