



Carpenters' Company team at the Inter-Livery Ski-ing in January (left to right: Jane Evelegh, Frances Galbraith, Ben Brading & Mark Horn)

Message from the Master

Michael Neal reports:

The New Year brought news that our Carpenters' Ski Team had excelled at the Inter-Livery Ski Competition in Morzine. The individual time scores were a credit to the team, particularly as there were some professional skiers amongst the competition. The presentation by the Carpenters' Company of the "Wooden Skis" trophy, for more sedate skiers, which had been commissioned by Liveryman Mark Horn and made by Matthew Whiteley at the Building Crafts College, provided

much amusement at the results ceremony. New Liverymen often say to me that they would like to have more opportunity to meet other Liverymen: our bridge, clay pigeon, golf, skiing and tennis events are an excellent method of fostering fellowship. No expertise in those pastimes or sports is necessary and I urge you to join in and to participate in our annual Company visit which is always great fun. This year 64 of us visited The Hague in the Netherlands, as reflected in the photographs on pages 26 and 27.

Being a "bricks and mortar" man, I have always taken an interest in the Company's property assets. Whilst there has been change at both Godalming and Rustington, the Company's core Throgmorton Estate sits within the orbit of Liverpool Street's Crossrail station. The changes that this north eastern section of the City will see as a result of increased footfall will be game changing and very good news for the Company in the future. At Stratford, access to the new Crossrail station is still being planned and we are keeping our



Three generations of the Neal family (left-right) Liveryman Harry Neal, Master Michael Neal and Past Master Morton Neal

fingers crossed that the Carpenters Estate will be linked to one of the station entrances. Again this is good news for the future of our property assets there.

I have recently handed over as our representative on the Council of the City & Guilds London Institute. I have held this position for the last ten years and have found it fascinating to learn about government policy regarding further education. Liveryman Mark Horn has replaced me on the Council and I wish him luck in this important role. The Carpenters' Company was one of 16 Livery Companies that founded City & Guilds in 1878 at a time when the country was increasingly conscious of the need to promote vocational skills. Never has the skills debate been more critical than it is now. Our Building Crafts College is delivering vocational training to 650 students in a

diverse range of construction skills and I have been particularly pleased that the practical construction courses being run at our Gibbins Road site are attracting the attention of major construction companies and infrastructure projects, such as Crossrail.

I have enjoyed visiting the schools with which we have historic connections and where we have several selected students with bursaries. My wife, Sophie, and I have just returned from Speech Day at Christ's Hospital and as with all the other schools that I have visited, you cannot help but be impressed by the capital investment in current and future building. Our students are all enormously grateful for our support.

The Master's role is also to represent the Company at events held by the other Livery Companies. I have done my best to

attend as many of these as possible. I have found it gratifying to discover the high regard in which our Company is held by other construction-related Companies. Sophie has recently led a group of more than 40 Masters' Consorts on a tour of the BCC followed by lunch at the Hall. Thank you letters were effusive in their praise for our efforts to promote timber, stone and other employable skills.

In February, I attended the funeral of Liveryman Peter Hart. Many of you will remember him as a courteous and enthusiastic man who clearly had great breadth of experience in many walks of life. I did not know at the time of the funeral that Peter had left the Carpenters' Company the sum of £100,000 to be used to finance a specific project. We shall discuss this at the General Court of the Livery on 19th July and I look forward to receiving your suggestions concerning the use of this wonderful legacy.

One of the most poignant moments of my year as Master was admitting my son, Harry, to the Livery in the presence of my father, Past Master Morton Neal and the Court. Patrimony is no longer a means of admittance to our Livery but I am glad that family connections remain so strong. In the photo on this page we are posing under the Coade stone Carpenters' arms in the entrance hall, which my father rescued from a builder's skip during his year as Master in 1997.

It remains for me to thank the Clerk and his team for all their invaluable support and help during the last year. It has been a privilege to represent you as Master and I will look back on my year with fond memories.

Obituaries



Liveryman Peter Dorney Hart (born 24th June 1925, died 21st December 2015)

[The Clerk reports:](#)

I regret to report that Liveryman Peter Hart died on 21st December 2015. He was 90 years old and had been a Liveryman for more than 30 years. An obituary describing his life is given below.

In his Will Peter left £100,000 to the Carpenters' Company, with the instruction that "the sum is not to be used for general purposes but shall be applied at your sole and absolute discretion to finance a specific project".

Naturally the Court intends to follow Peter's instruction in a meaningful and enduring fashion and now seeks your ideas concerning an appropriate specific project. If you have any ideas please send them to me at the Hall during the coming months. Ideally we will have identified a suitable method of marking Peter's generous bequest by this time next year.

Peter Hart, who has died aged 90, was an eminent quantity surveyor, having joined the firm of G.D. Walford & Partners in 1950 as a trainee surveyor, rising to become senior partner in 1982. He finally

retired from the practice (by then known simply as Walfords) in 1991, having spent his entire career with the same firm in St. James's Street.

Peter was born in Kensington and spent his childhood in Croydon. He was educated at Dulwich College where, by his own admission, he was "a duffer at all ball games". His professional training at Regent Street Polytechnic was interrupted by military service in the Royal Engineers from 1943-48, where he reached the rank of Captain. Having resumed his studies, Peter qualified as a Chartered Surveyor (ARICS) in 1953, advancing to Fellow in 1965, and was subsequently elected President of the Quantity Surveyors' Division of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in 1989-90. This was among several other important honorary posts, both within and outside his profession, which he held over many years.

As well as being a Liveryman of the Carpenters' Company, Peter was also a founder member of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Surveyors. His extra-mural interests included beagling with the Surrey & North Sussex Beagles, archaeology, family history and gardening.

Peter married Paulette (née Pearmain) in 1958, and they lived happily until her death in 2005. There were no children of the marriage. Peter will be remembered as a true gentleman, upright and punctilious, and an honourable man in every way.

By Barry Woodman, friend, Past Master of the Masons' Company and fellow founding Liveryman of the Chartered Surveyors' Company

BUILDING CRAFTS COLLEGE

The Principal & Freeman Len Conway, reports:

After much change and the development of new areas of work, 2016 has seen the College delivering a cohesive range of courses divided into distinct areas of provision:

- Wood Occupations headed by the Chief Instructor Jim O'Brien
- Construction headed by Nigel Gilkison
- Site Management courses headed by John Appleton and Francis Williams
- Conservation headed by Bruce Induni

These courses are supported, cross-college, by our Maths and English tutors led by Frances Hill and all areas are producing student success rates of between 80-90% each year.

Whilst realizing the benefits of having distinct areas of work it is vitally important that the College works together. It is our aim that all students benefit from the range of skills and knowledge being delivered and that there is an interchange of information between departments so that students can share their experiences and learning. On one level this is achieved by participation in college-wide events such as prize-giving and the End of Year show. Collaboration and competitiveness are engendered by such events. This is not as easy as it sounds. Every course has a demanding syllabus so that staff and

students may feel that there is little time to move out of their usual working environment to engage with others. However it is important that differing areas of work are brought together in order to share experiences and take a wider view. Some of the ways we will do this over the coming year will include:

- Study visits that will bring together differing groups during a visit or trip, such as the annual visit to the Weald and Downland Museum.
- Bringing various groups together to listen to the range of excellent visiting speakers who come into the College throughout the year.
- Practical projects that bring together students from different disciplines so they can contribute as part of a team.
- Group activities such as enrichment programmes and sporting activities.
- Continuing our involvement with the construction industry so that students gain a wider understanding of the skills deployed on a project or a site.

Visitors regularly comment on the positive, respectful and busy atmosphere they witness in the College and it is hoped that the increase in cooperative activities, involving as many as possible of the 650 students we expect to enrol next academic year, will add to this sense of mutual awareness and respect throughout the Building Crafts College.

A View of the Other Site

Shortly after moving to its present site in 2001 the Building Crafts College began to increase its student numbers. By 2010, this growth had reached such a level that we could no longer accommodate all of our courses at the Kennard Road Centre on the Carpenters Estate in Stratford. It was great news when the Carpenters' Company suggested that we might be able to use a commercial building that had hitherto been rented by a company selling beds, located in Gibbins Road a short distance

from the main site. Funds for the development of the new centre were restricted so only about 50% of the space was brought into use at first.

Far from spending life as a lesser outpost of the College, the staff at the centre, led by Mick Hedgeland, established a unique space in delivering courses in larger-scale construction disciplines. They not only created a realistic and flexible working environment but over the next three years they also

brought into use the rest of the area. As a result, the centre was transformed into flexible classrooms, computer suites, catering facilities and offices with the great majority of the work being carried out by the staff and students themselves. Courses there now include Site Carpentry, Maintenance Operations, Construction Operations, Concrete Formwork and pre-employment training for both adults and 16-18 year olds. This year almost 200 students will have studied at the Centre.



The Gibbins Road Team left to right: Mick Hedgeland (Centre Coordinator), Darren Oliver (Construction Operations), James Bryan (Construction), Andrew Stirrup (Site Carpentry), Steve Hendel (Multi-crafts)

During inspections, external examiner visits and feedback from visitors, a similar theme repeats itself concerning the flexibility of the College and its excellent

atmosphere, both in the way our students apply themselves to their work and in relationships between students and staff. Our Gibbins Road Centre epitomises

these traits and is a great tribute to the work of Mick Hedgeland and the team.

The Master's Lady's Visit

On 5th May, more than 40 Consorts of Livery Company Masters visited the College at the invitation of the Carpenters' Master's Lady, Mrs Sophie Neal. The visit consisted of a presentation about the College given by the Principal and a tour of the Kennard Road Centre. Students from our Fine Woodwork programme set up a special display of their work and other learners from the 14-16 year old group, and students of stonemasonry and joinery explained their projects to the visitors. This is now an annual and popular event for the College.



Livery Company Masters' Consorts during their visit to the Building Crafts College in May

Study Trips ‘Learn by Doing - Learn by Seeing’

Whilst much practice and learning takes place in the College itself, we also recognise that high quality tuition must be supplemented by allowing students to see buildings and working processes elsewhere. To do this, the College organises a range of study visits and trips. Students have participated in over 40 visits and study trips so far this year, ranging from site visits to live construction projects, such as the International Quarter development on the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park; visits to construction-based manufacturers such as Taylor Made Joinery in Ipswich; a coach trip to the Weald and Downland Museum; visits to Cathedrals such as Canterbury (where students are shown around the maintenance works by BCC graduates now employed there); visits by our furniture-making students to makers’ workshops; and international study trips, such as that to Hamburg for joinery apprentices and the trip to Budapest by our degree students which they organised themselves. Trips are generously supported by the Carpenters’ Company and other friends of the College, such as the Cass Foundation and the Masons’ Company.



Conservation degree students visit the Venice Arsenale



Stonemasonry and Conservation students atop the Tower at Canterbury Cathedral

Hamburg Study trip in May for Wood Occupation students (left to right) Michael Stirrup, Hans Burwieck, Luke Martin, Wolfgang Bierkarre, Frances Hill, Kristian Barlow, David Young, Sonke Burwieck, William Cole, Dominic Mitchell-Bennett, Jamie Churchman and David Pearham



Wood Awards 2016

Written by Project Manager, Freeman Francesca Gregson

The Wood Awards: Excellence in British Architecture & Product Design has now closed its entries for 2016. We have enjoyed another successful year with more than 330 entries, (approximately 160 buildings and 170 furniture pieces) which is a record number of entries. Liveryman Michael Morrison of Purcell and Max Fraser of Spotlight Press return as Chairmen of the Buildings and Furniture & Product Judging Panels respectively. New to the Furniture

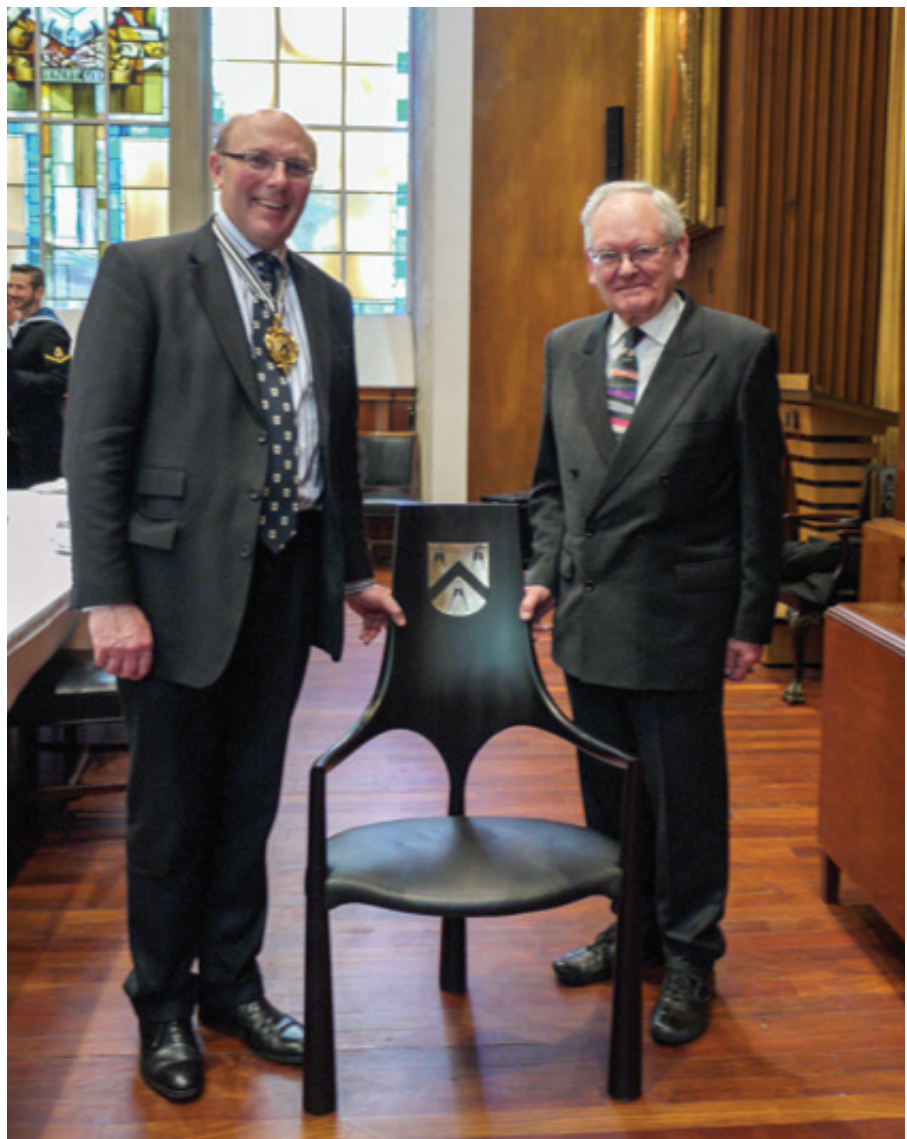
& Product Judging Panel is Ruth Aram, who heads up buying for the renowned Aram Store, based in Covent Garden. The winners will be announced at the Wood Awards Ceremony at the Hall on 22nd November but before this the shortlisted furniture projects will be on display during the London Design Festival. The details of all previous winners from 2003 onwards can now be found on the new digital archive on the Wood Awards website. For further information visit www.woodawards.com.

Chair for The Master of the Carpenters' Company

by John Makepeace

Some time ago, the current Master and I met at Hillier's Arboretum on an International Dendrology Society visit. The Master mentioned that the Carpenters' Company intended to commission a new Master's Chair for the Dining Hall. This led to the brief suggesting a chair that would elegantly express the history, values and purpose of the Company in the twenty-first century.

I responded with three design proposals. One referred to the construction by the King's Carpenter of the magnificent gold tents for the Field of Cloth of Gold in 1520. Another alluded to the light-weight timber buildings pioneered by Frei Otto and Sir Ted Happold. The third, more organic and sculptural in form, combined traditional and new technologies. Originally designed to have a black lacquer finish with the shield in white gold, it transpired that the Company had access to some 5,000 year-old bog oak, ideal for the project. The Craft Committee and Court selected the third option, shown below, and it was delivered to the Hall in May.



The Master Michael Neal (left) with John Makepeace and the new Master's Chair

A new table for the Drapers' Company

by Liveryman Nick Gutfreund

Making a piece of furniture for anyone is always an adventure; to be invited to make a piece for one of our neighbouring Livery Companies is a privilege as well. The Drapers' Company wanted to commission a piece of furniture; the first time they have done so in recent history, to help mark their 650th anniversary. The commission was for a table and set of 18 chairs for their Wardens' Room, which looks out over their garden. I approached the design as I do with all my commissions; to find ways to inextricably link the piece to the client. The table has a black walnut burr quarter matched veneer top, with a marquetry Drapers' crest in the centre and a ripple sycamore edge banding with a twisted "thread" detail. Traditional drapers' measurements have been woven into this edge banding detail; each complete twist is a nail in length (2 ¼ inches) and there



Drapers' Table and Chairs

are 20 twists that make up the banding across each end of the main table (there are 20 nails in a drapers' ell, which is a traditional measurement for the width of a roll of cloth). The table top lipping, with hand carved scroll ends to symbolise rolls of cloth, is solid black walnut. The legs

are also in solid black walnut and have been layered and shaped to symbolise drapes. Many of these details flow through into the design of the accompanying 18 black walnut chairs, which have the notable addition of the blue leather seats and back splats with blind embossed Drapers' ram.

The Prince's Foundation for the Building Craft Apprenticeship

by Lily Marsh, Building Crafts College Student of the Year 2014-15

In July last year I started an eight-month Building Crafts Apprenticeship (BCA) at The Prince's Foundation as a stonemason. From the start of my earlier training with the Building Crafts College, my ambition was to graduate to this intense training programme, which offered the opportunity to travel and work across the UK, and the chance to progress my skills and knowledge and bolster the career change I had made by gaining an NVQ Level 3 in Heritage Stonemasonry. Throughout the eight months, I felt privileged to be part of the scheme: from the three-week summer school, where we had life drawing classes, city drawing lessons, inspiring lectures and fun geometry classes (we built a yurt...) to the live build, where I was allowed to design



Lily on site

and carve a Green Man for the front façade of the building - the whole experience was incredible.

My four hands-on placements during the eight months were invaluable. The first was with Laing Traditional Masonry, working in the centre of Inverness to repair the City's Townhouse, up a very high scaffold from which I could see the highlands and snow-capped peaks. The second was with Cliveden Conservation, working to repair the gardener's house at Windsor Castle. The third was at Gloucester Cathedral, where I carved and repaired a weathering buttress on the south side of the Lady Chapel; and the last was at Woodchester Mansion

where we worked to repair and fix a buttress. The placements were a unique and vital opportunity to be part of the team, and experience real life on a working site. I had time to be curious, ask questions and learn about the different techniques used by skilled crafts people. The Prince's Foundation Apprenticeship has been a great grounding enabling my move into employment as a stonemason. It has enabled me to start developing my own informed approach and ways of working, which will continue as I gain experience.

Joint Fellowship – Winston Churchill Memorial Trust and the Carpenters' Company

An article based on a Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship project titled 'Japanese Wood Craftsmanship' by furniture designer and maker Hugh Miller. Funding for this study was provided jointly by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust and the Carpenters' Company.

The Use of Water as a Tool in Japanese Woodworking

Furniture making and wood craftsmanship in the UK seem to be at a crossroads. Although we have a rich and enviable woodworking tradition, it can sometimes feel as if the introduction of processes such as Computer Numerical Control milling, laser cutting and mass production techniques are distancing the craftsman or woman from his or her material. This results in a loss of integrity and authenticity - what might be called an absence of the maker's 'fingerprints' on the finished work.

Japan can feel like an antidote to such frustrations. From their unique set of tools, to the many obscure techniques that have been developed, to the philosophies that guide decision making, there is something special about wood craftsmanship in Japan.

A 'tool' used with surprising frequency in Japanese woodworking is water and moisture whereas in Western



Urushi-lacquered dish

woodworking, water is usually considered an enemy - something to be expunged, avoided and guarded against.

Wood can be imagined as a bundle of tubes running lengthways up the trunk. These tubes contain a lot of water, equating to a huge percentage of the weight of a newly felled tree. For internal use, this moisture must be removed in order to obtain strong, stable timber,

and this is done in a carefully controlled way through air or kiln drying. However, the tubes in the wood never lose their ability to reabsorb moisture. Dry timber, if left in wet conditions, will take on moisture until it is at equilibrium with the surrounding environment. In the case of furniture, this could mean cracks developing, glue lines breaking and joints working loose - all things to be avoided. For this reason, woodworkers generally

try to avoid their work being exposed to water.

In Japanese workshops, water plays a much more harmonious role. Many woodworkers in Japan make small items as a matter of course, providing as a low-priced introduction to the style and quality of a maker’s work, and they are often made from the off-cuts of larger projects. One such item is a serving dish made by Sugawara Hiroyuki. The oval shaped piece of timber is soaked in water for three days until saturated. The timber is then put in a standard microwave for three minutes. This turns the water to steam, and makes the timber very pliable. It is then put into a former which holds the piece in a shallow curve. When the timber is dry, the shape is fixed. This simple process belies a huge amount of experience and experimentation by Sugawara. The thickness of the timber, the soaking time and water temperature, the time in the microwave and the power setting used, and the amount of bend obtainable and time given for drying are all finely balanced. Too thick - and the timber cracks; too short a time in the former - the timber springs back. These metrics are all but hidden in the final item - a delightful urushi-lacquered dish.

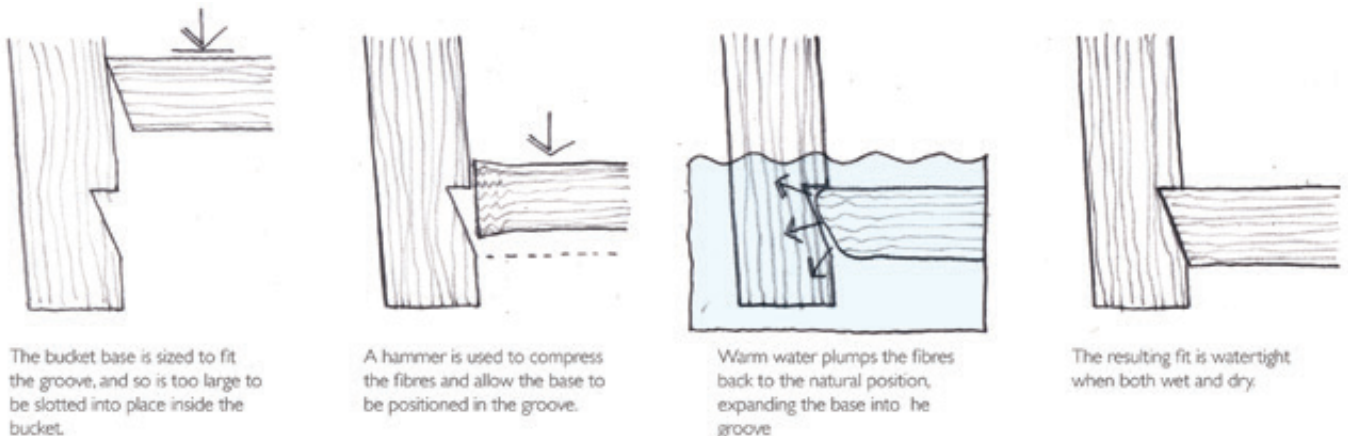


Nakagawa Shuji’s cedar buckets

A more everyday use of water is in the planing of difficult grain. It is always desirable to plane in the direction that the grain is lying so as to avoid tear-out, in a similar way to stroking a cat in the direction its fur grows. But what if the grain is lying in different directions within a single piece of timber? This common problem has many remedies - closing up the mouth of the plane and using a chip breaker; using a thicker, sharper blade; and skewing the blade to artificially lower the cutting angle. A beautifully simple and quick technique practiced by master woodworker, Izaki Masaharu, is to spray the surface of the timber with water and leave it to soak in for a few minutes. This plumps up the wood fibres

on the surface, and makes them easier to slice, in a similar way that it is easier to cut hair when it is wet. A disadvantage to this method, aside from adding moisture to the dry timber, might be that it would rust the steel bodies of Western planes. Japanese planes have wooden bodies and so do not suffer from this problem. However, by dusting the Western metal plane after use with an oil-soaked wad of leather, the issue of rust can be mitigated.

The use of water as a tool in Japanese woodwork illustrates the depth of knowledge craftspeople there have for their material. Furthermore the maker’s fingerprints are retained on the finished work.



More information about Hugh Miller’s work and study can be found at www.hughmillerfurniture.co.uk.

Royal School of Military Engineering

Lance Corporal Edward Graham (centre) was presented with the 2016 Premier Carpenter Award at the Court Lunch in February by the Master Michael Neal (left) accompanied by Major Tim Gilbert



Annual Craft Lecture

This year's Lecture was delivered by Dr Anya Matthews on the 5th April on the pertinent subject of the rebuilding of the City's Livery Halls after the Great Fire of London. The event was co-hosted by the Worshipful Company of Architects and proved of great interest in the 350th anniversary year of the Fire.



(Left-right) The Master Michael Neal, Dr Anya Matthews and the Master of the Worshipful Company of Architects Peter Murray are pictured here

City & Guilds Carpenters' Company Prize

Luke Wood of the Building Crafts College received the Carpenters' Company Prize from HRH, The Princess Royal, President of the City & Guilds of London Institute at the Institute's Annual Prince Philip Medal Ceremony at Buckingham Palace on 8th June.

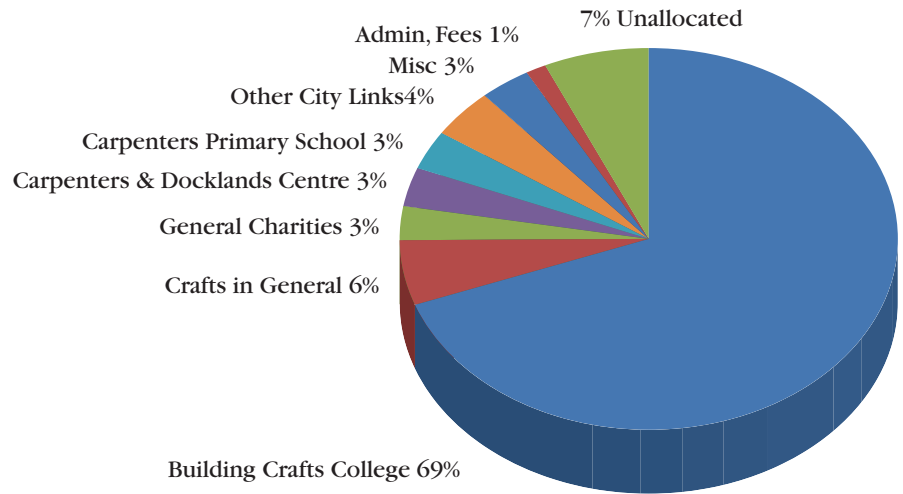


CHARITIES AND GRANTS

The Craft and Charities Administrator Vivienne Pocock reports:

The Carpenters' Company Charitable Trust (CCCT)

The Building Crafts College is the principal beneficiary of the CCCT (see chart below). Funds are allocated to help offset the College's running costs. Other charities supported by the Trust include the Lord Mayor's Appeal, the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund, St Paul's Cathedral, and The Soldiers' Charity (through The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch). We also channel funds to craft organisations such as our partnerships with the William Morris Craft Fellowship Scheme, The Zibby Garnett Travel Fellowship and the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust (see separate articles by Hugh Miller and by Lily Marsh). In addition,



we are supporting a new charity this year, The Creative Dimension, which is running five workshops in London in August. These workshops will offer 14-18 year old makers courses in Gilding

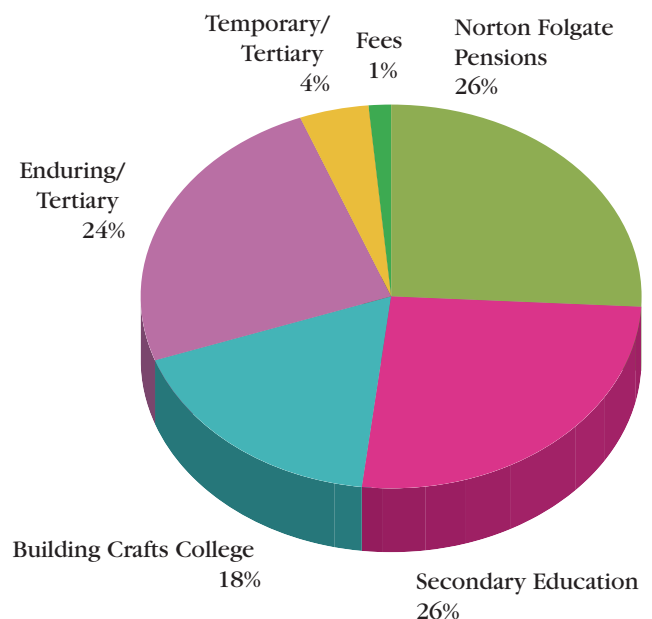
and Marquetry, Hand Engraving, Mural Painting, Stone-working and Woodworking (the latter two skills being taught at our Building Crafts College in Stratford).

Norton Folgate Trust

The NFT provides support to individuals, many of whom are engaged in education or craft training (see chart below). Our biggest commitment is to our students at the Building Crafts College but they also receive grants from other sources, such as the bursaries provided by the generosity of our Liverymen, as well as awards from the Pysden and Stuckey Bequests and the Cass Foundation. In addition, a substantial proportion of available funds are allocated from the NFT to our scholars at several schools related to the City of London, students at Oxbridge and Imperial College and to a few undergraduates at other universities.

Petersfield. Two of these Building Crafts College alumni (Paulo de Vasconcelos and Danny Humphreys) are now full-time employees at the Workshop. Lastly we sponsor an apprenticeship

at The Prince's Foundation on its Building Crafts Apprentices course. This programme employed four students this year from the Building Crafts College.



We continue to sponsor a graduate from the Building Crafts College as an apprentice at the Edward Barnsley Workshop in

Rustington Convalescent Home



A Report by Past Master Peter Povey, Chairman of the Home Committee of Management

In 2015 the Company obtained planning consent from Arun District Council to build 26 new dwellings on land no longer required for Home use, together with listed building consent to re-use the Laundry Building, to re-use both the Cook's House and Carpenters' House, and to provide a first floor extension to the Home itself to create four patient rooms with improved disabled access. Discussions are continuing with Council's officers on aspects of these consents, and no decision has been made yet as to when development will take place. Nonetheless, it seems appropriate at this time to outline elements of the Company's stewardship of the Home.

Members of the Livery will know that Rustington was purpose-built as a Convalescent Home for "working men and others" in 1897, at the behest of Sir Henry Harben, then Deputy Chairman and later President of the Prudential Assurance Company, and Master of the Carpenters' Company in 1893. At Harben's death in 1911, the Carpenters' Company assumed Trusteeship of the Home, now a Grade II Listed Building, with a generous endowment

from Sir Henry, and later from his daughter Mrs. Mary Wharrie. It is these endowments which have allowed the Home to continue to provide convalescent care in attractive surroundings by the sea, some 119 years after the Home's foundation.

There is a common misconception that entry to the Home is restricted to carpenters, or indeed only to members of the Carpenters' Company. Unequivocally, Rustington Convalescent Home is open to all, and over half the cost for each admission is borne by the Trust from the income from prudent investments derived from the Harben and Wharrie bequests. However, over time the present level of subsidy may be hard to sustain, and, if and when the site developments progress, additional income produced will help safeguard the continued operation of the Home. The Master and Wardens and Court of Assistants of our Company govern the Home, but supervision is delegated to a Committee of Management and to the Clerk as Secretary of the Home. Day-to-day management rests with the Home Manager, Freeman Julia Haynes. The Committee meets three times a year or as necessary, and reports to the Court after each meeting, making any necessary recommendation for action to the Court as Trustee. The current registration authority for the

► p14

Home is the Care Quality Commission (CQC), the regulator of health and social care in England.

The regulator carries out periodic inspections, mostly unannounced. CQC Inspections were carried out in October 2013 and September 2014, and it is anticipated that Inspectors will visit again not later than October 2016. At these unannounced visits, the Inspectors found that the Home amply met the Commission's five assessed criteria. The full 2013 and 2014 Reports can be viewed on-line on the Commission's Website <http://www.cqc.org.uk/>. Whilst CQC inspections are infrequent, members of the Management Committee visit the Home on rota every month. They each inspect the facilities of the Home, sample the food, and spend time obtaining the opinions of residents, visitors and staff on the workings of the Home.

After each monthly visit, the individual Committee member sends a report to the Home Manager and any issues arising are dealt with. These visits form part of the regulatory process, and this continuous evaluation of the service drives improvement. Residents are particularly complimentary about the staff and the food, but one perennial subject raised by residents and staff has been the difficulty of opening and closing the sash windows especially in the bedrooms. The Court has now agreed a major repair and replacement programme over the summer to deal with this problem, in addition to a rolling

re-painting and re-pointing programme for the facades of the building. The Committee is fortunate to have the valued assistance of Past Master William Haynes, a member of the Committee, who advises on maintenance and improvement works, and carries out twice-yearly Health & Safety Inspections. During the past year, Liveryman James Preston, a co-opted member of the Committee, has carried out an asbestos audit, and his recommendations have been implemented to ensure compliance with current legislation. The local authority environmental health department also regularly inspects food preparation and the Home continues to hold the top Five Star Food Hygiene Rating.

The staff of the Home is its most significant asset. Many have served for a considerable number of years, and staff turnover is low. In some care facilities, this can lead to inertia, but under the direction of the Home Manager, there is an extensive programme of on-going training and review, with staff improving qualifications, keeping abreast of current best practice, and updating care and safety procedures as required.

The Home has 28 en-suite bedrooms, many with a sea view, for people requiring convalescence and respite care. Three bedrooms are available for relatives to stay with family members. Weekly fees are modest - currently £675 for a total care package and full board for the majority of residents,





and £850 for higher dependency residents – a lower cost than at many seaside bed and breakfast establishments. Occupancy is variable month on month, but over the past two years, the average occupancy has been of the order of 73%, so there is capacity for more people to be admitted, and the Home would welcome that. The admission procedure is straightforward, and is initiated by an internet or telephone enquiry, though a consultant or general practitioner report is required before a bed can be confirmed. Many residents return time

after time for convalescence or respite care, because they find the Home meets their needs admirably. Over half of the admissions are because of personal recommendations from former residents, though the staff make considerable efforts to encourage more referrals by health and social care professionals, and varieties of external advertising have been explored.

I urge members of the Livery to play a part in marketing the Home by publicising its benefits to family, friends and colleagues, stressing that it is open to all; that it is incredibly cost-effective because of the support from the endowment; but above all, as the Care Quality Commission Reports confirm, that Rustington Convalescent Home offers a friendly, safe, secure, and high quality service for people in relevant need. You can learn more about the Home from the new web site www.rustcon.co.uk/. I commend this web site, as it details the facilities, activities, admission arrangements, and history of our Company's Convalescent Home, with a most useful Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section.

Rustington Convalescent Home

01903 783368 Booking Enquiries

Home About Us Facilities Activities Our History FAQs Fees What Our Patients Say Contact Us

Top Quality Nursing Care

Your nursing needs will be met by professionally qualified nursing staff – 24 hours a day if required – and a local doctor is on call day and night.

You are also welcome to take part in our programme of social events and activities as part of your recovery and recuperation.

Welcome to Rustington Convalescent Home

Rustington Convalescent Home provides high quality care for adults of all ages and from all walks of life. During your stay with us you will benefit from a combination of sea air, tranquil surroundings, professionally qualified nursing care, and excellent food freshly prepared every day by our own chef. We aim to get you back on your feet as quickly as possible after an operation, accident, or illness. We also provide peace of mind respite care in a friendly and supportive environment. We look forward to meeting you – and you can look forward to enjoying life to the full again!

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Richard Wyatt's Almshouses

[An update by the Clerk](#)

I am pleased to report that the Trust completed the sale of the property assets of Richard Wyatt's Trust on 18th April for £1,550,000. This figure exceeded the estimate suggested by an expert local surveyor 18 months previously. The purchaser was a developer named Nationalcorp and we believe that they intend to adapt the almshouses for the residential market.

We are now in the process of applying to the Charity Commission for permission to merge the Trust into Whiteley Homes Trust near Walton-on-Thames.

Children from Carpenters school enjoying a climbing wall over an Easter break programme organised by the Centre

Carpenters & Docklands Centre



Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch



The Company and guests including member of 4 RIFLES assembled at the Guildhall on 7th April for the Lord Mayor's annual Curry Lunch

London Youth Rowing

The Carpenters' Company is a founder member of London Youth Rowing. Liveryman Ben Brading recently attended the National Junior Indoor Rowing Championships (NJIRC) as our representative to LYR.

London Youth Rowing's work ensures that nobody is excluded from the obvious benefits of rowing. Now in its tenth year, the NJIRC offers an accessible national event for young athletes to represent their school or club in competition at national level. Over 2000 competitors attended to claim or defend their records. Of these, 100 had some form of disability, 50 percent came from a minority ethnic background, and 52 percent were female. Every known barrier to entry is removed through subsidised entry fees, transport support and travel assistance, and fully adapted equipment being made

available for those with disabilities. London Youth Rowing targets entries from clubs and schools which do not typically offer rowing.

Everyone - competitors and volunteers alike - greatly enjoyed a day which offered benefits beyond the competition itself by teaching the young people some great values and life lessons such as determination, commitment, hard work and teamwork, helping those from disadvantaged backgrounds to move up in the world. If they are good enough they may, as one very talented young man last year found out, win a scholarship to an American university - a life-changing event.



The Championships at the Lee Valley Athletics Centre

Educational Bursaries

Holly Marie Bingham

(Graduate of The Guildhall School of Music & Drama & recipient of The Henry Osborne Award)



In costume for Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg

I am already halfway through my contract with Glyndebourne Festival Opera. I still recall the feelings of uncontrollable excitement as I read and re-read my invitation to join its 2016 Chorus. My first two weeks were filled with intense music calls on

Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg as this opera opens the season. We rapidly memorised both the text and music and began staging in our third week. It is a huge privilege to work on the revival show with Sir David McVicker; some of my favourite productions have been directed by him and I was extremely excited to be a part of this rehearsal process and discover the magic he draws from his colleagues.

We gave our final Dress Rehearsal just a few days ago and it was very well received. It has been an operatic masterclass from day one of rehearsals where, when not singing, I have sat observing and learning from the soloists - their attention to detail in the text, how they interact with one another on stage and follow the conductor whilst singing perfectly all at the same time has been an invaluable lesson for me.

Working at Glyndebourne is a real dream come true and just what I had hoped it would be - hard work, team work and getting to

do what I love most all day every day. I sometimes have to pinch myself to believe that I get to go to work at such a beautiful place.

Lara Muller

(studying BA MUS at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama)



My third year at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama has been fantastic, culminating in my being cast in the title role



Glyndebourne House with the auditorium behind

in Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen* – our last performance of the year. I have also had quite a number of other opportunities in the last year, including the organising and performing in my own concert. This was hard work but hugely rewarding and a valuable experience that will stand me in good stead for the future. In addition I was also honoured to have been asked by the Master to organise and perform excerpts from the 'Blues Brothers' at the Company's Livery Spring Dinner and songs by Ray Charles at the Court Summer Dinner.

I have realised that as a performer it is important to have as many eggs as possible in different baskets and one of these baskets includes some coaching in possible German. My German coach is in the process of setting up an 'apprenticeship' with the London Symphony Orchestra Chorus, where he coaches German in the hope that I can put my German to good use (I'm half German and speak it fluently). So I am very excited at this prospect, especially as Sir Simon Rattle takes up his role as the LSO's music director in 2017.

This summer I am heading to Italy to work on my Italian (the language of opera). I spent the summer there last year on a language and singing course and am keen to keep it up to standard. I will be staying with family friends in Tuscany and helping out with a music festival that takes place there for a week in August – another chance to take a look at the music industry from a different angle. I am incredibly grateful for the support I have received from the Carpenters' Company. It has enabled me to focus on

my training, gain performing experience, and broaden my knowledge of the music industry, allowing me to continue on my journey to becoming a world-class opera singer.

Lauren Lodge-West

(Recipient of The Carpenters' Award and student at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama on their Artist Masters programme)

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here at the Guildhall School, participating in many exciting projects, including recitals, concerts and opera scenes. I took part in masterclasses from which I was chosen to be a member of the Guildhall Song Guild and performed in two recitals. I sang in the Guildhall Consort and was chosen as a member of the semi chorus in Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius* with the London Symphony Orchestra, which was a fantastic experience. I was also very grateful to have won two Guildhall competitions (the Susan Longfield

Prize and the Franz-Schubert-Institut Lieder Competition) and to be a finalist in the Chartered Surveyors' Prize and the Aria Prize at the Guildhall School.

This term I am looking forward to singing in three song recitals and a Voiceworks concert of contemporary vocal music. In June I will be performing the role of the Princess in the world premiere of Sir Peter Maxwell Davies' children's opera *The Hogboon* with the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Sir Simon Rattle. This summer I am following in the footsteps of fellow Carpenters' Scholar Holly Bingham, travelling to the Franz-Schubert-Institut in Baden, Austria for the 5 week summer course. This is part of my Lieder Competition prize.

I am hugely grateful for the Company's support, as I wouldn't be able to experience these amazing opportunities without it.



Lauren with Sir Simon Rattle and the London Symphony Orchestra

Plague, Fire and the Carpenters' Company 1665-1666

A report by the Archivist, Julie Tancell

Some 350 years ago the people of London were recovering from the worst outbreak of plague since the Black Death. By the end of 1665 a fifth of London's population, had died (a death toll of 100,000 people). Londoners were only allowed a brief respite before the calamitous Great Fire of September 1666. Although the loss of life in comparison to the victims of the Plague was tiny, the impact was devastating, with up to 80% of buildings in the City destroyed and huge upheaval as tens of thousands of people were displaced. The Carpenters' Company was exceptional in being spared the loss of its Hall. The Company archives record the effects of both plague and fire.

The Black Death

From the arrival of the Black Death in 1348, plague or 'pestilence' was a constant visitor to London. A major outbreak in the City in 1603 was recorded in the Company's Court minutes, when theatres and public events were closed and cancelled. About 35,000 people died of plague during the year.

In 1636 an outbreak was noted by the Clerk as 'less fearful in extent', although by the end of the outbreak 10,000 people had died. As with previous outbreaks, any house where plague was identified had to be shut up for forty days with the family and any guests inside, marked with a cross and guarded by watchmen. The Company accounts show that the Court granted money

to help those affected by the plague, such as 5 shillings to 'a poore Carpenter whose howse was visited [by the plague]'. The Lord Mayor also ordered payments from the Livery Companies (the Carpenters paid £4) for assisting those 'visited' by the plague, and substantial amounts were paid to the Churchwardens of All Hallows' Church for helping those affected in the local parish - mostly for food for those quarantined in their houses. The City under quarantine meant many people could no longer earn a living, including the watermen who transported people on the river. The Company paid their regular waterman 20 shillings to help his business through the outbreak, 'although there was no service' the Clerk noted.

The Plague of 1665



The dead cart collecting the bodies of victims

The Company's archives record the effect of the growing outbreak on the Company and the City. As summer arrived an outbreak

of plague was building in and around London, although it was not felt severely in the City until June. By July the effect was being recorded in the Company's minutes by the Clerk Roger Goodday: on 12th July 11 shillings and 4 pence was paid after a Church service 'for a refreshment after a general fast & humiliacion at [St] Pauls for the visitacon of the hande of God upon this Citty by the plague'.

By 17th July the plague had taken hold, with the Clerk recording that Nathaniel Whitfeild, the apprentice of Richard Barrett, was made a Freeman that day with his 'service testified by a noate from Mr Barrett (being shut up of the plague therefore could not come in person)'. The number of deaths was now increasing rapidly, and on the 27th July the Company ordered that the election of the Master and Wardens 'be private in regard of the great increase of the plague, without a sermon, dinner, musicke and other ceremonies only a cup of wine & Naple biskate'

The annual visit in August to the Company's almshouses in Godalming, Surrey still took place but the Company accounts recorded the reduced number of the party: '£5 14 shillings 4 pence paid for the charge of the Journey to Godalmine this year to visit the hospital there according Mr wyats will (3 persons only being now sent in regard of the visitacon)'.

By September many people were suffering and in need of financial help. On 1st September 1665 the Company contributed towards the Lord Mayor's order to the

Livery Companies to assist, paying 52 shillings ‘to John Forde and Andrew Clarke Church-wardens of this parish of Alhallowes in the wall for one whole yeares assesment extraordinary upon our hall and officers dwellings ... for the releife of poore families visited with the pestilence.’

By 6th September the plague outbreak was affecting the Company’s ability to continue its work – not enough members had come to the Hall to audit the Company accounts. The Clerk noted that ‘some of the [Court] Assistants are fearfull to meete att the Hall in regard of the plague for that the Beadle was buried out of his house neere the hall yesterday.’ The Court was summoned to meet again ‘& in the meane time that fumes & fires be continued in the Hall rooms & passages thereof to purefie & take away incense & infeccon [infection].’ Pipes and tobacco were also provided for Court members to smoke during meetings.

By December several members of the Company’s Court had fallen victim, and although thousands of those who had left the City had returned and the numbers of deaths vastly reduced, the fear of infection continued to linger. In July 1666 the Company accounts record “paid for a private dinner ... for the [Court] Assistants only on the quarter day this yeare (all publique meetings & feastings being prohibited by superior authority for avoiding of the Infeccon)”



The 1664 West Wing of Carpenters’ Hall as it was in the early 19th century

1666: The Great Fire

The fire began in the early hours of 2nd September 1666, as a small fire in a bakery on Pudding Lane. After a dry summer the wooden buildings of the City did not take long to suffer, aided by a strong wind which allowed the fire to spread to the riverside. The warehouses there contained vast amounts of flammable materials including gun powder, hemp, oil, tallow, hay, timber, coal and spirits. By morning, the fire had spread halfway across London Bridge. The fire burned for three days, until it halted near Temple Church. The loss of life as a direct result was minimal (between six and sixteen people) but as much as 80% of the City was destroyed, including 13,000 houses, 89 churches, and 52 Guild Halls. Thousands of citizens were made homeless and financially ruined as the economic life of London collapsed.

Carpenters’ Hall in 1666 – a rare survivor

In 1848 Edward Jupp, Clerk to the Carpenters’ Company, noted that the Great Fire “did not reach Carpenters’ Hall. Its neighbour,

Drapers’ Hall, was destroyed, but between the two buildings there was then, as now, much open ground, to which circumstance our Hall doubtless owed its preservation”. He lived and worked in the same Hall that had survived the Great Fire and had a particular interest in its history.

The Company had just completed the building of a new West Wing in 1664, housing a ‘great room’ for the assembly of the whole livery. The gardens around the Hall, which acted as a firebreak, were adjacent to those of Drapers’ Hall although separated by a high wall. After the fire in 1666 and the destruction of Drapers’ Hall a door was cut through to allow access, particularly useful for the Drapers’ Company who were using Carpenters’ Hall. As one of the very large few buildings left standing, Carpenters’ Hall was soon in demand for use not only by a number of livery companies but also by four successive Lord Mayors, as their own private residences and the Guildhall itself had suffered in the fire.

Although the Hall survived, the devastation around the area was huge. Close by, Moorfields

became home to many thousands of displaced people living in tents, and Edward Jupp imagined 'that not a few of the poor creatures suddenly deprived of their homes would take advantage of the shelter afforded by so capacious a building as Carpenters' Hall, or crowd into the open space about it.'

The Court records of the time show that the Company took active measures for the Hall's safety, removing valuables away from the area and organising a guard to protect the building. Between 2nd and 5th September whilst the fire raged, Warden Seagood, the Clerk and the Beadle worked 'to preserve & secure from the fire all the Companies Evidences, Plate, books, accounts, writings, Gownes, Carpetts, & other things ... by Cartage, portage, & removeing thereof to severall places remote from the fire'. Members of the Company were summoned to 'appear, advise, & assist for the preservacon of the hall from the danger of the fire'. Measures to protect the



Cibber's bas relief on the Monument to the Great Fire of London. Behind the figure of Charles II scaffolding represents the rebuilding of the City (top right)

Hall (one of the few surviving large buildings not in ruins) once the fire was out were taken, with 'severall men hired to watch & guard the hall. & to goe the rounds, & to assist

to quench & keepe the Fire, as also for prevention of robberies & burglaries from Wednesday 5 Sept to the Sunday following.'

AFFILIATIONS

Daring Award for Excellence



Chief Petty Officer Martin Talbot (centre) was presented with the HMS DARING Award for Excellence by the Master Michael Neal at the June Court, accompanied by Lt Cdr Ben Kadinopoulos (right)

HMS DARING

Lt Cdr Rachel Singleton,
Weapons Engineer Officer,
Royal Navy, reports:

After a busy Autumn programme undertaking sea trials in the midst of storms of various names, HMS DARING returned to Portsmouth for Christmas and a welcome break for members of the Ship's Company with their families and friends. The New Year started with a short period alongside before sailing for a productive week of trials and training. February saw the embarkation of the Royal Navy's latest Wildcat helicopter and its 11-strong Flight, who will be a core part of DARING's Ship's Company and suite of capabilities for the deployment. A replacement for the ageing, Lynx aircraft, with state-of-the-art sensors and outstanding performance, the Wildcat is one of the world's most advanced helicopters. The flight soon integrated with the Ship and in addition to the operational capability, brought benefits such as the ability to take aerial photography, put to good use for a photograph to celebrate DARING's tenth anniversary since her launch on 1st February 2006.

The main focus for the Ship at the start of the year has been a six-week period of operational sea training, which tested the Ship's ability to cope with a diverse array of challenges. Training ranged from simulated fires and floods at sea and in harbour in a benign peace time environment, to the 'weekly war' in which HMS DARING operated as part of a Task Group to overcome multiple threats from the air, land, surface and subsurface, practising the procedures to be



Wildcat Helicopter – Operated by 204 Flight on board HMS DARING

followed should damage occur and important capabilities lost. With the chance to exercise some of the wider roles that DARING could be asked to take on, from disaster relief to a non-combatant evacuation, the Ship's Company pulled together impressively.

Unable to release serving Ship's Company from the demands of training, DARING was ably represented at the annual Carpenters' Golf and Clay Shoot events by former members of

Ship's Company including her previous Captain,

Capt Angus Essenhigh OBE RN and recently departed Executive Warrant Officer, WO1 Garry Parkes. With some planned time in base port over the Summer the Ship's Company looks forward to further engagement with the Carpenters' Company before departing for a nine-month deployment in the Autumn.



HMS DARING's Ship's Company formed the number ten on the flight deck for a photograph to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Ship's launch on 1 Feb 2006. (Photographer: Lt Andrew Henderson RN)

4th Battalion The Rifles

2Lt Tom Court, Platoon Commander, reports:

The last year has been busy for 4 RIFLES. Alongside preparations for assuming High Readiness in 2016, the Battalion moved from Bulford to Aldershot and completed its conversion to the mechanised infantry role. The culmination of this effort was the Battalion's deployment on exercise, achieving formal validation in our new role. This exercise had two distinct elements. Initially, it saw the Battalion conduct a fortnight of dismounted live firing on Otterburn ranges in Northumberland, which tested the skills and resilience of the Riflemen over long days in poor weather conditions over demanding terrain. The second phase, on Salisbury Plain, focused on the use of the fleet of MASTIFF, HUSKY and JACKAL armoured vehicles, originally brought into service for operations in Afghanistan. The exercise was an ideal opportunity for the Battalion to develop further its doctrine for mechanised infantry forces when fighting within an armoured brigade.

Since Christmas, the pace has not slowed at all. Recently A Company has returned from a six week deployment to Belize, during which Riflemen took part in a four-day survival exercise with local trackers, a four-day navigation and tracking exercise and a four-day patrol skills phase under the guidance of Jungle Warfare Instructors. Following this, the Company conducted five days of live firing, working up to a platoon level camp attack in primary jungle, before concluding with an arduous final exercise.

B Company is currently held at High Readiness as the Mechanised Company in the Lead Armoured Battle Group. This involves ensuring that the fleet of vehicles is serviceable and that the Riflemen are fit and ready to be deployed if required at short notice. B Company has now deployed to Canada as a light role company within the Royal Canadian Dragoons Battle Group.

R Company has been focused on training and selecting the future Junior Non Commissioned Officers for the entire Regiment. On 8th February, 97 Riflemen from across The Rifles arrived at Rolleston Camp to begin an arduous six week course, which if completed would see them promoted from Rifleman to Lance Corporal. The cadre tested physical robustness and soldiering capability, with the emphasis on ability to lead a four-man fire team, both in and out of combat. The students spent time on Salisbury Plain and the Brecon Beacons before the final two-week exercise on Thetford training area in Norfolk. 57 Riflemen completed the cadre, witnessed by friends and family on the Parade Square on 24th March. R Company has now switched its attention to a period of consolidated training, looking forward to an urban-themed exercise at Longmoor, a helicopter-supported strike onto a disused airfield, a visit to the Special Boat Service and an exercise in Kenya in September.

S Company has also been kept busy maintaining the High Readiness training and vehicle maintenance as



Riflemen assault a building during exercise WESSEX STORM

well as finding more novel training opportunities. New vehicle drivers and commanders have been qualified to account for the movement of personnel over recent months. In January, the Company conducted Public Order Training at Longmoor Camp, the first experience of riot control for many of the Riflemen.

The Battalion has also seen significant sporting success with the Nordic Ski Team winning the Infantry championships in Bessans and qualifying for the Army finals, becoming the first RIFLES Battalion to do so since its formation in 2007. The Boxing Team was narrowly beaten in the Army quarter finals. And four of our Riflemen have been selected to represent the British Army Shooting Team during the World Championship in Australia this Spring.



The 4 RIFLES Nordic Ski Team

IV(R) Squadron RAF

[Flt Lt Sarah Brown, Adjutant, reports:](#)

Since Christmas, IV Sqn has had a successful output of 13 students, with three remaining at RAF Valley to become Qualified Flying Instructors and the remainder moving forward to their designated Typhoon or Tornado squadrons.

In addition the Squadron has maintained its ability to detach various personnel to locations

such as Solenzara and Culdrose. The aim of these detachments is to give students the knowledge and skills of operating from different air bases and the experience of foreign airspace and procedures. With Solenzara, this also provides the opportunity to maximise training in more open airspace with optimum weather conditions.

As always, the Squadron remains busy with visits averaging three to

four per week. We pride ourselves in the work carried out with the Blue Skies Project, headed by Flt Lt Ellis Williams, where we have again recently hosted a series of visits and work experience for under-privileged children from the local area.

A major change coming up in August and September will be the Runway Resurfacing Project. RAF Valley will continue to run as normal on the ground but will see its Fast Jets assets deployed to another station in order to continue with flying training.



Hawk TMK2 operating out of Solenzara

Company Visit to The Hague (11th -13th May 2016)



A guided tour of the Mauritshuis



A serious moment at Dinner in 'It Rains Fishes'



Roz Wheeler, Deborah Gregson, Hugh Barnes-Yallowley and Deirdre Luton in the Ambassador's Garden



The Master with former Dutch Ambassador and Honorary Freeman Pieter Waldeck



The Master thanks our Ambassador for his hospitality

PASTIMES

Inter-Livery Ski-ing

Liveryman Mark Horn reports:

Once again, the annual Inter-Livery Ski Championships took place during January in Morzine, France, and the Carpenters' Company was represented for the second year running. The start of the ski season had been conspicuous for the lack of snowfall in the Alps, but thankfully the snow fell just in time and we had some excellent skiing. This year our modified team comprised of Freeman Jane Evelegh, Frances Galbraith (daughter of Liveryman Richard), and Livorymen Ben Brading and Mark Horn. We were delighted to finish seventh overall out of the 33 livery teams that entered.

There were many different awards presented during the gala dinner and this year we provided a new trophy known as 'The Wooden Skis', presented to the slowest team in recognition of the fun of participation. It is a fine trophy carved from oak by Matthew Whiteley, maker in residence at the Building Crafts College, and was very well received. The trophy went to the Leathersellers' third team and was presented by Richard Galbraith.



Mark Horn, Jane Evelegh and Frances Galbraith on the slopes

Much of our racing success must be attributed to the excellent support that we received during the trip, from Richard and Liz Galbraith, Philip Brading and Jon Evelegh. The combination of competitive and recreational skiing in the relaxed and sociable atmosphere of this event is to be recommended and I hope that more Carpenters will be tempted to put their names forward for next year (19-20th January 2017).

Bridge

Past Master Martin Samuel reports:

We have completed another enjoyable season of Bridge with six in-house events, two friendly matches against the Girdlers' and Cordwainers' Companies and the Inter-Livery Bridge Competition. In the friendly matches, we tied with the Girdlers' and as usual

lost to the Cordwainers' (although we ran them close this year). For the Inter-Livery, I partnered Jo Wade for the first time and we achieved a highly creditable 12th place out of the 58 pairs that took part. Every year I plead for more Bridge players to come forward and this season Frances Onions played for the very first time and

Angi Birts returned after a few years absence. I know that we will be seeing more of them both. I conclude by thanking Penny and David Newman for their help with the catering but reserve the greatest thanks for Steve Rapley of the Hall Staff for the cooking of his gourmet dinners.

Golf

Company Golf Day

Liveryman Richard Samuel reports:

The smiles of Livorymen, guests and weather gods were all present and correct at this year's Company Golf Day. The Stableford Competition took place on Thursday, 21st April at the RAC Golf Club in Woodcote Park, Epsom. Livorymen

and our guests - Warrant Officers Rob Parsons and John Bolam of 4 RIFLES and Garry Parkes of HMS DARING - were treated to an early breakfast of coffee and bacon rolls. This has become traditional preparation for our annual address of the RAC's Old Course, set in the rolling hills of the Epsom Downs. The Course is a welcoming challenge for any amateur golfer.



Team Carpenters at the RAC Club

After a thoroughly enjoyable round, a lavish lunch was provided at the Club by the Company. Although he did not play, Past Master, RAC Member and event sponsor, Martin Samuel was able to join the 13 golfers for luncheon. At the end of the meal, Marcus Dill was presented with the Newman Trophy by our host, Past Master John Sennitt, for his winning score

of 37 points. WO2 Rob Parsons was the leading guest with 31 points.

Feeling adventurous, I was then lucky enough to join our three enthusiastic guests for a second round on the Club's Coronation Course (my swing needed the practice, my legs did not!). Many thanks to the Clerk's Personal Assistant, Mrs Caroline Stevens, for arranging a great start to the golfing season. It is a fantastic event that should be enjoyed by more Liverymen. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in taking part next year.



Liveryman Marcus Dill receives the trophy from Past Master John Sennitt

Inter-livery Golf Day

Liveryman Rowan Montague-Smith writes:

On 19th May, 52 Livery Company teams converged on Walton Heath Golf Club to compete for the Prince Arthur Cup. I paired Marcus Dill and Geoff Rhodes paired Sandy Macqueen in representing the Carpenters' Company (drawn with the Clockmakers' Company). Both pairs played some solid golf in the morning round on the New Course, each posting totals of -2. Sandy Macqueen conjured some true Seve magic on the 11th, chipping in from a fiendishly thick grassy position. Following an energy-boosting lunch, the teams took to the Old Course, posting scores of -6 and -2 to finish the day a very creditable 17th out of the 52 strong field. It was a pleasure to play on the historic courses which were in excellent condition due to the impending US Open qualifying match which was due to take place over the May Bank Holiday weekend.

Livery Clay Shoot

Liveryman Richard Mitton reports:

We held our annual Clay Shoot at West London Shooting Grounds on 22nd April which was, as always, a thoroughly enjoyable day. We believe that our first Clay Shoot was in 1994, when West London didn't even have catering, so we ended up having lunch in a grotty pub the other side of the A40. Since then the Grounds have improved out of all recognition although some of our original guns are, sadly, no longer with us. HMS DARING was at sea but we were delighted that one of her former Commanding Officers, Angus Essenhigh could join us, along with two young officers from 4 RIFLES - 2 Lts Tom Court and Ben Udy.

After bacon butties we divided into four teams, named after long-forgotten carpentry tools. Clearly the Master had been researching medieval carpentry tools on Google. We then shot a few stands before returning



The shooting party assembled at the West London Shooting Grounds

for 'elevenses', followed by two more stands and the Grand Finale - being the flush. A 'flush' is 30 clays projected over the heads of four guns in quick succession which is great fun. We then had an unexpected sight: a cavalcade of US Marine helicopters and two Ospreys (a cross between a helicopter and a plane) flying low overhead taking President Obama to Windsor for lunch with the Queen. We were worried that the

sight of us standing below with guns might result in us all being blown to smithereens. Fortunately we avoided losing the Master to 'friendly fire'.

After a genial lunch came the Prize-giving. Angus Essenhigh won the Inter-Service Prize - we didn't think there were many chances to practise shooting at clays on a ship? Then Liveryman Allen Zimbler was announced as the winner of the Livery Competition with an excellent score. Allen is something of a dark horse, as he likes to say he has only just taken up shooting, so we reckon that he must have been having lots of lessons at West London! Regardless, he thoroughly deserved winning the silver trophy kindly loaned to us by The Rifles.

Our thanks to the Clerk's PA, Mrs Caroline Stevens, for organising the day and to West London for being such splendid hosts. Our annual clay shoot is great fun so I would encourage other Liverymen to join us, even if you barely know the basics of handling a shotgun.



Allen Zimbler, winner of the Livery Competition is presented with the trophy by the Author

Admissions

During the past year the following have been admitted:

To the Livery:

All by Redemption:

On 28th July 2015

Richard Hamilton - Director of Strategy,
Department of Business, Innovation and Skills

On 6th October 2015

William Frapell - Marketing Executive, son-in-law
to Deputy Master

On 5th April 2016

Hannah Bower - Charity Fund Raiser (Help for
Heroes), daughter of the Middle Warden

On 1st May 2016

Harry Neal - Chartered Surveyor, son of the Master

On 5th July 2016

Philippa Boardman MBE - Canon Treasurer of St.
Paul's Cathedral

To the Freedom:

On 6th October 2015

By Redemption:

Penny Bendall - Ceramic Conservator to HM The
Queen/Lecturer

For service to the Company (Building Crafts
College):

Michael Hedgeland

Marcus Dadson

On 8th March 2016

For their service to the Company (Building Crafts
College):

Laura Tavares

Rahul Dixit

Frances Hill

Francis Williams

On 3rd November 2015

In recognition of her excellence in the Craft.

Emma Leslie - Wood Maker

In recognition of his service to the Company as a
member of the Hall Staff:

Peter Holt

On 5th April 2016

By Redemption:

Francesca Gregson - Design/PR co-ordinator
of the Wood Awards/web site design consultant,
daughter of the Clerk

Michael Topolski - Old Bailey Judge

On 5th July 2016

In recognition of his service to the Company:

Joost Roselaers - Minister of the Dutch Church

To the Honorary Freedom:

On 2nd February 2016

His Excellency Simon Smits, The Dutch
Ambassador



The Dutch
Ambassador
and his wife at
the Company's
Spring Dinner

Company Appointments

The following held appointments during the Company year 2015/2016:

Master:	Mr. M. H. W. Neal
Senior Warden:	Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith
Middle Warden:	Mrs. R. F. Bower
Junior Warden:	His Hon. P. W. Birts, QC
Clerk:	Brigadier T. J. Gregson
Assistant Clerk:	Mr. P. J. G. Sadd
Beadle:	Mr. C. C. Wilson
Company Solicitor:	Mr. M. Ackland of Wedlake Bell
Company Surveyor:	Mr. J. C. Harding of Daniel Watney
Company Auditor:	Mr. C. R. Cooper of Buzzacott

Chairmen of Committees

General Purposes Committee:	Mr. M. R. Mathews
Building Crafts College Committee:	Mr. G. P. S. Downes
Craft Committee:	Mr. M. R. Mosley
Investments Committee:	Mr. H. M. Lancaster
Rustington Convalescent Home Committee of Management:	The Revd Dr. W. P. Povey
Charitable Grants Committee:	Mr. M. J. Samuel
Admissions Committee:	Mr. M. R. Mathews

Co-opted Members of Committees

General Purposes Committee:	Lord Flight, of Worcester
.....	Mr. M. Morrison
Building Crafts College Committee:	Mr. S. Sutcliffe
.....	Dr. L. D. G. Grossman
.....	Mr. S. G. Corbett
.....	Mrs. K. A. Buchan
Craft Committee:	Mr. J. M. Burton
.....	Mr. N. Gutfreund
.....	Dr. A. Zimble
.....	Mr. P. W. Brading
.....	Mr. W. N. Avery
Investments Committee:	Mr. A. N. Birts
.....	Mr. E. A. C. Cottrell
.....	Mr. J. R. D. Korner
.....	Mrs. M. C. Roberts

Rustington Convalescent Home Committee of Management: Mr. R. G. Gregory-Smith
 Mr. J. W. Preston
 Dr. C. N. Birts
 Mr. R. C. Lester

Charitable Grants Committee: Mrs. L. J. Symons
 Mrs. A. C. Macadam
 Mr. N. S. Corderey
 Captain D. I. Burns, RN

Trustees

Carpenters' Company Charitable Trust: Mr. V. G. Morton-Smith
 Mr. P. A. Luton
 Mr. M. R. Mathews (Chairman)
 Mr. M. J. Samuel

Company Pension Fund Trustees: Mr. M. R. Mosley (Chairman)
 Mr. R. G. Gregory-Smith
 Mr. J. C. M. Taylor
 Mr. D. R. Pearham
 Mr. P. J. G. Sadd

Company Representatives

The following served as Company representatives:

Christ's Hospital Donation Governor: Mr. J. W. Preston
 City & Guilds of London Association: Mr. H. M. Neal (President)
 City & Guilds of London Institute: Mr. M. H. W. Neal (Council)
 until April then Mr. M. P. S. Horn (Council)
 Carpenters & Docklands Centre, Stratford: Mr. M. P. S. Horn
 Carpenters Primary School: Mr. M. J. Samuel (Governor)
 The Royal College of Art: Mrs E. E. Birts
 Carpenters' Craft Competition Committee: Mr. J. C. M. Taylor (Chairman)
 Livery Companies Skills Council: Mr. J. M. Burton
 Construction Liveries Group: Mr. P. A. Luton
 Institute of Carpenters: Mr. W. N. Avery (President)

Gifts to the Company 2015-2016

Past Master M. J. Samuel

Samuel Pepys. The Unequalled Self Claire Tomalin (2002)

The Technique of Furniture Making Alan Peters (1997)

Mrs Carol Wilson (Former Almsman)

The Godalming 400 David Coombs (1978)

Deputy Master M.W.F. Felton

Framed Ordnance Survey Street Map of the City of London

The York Merchant Adventurers and their Hall Pamela Hartshorne (ed.) (2011)

Anne Lancashire (Records of Early English Drama),

Civic London to 1558 (3 volumes) Anne Lancashire (ed.) (2015)

Liveryman B.F. Dutton

Almshouses Brian Bailey (1988)

Mr. John Osborne, Institute of Carpenters

Timber in Construction John Sunley & Barbara Bedding (eds.) (1985)

Building Geometry and Drawing Frank Hilton (1973)

Building Construction Metric Volumes 1-4 J. K. McKay (1970 -1975)

A Dictionary of Building John S. Scott (1964)

The Whiteley Homes Trust

Whiteley's Folly. The Life and Death of a Salesman Linda Stratmann (2004)

The Whiteley Homes Trust Alan Brown (1992)

Past Master V.G. Morton-Smith:

The Furniture of Rupert Williamson Rupert Williamson (2014)

Liveryman H.D.M. Petter

The Country House Ideal. Recent Work by Adam Architecture Jeremy Musson (2015)

Liveryman J.T.H. Williams

The Home Workshop Odhams Press

Past Master H.M.F. Barnes-Yallowley

The Knights of St John in Malta Simon Mercieca (2006)

Ghosts of London H. V. Morton (1939);

The British Heritage Odhams Press (1948);

Windsor Castle. Official Souvenir Guide Royal Collection Trust (2012);

Diamond Jubilee Official Programme 2012

Mr. Keith Molyneux

Modern Carpenter & Joiner vols 1-3 Harry Bryant Newbold (c. 1920)

Modern Practical Joinery George Ellis (1925, 6th ed)

Woodcarving Woodworker Series (1921)

Architecture Carpentry and Buildings vols 1-5 American Technical Society (1925)

The Practical Woodworker vols 1-4 Bernard E Jones (c. 1920)

Professor Trevor Marchand

Craftwork as Problem Solving. Ethnographic Studies of Design and Making Trevor H.J. Marchand (Ed) (2016)

Past Master J. A. C. Wheeler

All Manner of Workmanship Robert Gage (Ed.) (2015)

Past Master D. F Newman

War & Peas. Intimate Letters from the Falklands War 1982 John Lippiett (2007)

Calendar

2016

September	
29th	Election of The Lord Mayor

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

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

2017 (Provisional)

January	
19-20th	Inter-livery Ski-ing, Morzine, France

March	
15th	Livery Spring Dinner
31st	United Guilds Service

April	
4th	Craft Lecture
20th	Company Golf, Woodcote Park
28th	Company Clay Pigeon Shoot, West London Shooting School

May	
11-12th	Company Visit
18th	Inter Livery Golf

June	
14th	Court Summer Dinner
26th	Election of Sheriffs
29th	Building Crafts College End-of- Year Show in Hall

July	
12th	Company Tennis
13th	Court Visit to Rustington Convalescent Home
18th	General Court of the Livery and Election Court

August	
1st	Installation Court

The new Master's Chair
by John Makepeace



The Worshipful Company of Carpenters
Carpenters' Hall, Throgmorton Avenue,
London EC2N 2JJ
Tel: 020 7588 7001
www.thecarpenterscompany.co.uk
email: info@carpentersco.com

