



The Master Elect Giles Downes (right) greets his predecessor as Master Peter Povey during the Company's Bayfordbury Pinetum visit in July

Message from the Master

Giles Downes reports on his year so far:

"May you live in interesting times" is said to be an ancient Chinese curse, although it is difficult to trace it further back than a note from Austen Chamberlain in 1936, quoting from "one of our diplomats in China". Its frequent use over the last century has certainly demonstrated how often we have felt overwhelmed by events in the outside world; with its wars regularly alternating with financial crises. Yet of course we survive and it does nothing to dent our essentially positive human nature. We are "hard-wired for optimism" as stated in a recently published study in Nature Magazine.

For the Carpenters' Company this has been a time for consolidation and to ensure that our various charities are in the best position not just to withstand the current financial pressures but also to flourish in the better years to come. In many cases this has included initiatives such as a new approach to developing the surrounding land at Rustington. Our original scheme was refused but this allowed us a new start and in September we had initial meetings with our original architect,

Michael Philips, to look at producing an appropriate scheme more sympathetic to the existing home and leaving the front area undeveloped. Since then a new scheme has been developed, which is now being valued by our surveyors and which has been enthusiastically received by the planning officers at an initial meeting on site in December. This initiative should allow us to increase the potential of Rustington, to restore and redevelop the Laundry Building and ensure more long term finance for the Home at the same time as improving its surroundings with courtyard gardens and new servicing and sustainable energy arrangements. Later in the year, we will arrange public open days at the Home to bring in the local people to understand what is achieved at Rustington and how the excellent service provided is subsidised by the Company.

The Wood Awards go from strength to strength, with a very high standard of entries

Message from the Master continued

this year. It was a particular pleasure to see a restoration project achieve the gold award for the first time at the awards ceremony in November.

New initiatives are being organised, which will ensure an even greater public awareness of the awards, with new opportunities including an event at the Building Centre in March to promote the Wood Awards call for entries. Under the banner of the Wood Talks there will be new website access and the awards will be included in monthly newsletters to 30,000 construction professionals.

We are also hoping to organise the awards ceremony this year to be held as part of a high profile Timber Expo event run by the Timber Research and Development Association (TRADA) at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry. This will help to spread the word and to consolidate the status of the awards in the Timber and Design professions. The printed supplement will of course also be published as in earlier years.

It has been a pleasure and privilege for me to be able to take part in these initiatives and I feel deeply honoured to be the Master of the Carpenters' Company this year. Following the Installation Court in August, I had an opportunity to relax for a few weeks before events started in mid-September, when I was delighted to be both Master and guest in the Carpenters' Hall for the Shrieval Chain ceremony for Sherriff Elect Fiona Woolfe, which was a most enjoyable occasion.

In October, I visited Philadelphia for the first time where I was invited to give the annual lecture to the Philadelphia Company of Carpenters'. I took the opportunity to stop over in New York for a couple of days and you can imagine my delight in the City as I took over 600 photographs in a day a half. The Philadelphia Carpenters were generous hosts and I greatly enjoyed the City Tavern and attending their Company Meeting and Dinner before my lecture.

The Master Giles Downes (centre) at the Guildhall for the Lord Mayor's Election in September, with the Master Painter Peter Hammerson (left) and Master Butcher HRH Princess Anne (right)



Courtesy of Painter-Stainers' Company

One of the highlights of the Autumn was the election of the Lord Mayor, in which HRH Princess Anne took part as Master of the Butchers' Company. This of course was followed by the Carpenters' Livery Dinner, which was the first to be attended by the new Lord Mayor, Michael Bear, together with the Sheriffs. I was particularly pleased to be able to invite my sister, Dame Julia Higgins, to be guest speaker at this dinner and to have Julian Collings and Corporate Voices to sing arias from Alessandro Scarlatti. On a different note the entertainment this year at the Freemens' Reception was provided by O Duo a very lively and exciting pair of musicians playing marimbas and percussion. From the responses received, the evening and the music was a great success.

Our links with HMS DARING and 4 RIFLES continue to grow and deepen and we were delighted to see the return of A Company from Afghanistan. I was very pleased at our Court luncheon in December to be able to present a plaque to the Battalion on which their Chosen Riflemen each year can be recorded.

The Beadle leads the Master and Wardens to All Hallows Church in the Election Day procession on 20 July



Building Crafts College

**Principal
Len Conway
reports:**

At the Building Crafts College enrolments have been especially strong on fine woodwork courses, which now occupy a greater proportion of workshop space, but good levels of recruitment have been seen across all areas of College provision on three sites. The main building in Kennard Road offers our courses in carpentry, joinery, shop-fitting, stonemasonry and the degree in historic building conservation. At the newly opened Gibbins Road annexe the metal roofing programme continues to train employees of roofing companies and a range of other company-based training programmes are delivered. In addition to this, apprentices complete large scale shop-fitting projects before going onto site. The Anchor House Centre in Canning Town runs employability programmes in partnership with East Thames Housing and Bovis, and there has been very good progression into jobs and work placements from these courses.

The College has welcomed a range of visitors and has hosted conferences and training sessions for other organisations such as the National

Housing Forum and the Health and Safety Executive. The College also hosted a visit from the Livery on 6th October and a great deal of interest was generated following a visit of Livery Company Clerks to the College on 23rd September. The College was also privileged to receive a visit from HRH The Duke of Gloucester and a report on this is given below.

The College will continue the enrolment programme in the Spring term but we are very aware of the new funding landscape which may affect some of the courses delivered at the College. This will become more apparent over the coming months. Recruitment of willing students is not a problem but the challenge is to access and match funding to those who wish to develop a career in the crafts.

Admissions from the Building Crafts College and Craft



Admitted to the Freedom in October were (left to right) John Appleton, Panos Ioannides, Jonathan Tibbs, Jason Muteham, Colin Eden-Eaden, Jim O'Brien and Paul Simons with the Master Giles Downes (centre).

Skills London

The Skills London event was held at the Excel Centre from 7th to 9th October with the College occupying three stands in total. These included a Building Crafts College stand at which youngsters could try out joinery skills on a work bench supervised by College students Mohammed Razack, Afzal Uddin, Ryice Keating, Ashley Coules and Austin Newby, assisted by staff members Steve Hendel, Mick Hedgeland, Paul Butterfield, Lee Marcham and Marcus Dadson. Another Building Crafts College stand which displayed stonemasonry, allowing the public to 'have a go', was supervised by our Stonemason in Residence Molly Briton and student James Bayliss.

Thirdly there was an National Heritage Training Group stand where members of the public could assemble a large scale model of a medieval barn provided by McCurdy & Co. Building Crafts College

Foundation Degree students Anna Zucchelli and Will Nixon on the NHTG stand



Ashley Coules supervising the College stand



students Anna Zucchelli and Will Nixon were on the stand for the three days and were supervised by Cheryl Matthey, John Taylor and Paul Simons. The stands included benches, tools, materials, models and a full size bathroom mock-up which took a great deal of work to load in and out.

The event was very successful and our teams received 305 enquiries from youngsters interested in courses and also 44 enquiries from schools and colleges interested in the provision at the Building Crafts College. I cannot speak too highly of both the staff and students who gave their time, and worked so hard, during the event including the weekend.

Bog Oak Kiln



Building Crafts College students visited Adamson and Low's timber yard near Lamberhurst in Kent, where a new kiln for drying bog oak has been purchased with a grant from the Carpenters' Company.

By way of thanks, Adamson and Low will be donating bog oak to the College to be used by the students. The oak is excavated in the Fens and is some of the rarest timber in the UK.

Students from The Building Crafts College gathered around some particularly beautiful and high quality quarter sawn Bog Oak boards

Prize-giving

The Building Crafts College Prizegiving ceremony was held at Carpenters' Hall on 25th November. The ceremony was introduced by the Master and an opening address was given by the Chairman of the Building Crafts College Committee, Mr Michael Montague-Smith. The Chairman spoke of the recent development of the College and the history and role of the Carpenters' Company in supporting the training of craftsmen and women over the centuries and how it does this today through its college in Stratford.

Mr James Wates presents the Sir Bannister Fletcher Award to the Building Crafts College Student of the Year, Paulo Gouveia de Vasconcelos



The awards of certificates and sponsored prizes were made by the Guest of Honour Mr James Wates, Deputy Chairman of Wates Group Limited and Chairman of CITB ConstructionSkills. Mr Wates spoke about opportunities in the British construction industry and the value of the skills learned by Building Crafts College students and concluded by complimenting students on the standard of work on display at the Hall.

Over 250 award and prize winners, families and friends, together with College staff and members of the Carpenters' Company attended the event, which concluded as usual with a cocktail reception.

The Master's Visit and Craft Lecture at the Philadelphia Carpenters' Company

Giles Downes reports on his visit in October:

Having enjoyed a short stay in New York (as this was my first trip to the East coast of America) I arrived at 30th Street Station in Philadelphia at 5 o'clock on Saturday, 16th October, where I was met by Mr. James Kruhly, who had given our first exchange lecture in London earlier this year. We later walked around the Society Hill area down to the river and shared supper in one of the many eating places on Chestnut Street.

The next day James took me to see a couple of the Louis Kahn projects that he had worked on and we had a drink in his house outside Philadelphia. Having spent the morning sketching buildings around the area of the Carpenters' Hall, I met the President, Bill Radomski, and some members of the Carpenters' Court and enjoyed an excellent lunch in the City Tavern. That evening I went to the Livery Meeting in the Hall attended by about 60 members of the Company, followed by a splendid dinner in the Hall at the end of which I was able to

give my talk. 'Wood in Design and Architecture from Windsor Castle to the Wood Awards'. My lecture was well-received (afterwards someone said they had never seen the members so attentive before).

I was presented with a Certificate of an Honorary Member of the Carpenters' Company of Philadelphia and two Company ties and in return I was able to present the Certificate of an Honorary Liveryman in our London Company to the President, together with two books for their library. The whole trip was very enjoyable and I was very well looked after by everyone and particularly by James Kruhly.

Bayfordbury Pinetum



The then Master Peter Povey on completion of the planting of his tree at the Clinton-Baker Pinetum visit in July

Open Day and Olympic Park Tour

Members of the Court and Livery visited the College on 6th October where they were briefed by the Principal on the work of the College. The party then toured the nearby Olympic Park



The Aquatic Centre under construction



Branching Out

Past Master Peter Luton reports:

Eight Liverymen, together with a tutor at the Building Crafts College and pupils from a Newham School, took part in a most inspiring project this summer. In conjunction with four other Livery Companies, we were aiming to raise funds for the Arboretum-Kew at Castle Howard. This project produced 69 pieces of craftsmanship. Some were auctioned at a charity event at Bonhams on 16th September and the rest by internet bidding, which raised over £15,000, and when added to some sponsorship, allowed the Wood Liveries Group to give £20,000 for new trees at the Arboretum.



Stormy Weather: A Branching Out entry by the Master Giles Downes, carved from an oak branch depicting a yacht at sea

The Wood Awards 2010

The winners of the Wood Awards 2010 were announced at Carpenters' Hall on 21 October, with the restoration of Stoke Newington Town Hall leading the entrants as the Gold Award Winner. The judging panel was chaired by Liveryman Mr. Michael Morrison of Purcell Miller Tritton, who praised the historic building as 'A truly outstanding project. Old and new have been seamlessly combined, every detail has been designed and executed to the very highest standard whilst retaining the building's character.'

The architects Hawkins Brown beat off stiff competition to win the Conservation Restoration Category before being crowned the winner of winners in front of around 200 leading industry figures. Restored to its former glory, Stoke Newington Town Hall consists of two principle spaces, the Council Chamber and the Assembly Hall. Many of the building's original 1930s features have been retained and expertly restored,

Stoke Newington Town Hall, winner of the Conservation/Restoration category and overall Gold Award winner



Hull History Centre won the Structural category



including the hardwood veneered panelling. The dance floor has also been brought back to life with a new sprung floor and the addition of Europe's second biggest glitter ball.

The Ceremony was presided over by Sir Jeremy Dixon, a previous Gold Award winner. On the night other winners included Sevenoaks School Performing Arts Centre by Tim Ronalds Architects for the Commercial & Public Access Award, Hull History Centre by Pringle Richards Sharratt Architects Ltd for the

Structural Award, St Peter's Centre by Communion Design for the Private/Best Small Project Award, Fred Perry Reception by Buckley Gray Yeoman for the Furniture Award, Newbattle Abbey Bridge by Forestry Civil Engineering for the Best Use of British Timber, College Road by Knox Bhavan Architects for the Outstanding Craftsmanship Award, and the Achair by David Colwell for the Innovation Award.

Sir Jeremy Dixon presents the Outstanding Craftsmanship award to Knox Bhavan for 3 College Road



Freeman Jason Muteham, a former student at the Building Crafts College, with his Highly Commended radiator cover



For more details, including photographs of all the shortlisted projects, visit www.woodawards.com

Carpenters' Craft Competition

Liveryman Nick Gutfreund, Chairman, reports:

We are all aware of the difficult economic times we are facing right now. However it is comforting to know that the quality of our craftsmen and tradesmen who will be helping us to climb out the other side remains as high as ever.

This year our Competition piece was to make a scaled version of a radiator cover. We had over 60 entrants from colleges all over England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Understandably the numbers were down from last year but certainly not the standard, which was as high as ever.

Regional judging took place throughout the country during June and the top two entrants from each region were then put forward for the National Award, which was judged at the Building Crafts College by the Carpenters Craft

Competition's panel of judges at the beginning of July. Messrs. Len Conway and Dave Pearham made us very welcome again at the College and thanks should go to them and their team.

This year Leeds College took the First Prize in both age categories, with Anthony Shaw winning the Under 20's trophy and Tirbhavan Chodha (2nd place winner last year as well) taking the Over 20's first place. The Building Crafts College put forward a healthy number of entrants and they were rewarded with a 2nd and 3rd place - Paulo DeVasconcelos and Paul Povey respectively in the Over 20's. In the Under 20's category 2nd and 3rd place went to Ryan McCart of South Eastern Regional College and Peter Kernan from Accrington & Rossendale College.

For the first time this year we had our own award ceremony. The Court kindly invited the Competition Committee and this year's winners to join them at their luncheon on 5th October. There was a small award presentation ceremony prior to the luncheon. We were all made very welcome and from the letters of thanks we have received the winners were delighted and honoured to be at such a prestigious venue in the heart of the City of London.

Awards for the Carpenters Craft Competition were presented at the October Court Luncheon by Liveryman Nick Gutfreund (left) and the Master (centre)



Another Day in Dhaka

**Freeman
Jonathan
Tibbs reports:**

Having completed two years as a graduate and Furniture Maker in Residence at the Building Crafts College, Jonathan has been seconded to a firm making house furniture, HATIL, in Bangladesh.

A breakfast of chilli and onion omelette and maybe a couple of banana chapattis, and then it's straight out in the car for a white knuckle ride to the factory. The roads here are chaos. Dhaka was at one time called the city of mosques, then it became the city of rickshaws, but now it sits firmly gridlocked under the banner - 'city of traffic'. It truly is mayhem - cars, trucks, buses, rickshaws, auto rickshaws, cows, bikes - everything everywhere doing anything anywhere. There are seemingly no rules and certainly no signs, lights or crossings. Even roundabouts offer a choice of direction if you feel the need to go kamikaze. They say the one advantage of such intense congestion is that when accidents happen, they happen slowly - a rule that offers little comfort when I find myself trapped in a game of chicken between our lunatic driver and an accelerating brick lorry.

The factory itself is located about an hour out of town, but Allah only knows where 'town' begins and ends, for as far and wide as the eye can see there are people doing almost everything under his scorching sun. Digging, picking, burning, cooking, welding, cutting, begging, pushing, smoking, fishing, sweating, but most of all lugging - lugging extremely large miscellaneous things around on astonishingly inappropriate contraptions. The ingenuity and determination of people out here never ceases to

amaze me. Nothing is wasted, nothing is expensive, and everything is being used, no matter how many bits of bamboo need lashing, or rods of steel need welding - they'll lash it and weld it until the end of the earth if that's what it takes to move it.

Once at the factory it's down to work. Walking around the factory floors is a sight to behold. 1200 people working flat out, undertaking every woodworking process imaginable. I'm pleased to say that factory conditions are very good, contrary to the stereotypical 'Made in Bangladesh' images the mind conjures up. The whole 'health and safety' thing seems to have got lost at sea somewhere (or perhaps it just capsized and sank in the Bay of Bengal) but it works nonetheless and people are happy and busy and have good jobs. We're designing and prototyping a new range of home furniture for HATIL to export and examining production processes, so there's plenty to keep us busy too. Not so busy, however, that there isn't time to kick back and savour the spicy samosas and red ginger tea that come knocking on the door at mid morning 'tiffin' time.

Things get done very quickly here, but due to the language barrier it takes a lot longer to get things going in the right direction. I can barely order a cup of tea in Bangla, so discussing laminated curves and saw kerf widths over the din of a factory of archaic woodwork machines takes some time, some patience and an alphabet of wild hand gestures.

Another death-dodging ride home with the sun setting down behind the mighty Bhramaputra river, I arrive to find that Tushar, our trusty housekeeper, has yet again picked up, washed and folded the clothes left strewn across my room and generally cleaned the place up with the finest tooth comb this side of the Khyber Pass.

"What's for supper Tushar?"

"What would you like, Sir?"

"Fish curry?"

Less than two hours later, we all sat down to a rather fine fish curry. Hurrah!



Freeman Jonathan Tibbs (right) with Mr Selim Rahman, Director of Hatil Ltd (centre) and Atif Dewan Rashid, Director of Design Technology Centre (left)

The Turnstone Tsunami Fund Projects on Nias Island, Sumatra, Indonesia

Liveryman Michael Buckley reports:

After the great Tsunami in December 2004 and Earthquake at Easter 2005, Michael Buckley with friend Roger Miall set up the Turnstone Tsunami Fund (TTF) and eventually raised over US\$50,000 to assist restoration. Both of us had worked in Southeast Asia over many years so had valuable practical experience and knowledge of the region. Appalled by the tsunami, we offered our help to the Red Cross but received no response, so we set out to make our own contribution to the disaster relief. Initially we raised funds and sent \$5,000 for the immediate needs of water, clothing and blankets. We then looked at working with a leading NGO in the field but rejected their insistence on a 47% contribution to overheads, pension funds etc. We insisted on 100% of funds going directly to whatever project we could best assist.



Wood house in Nias after the earthquake struck

The UK timber trade, particularly Howarth Timber, and the Carpenters' Company among other companies and many individuals, donated generously; and a concert by the London Symphony Chorus also raised money. We pledged to use the money to make a real difference in Sumatra. Initially we held discussions with UNICEF in Jakarta but were alarmed at the high percentage of fixed costs. Ultimately we chose to work through North Sumatra Heritage on a capacity building project in traditional carpentry training and forest replanting on the island of Nias west of Sumatra, which was also struck by a subsequent earthquake. Traditional timber houses there survived and can be repaired whereas concrete buildings were mainly destroyed. The project culminated in strategic repair work on the Great House – Omo Sebuwa in the remote highland village of Hilinawalo Mazingo. It had been identified by the World Monument Fund in New

York as worthy of saving. This ticked all our boxes. We personally funded all our own related travel costs to monitor or supervise.

Carpentry Course

Turnstone organised two carpentry courses starting with the building of a miniature “replica” version of Omo Sebuwa, which 20 trainees built in the traditional way with techniques that preclude the use of nails. Typical wooden houses in Nias are well proven to withstand earthquakes. This course, run by an aged craft carpenter, served to help perpetuate the traditional style of living by the villagers. The carpenter was the key to this element of the project. Most of the younger carpenters have now returned to farming, mainly due to a lack of suitable local wood resources, the forest having been depleted over the last one hundred and fifty years. They also lack much outside income with which to buy materials.

The likelihood is that many of these 20 trained carpenters will use their skills as and when needed, or afforded, by the village – unless they migrate to the townships, as some will. However, it can be said that for the immediate future, and hopefully longer, the village has a capacity in traditional carpentry building and repair that had almost disappeared. Furthermore, North Sumatra Heritage now knows where to find traditional carpentry skills on Nias Island.

Seedling Planting Project

The engagement of a local teacher was paramount to this element of the Project. An educational programme about timber



Michael Buckley and the Village Chief inspect the seedlings

The Turnstone Tsunami Fund Projects continued

sustainability was run in the village school and the children collected Afoa tree seeds, planted them in poly bags and subsequently transplanted 1,200 seedlings at seven sites around, or within reach of the village. These children learned about protecting this valuable resource but they will be in their sixties when these hardwood trees reach maturity. We have impressed upon the Village Chief the importance of site maintenance in the next 5-10 years. It has to be admitted that now this essential protection is entirely down to the village community.

Omo Sebua

The “Great House” of Omo Sebua, already on the World Monument Fund’s List of the world’s 100 heritage buildings most in need of repair, became the main focus of this project. The fund was able to facilitate much of the immediate work using the local newly trained carpenters. It is hoped that the Turnstone Tsunami Fund project as a whole has focused the attention of several organisations on the importance of this magnificent and almost unique building to ensure its long term maintenance.

New house built by the Carpentry course



The villagers planting Afoa tree seedlings

Conclusions

The main conclusion is that with highly focused objectives, a clear and practical plan, and with realistic financial targets, projects on a small scale can be well worth while. This project also demonstrated that cost-effective results are more likely working with a small local NGO (North Sumatra Heritage) than with a major global NGO.

By far the single most important contributor to the Turnstone Tsunami Fund was The Carpenters’ Company without which much of the work could not have been carried out.

Osborne Award – Holly Bingham

Holly Bingham, a student at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, is presented with the Henry Osborne Award by Past Master John Osborne (left), with the Master Giles Downes at the Livery and Freeman's reception in October



Carpenters' Primary School Prize-giving & Concert

The Deputy Master Peter Povey reports:

One of the delights of Mastership is to attend the Annual Prize-giving of Carpenters Primary School. At the end of July, I went to the School, accompanied by my wife Ann, the Senior Warden and the Beadle. The School had prepared an open-air picnic lunch, but inclement weather, high wind and driving rain, radically altered plans. So all the guests joined the children for a picnic in the classrooms, where we sat on little benches, or squatted with the children on the floor.

After lunch, children, parents, staff and Governors assembled in the Hall, and the Beadle, bearing his mace, led the Carpenters' Company

guests, duly robed and badged, to seats of honour. We were entertained to a programme of wonderful singing, instrumental music, and dance by children of all ages and abilities, with the theme for all the elements being "Friendship". The musicians of the various violin groups and the Guitar Club showed much promise, but the Carpenters Allsorts Choir excelled. Only formed a year ago, the Choir has already represented London at a Schools' Music Festival in Birmingham.

As the Concert ended, it was my pleasant duty to address the Year 6 children who were about to leave Carpenters for secondary education. Taking up the theme of the Concert, I spoke to them of the friendships they had developed at School, and then presented each one with a book prize. I had met most of the children before at the Year 6 Christmas Party in Carpenters' Hall, but such is the pupil turnover at Carpenters Primary School, that some of the children had only been at the School for two or three months. New children had arrived from places as far apart as Eastern Europe, the Gulf, and Central Africa. As the Prize-giving drew to a close, I was pleased to meet Yassine, the boy from Carpenters Primary School whose education at the City of London School is being supported through the Company's Norton Folgate Trust. I also met and talked to Yassine's proud parents, who expressed their immense gratitude for the Company's support.

Liveryman Rachel Archer supervises the flour pudding game at the Carpenters Primary School Christmas party held at the Hall on 6 December



Wyatt's Almshouses Visit

(From top left) Almsman Robert Wardle, the Master Giles Downes, Senior Warden Hugh Lancaster, Almsman Denise Stevens, the Mayor of Godalming Jane Thomson and Almsman Valerie Homer enjoy the Christmas party at Wyatt's Almshouses on 14 December.



Rustington

Liverymen are reminded (and encouraged to inform others) that Rustington Convalescent Home is open to all members of the public at very competitive, weekly rates:

Low Dependency	£485.00 per week
Medium Dependency	£640.00 per week

All enquiries should be directed to the Home Manager, Mrs. Julia Haynes on: 01903 783 368, email info@rustcon.co.uk, or visit the web site at www.rustcon.co.uk.

The Docklands Settlement Charity Event

Liveryman Mark Horn reports on the fund raising evening:

The Dockland Settlement held its annual charity evening at the Carpenters' Hall on 7th December, 2010. The evening was attended by a broad range of organisations who support the work of the Charity and provided a great opportunity for networking as well as fine hospitality. Three separate dance groups from the Stratford Centre entertained the guests, starting with the after-school club performing a sequence from the Lion King, followed by a solo performance by Celestina, Stratford's dance tutor. The final performance was street dancing by 'Boy Blue' a renowned group of young artists based at Carpenters and Dockland Centre. The evening was sponsored by The Canary Wharf Group and the Raffle, Auction and donations raised more than £2000 for the Charity. The Dockland Settlements would like to thank the Carpenters'

Company for their generous donation of the Hall and special thanks go to the staff who helped make the evening run smoothly.



The Lion King performed at the Docklands Settlement fund raising evening

Open House Day at Carpenters' Hall

**Freeman
Commander
David Burns
on his day at
the Hall:**

For the first time in a number of years, Carpenters' Hall opened its doors to the public on 18th September as part of Open House weekend. This annual event is organised by the Open-City architecture advocacy group which throws open to the public many of London's finest buildings, from the great and the grand to the small but perfectly formed. Members of the Company volunteered their services as Room Stewards, and throughout the day could be found surrounded by groups of enthusiastic visitors enjoying the opportunity to learn more about the Company and the Hall. Freeman Commander David Burns, former Captain of HMS Norfolk, was one of the volunteers and here shares his experience of the day.

Hundreds of great buildings are open to the public over the course of the Open House weekend and none is neglected. Sure enough, Carpenters' Hall had attracted a healthy queue by the time the doors opened at 10 am. Talking to veteran Open House attendees, it was obvious that they take their itineraries very seriously, noting opportunities to visit new venues and drawing up meticulous schedules in order to cover the ground. Equally rewarding, there were just as many visitors from home and overseas who were not familiar with the City of London but had taken the trouble to include the Hall.

Visitors were clearly fascinated by the fine craftsmanship on display. The origin and working of the wood, the tradition of stained glass, the

furniture, chandeliers and paintings all generated close inspection, opinion and conversation. Shane Raven's Caesar Augustus Panel was hugely popular and seemed permanently ringed by admirers. "Grinling Gibbons?" asked many who had not yet read their information sheet. What better way to open a discussion on the Company's support for modern craftsmanship? Questions about art and craft inevitably ended in explanation of other aspects of the history, composition or activities of the Company. A couple enquiring about HMS Norfolk's bell discovered that the splendid Captain's dining table they had seen in HMS DARING at Navy Days a few weeks before was a gift of the Company. Few guests seemed to arrive with no knowledge of the Corporation or Liveries. All were clearly eager to learn more and Julie Tancell was kept busy all day answering the most challenging questions. The refreshments provided for volunteers were most welcome as voices became hoarse and feet began to ache.

By the time the Hall closed at 4 pm around, 1600 visitors had been entertained. Hopefully, all had come away better informed for the experience, with a fine impression of the Company and its Hall. As for your correspondent, I found a day spent engaging with enthusiastic and interested people thoroughly good for the soul!

Visitors take the opportunity to investigate Carpenters' Hall



The Tree of Life in Carpenters' Hall

*The Archivist
Julie Tancell
reports:*

Dominating the Company's Banqueting Hall is the massive Tree of Life carved by Sir Charles Wheeler in 1966. Wheeler also designed the vari-wood marquetry background behind the sculpture and the display case for Company plate. Carved from Burma teak, the tree is approximately 8 feet in height and the marquetry comprises 18 different types of wood including cedar, sycamore, walnut, mahogany and eucalyptus. The Tree of Life was commissioned by the Company in 1965 but it is not clear why Sir Charles Wheeler came to be the chosen artist. Unfortunately no original designs have survived in his papers at the Henry Moore Institute in Leeds or at Carpenters' Hall but some clues are given in the Court minutes.



The Tree of Life at the west end of the Hall

Carpenters' Hall was rebuilt in 1956-1960, with parts of the building work planned to be completed at a later stage in order to create an interesting diversity in the design as well as reduce initial costs. By 1965 the redecoration of the Banqueting Hall had been preoccupying the Court for some time and an Ad Hoc Committee was formed to address the issue. With the Hall designed to provide a showcase in the use of wood, Wheeler's sculpture, display case and marquetry background created from a variety of woods fitted the Company's ambitions. The design seems to have been presented to the Court, perhaps only as a three dimensional model, sometime in 1964. The wood samples Wheeler provided are still kept in the Company archive, although there is no trace of the model. By October 1965 the design appears to have been decided, although one Past Master commented that 'in the model the tree had seemed to be unattached but it was important that it should appear to be rooted in the ground'. Work began on the carvings in Wheeler's studio and in late January 1966 it was reported that the carving would be ready for mounting in August and the work completed for the Livery Dinner in November. Members of the Ad Hoc Committee

visited the studio at least once to view the progress of the sculpture. By October 1966 the work was nearly completed, and the November Court of 1966 noted that the background had been framed and the work polished. It was moved that Sir Charles Wheeler be offered the Honorary Freedom of the Company and he was duly made free of the Company on 10 January 1967.

The Tree of Life

The tree is composed of the figures of a woman and child on the left, and on the right a man, sheltered by the branches of the tree. The branches are loaded with fruit including acorns, apples and grapes, two birds sit on the top branches and a pineapple crowns the trunk. The design of the marquetry background complements the tree, comprising a gilded sun (carved from yellow pine) at the top with raindrops falling across tree trunks, vines and grapes, oak leaves, coniferous leaves and acorns. The background marquetry work is pierced by the display cabinet made from veneered African mahogany, which also contains five panels of Hondura mahogany representing the tools of the carpenter. The coats of arms of the Company and City hang on each side of the Tree of Life and are carved from yellow pine.



The Tree of Life and display cabinet soon after its completion in 1966



Charles Hartwell
Self-portrait
Courtesy of
Nicholas
Bagshawe
Fine Art

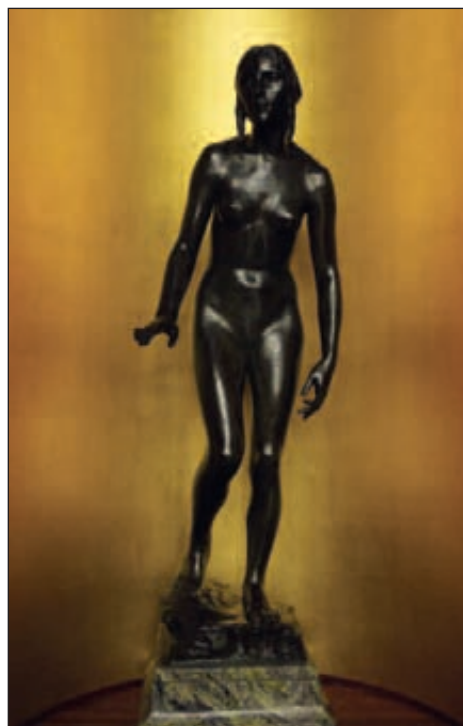
An ancient symbol appearing in many cultures, the Tree of Life here is sustained by the sun and rain and in turn provides shelter and nourishment to the figures resting under it. The design reflects other artefacts owned by the Company, notably the pineapple on the Beadle's 18th century mace and the carved fruit on the Master's Chair (also 18th century), both of which were studied by Wheeler. The Tree of Life design is in turn reflected in other designs in the Hall, including the Bernays window (1970) by Lawrence Lee which places the sun at the top of the window with leaves intertwined amongst the coats of arms.

Sir Charles Wheeler (1892-1974) was President of the Royal Academy 1956-1966 and was the first sculptor to be elected to the position. He was born in Codsall, Staffordshire and grew up in Wolverhampton where aged 15, he won a scholarship to the School of Art. A later scholarship of 1912 took him to the Royal College of Art. Having suffered rheumatic fever as a young man he was unfit for active service during World War One and spent the War casting and moulding false limbs for amputees. He created a number of war memorials, including the Mercantile Marine Memorial at Tower Hill. His work includes one of the fountains in Trafalgar Square (dedicated to Admiral Jellicoe), reliefs and a bronze springbok above the entrance to South Africa House on the Strand, five pairs of 20 ft bronze doors and façade reliefs for the Bank of England and three sculptures held by the Tate. Memorials to him are erected in St James Church, Piccadilly, and in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral.



Sir Charles Wheeler (right) with the *Tree of Life* in his studio

Carrara marble nude *The Joy of Life* by Charles Rutland (1858-1943), given to the Company in 1958 for the new Hall by Past Master Arthur Robertson and his wife.



The Awakening by **Charles Hartwell RA**

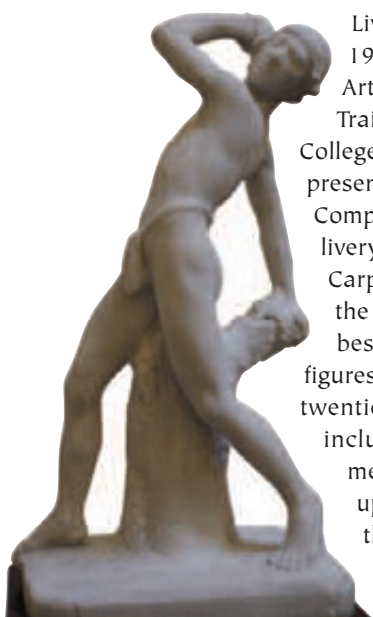
If Company members have any additional information about the Tree of Life the Archivist would be very pleased to hear from them.

Other Sculptures in the Hall

At the foot of the ground floor staircase is a bronze statuette, *The Awakening* by Liveryman Charles Hartwell RA (1873-1951). Hartwell was Instructor of the Art classes at the Company's Trades' Training School (now the Building Crafts College) for over twenty four years. He presented the statuette and pedestal to the Company after being invited to join the livery in 1931. Originally in the second Carpenters' Hall, the statuette survived the blitz of 1941. Hartwell is probably best known as a sculptor of public figures in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but his work also includes public sculptures and war memorials, including one for Newcastle upon Tyne. He became an Associate of the Royal Academy in 1915 and a full member in 1924.

At the top of the staircase is a

The Joy of Life by
Charles Rutland



HMS DARING General Up-date

*By Captain
Paddy
McAlpine RN:*

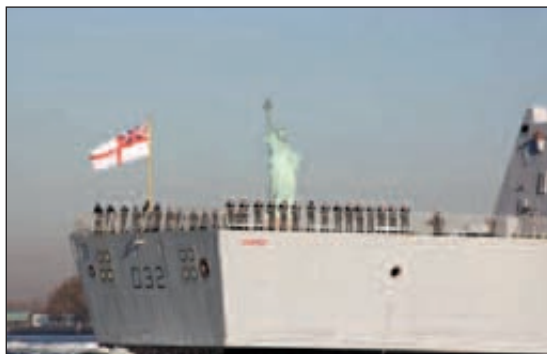
The stage was set: dry docking in Portsmouth was a distant memory, summer leave now over; HMS DARING was making good her final preparations for Type 45's maiden deployment. This would prove to be the first venture beyond continental Europe. We were to join the USS ENTERPRISE Carrier Strike Group for their 'Composite Training Unit Exercise' prior to their Task Group's deployment to the Persian Gulf. Having completed our own sea training in the South Coast Exercise Areas in June, it was time to put the Navy's new destroyer through her paces in an

*Team DARING in
Washington, DC*



environment where the number of aircraft sorties seen in a day would exceed those which other exercises would be able to provide in a month or more. The prospect of visits to Norfolk Virginia, Mayport Florida, and New York City was also keenly anticipated. After repairing the damage caused by a Southampton tug in early September, we sailed from Portsmouth and commenced the 3,400nm Atlantic passage. We spent 11 days on passage west and took the opportunity to hold traditional flight deck sports, a horse racing night and a BBQ. There had been much talk of Hurricane Igor and the associated weather system, for which we modified our route, and the heavy weather remained well clear of us. Apart from the occasional call to watch dolphins or whales, the Ops Room teams were busying themselves throughout the passage with our fighter controllers trying to impart their aviation knowledge to some of the our youngest sailors. The Marine Engineers had a hectic time keeping

Quite a view



7500 tons of steel moving at an average speed of 15 knots.

As the weather warmed, we approached Naval Station Norfolk. Each of the wharves bristled with warships. USS ENTERPRISE was abeam and eclipsed the dozens of amphibious vessels, escorts and auxiliaries of the US Second Fleet behind her. DARING's sleek lines and spiky Samson radar drew looks from all who passed us and there were queues of American sailors wanting to look around and dispel the mystery of whether or not we did actually allow beer on board (the USN are dry).

A week later than expected, after dealing with an unexpected mechanical issue, DARING joined the Task Group (TG) at sea, by now comprising the Carrier and eight escorts, as well as the Norwegian frigate FRIJDTOF NANSEN and submarine UTVAER that completed the foreign contingent. In anticipation of the action, we closed up to trial the T45 defence watch routine and took our sector of defending the Carrier. After ten days with the TG, we received permission to detach and turn south to allow us to assess DARING's capacity to operate in warm waters in anticipation of possible deployments next year. During this time the Senior Rates took the opportunity to decorate their mess in Nelsonic style and enjoy the age old tradition of Pickle Night at sea. The Floridian naval station hosted us for a week of post-exercise debriefs and a little R&R too. As we left Mayport there was a fantastic opportunity for 20 members of the Ship's Company to conduct a Command, Leadership and Management Expedition around several US sites of military interest and this fantastic opportunity was supported by our affiliates, to whom we remain most grateful. The third visit of the deployment was to have been the last before returning to the UK. West Midtown, Manhattan, New York is one of the iconic berths for a warship. During a busy five day visit, DARING opened her doors to a range of visitors: His Excellency Mr Ban Ki-Moon the Secretary-General of the United Nations hosted a dinner on board, the London 2012 Olympiad Committee held a cultural event for guests including Joanna Lumley, Jim Dale and Sir Patrick Stewart, and we had hundreds more guests besides.

Despite an uncertain start, DARING achieved her aims and we flew the flag for T45, the RN and the UK, leaving no doubt as to our capability and the greater utility of the DARING Class and the future navy. When one

of our shipmates took ill quite suddenly and seriously we made a diversion north in order to land him at a hospital in Cape Cod. To replace the extra fuel we had used in the high speed transit and in order to ensure we were in an even more robust position to make the transatlantic crossing, we stopped in Halifax, Nova Scotia to collect fuel and stores before heading home. We arrived back in the UK several days later than we had originally planned but such is 'life in a blue suit'. On our

return we proceeded immediately into a planned maintenance period taking us through until the middle of February 2011 before we start our build up to what lies ahead and the first truly operational deployment for DARING. On behalf of everyone in DARING, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continual support. We look forward to meeting up with you in 2011.

4 RIFLES Activity

By Captain Tom Knight:

The pace of life of 4 RIFLES has remained busy, with Company deployments to India and the Falklands, Battalion shooting competitions, inter-platoon patrols competitions and multiple attempts at adventurous training. There was also a change in Commanding Officer, with Lieutenant-Colonel Rupert Jones handing the reins over to Lieutenant-Colonel Nick Thornton at the end of July. With A Company fresh from Afghanistan having completed their post-operational tour leave, the Battalion could, theoretically, hit the ground running as the shadow of taking on the Spearhead Lead Element (SLE) role appeared over the horizon.

Snake catching demonstrated in India



In June B Company deployed to Belgaun, India. This was the first time in 60 years that regular British Army soldiers had deployed on exercise with their Indian counterparts. It provided the perfect opportunity for us to see the excellent facilities of the Indian Army. The Company was made to feel extremely welcome and two lessons were worth special mention. Firstly, the Company was shown how to catch a cobra, skin it and eat

it raw. The second was their Commando Training Wing Confidence Course, which comprised a number of obstacles high off the ground, with a final 50 foot drop into water at the sound of a gun shot.

In August R Company deployed to the Falklands' Islands as part of the ongoing operational commitment to the security of the Islands. They deployed with 150 Riflemen to harsh terrain and even harsher weather and followed a now familiar routine for the Roulement Infantry Company, with a Platoon conducting local and live fire training, a Platoon on long range patrols and a final Platoon acting as a Quick Reaction Force and conducting short range patrols around the Mount Pleasant Airfield.

With the news that the Battalion was assuming the role of SLE, the focus after summer leave in August was an inter-platoon competition, the Tarleton Trophy. All the Platoons focussed their training for the six weeks post-summer leave, culminating in a week in Galloway Forest in the first week of November. The plan devised secretly by the Operations Officer, Captain Guy Bomford, was for the Platoons to complete a 54km circuit with stands at random intervals testing them in the nature of hybrid conflict. As has become synonymous with the Tarleton Trophy, strength of character and physical robustness were key, with those Platoons managing to avoid casualties in a better position than those Platoons who were unfortunate to lose a Rifleman somewhere along the way. The weather played a significant part throughout the competition, especially on the first day, with a bright and breezy morning turning to horizontal rain in the afternoon. Much to the disappointment of the Platoons this led to an alteration of the route, meaning that almost

► p20

4 RIFLES Activity continued

Inter-platoon competition in Galloway Forest



20km was knocked off the course in order to take into account the conditions and terrain, as well as the weight of the rucksacks and the general fatigue of the Riflemen. The culmination was a river crossing through the freezing highland waters of Galloway Forest. After the results had been tallied up and all factors taken into account, the Recce Platoon, under the guidance of Captain Tom Knight and Serjeant Dan Broughton, were declared the winners of the Tarleton Trophy 2010.

One of the biggest occasions over the summer and autumn has been the announcement of the Operational Honours and Awards List for Operation HERRICK II, on which A Company were deployed. Cpl Ricky Ferguson was awarded the Military Cross for several counts of gallantry in the face of intense enemy action. Unfortunately

in one of those incidents he was the victim as well as the would-be saviour, suffering several life-changing injuries. Other awards included a Queen's Gallantry Medal for Rfn Reece Terry and Rfn Ross Robinson, sadly killed in action, and a MBE for the Officer Commanding A Company, Major Richard Streatfeild. The bravery and determination of the whole Company was represented by a host of other awards, reflecting the fantastic job that A Company did while patrolling incessantly in the Upper Sangin Valley throughout the Winter 2009/10 in the face of an extremely high Improvised Explosive Device (IED) threat and the almost constant threat of small arms attacks.

Although the last six months have kept the Battalion at a fairly high tempo there has been greater opportunity than at anytime in the last two years to enjoy the lighter side to military life. The sports teams are beginning to flourish once more, including a victorious boxing match against the Grenadier Guards, but the greatest challenge during the next few months will be fulfilling our commitment as the national Spearhead Lead Element.

Unveiling of Memorial Wall

The Deputy Master Peter Povey reports:

During my year as Master, the last of three visits my wife Ann and I made to 4 RIFLES, our affiliate Battalion, was on 21st July, for the unveiling of the Battalion's Memorial Wall at Bulford Camp. The Wall, in black slate and

Portland stone, was a gift of the Carpenters' Company principally constructed at the Building Crafts College. Ann and I were accompanied from the Carpenters' Company by the Middle Warden, and Past Master William Haynes and their ladies, and from the College by the Principal, and by Nigel Gilkison, Senior Stonemasonry Tutor, and Jack Wood, Stonemason in Residence. Jack had carved the centrepiece of the Memorial, a representation of the Cap Badge of The RIFLES, a badge designed on the creation of the new regiment by our own gallant Clerk, Brigadier Tim Gregson.

When the Battalion and guests were assembled outside the new Battalion Headquarters Building, the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Rupert Jones MBE, marched me



One of the last duties performed by the Revd Peter Povey as Master was to unveil the 4 RIFLES Memorial Wall at Bulford Camp in Wiltshire



The Memorial Wall was largely constructed by the Building Crafts College

up, to my relief at normal Infantry pace, and, after the customary Alert call by the Bugler, we were greeted by the Regimental Sergeant Major. Following brief speeches by Colonel Jones and me, I had the singular honour of unveiling the Memorial Wall. The Chaplain then dedicated the Wall in memory of all Riflemen who had died

whilst serving with the Battalion; in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the United Kingdom. The Battalion's Fijian Choir sang a group of haunting melodies, and the Silence, with Last Post and Reveille, followed.

Poppy wreaths were laid, and one by one, family groups approached the Memorial Wall to pay tribute. One group, led by the dead Rifleman's mother, had travelled from Fiji for the ceremony. Only when widows and children, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters traced the incised names of loved ones on the black slate, did I fully recognise the need for a tangible memorial such as this, which will also serve as a daily reminder to the Battalion of dead friends and comrades.

After the ceremony, we all joined the Battalion and families in a fine buffet lunch, during which Ann and I, and the other Carpenters' Company guests were able to talk to members of the families about Riflemen who had died, and to hear their stories.

The Chosen Rifleman



The Chosen Rifleman 2010 was Rifleman Tardi of the Battalion's Quartermaster's Department. Rifleman Tardi had overcome near fatal injuries suffered in a traffic accident two years ago and has worked unceasingly since, recruiting for the Army and on operations in Afghanistan.

Battalion Second-in-Command Major Mike Foster-Brown (left) presents the Company's Chosen Rifleman award to Rifleman Tammasso Tardi at the 4 RIFLES Memorial Wall

West Ham Sea Cadets

The Company has an affiliation with the West Ham Sea Cadets based in Davis Street, Newham. We are looking for a Liveryman who is willing to act as our Liaison Officer with this Cadet

Unit. This would not be an onerous task, probably calling for no more than two visits to the Unit each year. Any volunteers are requested to give their names to the Clerk.

Livery & Freemens' Reception



Entertainment at the Livery & Freemens' Reception on 5th October was provided by O Duo, a lively and exciting pair of musicians playing marimbas and percussion. Audience participation was a requirement of the evening and Freeman Will Hall, Hannah Mosley and Holly Bingham (Henry Osborne Award) bravely volunteered.

Lord Mayor's Show and Lunch

The Master Giles Downes and his wife Jessica enjoyed a convivial, family-oriented lunch at the hall after the Lord Mayor's Show on 13th November



The Master and Mrs Roz Wheeler with Liveryman Rachel Archer and her daughter Emily Suzanne, the first child to be born to a serving female Liveryman of the Company



The Lord Mayor Michael Bear caught by Past Master John Wheeler

Sport

Bridge

We have already enjoyed three in-house evenings coupled with the culinary delights of Penny and David Newman. We are keen to recruit more players so please do contact me or the Clerk.

In the New Year we have matches against the Cordwainers' Company (at Home) and the Girdlers' Company (Away) plus at least three other in-house evenings. Nothing is too serious and all abilities are in evidence. I have also been approached by the Furniture Makers' Company for a match, so this should be added to the schedule come next season. ▶ p24

The Master Giles Downes identifies the Bridge organiser, Middle Warden Martin Samuel



Liveryman Patricia Neild, Freeman Jo Wade and her guest and Past Master Michael Matthews enjoyed the Company in-house bridge evening on 7 December



The winner on the night was Freeman Jo Wade, here presented with the prize by the Master



16 players enjoyed the pre-Christmas Bridge evening

Sport continued

Tennis

Livery Tennis

This year a slightly smaller group of tennis players took to the courts at the Queen's Club on 14th July. A big thank you to Elizabeth and Caroline Haynes for organising the early evening courts. The July weather was as unpredictable as ever and sensibly the reserved courts were inside so there were no stoppages during play. Fortunately the evening sunshine did break through as the tennis finished which allowed us to enjoy an excellent informal supper on the balcony overlooking the Club.

Inter Livery Tennis

Once again, the annual Inter-livery Tennis Competition took place at the Queen's Club on the 16th September. Unfortunately not all the Carpenters' regular players were available but we were delighted to welcome Alison Seaton who stepped in for Caroline Haynes. Lawrence Mallinson partnered Alison and took the helm as the Carpenters' first team and Elizabeth Haynes and Rupert Eveleigh made up the second pair. Unfortunately, the addition of a Girdler (or wife of a Girdler) didn't help in our quest for victory as both teams only managed to get through to the plate competition. The Carpenters' first pair at least managed to progress a round or two further than the second pairing but it was The Tallow Chandlers who were once again the winning team - I recall from my youth, however, that it's the

taking part that counts. The setting as always was delightful and a really good day's tennis was followed by an enjoyable supper. Clearly some pressure was exerted upon the winning team as an undertaking was given at the end of the evening to split the brother/sister pairing which has been so successful over the last ten years. I'm not sure if that will translate into more success for us next year, so we'll have to wait and see.



Liverymen Lawrence Mallinson, Rupert Eveleigh, Elizabeth Haynes and guest Alison Seaton

Livery Dinner



The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs attended the Company's Livery Dinner on 17th November. The Master Giles Downes (centre left) hosted (from left to right) Sheriff Fiona Woolf, Lord Mayor Michael Bear and Sheriff Richard Sermon.

90th Birthday Celebrations



*Honorary Court Member Sir Tommy Macpherson CBE, MC** celebrated his 90th birthday in September, and at the October Court the Master presented him with a Carpenters' Company birthday cake.*

Court Ladies' Christmas Luncheon

(Left to right) Anne Povey and Helen Montague-Smith, joined Rosie Evelegh at the piano for Christmas carol singing before the Court Ladies' Christmas Luncheon



(Left to right) Peter Luton, Roz Wheeler, Deborah Gregson, Valerie Morton-Smith, Deirdre Luton and Michael Montague-Smith



Obituaries



Liveryman The Reverend Canon David Harold Bishop, Dip. Arch. A.R.I.B.A., F.R.S.A.

1928 – 2010

David and his twin sister, June, were born in 1928 in North London. He was a happy, enthusiastic, boisterous child with a wicked sense of humour. He became a keen Boy Scout and Air Cadet and did well at Harrow County School. He then studied architecture at the Northern Polytechnic where he qualified in 1951 and went into practice despite giving serious thought about the priesthood. He met Sylvia during his studies in 1950 and they married in 1955 after he had completed his National Service with the Royal Engineers. He then went to Westcott House, a Theological College in Cambridge for two years where he became theologically liberal, progressive, modern and free thinking but a man 'of the people'. A friend wrote that: 'Humour was for David like a yeast working through his whole personality'. It must be said that Sylvia was David's partner in every aspect of their lives supporting each other equally in their professional careers.

In 1957 he was ordained and made Deacon in Lichfield Cathedral, one of five Curates at Cannock, a mining town in Staffordshire. In 1958, their twins Jane and Helen, were born followed by Stephen in 1960. David was very much a loving family man. In 1961 the Bishop of Lichfield moved David to two large estates, north of Birmingham and said 'Bishop get the church up!' The new church was consecrated in 1964. He was called to be Architectural Adviser to the Council for the Care of Churches and Guild Vicar of All Hallows, London Wall in 1967 from where he took part in several BBC programmes of 'Seeing and Believing'. He became a Liveryman in 1968 and represented the Company on the Court of the Royal College of Art, a post which he held until relatively recently.

In 1980 he moved to become Custos of Norwich Cathedral then to Vice-Dean. During this time he became chairman of a newly formed charity 'Art in Churches' and organised various exhibitions of contemporary church art not only in the Cathedral but locally and nationally – some of which were controversial. To quote Liveryman Lord Walpole, who took over chairmanship of Art in Churches, 'It was David's own enthusiasm and noted persuasive power for both church members and artists that made the organisation's work so significant. That special gleam in his eye when he had secured a particularly tricky agreement is memorable'.

As an Architect, David was involved with Pheasey Church, amongst other projects, together with Liveryman Charles Brown. He also designed items for the interior fabric of various churches

including copes, stoles and altar fronts. He was an excellent artist in his own right creating over 400 paintings, the proceeds of those sold went to Save the Children, a charity which both he and Sylvia supported. In 1992 they retired to Bridport where they enjoyed music, reading, scrabble, painting, walking, exploring, involvement with the Bridport Arts Centre plus supporting an active local ministry including 10 years as local hospital Chaplain. Always active, he was a true man of God.

David died peacefully on September 11th at Bymead House, Dorset.

Freeman Thomas Whitfield

1926 – 2010

In 1941, when Tom was 15, he became a piano tuner but within a year he was called up and became an Air Cadet. He flew in a Lancaster bomber over London during the war and loved recounting this experience, however after six months service he was found to have flat feet and so he left the cadets and returned to piano tuning only to develop a love for wood work and so in 1947 became a cabinet maker. A year later, when on a week's holiday in Cliftonville with his family, he ended up at a hotel where Dorothy was serving as a waitress and so started a relationship that was to last 62 years.

Tom was an excellent cabinet maker working for a small firm who had many celebrity clients. He restored antiques at Buckingham Palace and spoke with Prince Charles and other members of royalty. One of his oak altar tables can be found in Durham Cathedral and he was consulted on the restoration of York Minster following its serious fire.

In the mid-80s Tom left the firm and became a woodwork teacher at the City and Guilds, imparting his knowledge and love of woodwork to his students. He was very proud of them and had a great success rate with exam passes. He initially planned to retire when aged 65 but was easily persuaded to work another couple of years when City & Guilds asked him to. He worked on floats for the Lord Mayor's show before eventually retiring in 1993. Throughout his life he had never been out of a job. On his retirement he was made a Freeman, an accolade which gave Tom and his family great pride.



Calendar

2011	17 February	Company Bridge Evening
	7 March	Inter-livery Bridge
	9 March	Livery Ladies' Dinner
	30 March	Company Bridge Evening
	1 April	United Guilds Service, St Paul's
	5 April	Philadelphia Exchange Lecture in Hall
	6 April	The Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch at Guildhall
	14 April	Company Golf Day
	15 April	Company Clay Pigeon Shooting Day
	28 April	Company Bridge Evening
	11-12 May	Company Visit to Bruges
	19 May	Inter-livery Golf
	26 May	Court Visit to Wyatt's Almshouses
	8 June	Court Ladies' Dinner
	22 June	Court Visit to Rustington Convalescent Home
	24 June	Election of Sheriffs
	30 June-2 July	Building Crafts College End-of-Year Show in Hall
	13 July	Company Tennis Evening
	19 July	General Court of the Livery
	27 July	Visit to Bayfordbury Pinetum
	2 August	Installation Court
	27 September	Wood Awards Ceremony, Coventry
	3 October	Election of The Lord Mayor
	4 October	Livery and Freeman's Reception
	12 November	The Lord Mayor's Show (Buffet lunch in Hall)
	16 November	Livery Dinner
	24 November	Building Crafts College Prize-giving in Hall
	5 December	Carpenters' Primary School Christmas Party in Hall

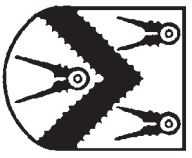
COMPANY MEMENTOS

The following are available from Carpenters' Hall:

History of the Company	£10.00 (usually £25.00)
Company Tie	£12.00 & £6.00
Company Cummerband.....	£20.00
Commemorative Dining Plate	£32.00
Plaque of the Company's Coat of Arms	£16.00
Company Video	£5.00
Company Mug	£4.00
Company Tie Pin/Brooch	£12.00



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The Master Giles Downes' sketch of Carpenters' Hall in Philadelphia, made during his visit in October