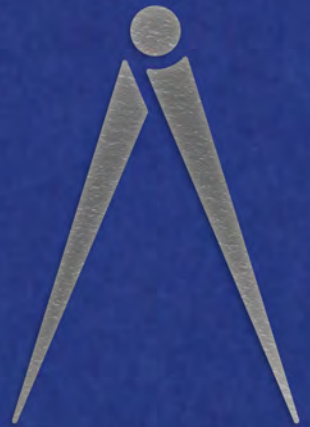


The Carpenters' Company Chronicle 2022



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The Master Michael Morrison

Foreword by the Master

What a difference a year makes! This time last year I was writing to say that very little had taken place other than Zoom meetings to keep the Company business moving. Not every event that would have occurred in a 'normal' year has taken place but most of the key ones have. Court and committee meetings have taken place back in the Hall, which is a pleasure and a welcome release from technology. It was good to be meeting colleagues face to face once more.

There was a temporary lull over the Christmas period. The advent of the omicron variant led to the cancellation of the Carpenters' Primary School Christmas Party and the January Court Luncheon when we would normally host our various scholars. The three Livery Dinners, in November, March and June went ahead with slightly reduced numbers. We held an additional September Dinner to welcome Liverymen back to the Hall after a year away. The Livery and Freemen's Reception was well attended, with entertainment by 'Opera Up Close', a favourite company of mine, which seemed to be very well received. The operative theme continued through the year with a splendid programme of music by our gold medal winning Guildhall scholar, baritone Tom Mole at the Spring Dinner, and an equally bravura performance by another Guildhall alumna,

The Master (centre right) at the November Livery Dinner, where he welcomed the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs. Pictured left to right are Alderman Alison Gowman, Lord Mayor Vincent Keaveny and Alderman Nicholas Lyons



mezzo soprano Laura Fleur, at the Summer Dinner. Our commitment to our armed forces affiliations remains as strong as ever. During the year 4th Battalion, The Rifles became the 4th Battalion, The Ranger Regiment, part of the newly established Army Special Operations Brigade in a significant restructuring of the British Army. We presented the Chosen Ranger

with his award at the Court Luncheon. Awards were also made to the Champion Pilot from IV(R) Squadron RAF and to the Premier Carpenter from the Royal School of Military Engineering. We have not lost sight of HMS DARING — she is still in dock in Birkenhead being refitted. We understand that she now has new engines and is due to be moved to Portsmouth for the next phase

of her refit. The Company was again one of the major supporters of the spectacularly successful Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch held in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund The Soldier's Charity. Members of the Company were entertained by 4 RIFLES to a splendid range day at Normandy Barracks. My own experience with guns was largely through the CCF at school where the issue weapon was the venerable Lee Enfield 303 rifle (first adopted by the British Army in 1895 and standard issue until 1957). So it was very exciting to be let loose with a Glock pistol and then an SASO Rifle.

It has been a pleasure to represent the Company at various City events, the election of the Sheriffs and the Lord Mayor – though sadly not at the United Guilds Service or the Lord Mayor's Banquet as Catherine and I had Covid at that time. However, much inter-livery socialising has gone on. It was a treat for me as an architect to visit twenty-seven livery halls over the year, ranging from the brand new Leathersellers' to the ancient Apothecaries' built in 1672, and from the magnificence of Drapers' and Goldsmiths' to the relative simplicity of the Furniture Makers' and the Coopers'. All of them fascinating – but all of them also convincing me that in our own 1960 dining hall we have something very special.

One of the exciting Company developments this year has been the vacation by our long-term tenants, Deutsche Bank, of Nos 3, 5 and 7 Throgmorton Avenue. The Bank is in the process of moving its staff to its new headquarters at 21 Moorfields. The Carpenters'

Throgmorton buildings back onto the building at 23 Great Winchester Street where Deutsche Bank owns the freehold. As they are vacating the whole site, the Bank has agreed to sell the freehold to the Company, giving rise to the potential for a major redevelopment of the buildings in the Avenue as well as making significant improvements to the Hall itself and the reception area.

The Company is much indebted to Liveryman Jim Greaves, a partner in the firm Hopkins Architects, who produced a fascinating examination of the development of the present Hall within the shell of the 19th Century building. This stimulated a good deal of debate and led us to appoint the firm Montague Evans to complete a detailed assessment of the 'Heritage Significance' of the Hall, a listed building. The Court decided to seek pre-application advice from the City Corporation and apply for an 'Enhanced Listing' from Historic England. Unsurprisingly, Historic England assessed the Dining Hall as being highly significant as the only Livery Hall rebuilt after the war with a genuinely contemporary design. Armed with this, we have appointed by competitive interview a firm of architects, Allford Hall Monaghan Morris to prepare an outline scheme for how the Hall itself might be improved.

Some out of town pleasures for me have been the visit to York for the Merchant Adventurers' Venison Feast and no less than three visits to Sheffield - twice to the Cutlers of Hallamshire's Feast, in November 2021 and again in May 2022. This second visit was closely followed by the



Attendees gathered at Carpenters' Hall before enjoying the Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch at Guildhall in April

Lord Mayor's Livery Weekend, held for the first time in Sheffield rather than Ironbridge as in previous years. This was a fascinating event, with visits to some advanced design and manufacturing facilities. It was heartening to see innovation and development of high tech solutions for industry thriving in the city.

Two other memorable visits made by Catherine and I have been to Christ's Hospital and to the Carpenters Primary School. The visit to Christ's Hospital was inspiring, a chapel service followed by the school

march past accompanied by the military band. This was followed by Speech Day and prize-giving where we were treated to an astonishingly impressive oration (it would not be doing it justice to call it a mere 'speech') by the Head Grecian. The day was rounded off with lunch in the magnificent and enormous Dining Hall. It was a treat to see the buildings, which were designed by the architect Sir Aston Webb between 1890 and 1902 – a splendid purpose designed set of school buildings which are now all listed. At Carpenters Primary School

we attended the end of year concert put on by Year six and then handed out the leaving present books. Books are chosen by the children and financed by the Carpenters' Company. Each child in Year six came to the front of the stage, mostly individually but some in pairs, and said what they would remember most about the school. The list was long and varied and delivery ranged from confident extrovert to one or two who could barely get the words out – but it was a most heartening experience to witness. The presentation was

followed by a tour of the school and then lunch with some of the 5th Year who were irrepressibly chatty. Altogether a delightful day.

It has been a huge honour to serve a second year as Master. Many thanks to members of the Livery for allowing me a second term and particular thanks to the three Wardens who have allowed their own progression to be delayed. It has certainly been a very busy year for Catherine and me - but also a fascinating and enjoyable one.

Building Crafts College

For much of the academic year COVID-19 remained a significant problem, both in managing social distancing within the College and coping with the enforced absence of staff and students alike. Fortunately, that tide has turned. Not only are student numbers across all disciplines back at pre-pandemic levels but, despite Covid, results achieved by many apprentices and students have broken all historical records, exceeding national averages and setting a new benchmark for the College. Indeed, apprentice achievement rates across the year are currently around 80% (no national comparative figures exist due to the pandemic) and apprentice retention rates sit at a healthy 87%, significantly higher than the national average of approximately 65.7%.



Chair of the BCC Board of Governors
Rachel Bower reviews exhibits at the End of
Year Show with student Eliot Duff

Student Academic Achievements

In Site Carpentry, Brick and Bench Joinery across the board this year there was a 100% pass rate with a good majority of students achieving distinction and merit. In Site Carpentry, Level 3, Christopher Clifton achieved the highest ever theory score at the BCC (94%). In Stonemasonry, not only did all students achieve their qualification but one mason, Jordan Cliffe, took first place from amongst a field of 7 nominees world-wide in the World Skills friendly competition. These results have been reinforced by the success of three BCC students recently awarded first, second and third place in the Joiners & Ceilers' competition. Fine Woodwork students manifested a similarly



Inspecting furniture exhibited at the College
End of Year Show at Carpenters' Hall
in June

high level of success, with an array of excellent showpieces presented at the End of Year Show in July.

In addition, much work has been undertaken to create more flexible study options and include innovative programmes relating to sustainability, management, leadership and social responsibility — all skills being taught by leading academics, as well as blue chip corporate and ex Special Forces personnel. Our current range of apprenticeship courses may be expanded next academic year to include new apprenticeships for Organ Builders and Museum and Gallery Technicians.

Structural improvements: increased teaching and storage space

As we emerged from the pandemic, our greatest concern switched to a potential shortage of teaching space for the next academic year. To this end, the Business Manager has planned and commissioned a series of works aimed at getting rid of clutter and creating space for additional workbenches.

Reconstruction work began at both college sites towards the end of the Summer term. At Gibbins Road this consisted of much improved toilet facilities and a properly rainproofed roof. Roof work was also completed at Kennard Road along with overdue maintenance and decoration work to bathroom facilities.

The former apartment has been repurposed as a suite of three offices, with a lounge area to serve as a staff room which includes a small kitchen, water dispenser and balcony area. Additional toilet facilities and a staff shower room have been provided. A secure storage room has been included to satisfy examining bodies that exam papers are stored according to strict rules.

The main workshop mezzanine area has had some unsafe wooden structures taken away leading to the removal of the finance office and an old plant room to create two large teaching areas. These will accommodate several work benches. A new purpose-built office is under construction.

At ground level reinforcing steel joints have been inserted to strengthen the mezzanine floor. Storage racks have been

removed to create further bench space. Stone has been cleared from the yard, creating space for two shipping containers which will serve as wood storage facilities. A compressor from the old plant room has been relocated downstairs in a purpose-built cabinet.

The dilapidated former lead workshop has been made safe and watertight and will serve as a new technician workspace. This previously housed archive boxes full of documents. These have been sifted and important ones stored offsite in an archive facility. As with the old IT peripherals a major aim has been to clear up the sites and where possible recycle. A large amount of paper has been professionally shredded. Work continues to remove rubbish and reduce fire risks.

In the canteen area a 'micro-market' of vending machines has been installed to provide fresh food, drinks and snacks along with two general use microwaves and a cold-water dispenser.

Work has begun on improving the grounds. Trees have been cut back and planting has begun in the flower beds. The aim is to clear the overgrown area adjoining the Channelsea river to improve the overall appearance of the Kennard Road site and deter vermin.

All this work has considerably improved facilities at both sites and we are confident that all essential work will have been completed before the new term starts.



Craft

Wood Awards 2021

LIVERYMAN FRANCESCA GREGSON, PR AND PROJECT MANAGER WRITES:

Six structures and two product designs were announced as winners of the Wood Awards 2021 at a ceremony held at The Building Centre in London on 25th November. Established in 1971, the Wood Awards is the UK's premier competition for excellence in architecture and product design in wood. It is free to enter and aims to encourage and promote outstanding timber design, craftsmanship and installation. The independent judging panel visits all the shortlisted projects in person, making it a uniquely rigorous competition. The Awards are split into two main categories: Buildings and Furniture & Product. The Gold Award is given to the project that the judges deem to be the winner of winners.



**Magdalene
College Library**
Gold Award Winner

The Alice Hawthorn
Commercial & Leisure winner

The judges chose Magdalene College Library by Niall McLaughlin Architects as the Gold Award and Education & Public Sector category winner. It is an arrangement of simple brick volumes with timber windows and pitched roofs that echo the gabled architecture of the college. The interior spaces are created by a glulam (laminated beam) and CLT (cross laminated timber) structure, supported on load bearing brickwork and populated with oak shelves and tables. Liveryman Jim Greaves, chair of the buildings judging panel, comments, 'Magdalene College Library is a tour de force of architectural design and achievement.'



The different forms of the reading rooms are beautiful and experienced sequentially as they lead one through the building. The brick, timber and stone has been designed exquisitely with a thorough understanding of their intrinsic qualities.'

The Commercial & Leisure winner was The Alice Hawthorn by De Matos Ryan. In medieval times, the village of Nun Monkton was an important river hub with many travellers staying overnight. In recent years, the village's last remaining pub, a critical community meeting point, has come under threat. This community-led project transforms the pub's sustainability with the addition of twelve guest bedrooms, eight of which use an entirely timber frame construction centred around a new courtyard.

The Interiors winner was St John Street by Emil Eve Architects. This large Victorian apartment was acquired as an empty shell with an industrial palette of exposed brickwork and concrete. It has been reimagined as a warm, inviting home that retains the building's industrial character.

Built: East Pavilion
Small Project winner

St John Street
Interiors winner



A series of contemporary interventions are distinct from the existing fabric, with carefully crafted joinery running throughout.

The judges selected The Boathouse by Adams Collingwood Architects as the Private winner. This practical family residence respects the outstanding natural beauty of its surroundings and looks out over the Salcombe Estuary. Natural materials are at the heart of the project. Yellow cedar tiles and cladding adorn the roof and exterior, while the upstairs floor is made from Douglas fir.

Built: East Pavilion by OGU Architects + Donald McCrory Architects was the Small Project winner. With cultural identity a divisive issue in Belfast, it was important to find cultural common ground shared across neighbouring communities. The site has a rich industrial history, and the Belfast truss used represents the area's history of manufacturing ingenuity.



The Boathouse
Private winner



The Welcome Building
RHS Garden Bridgewater
 Structural Award winner

The Structural Award winner was The Welcome Building RHS Garden Bridgewater by Hodder + Partners. Sitting within the new RHS garden on the site of 154-acre Worsley New Hall, The Welcome Building is predominantly one open space that acts as a gateway to the gardens but also contains a visitor meeting and interaction point, restaurant, gift shop, offices, and educational spaces.



Left and right:
Gayles Farm 5
 Bespoke winner

Gayles Farm 5 by Wycliffe Stutchbury was the Bespoke winner. The sculptural piece has a flowing appearance, made up of thousands of small oak tiles glued to an open weave cotton twill. The wooden curtain is hung on a hinged, three panelled oak frame with hemp rope and cleats and can be height adjusted.

Iso-Lounge Chair designed by Jasper Morrison for Isokon was selected as the Production winner. The chair's cutting-

edge design started life as a single sketch, where the hand flowed from the back of the seat to the floor. Plywood was the only choice of material to follow the curve of the cantilevered design.

Further information about the Wood Awards can be found at www.woodawards.com



Iso-Lounge Chair
 Production winner



The Gridshell – Wood Awards Gold Winner, 20 years on

BY LIVERMAN MICHAEL BUCKLEY:



The Weald and Downland Gridshell is a building designed by Ted Cullinan of Edward Cullinan Architects for the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum in Sussex. Engineering services were provided by Buro Happold. Ted, a prolific and much-revered draftsman regarded as a pioneer of sustainable design, sadly died in 2019. The leading carpenter on the creation of the Gridshell was Steve Corbett, now Junior Warden of the Carpenters' Company. It was shortlisted for the Stirling Prize in 2002. The building is a structural wooden gridshell, constructed of oak sourced from Normandy.

Pamela Buckley, formerly of the Institute of Carpenters, at the ball in the Gridshell



Michael Buckley and Louise Baird: both worked on the 2002 Wood Awards

In the same year the building was entered for the Wood Awards, winning the Gold Award. At the ceremony in Carpenters' Hall representatives of the Weald and Downland Museum received an oak-carved scale model of the building as well as the oak-framed certificate. They suggested that the model should be placed on permanent display for blind visitors to be able to feel the model and understand its unique shape.

Recently I visited the empty building to find the model still on prominent display twenty years later, along with details of the Award. Later in March I attended a ball in the building – a splendid venue for such events; as well as its fundamental role as a craft training centre.

The Creative Dimension Trust (TCDT)

LIVERYMAN PENNY BENDALL, THE TRUST'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:

The Creative Dimension Trust is going from strength to strength and is extremely grateful for the continued support of The Carpenters' Company. 68% of our students rate workshops 10 out of 10 and 80% apply for further workshops.

We now have double the number of applications for places available. The Accreditation programme launched in 2021 has awarded 400 grades plus, which are recognised by the independent Accreditation Committee as a good result.

We are very pleased to welcome Sandra Smith as a new Trustee. Sandra re-joined the British Museum in February 2019 as Head of Collection Care after an absence of 17 years, during which she was Head of Conservation and Technical Services at the V&A.



Students at a Table Loom Weaving workshop at Clothworkers' Hall

Future Developments –

TCDT offers around 40 workshops a year and is gradually spreading them out across the year leading to better recruitment.

TCDT is linking up with more Royal Warrant Holders. We already work with Fortnum & Mason and Zone Creations Ltd, but will be working with Floris and others in due course.

The TCDT collaboration for 2022, 'Wonders of the Undersea World' culminates with a window display at Fortnum & Mason which will be unveiled on 5th September. This is a very exciting time for TCDT and of course the students involved. Skills employed this year include glass fusing, flame working, enamelling, wood turning, architectural model making, puppet making and more!

The Leathersellers' Company will host our annual showcasing event for supporters, students and tutors in September. Hermes UK Managing Director Bertrand Michaud will be guest speaker.

TCDT will be working on alumni committee school visits over the coming months, initiating a programme of in-house school workshops and reigniting our work experience programme which was stalled by Covid.



*Table Loom Weaving
Tutor Claire Whelan and student*

2022 Craft Lecture

MIDDLE WARDEN JOHN MEARDON WRITES:

After a Covid-enforced absence of two years, the Annual Craft Lecture in Carpenters' Hall took place on 6th April 2022 amidst a feeling of liberation. Fittingly, the talk was given by our own Junior Warden, Dr Loyd Grossman CBE, to a large gathering of liverymen from Carpenters' and other livery companies and their guests. The theme of the evening was Loyd's latest book, 'An Elephant in Rome', adeptly subtitled 'Bernini, the Pope and the Making of the Eternal City'. This was a topic that allowed Loyd to expand magnificently on his well researched review

of the fascinating relationship between Pope Alexander VII and the Florentine sculptor Gian Lorenzo Bernini, in the setting of 17th Century Rome.

In the aftermath of the Protestant Reformation and the Thirty Years' War, successive Popes were eager to restore the prestige of the Roman Church, especially in Rome itself. With the explosion of Renaissance ideas and art, the combination of Alexander's near-mania for creating magnificent new buildings and Bernini's consummate skill in satisfying four Popes in succession with

his designs and beautiful sculpture, Rome became, in Loyd's words, 'the must-visit destination' of all Europe.

To make his point, Loyd took us on a virtual tour of 17th Century Rome, using the great stone obelisks erected in piazzas across the city as way markers. These symbols of Papal prestige were put in place to remind visitors and Romans alike of the Church's mastery of the arts and of famous artists and sculptors. En route, he allowed himself to reflect on another of his widely acknowledged skills, that of gastronomie, pointing



*Junior Warden Loyd Grossman
and Deputy Master Peter Birts*

out several trattoria and restaurants he had frequented and recommending menu highlights.

Bernini is famous for his work in and around St Peter's, Rome, with its great bronze baldacchino over the high altar and colonnade that encloses St Peter's Square. But Loyd majored on the sculptor's other important works. These were well covered in the lecture and illustrated with excellent photos, including what must surely be Loyd's favourite choice, the carving of Habbakuk and the Angel in the Chigi Chapel of Santa Maria del Popolo. This work, set in the relatively restrained Baroque chapel, shows Bernini's complete mastery of design and execution of a monumental sculpture.

Then there was the elephant! Or rather, several elephant designs — culminating in the Bernini creation for the Piazza della Minerva, Elephant and Obelisk, his last commission for Pope Alexander VII. This curious monument was, Loyd confessed, the original and iconic starting point for his ongoing love affair with Rome.

Throughout the lecture there was a continuous flow of facts and interpretation that only someone immersed in the subject could so happily sustain. Loyd delivered an absorbing and relentless amount of information, but in such a cheerful and interesting manner that the pace never flagged. This was a thoroughly entertaining and enlightening evening from someone who clearly loves his subject and the intrigues of history and art. We were given a lovingly created tour of 17th Century Rome and Bernini's impact on the Eternal City by a self-confessed fan and devotee. What a privilege.



Habbakuk and the Angel courtesy Peter1936F



Bernini's Elephant and obelisk

Company Award for Excellence 2021 - Luke Hughes

Liveryman Luke Hughes has been awarded this year's Company Craft Award for Excellence. A carpenter and cabinet-maker by training, Luke is the founder and creative director of Luke Hughes & Co Ltd, designer of custom and bespoke furniture.

Luke had an early introduction to the world of architecture and craftsmanship: his fascination as a child with the work of the carpenters employed by his parents to renovate their 'beautiful, broken-down house' has never left him. The extensive restoration of the walls of crumbling Wardour Castle next door brought familiarity with the craft of the stonemason, and a summer job introduced him to the world of musical instrument makers and precision work in wood. Later, alongside his formal education he took a part-time job restoring 'half-timbered' Morris Traveller estate cars and worked as a carpenter's mate for a year in the merchant navy.

He established his workshop in 1981 in Covent Garden where the Company is still based. Early on in his career he moved away from his initial start as a designer maker, feeling his background was leading him to a different business model. A short-lived period designing for retail with a furniture line sold through Heal's, Liberty's and John Lewis led to a change of direction and practice. The Company now works with institutional clients and furniture making is sub-contracted to skilled

craftspeople working from small, largely British workshops. Wood is often the material of choice, providing the durability and versatility required by many of the projects.

Luke Hughes' furniture is a feature in many well-known buildings — a recent commission was for the City of London's Guildhall, where 1000 new chairs complement the soaring style of the medieval Hall. The company specialises in designing bespoke furniture for both outstanding historic spaces as well as working closely with architects of new buildings to provide versatile, practical furniture. Westminster Abbey, Canterbury Cathedral and many parish churches have selected the company's designs. Modern projects include the 2012 Stirling prize-winning Sainsbury Laboratory in Cambridge incorporating Luke Hughes' designed and procured furniture. The Tower of London, more than 60 of the 70 Oxford and Cambridge colleges, Leathersellers' Hall, the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Supreme Court and Yale School of Management all appear on the client list.

'Furniture in Architecture' is one of the company's guiding principles, with close collaboration with the client and understanding the way space is used vital in shaping the design. Stacking chairs that are easily lifted, pews that can be swiftly moved to create space and folding tables are often called for.

Sustainability is a key ethos of the company, achieved through longevity, use of recyclable material and a strict policy on sourcing hardwood, boards and veneers. The furniture is invariably designed for a 30-50 year minimum life span and the company takes pride in maintaining links with clients, from the initial design work to advice on care and maintenance. The importance of allying craft skills with modern industrial techniques is a key feature of Luke Hughes' success, along with a commitment to the highest standards of design innovation and British craftsmanship.



Luke Hughes (right) and the Master Michael Morrison examine the Company Award at the Court Luncheon in November

The William Wheeler Memorial Plaque

In November 2021 Past Master John Wheeler and the City & Guilds of London Art School hosted an evening to celebrate the life, work and legacy of his father William Wheeler (1895-1984). A distinguished woodcarver and designer, William Wheeler established the School's Restoration and Carving Department in 1947. Under his stewardship the department flourished and later became the Historic Carving and Conservation Departments. In a short ceremony at the Art School in Kennington, John Wheeler and the Art School Principal Tamiko O'Brien spoke about the life and legacy of William Wheeler to guests from his family, the School and the Carpenters' Company. John then unveiled a plaque dedicated to his father which he had commissioned Jim Patrick, a woodcarving graduate from the School, to design and carve.

William Wheeler was a Freeman of the Carpenters' Company and created a number of items presented by the Company to their Honorary Freemen. These included beautifully made caskets for Queen Juliana of the Netherlands and Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein. The casket given to Lord Montgomery in 1951 was 'of simple design suitable for a soldier', John Wheeler recalls his father saying. The intricate carving of the tool motif inspired Jim Patrick's own design for the memorial plaque, which he carved in maple with oil gilding. Guests at the evening could also view a display of William's drawings held by the School and frequently used by students as templates. William studied at the South Kensington School of Art Wood-Carving and the Central School of Arts and Crafts. After Army service in World War I, during



Lord Montgomery's casket made by William Wheeler

which he took part in several campaigns in Northern Greece, he continued his studies at the Royal College of Art. In 1932, he was appointed Art Director of Faith Craft Works in St Albans, an art and craft co-operative, before again leaving for war service in 1939. After the war he became a Ministry of Labour inspector with responsibility for training ex-servicemen as craftsmen to repair bomb-damaged monuments and architectural treasures. He started the Restoration and Carving courses at City & Guilds of London Art School in 1947. William held the position of instructor in carving for the rest of his career at the Art School and regularly visited after his retirement. William was commissioned by the Commonwealth Relations Office to design gifts for Australian and African States on achieving independence.

These included hour glasses for the Legislative Assembly of Tasmania in ivory and silver, and dispatch boxes and a mace for the Basutoland Legislative Council. He was also commissioned by several livery companies (including Carpenters') to carve items such as Coats of Arms and Master's Chairs.

William's book 'Practical Wood Carving and Gilding', co-written with Charles Hayward, was first published in 1963. It was reprinted many times with sales extending as far afield as Spain and the United States. One of the many eminent students to benefit from William's expertise, Liveryman Dick Onians, who won first prize for woodcarving as well as the prestigious Vargas Eyre Design Prize, became Head of Carving and later Senior Carving Tutor at the School.



William Wheeler (far left) and students at the City & Guilds of London Art School, about 1980
Courtesy Dick Onians



Left to right: Dick Onians, Jim Patrick and John Wheeler with the plaque

The Fenland Black Oak table

THE MASTER MICHAEL MORRISON REPORTS:

On 17th May I had the pleasure of witnessing the Princess Royal unveil the amazing 13.4 metre (44 feet) long 5,000 year old, bog oak - or more appropriately 'Black Oak' table - in Ely Cathedral. This was the culmination of a ten year story in which the Building Crafts College and the Carpenters' Company have played a significant part. Observant readers of the 'Broadsheet' and now the 'Chronicle' will have seen references to this over the years. The discovery of the extraordinary tree, buried in Wissington Fen near Downham Market, was reported in the January 2013 Broadsheet. Its excavation and subsequent conversion into planks was masterminded by furniture maker (and bog oak specialist) Hamish Low who has been the driving force behind the project from start to finish. Cutting the tree into planks required a special sawmill to be imported from Canada and set up at the excavation site. Sawing the timber is a tricky business, not least because one cannot tell what the quality of the timber will be. So the team was delighted to have produced ten full length figured boards. Buckingham Palace agreed that the project to convert the planks into a table should be called the 'Diamond Jubilee Fenland Black Oak Project'.

The July 2013 Broadsheet noted that the boards were safely at the Building Crafts College where a special 15 metre long drying kiln had been

constructed. Freeman Steve Cook, the then Furniture Maker in Residence at the college, and Mauro Dell'Orco, his colleague at Workshop East, had been involved with the design and construction of the table from the outset. The timber was in the kiln for nine months during which some 317 gallons of water were extracted, shrinking its thickness by $\frac{1}{3}$ width by $\frac{1}{4}$ and length by 150mm. The team decided at the outset that it would be a key objective not to cut the planks but to keep them at their full length. The tree when excavated had neither roots nor any sign of branching to form a canopy, suggesting it must have been a giant by today's standards: keeping the original length of these wonderfully figured planks is a permanent celebration of this. However, a 13.4 metre table is a challenge for any building owner, and there was considerable difficulty both in finding a permanent home for the table and financing its construction. The July 2014 Broadsheet mentions that the boards were still safe at the College, but that there was difficulty finding a suitable location.

Funding was finally found to allow the table top to be constructed over the summer of 2019. The Building Crafts College allowed the main workshop to be cleared to enable a 29 metre long planer bed to be set up to reduce the planks to a uniform 30mm thickness. The planks were not



The table at the Building Crafts College

'squared up' but were allowed to retain their varied outline in the finished table top. This created two difficulties. The first was how to joint the planks together, and an ingenious method was devised inserting laminated wave-shaped 'loose tenons' into routed joints on the underside of the planks - an elegant solution described as 'river jointing'. The second difficulty was to keep the table top to a manageable 900 mm width. This required specially designed hinges to be fitted to the two outer planks to allow the top to be slid clear of the wave-shaped edge before it can be folded.

The table is owned by a charity – The Fenland Black Oak Project – which has raised the necessary funding to allow the construction of the bronze undercarriage that allows the completed table to be wheeled



Mauro Dell'Orco explains a point to the Princess Royal. Courtesy Ely Cathedral

about (some skill is needed by the people doing this given its weight and length) and Ely Cathedral has agreed to host the table for a year, possibly longer. This seems to be a very appropriate location given the Cathedral's location in the middle of the fens. When the Princess Royal unveiled the table it was displayed under the central octagon, but it was later moved to the nave aisle to be seen at close quarters by visitors to the Cathedral. It is perhaps fitting that what started as the 'Diamond Jubilee' project when the tree was excavated has become the 'Platinum Jubilee' project now that it is finally on display. The Carpenters' Company is pleased to have contributed to the success of this project. The table is a great tribute to the enthusiasm of Hamish Low and to the staff and students of the Building Craft College.

Royal School of Military Engineering Premier Carpenter

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL GUY CHEESMAN REPORTS:

Sapper Madan Limbu completed his Military Engineering (Carpentry & Joinery) Class 1 course, achieving excellent standards in all elements. He is considered by instructors and military staff to have been the best Carpentry & Joinery student in the Department over the course of the year.

Sapper Limbu demonstrated an extremely positive approach to his training, ensuring his work was produced to an excellent standard. Personable and generous, he flourished in a

small team environment. His attention to detail and support he provided to others on the course demonstrated that he can work without supervision, and is more than capable of planning, organising and supervising a construction task from its conception and design to overall completion. His practical trade skills and focused attitude will make him a valuable member of any construction force on both exercises and operations, and he should feel justifiably proud of all his efforts.



Sapper Madan Limbu received his award from the Master at Carpenters' Hall in February

Refurbishment of Carpenters' Hall, Philadelphia

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MICHAEL NORRIS REPORTS:

Greetings from the Carpenters' Company in Philadelphia! The long-standing relationship between our two organizations is a source of great pride for us and we look forward to welcoming many of you here in 2024, when we celebrate our 300th Anniversary.

In anticipation of this milestone, earlier this year we launched a comprehensive Preservation Project at Carpenters' Hall, the first in over 40 years. The site assessment conducted in preparation for the Project revealed a fair amount of moisture seepage through the foundation. Carpenters' Hall was constructed in the early 1770s, and still sits on its original rubble foundation, which as far as we know has never been waterproofed. Thus, the Project's first phase entails excavating the entire perimeter of the building so we can waterproof the foundation. In compliance with American preservation standards, we've also engaged archaeological monitors to oversee the excavation, in case any historic artefacts are uncovered. The interior basement walls are also being re-finished and waterproofed.

The second phase of the Project involves preservation of the Hall's exterior, including original bricks and mortar, millwork, glazing, roof tiles, and our charming cupola. Our wheelchair ramp, which was designed by renowned American architect (and

Carpenters' Company member) Robert Venturi, had to be dismantled for the perimeter excavation, but will be rebuilt to Venturi's original specifications. Finally, a new energy-efficient HVAC system will be installed throughout the building. Project completion is scheduled for early 2023.

We've closed Carpenters' Hall to the public during the preservation, but we're operating a temporary exhibit just a few blocks away at the Independence Visitor Center. This gives visitors an overview of the historical significance of the Hall while they can't access it in person. Regular, quarterly meetings of The Carpenters' Company members continue offsite, thanks to several of our peer organizations here in Philadelphia's Historic District.

We're so grateful for the support the London Carpenters' Company has provided us with over the centuries, dating back to our original inception, and look forward to continuing our relationship for generations to come.



Workers install plywood covers to protect one of our historic banners, made in 1788 to celebrate the ratification of the US constitution



Perimeter excavation begins! An eight-foot-deep trench is being dug around the entire building to expose the original rubble foundation for waterproofing

Institute of Carpenters (IOC)

LIVERYMAN GEOFF RHODES, THE IOC'S PRESIDENT REPORTS:

The IOC was founded in 1890 by 11 craftsmen who achieved first class passes in examinations set by the Carpenters' Company. Today, 132 years on and despite the challenges of Covid-19, the IOC continues to pursue its role of helping to uphold standards for craftsmen and women working in wood trades such as carpenters, joiners, wheelwrights, furniture makers, boat builders and shop fitters. Last year we continued our successful IOC 'City Hub' educational programmes across the UK in partnership with various Further Education Colleges in our membership. We also welcomed many new members, particularly students, and expanded our corporate membership whilst fostering growing links with key bodies in the timber industry.

Student membership, our key constituency that represents the future of our industry, is growing substantially year on year. With this in mind, further investment took place in 2021 to improve our IOC website and extend our reach through social media channels such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and Twitter, and our new IOC YouTube channel. Working with the Construction Leadership Council we have launched 'TalentView Construction', an online portal where young people can search for their first jobs, apprenticeships and work experience in the construction industry: <https://talentview.org/construction>.

In November the 3rd Year IOC Students Award prize-giving was held at West Suffolk College. All colleges with IOC membership took part, including the Building Crafts College. In December, the IOC was delighted to be involved in supporting CITB's Skillbuild competition and presented prizes to the successful Carpentry and Joinery winners of the 'Stretch Tests', set for both disciplines at the 2021 National Finals event.

The Institute remains indebted to the Carpenters' Company for its ongoing grant support of its core activities.



IOC student award winner Spencer Pettitt receives his award from Geoff Rhodes



Institute of Carpenters' Grant of Arms (1991)

To mark its Centenary in 1990, the College of Arms granted the Institute of Carpenters its coat of arms in 1991. The generous gift of then IOC President Liveryman Terence Mallinson, the original document is framed in a handcrafted case and is now kept at Carpenters' Hall.

The design of the arms reflects the Institute – there are 3 oak trees 'eradicated' (uprooted) in gold, two planes and dovetail detailing, with a beaver at the top holding a pair of compasses. The three coats of arms at the top are of Sir Alexander Colin Cole (Garter King of Arms), Sir Anthony Richard Wagner (Clarenceux King of Arms) and John Philip Brooke-Little (Norroy and Ulster King of Arms). Their wax seals are attached to the document protected in gold round seal boxes.



Geoff Rhodes with the handcrafted case



The design reflects the IOC's interests

Charities & Grants

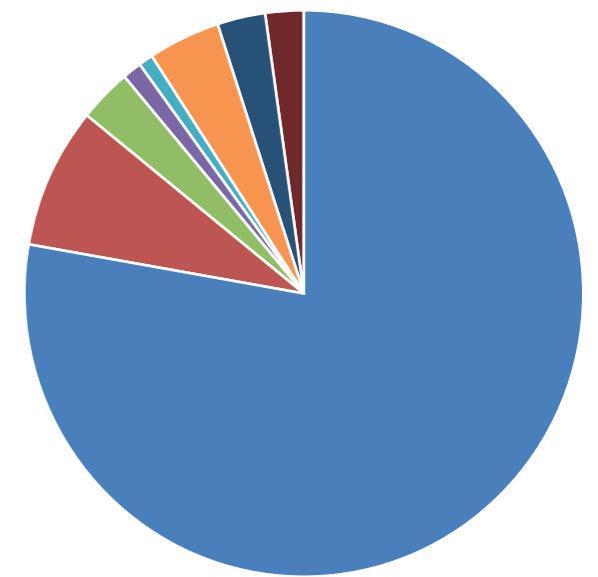
The Carpenters' Company Charitable Trust

CRAFT & CHARITIES ADMINISTRATOR VIVIENNE POCOCK WRITES:

The Carpenters' Company has continued to fund the Building Crafts College as the principal beneficiary of the Carpenters' Company Charitable Trust (CCCT): funds are allocated to help offset the College's running costs. Other charities supported included the Lord Mayor's Appeal, the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund, the pan-livery project No Going Back, St Paul's Cathedral, and The Soldiers' Charity. The Platinum Jubilee Big Curry Lunch in April 2022 was attended by 23 of our liverymen and raised a record sum. The Committee handed over an amazing £310,000 which was apportioned as follows: £100,000 towards funding for 16 veterans awaiting the Pain Management Programme at King Edward VII's Hospital's Centre for Veteran Health; £100,000 to fund 65 veterans through a Lifeworks programme for helping them prepare for job applications and interviews; and the remaining £110,000 to be distributed by the three national service charities supporting veterans – the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity, the Army Benevolent Fund The Soldier's Charity and the Royal Airforce Benevolent Fund.

In addition to funding the Building Crafts College, the CCCT helps fund the William Morris Craft Fellowship Scheme's annual programme for craftspeople from various trades engaged in historic building repair and conservation. The Fellows started in March and were full of energy. Having completed SPAB's excellent Repair of Old Buildings Course, with presentations by leading building conservation professionals, they are now completing the second block of the programme, beginning with the SPAB Working Party at Boxley Abbey and the Old House Project in Kent. At the time of writing they are in Derbyshire learning about slate roofing.

Finally, we support the Creative Dimension Trust, now in its seventh year. Please see their report on pages 15-16. The Trust offers talented 14 to 19 year olds opportunities to take part in a wide range of free workshops, from stone carving and wood turning to sign writing on skateboards and architectural model making. This autumn the Trust is launching online adult workshops.



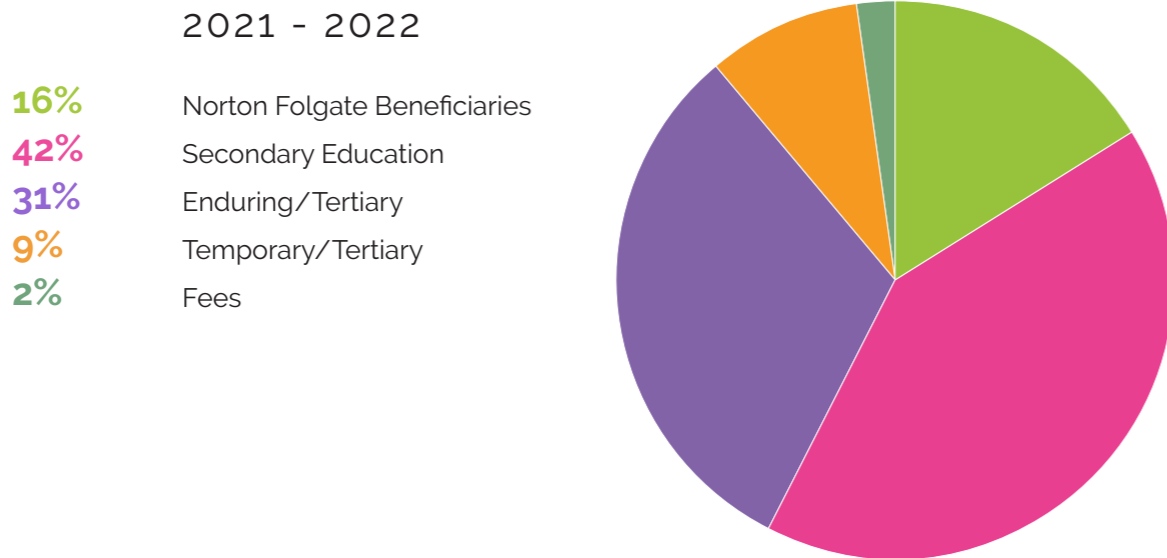
2021 – 2022

- 77% Building Crafts College
- 9% Crafts in general
- 3% Carpenters & Docklands Centre
- 1% Carpenters Primary School
- 1% Other grants
- 6% Other city grants
- 1% Misc
- 2% Audit Fees

Norton Folgate Trust

The Norton Folgate Trust (NFT) provides support for the needs of individuals, many of whom are engaged in education or craft training. During this year our support to the Building Crafts College students came from other sources, such as the generous donations from our Liverymen, the Pysden and Stuckey bequests, and the Portal Trust.

A substantial proportion of available funds is allocated to our scholars at City of London schools. Students at the universities of Oxford, Cambridge, City, Sussex and Warwick also benefit from the Norton Folgate Trust. We continue to have excellent relationships with these schools and universities, and take a close interest in their progress and careers.



Rustington Convalescent Home

PAST MASTER MICHAEL NEAL, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOME'S MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND HOME MANAGER JULIA HAYNES REPORT:

There was great excitement at Rustington in May when the clocktower bell sounded after many years of silence. The sounding of bells was traditionally thought to ward off evil spirits and welcome the dawn of a new era. Our staff at Rustington are similarly looking forward to a new era when they do not have to test for Covid, but in an environment such as the Home, every sensible precaution has to be taken to protect those who enter the building. This means that testing must continue until the government advises otherwise. Since its reopening in June 2021, the Home has been running at 50% capacity to allow for the formation of isolation areas should an outbreak occur. The bell will no doubt sound again when the Home returns to normal. Our thanks go to Liveryman James Preston for his persistence in expediting the repair of the bell.

During this year's continuous sunshine the Home's splendid garden has been a focal point. The front lawn covers 2 acres with shrub borders framing the vista towards the sea. There are magnificent Monterey Cypresses along the eastern side of the Home's boundary. These trees were first introduced from the Californian coast to the UK in 1838, becoming popular in seaside gardens in the 1890's thanks to their ability to withstand salt spray and wind. On a more intimate scale,

there is the herbaceous border which is protected by a hedge of Griselinia, another sea spray tolerant shrub. The Summer House has been popular, not least for holding a recent Rustington Home Committee of Management meeting.

The vista to the sea draws the eye to life on the foreshore. There are very good examples of sea holly and other maritime flowers. Looking to the West, the Beach Café has recently opened approximately 100m from the Home. This is highly popular and provides light snacks, coffee and tea. Further West in Littlehampton is the outstanding wave shaped, East Beach Café, designed by Thomas Heatherwick in 2005. His early training was with Terence Conran who described him as the 'Leonardo of our times'. The wave is extraordinarily capacious inside and is a gem of maritime architecture well worth a visit in its own right.

As the Home at Rustington comes back to life after the ravages of the pandemic, please do play your part in recommending it to your friends and colleagues. Emphasise to them that it is open to all, incredibly good value and above all offers a friendly, secure service for people in need of convalescence or respite care in the most wonderful surroundings.



The East Beach Café



Please do also look at the revised website www.rusting-tonconvalescenthome.co.uk

The gardens with the Monterey Cypresses on the left

Christ's Hospital

LIVERYMAN JAMES PRESTON WRITES:

The pupil presentees at Christ's Hospital reflect a long association with the Carpenters' Company, and demonstrate ongoing financial contributions to an independent boarding school with its origins in the City of London. The school considers itself to be the UK's leading charitable school and provides free, or substantially subsidised, places to about 660 out of some 900 pupils at a total cost of over £20m per annum. There is currently one active Carpenters' Company presentee at the school, Elizabeth, who has recently started in year 10, but by the time this is published we shall have reverted to two, with Dylan set to join the school in year 7.

As with any school, operating under the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic proved to be extremely challenging, but this was exacerbated by Christ's Hospital being both a boarding school and one which has a relatively high proportion of disadvantaged pupils. It was therefore gratifying that the school's very impressive and far-reaching response to COVID-19 resulted in Christ's Hospital being nominated as a finalist in the 2021 Independent Schools of the Year Award. Nevertheless, the negative effects of the pandemic have the potential to be longer lasting. The school has concerns that the lack of face-to-face teaching for an extended period has created mental health challenges for some of



*Christ's Hospital band
in the quadrangle*

the younger pupils. For older pupils there was concern that the current cohort of Grecians (upper sixth) were taking their 'A' levels or International Baccalaureate (IB) as their first public examinations, having missed out on conventional GCSE's. Thankfully, in the event, the results demonstrate remarkable pupil resilience, with some of the best exam results in the school's recent history, and the highest IB results for 10 years.

With the effects of the pandemic now largely addressed, the school appears to be thriving. Not only has it achieved excellent public examination results, but it is very much business as usual in the areas of music, sport and art, where it has traditionally excelled, as well as in a broad spectrum of other co-curricular activities linked with external organisations. It is a measure of how important the school regards its links with the City of London that it was a post lock-down priority for the school band to participate in the Lord Mayor's show in November 2021, as it has every year since 1981. Likewise, we at Carpenters' look forward to welcoming the presentees to the reinstated scholar's lunch in January 2023.



*Presentee Kojo Adu
wearing the Carpenters'
Company shoulder badge*

Carpenters Primary School



HEADTEACHER DIANE BARRICK WRITES:

Another year in the life of Carpenters Primary School and what a year it has been! Children returned to school in September with some Covid-19 control measures still in place, including 'bubbles', but not long afterwards we started to see the spread of Covid amongst children and staff. This created a challenge from staff absence due to illness. On the worst day over 25 members of staff were away. As always, the staff were fantastic and rallied around to ensure the school remained open.

During the autumn term the school joined the local authority's Education 4 Change programme - challenging racism through conversation and curriculum. There had already been a drive to ensure the curriculum was representative of all cultures and ethnicities, but this allowed us to go further by providing high-quality training, equipping educators with the knowledge and confidence to start difficult conversations about race and racism.

Also during this term, the school began a research project led by the Big Education Trust to develop our school policy and practice for supporting children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. The first year of the project focussed on children in Year 2. Due to its success, we will be rolling it out further

over the next academic year. The project really is having a positive impact on how we can support our children's mental health, and it supported our yearly application for Inclusion Quality Mark. We are delighted to have been awarded this again, with flagship status for the SEMH research project.

We were relieved when children returned to school after the Christmas break instead of resuming remote learning. We decided to allow children to restart their swimming lessons at the London Aquatic Centre at the Queen Elizabeth Park, a 6 minute walk away. All children in Years 3-6 have had swimming lessons this year and Year 2 children have taken part in a water safety lesson.

In February, we had to deal with the effects of Storm Franklin. Fortunately our risk assessment ensured that children were able to attend school in a safe environment. At the end of March Covid-19 restrictions gave way to the 'Living with Covid-19' plan and during the summer term children were able to take part in educational visits to the beach and the Natural History museum. We held a special jubilee event in school - the children learnt a lot of history and in a very enjoyable way. Parents/carers were welcomed back to the school at the sports day and end of year concerts and it was great to get back to normality again.

It was also good to welcome the Master and his wife to the Year 6 leavers assembly on the last day of term after a 3 year break. The children really enjoyed having them in the audience and appreciated the gifts they were presented with. We look forward to being able to visit Carpenters' Hall again in December. Fingers crossed!

This challenging year couldn't end without yet another way to test our leadership -with the heatwave in the last week of the school year! We decided to keep the school open and parents/carers had the choice to collect their children earlier if they wished.

As always, we appreciate the support of the Carpenters' Company and know that our children wouldn't be able to enjoy the experiences and have the added extras that are provided without it. They are truly lucky and we really want to thank you for what you do for our whole school community. We look forward to working together again next year.

Docklands Settlements

BY BEN NORTH, OPERATIONS MANAGER,
CARPENTERS AND DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE:

The Carpenters and Docklands Centre is back in full swing after the disruption of lockdown with a packed timetable of activities including playcare, breakdancing for youngsters, art classes for the elderly, disability football, our Bengali Women's group, ballroom dancing and plenty more. It is wonderful to see the centre so busy again and people enjoying a plethora of activities.

We are negotiating with Newham for a new Community Centre in a different location on the Carpenters Estate. This will be larger than our current centre and include all our present facilities such as the sports hall, playcare centre and martial arts studio, but also an astro-turf pitch, large café and food bank.

Unfortunately we still expect the food bank to be a vital part of the new centre when it is finished in about three years time.

We have recently expanded the food bank provision from two days a week to three due to the increased needs of local people, who are struggling to feed themselves and their children as a result of the cost of living crisis. Tragically, we have had customers refuse root vegetables and other food that requires cooking because they cannot afford the cost of the gas or electricity to do so. We are also offering free cooked meals to parents for their children to take away from our centre after school. People are really struggling in the area but we are doing our best to support the

most vulnerable. Loyd Grossman, Junior Warden, paid a visit to our Community Centre and Food Bank and was impressed with our efforts to support the local community. It was a nice surprise for the hard working volunteers who were queuing up for a photograph!

Newham have been very helpful, providing us with support through the Newham Food Alliance – a network of food banks in the borough who pool funds to bulk buy and share resources. We recently raised enough money from grants provided by Newham to purchase an electric van to support our food bank and playcare activities. The vehicle is being converted to enable dual



Loyd Grossman
visited the Centre
in July

use with quick release seating. We are extremely grateful for the ongoing support of the Carpenters' Company who have aided our community centre since it opened on the Carpenters Estate in 1972. We were honoured to be selected as the Master's Charity of the Year and donated 5k to our food bank. The Carpenters' Company increased the grant to our charity by 5k per month during the peak of Covid because of the impact of the food bank on the Carpenters' Estate and the important work we were doing. Thanks to your generosity we have been able to

continue providing subsidised childcare to working parents, many of whom would otherwise struggle to remain in work. Their children continue to benefit from 'learning through play'. Many individual Carpenters brought clothes for our clothes bank. We will continue to do our best to serve the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people in Newham, particularly those on the Carpenters' estate, and much appreciate your help in doing so.



The Centre's Food Bank
Photo by @VIKTPHOTOGRAPHY

London Youth Rowing

BY MATT ROSTRON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER LYR

London Youth Rowing (LYR) has continued to adapt to operating during the Covid pandemic. After Easter 2021, we re-started our Active Row programme with in-person coaching but this proved challenging, with many schools staying closed to visitors, periodic self-isolation amongst coaches and schools focusing on academic catch-up sessions. When in-person delivery was not possible, we reverted to the online delivery approach developed during the first lockdown, the LYR Online League. This allows young people from London and elsewhere to take part in monthly challenges in rowing, running, and cycling. Nearly

500 took part in December 2021.

We also ran the third annual 'Race the Thames' fundraising event. This virtual event became a major focus for LYR, allowing us to get participants active in the final days of lockdown. 180 teams and over 1000 people took part. It was hugely successful, raising a total of £120,000 for LYR and 40 other charities nominated by the teams taking part. The event was repeated in January and raised a further £120k.

Due to the pandemic, we have run the last two annual National Junior Indoor Rowing Championships online. We decided to delay the 2021



event to give more time for restrictions to be lifted and to allow young people at schools taking part to prepare properly. Both events were well attended with 4,000 in 2021, including over 250 participants with special educational needs or a disability, and more than 7,500 attending in 2022.

From September 2021, a more 'normal' approach to programme delivery became possible as schools returned for the new year with minimal restrictions. We recruited five new coaches to allow us to get back to face-to-face delivery. Our Active Row London programme re-started, working with 59 schools across London.

By the time of writing 1,110 young people had taken part, of which 71% came from a minority ethnic background, 35% were female and 14% had special educational needs or a disability.

We also launched Step Up Coach Development, a two-year programme encouraging LYR's coaches to recruit coaches from a diverse range of backgrounds, looking beyond 'traditional' rowing and making it more diverse and inclusive. This has been an exciting year for London Youth Rowing.



Educational Bursaries

YASSINE ABDERRAHMANE-TEBIB

I'm fortunate enough to have received the support of the Carpenters' Company for almost 13 years now. I remember being one of two boys selected for an after school tuition club in year 4, which was launched with the intention of sending a boy from the Carpenters' Primary School to the prestigious City of London School. At the time I didn't understand the gravity of that opportunity, but looking back I can see that this was the first stepping stone in what has been an incredible journey.

Passing the 11+ entrance exams, which cemented my place at the City of London School, is one of my greatest achievements. I will never forget the pride in my parents' faces and the fulfilment of knowing that I excelled amongst hundreds of intelligent young minds. The years that followed proved to be just as memorable. I benefited from a truly exceptional education and saw myself develop beyond academia, thanks to the numerous facilities and extracurricular opportunities I was exposed to. The inter-house tournaments held in various sports were a notable highlight of my CLS experience as I am a keen athlete. I can safely

say that my time at the City of London School shaped me into the man I am today, and so I thank the Carpenters' for their help in facilitating this 7 year period.

Having been admitted to the University of Warwick to pursue BA Modern Languages with Economics (the languages being French and Arabic), the Carpenters' once again offered their generous support in the form of an annual grant.

My time at Warwick has been truly unique. Being away from home, I feel as though I've truly learnt a lot about myself as a person - my likes, dislikes, skills, and above all, what really motivates me. This process of self discovery was made possible through the lifelong friends I had made, my encounters with such a diverse body of people and the memorable experiences I had. I will never forget the genuine companionship that members of the Islamic Society displayed during my four years, the late night strolls across campus and the passion of the lecturers who went the extra mile for myself and my fellow students.



After four years I am proud to have achieved a 2:1. Considering the difficulties we've all had to endure over the last two and a half years, I'm extremely pleased to tick off one of my major life goals. In the upcoming year I will join Accenture as a management consultant as part of their Graduate Scheme programme. I am truly thrilled at this prospect, as I feel that Accenture is somewhere that I can truly exercise my skills and interests. I'm very excited for what the future holds and will surely remain in touch with the Carpenters' Company.

GEORGE REYNOLDS

George Reynolds is a 23 year old English baritone currently studying as a Postgraduate at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama under the tutelage of Gary Coward, with the generous support of the Carpenters' Company/Henry Osborne Award, John Clemence Charitable Trust and the Mario Lanza Educational Foundation.

George was the cover singer for Figaro in Saint Paul's Opera's 2019 summer production of Le Nozze di Figaro. He had been cast as 'Guccio' and cover for 'Marco' in British Youth Opera's 2020 summer production of Puccini's Gianni Schicchi. However, due to COVID-19 all 2020 productions were cancelled. George sang as a Chorus member for Opera Holland Park's 2021 summer production of Le Nozze di Figaro, and sang the role of 'Fiorello' in Clonter Opera's

production of Il Barbiere di Siviglia for their 2021 summer season. He performed 'Masetto' in Opera at the Athenaeum's 2021 autumn production of Don Giovanni and the role of the Policeman in Pegasus Opera's 2021 debut production of Passion, Poison and Petrification.

George has recently become a Leeds Lieder Young Artist for 2022. He is currently working as a Chorus member for Opera Holland Park's 2022 season in their summer production of Eugene Onegin, and is looking forward to performing in the chorus for West Green House's summer production of Donizetti's L'elisir d'amore. Later in the year, George will be returning to Opera at the Athenaeum for their 2022 autumn production of Gianni Schicchi, playing the role of 'Marco'.



HELENA RETA City of London School for Girls

The seven years I spent at City have been transformative not only regarding my path of education, but perhaps more importantly, influencing the person I am today. Academically, I've been able to experience a myriad of subjects and opportunities, from studying Latin, to visiting the Berlin Wall the week after learning about it in Year 10, to painting beautiful scenes in Venetian alleyways for my GCSE coursework. Having being enriched with such a range of academia, I went on to choose a diverse yet complementary set of History, Maths and Art for my A-Levels, and now hope to study

Design Engineering at Imperial College London this September.

Whatever university course I decide on, the hardworking ethic and ambition that City culture has engrained in me will continue to influence the career decisions I make, whether within or beyond the realm of Design Engineering. I can only thank the Carpenters' Company for their generosity which has allowed me to acquire experience and grow up, as well as enjoy my secondary years at City; they're years I would never trade anything for.



Company History

Conservation of the Company's Steeple Cups

The Company's 17th century cups received some close attention earlier this year, thanks to the expert work of Sophy Wills, metals conservator, as Archivist Julie Tancell reports:

Sophy conducted a conservation report of the Company's four 17th century steeple cups, and made a number of recommendations on close examination. Unsurprisingly, given their age and use over the centuries, Sophy noted that all four cups show evidence of multiple repairs and replacement parts, but are generally structurally sound. The cups also serve as a record of how conservation work has changed over the years. Some of the historic repairs used lead solder, now a substance that would not be routinely used. Solder is difficult to remove as the process involves immersion in concentrated mineral acid, and future soldering to stabilise the cups would remove the historic gilding – so it is a process not recommended. Sophy also noted that the surfaces of all the cups show wear, with scratches, abrasions and deformations, loss of gilding and some evidence of historic re-gilding - not unexpected given the age of the cups and centuries of use

by the Company. Apart from this historic damage, the surfaces were judged to be in generally good condition and only two of the four cups were identified as in need of some intervention work to improve their appearance and stability.

Having identified which cups were in need of conservation, Sophy came to the Hall in late February and set up a mini-studio in the Company's vault, braving the less than perfect conditions (no natural daylight and using a table rather than work bench) but declaring them fine for the relatively short time needed for the extremely delicate work required.

Sophy began work on the Reeve Cup by surface cleaning the cover of the cup with swabs dipped in acetone. Cleaning using acetone removes dirt and dust and also any grease from fingers, or from environmental pollutant gases. The finial of the cover, a figure of a pikeman, was in need of particularly delicate work.



before (top) and after conservation treatment to the top of the steeple – showing some of the excess adhesive removed

As well as a build-up of adhesive between the figure and the cover, there was adhesive over the figure itself. This excess adhesive was softened with Bartoline TX10 (a commercial paint stripper containing benzyl alcohol), and then very carefully removed using a variety of tools – a bamboo point, porcupine quill, steel pin and scalpel, then rinsed with swabs dipped in acetone. The steeple and figure had been coated in a gold-coloured finish which had darkened over time, and so this was removed by softening with Bartoline TX10, and then acetone swabs.

As the adhesive was removed, it became apparent that at least three different types had been used over the years- a very hard whitish translucent resin, a

greyish crumbly material, and a yellowed bubbly adhesive. There were old lead repairs concealed with bronze paint which had also discoloured. The adhesives were removed as far as possible, retaining enough to keep the pikeman securely attached to the top of the steeple. The figure was judged to have lost the lower portion of the legs and will always need some form of adhesive repair to keep it in position. (Early photographs and even a drawing of about 1846 suggest this is very old damage.) It was decided to leave enough of the old but still effective adhesive in place, and improve the figure's appearance using a layer of 22 carat gold powder bonded to the surface with cellulose nitrate lacquer. Another coat of cellulose nitrate lacquer was applied to maximise the

longevity of the finish.

Sophy then made a final clean of the cup and cover (except the steeple and figure), using acetone to remove patches of light silver corrosion product that had formed tarnish in hard to reach areas. There was also some tarnish caused by silver dip or similar acidic substance to the inside of the cup. Being difficult to remove, swabs of Silvo wadding were used, rinsed with acetone. The remaining tarnish was removed using moistened Goddards silver cloth.

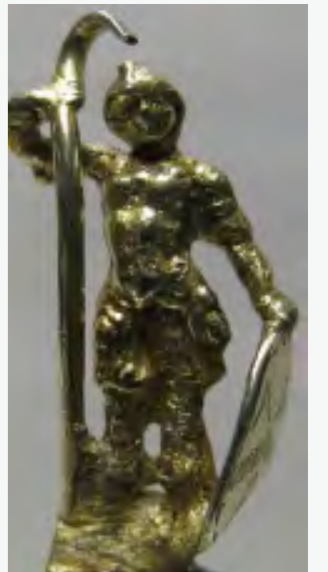
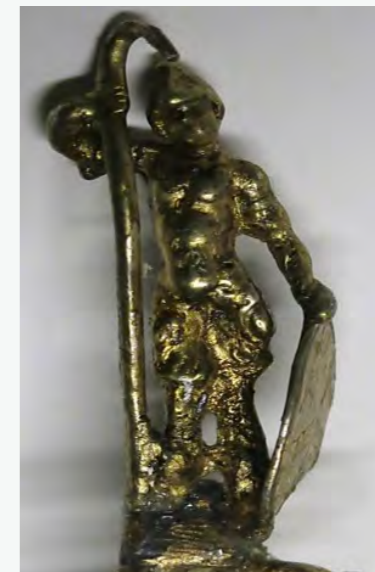
Sophy then moved onto the Jarman Cup, beginning with a surface clean and removing some of the tarnish using chalk rubber. The chalk used in this specialist conservation grade rubber is pure calcium



Interior of the cover of the Reeve cup; Acidic residues have caused corrosion to form



Interior of the cover of the Reeve cup; Corrosion products have been removed or reduced



The cup cover before conservation: Figure detail before conservation (left) and after conservation

carbonate, rather than a natural product containing harder contaminants which might scratch the soft gilded surface. The rubber works in a similar way as an eraser removes pencil marks on paper, removing tarnish from high areas by abrasion. Some tarnish is left in the engraved areas making the design appear more three dimensional, which would have been the intention of the maker. It also makes the engraved inscriptions on the lip of the bowl, including the hallmark, more visible. Finally, the surface was cleaned again using acetone to remove any oils left by the rubber and any other residues from the treatment products.

The cup was generally structurally stable, except for two stress cracks on the cover associated with the engraved decoration where the metal is very thin. Sophy attempted to adhere a gold foil backing to the interior to strengthen the area, but it became evident that the uneven engraved surface would not allow the foil to be attached securely. Onto Plan B – a conservation adhesive (HMG cellulose nitrate) was mixed with glass microballoons for strength and spread widely on the interior of the cup to fill the cracks and strengthen the area.

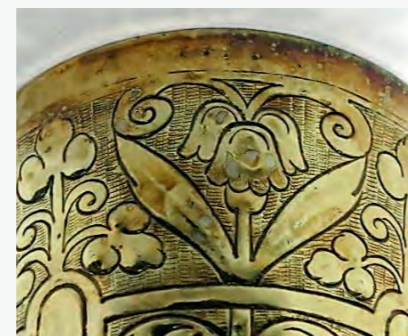
History of the Cups

The Reeve Cup, also known as the Master's Cup, was the gift of the Master John Reeve in 1611. It was made in London the same year, by the maker F Terry. The Jarman Cup was the gift of Warden Anthony Jarman in 1629, Master in 1633. It was made in London and bears the maker's initials 'B P'.

All four cups were regularly used by the Company for the Loving Cup ceremony until the 1990s, when liverymen donated to a millennium charity fund and three new cups were commissioned from silversmiths, including Grant MacDonald. The old cups were then retired from service and are now only used for display, minimising the risk of damage as they are now very delicate.



Jarman cup
cracks to the lid before
(top) and after treatment



**Jarman cup before (top)
and after treatment -**
the inscription is now visible

Many thanks to Sophy Wills for her photos and technical reports on which this article is based.

Affiliations

HMS DARING

SENIOR NAVAL OFFICER, LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
ANDREW DAVIES RN REPORTS:

It was a tremendous honour to be appointed Senior Naval Officer on HMS DARING in August 2021, and it is a pleasure to be able to update the Carpenters' Company on the complex regeneration programme for her return to full operational capability. I am delighted to be able to maintain the strong affiliation with the Carpenters' Company and very much look forward to hosting several Company members soon.

HMS DARING is the first ship in the class known as Type 45 Destroyer. She was commissioned in 2009 and is the 7th Royal Navy ship of various classes dating back to 1804 to bear the name. On completion of her last deployment in 2017, she did not return to front-line operations but was instead prepared for

a deep maintenance period and capability upgrade which includes the completion of the Power Improvement Programme (PIP). This involves the removal of two Wartsilla diesel generators and their replacement with three 3 Megawatt MTU diesel generators and additional High Voltage Switchboard – equipping her with state-of-the-art power generators known as 'Propulsion-capable Prime Movers'. To achieve this significant heavy engineering feat, four large holes were cut into the ship's hull to support the project. DARING is the second Type 45 Destroyer to take part in the PIP.

On her arrival to Cammell Laird Shipyard, Birkenhead, in September 2021, DARING was placed in number seven dry

dock where she remains at the time of writing. Following a rigorous material assessment she commenced the PIP which, when complete, will see her transit back to His Majesty's Naval Base Portsmouth, where further engineering work will restore her to a fully operational platform.

As a Type 45 Destroyer, her future operations are likely to include a defensive role as part of a Carrier Strike Group with either HMS QUEEN ELIZABETH or HMS PRINCE OF WALES – two of the world's most advanced aircraft carriers – whilst providing a versatile global capability for the Royal Navy in defence of the United Kingdom.



HMS DARING
arriving at the
mouth of the
Mersey

4th Battalion The Ranger Regiment

CAPTAIN JACK CADMAN REPORTS:

The 4th Battalion has entered its first year in the newly formed Land Special Operations role as part of the Ranger Regiment. Last year's operational effort proceeded at a fast tempo, and was highly rewarding as a result. We have continued to serve the broader Middle East and Asia region, working with allies and partners in our countries of choice. Personnel have been deployed to support His Majesty's Government on operations in the UK related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the vaccination programme. Finally, the Battalion has again completed a large-scale unconventional warfare exercise in the USA with American allies, enabling it to play a pivotal role supporting the first UK-based iteration of the exercise. As in previous years, the Battalion continues to lead the way in innovation and progression within its new formation.

As a follow up to the announcement of the Integrated Security Review in early 2021, the Battalion became one of four units formerly under the Specialised Infantry umbrella to become part of The Ranger Regiment, an innovative part of the Army Special Operations Brigade. This transition was partly a result of foundations laid during the previous two years by this Battalion, learning from the US Green Berets who are market leaders in this field of military operations. It drove UK defence's evolution to a force ever more capable of dealing with the modern threat

environment. Most importantly, it has offered a chance for our Rangers to use their unrivalled skillset to achieve foreign policy objectives in conjunction with partner forces in a high stakes environment.

Since the downturn in operational output due to COVID-19 last year — affecting not only 4 RANGERS but the wider army — the Battalion has worked hard to push our personnel into the broader Middle East to achieve engagement in a number of missions with like-minded forces. Several of our Rangers have deployed to support missions carried out by the wider army. Their professionalism has been exceptional and a testament to the values and standards of the 4th Battalion, noticed not only by host nation partners but other allies working alongside us. In the UK, the Battalion once again surged a large proportion of its medical staff into the NHS when the pandemic worsened in Christmas 2021.

This year has marked an exciting time to be in the British Army and 4th Battalion. The Regiment has been at the spearhead of change at a crucial moment in the evolution of UK Defence. Our Rangers feel very strongly about our close affiliation with the Worshipful Company of Carpenters and wish to maintain strong links into the future. We thank you for everything you have done for us and continue to do, with a special mention of the work you have provided on

the Memorial Wall at our home barracks. We send our best wishes for the good health of all members of the Company and their families.

The Rifles and Royal Gurkha Rifles flags are lowered for the last time at New Normandy Barracks, Aldershot



IV (Army Co-operation) Squadron RAF

WING COMMANDER JAMES BONING REPORTS:

Having assumed Command of IV(AC) Squadron in November 2021, it is a pleasure for me to write this update for the Carpenters' Chronicle. This year, the Squadron will be celebrating its 110th anniversary, and I thought that before reflecting on the achievements of the present, this offered an ideal opportunity to briefly look into our past.

As the 'junior' Service, our Army and Navy colleagues would undoubtedly suggest IV(AC) Squadron cannot have accrued much history over such a 'short' period of time. But our formation at Farnborough on 16 Sep 1912 pre-dates that of the RAF, and so has an impressive tally of Battle Honours. Formed from elements of the Royal Artillery, IV(AC) the Sqn came into being with the creation of the Royal Flying Corps, serving with distinction over the battlefields of World War I, including low level sorties tracking enemy positions during the Battle of the Somme.

World War II saw IV(AC) Squadron deployed to France with Lysander aircraft as part of the ill-fated British Expeditionary Force. Whilst excellent for reconnaissance and short field landings, they stood no chance against modern German aircraft

such as the ME109, IV(AC) Squadron eventually being all but wiped out by the advancing German Army, with the loss of 18 air crew and 60% of the ground crew. A significant period of re-grouping occurred, culminating in IV(AC) Squadron re-equipping with reconnaissance variants of the Mosquito, an aircraft notably constructed mostly of wood, and Spitfire, conducting valuable reconnaissance prior to D-Day. The 1970s saw the Squadron re-equip with the Harrier, a type it was to fly through various marks until 2011, participating in operations over Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan.

From the early days of flying rudimentary BE2 aircraft over the Western Front in World War I, through to operating the then state-of-the-art Harrier GR9s over Afghanistan, IV(AC) Squadron has always been at the vanguard of technological innovation. Even prior to WWI, the Squadron pioneered night landing techniques and use of airborne radios to co-ordinate reconnaissance and artillery strikes; both of these tools were to become essential features of modern aviation. To this day, the segmented sun on the Squadron crest signifies this history of 'round-the-clock' operations, whilst the lightning bolt points to our air-to-ground radio achievements. These

innovations continue today, with trials ongoing here at RAF Valley to integrate mix-reality ground-based training, which uses an advanced, virtual reality headset to blend 360 degree simulator visuals with a real cockpit. This will enable better preparation of complex profiles for trainees prior to flying in the real aircraft, potentially saving valuable airborne hours.

The Squadron continues to successfully deliver trainee pilots to both the Typhoon and Lightning forces on the front line — a line that, following events in Eastern Europe, has moved



The IV(AC) Sqn Crest: A sun in splendour divided per bend by a flash of lightning. Approved by King Edward VIII in May 1936, the red and black segmented sun suggests round-the-clock operations, while the lightning flash is a reference to the unit's early use of wireless telephony for artillery co-operation



A Hawk T2 aircraft
of IV(AC) Sqn

ever closer in recent months. As UK defence pivots to address this increased threat to the Eastern flanks of the NATO alliance, Sqn members have been temporarily assigned to duties in other Headquarters in support of these emergent operations. Whilst this period of uncertainty leaves many questions about the future, one certainty is that IV(AC) Sqn's role in training fighter pilots to equip the front line is as vital now as ever. These are the pilots who, in a few short months will be crewing

the Quick Reaction Alert aircraft that protect the skies over 'hearth and home' here in the UK. They are also now being sent forward to the new front line, deterring further aggression against NATO partners in Eastern Europe by bolstering our presence in the region.

I look forward to maintaining and furthering IV(AC) Sqn's close association with the Carpenters' Company.

Range Day

LIVERYMAN JOHN JACKSON REPORTS:



Nick Gutfreund
at the stand

Following an invitation from the Commanding Officer of 4th Battalion The Rifles, Lt Col Jim Allen, thirty members of the Carpenters' Company attended a Range Day on 5th October 2021.

We were welcomed at the Officers' Mess at New Normandy Barracks, Aldershot where members had the opportunity to speak to Officers from across the Battalion. Tea, coffee and excellent bacon rolls were provided. Lt Col Allen gave an update on the Battalion. He mentioned that 4 RIFLES had recently returned from the United States after training with their special forces. He also told us that they were looking forward as they transition into an Army Special Operations Force from December 2021 and that 4 RIFLES will in due course

On the right (Left to right): Neil Cordery, Stephen Samuel and William Avery joined by a Rifleman for the curry lunch

become known as 4 RANGERS The Master gave a reply.

From the Officers' Mess we were transported by coach to Ash Range, a short drive away. On arrival we were split into three groups. Each group had the chance to visit a stand displaying the weaponry and kit the Battalion uses and to chat to soldiers, fire a rifle (the SA80 A3) and a pistol (the Glock 17). The weaponry was certainly impressive. It included a grenade machine gun (a direct fire weapons system), the 338 sniper rifle and the general purpose machine gun (described as a battle-winner weapon). We were shown various items of kit. A number of us tried on a helmet with head-mounted sight. The body armour and belt weighed some 30 kilos. The shoots (rifle and pistol) were very competitive. Each member when firing (13 rounds at a time) was assigned an instructor and shooting was over a distance of 25 metres.

Everyone hit the target, some more accurately than others!

Afterwards an excellent curry lunch was provided with a good range of liquid refreshment. Praise should be given to the marvellous chefs. At the conclusion of lunch, Captain Gwilym Wyn-Jones, in overall charge of the day, gave a short address and presented awards to the top shots. Top rifleman was Liveryman Nick Gutfreund, top pistol shot Liveryman Bruce Hodgson and top combined shot Liveryman Roland Mallinson. The Master gave a warm vote of thanks.

From Ash Range a coach transported members who had travelled by car back to New Normandy Barracks and those who had come by train were taken by minibus to Farnborough Railway Station. All in all a most enjoyable and memorable day and the weather stayed predominantly dry.



Champion Pilot 2022

SQUADRON LEADER NICK JEWSBURY WRITES:

Flight Lieutenant Fred Hunter joined the Royal Air Force in 2015 after graduating from Plymouth University with a first in Marine Technology. As part of his degree he worked for a year at Williams Performance Tenders, developing components for jet boats. He then began a career as a Naval Architect with Babcock Marine, undertaking projects on the Royal Navy submarine fleet.

Flt Lt Hunter started his flying career at 16 Sqn RAF Wittering. He was awarded the Bertram Dickson trophy for best all-round performance on his course, and was posted to RAF Linton-on-Ouse for Basic Fast Jet Training flying the Tucano T1. He won the Playfair trophy, and was awarded his 'Wings' in

February 2018. On being posted to 2 Air Experience Flight, MOD Boscombe Down, he gave many Air Cadets their first experience of flying in a light aircraft, holding a brief tenure as Flight Commander. He has competed in numerous RAF windsurfing events, winning the RAF Freestyle Championships and Inter-Service Championships and being awarded RAF Sports Colours.

Flt Lt Hunter commenced Advanced Jet Training in October 2019 at RAF Valley flying the Hawk T2 on XXV(F) Sqn and IV(AC) Sqn. He completed training in November 2020, and was awarded the Vafeas and Jon Egging Trophies for the best performance on the ground

and for being a 'team player' respectively. He was selected to remain at RAF Valley and become a Qualified Flying Instructor in February 2021, and on completion, will go on to fly the Typhoon FGR4.

Flight Lieutenant Fred Hunter was presented with his award by the Master at the July Court Luncheon



Chosen Man 2021

ADJUTANT CAPTAIN TOM FARROW WRITES:

Lance Corporal William Webb has had an outstanding year in Team 7, B Coy, 4 RIFLES during a challenging period. Throughout this year he has not stopped working. He deserves extra recognition for his work as an ambassador for the development of the UK Ranger Regiment. He has briefed MPs, high level security agencies and the Prime Minister on his experience in the Specialised Infantry, contributing to the development and progression of the UK Ranger Regiment.

He has deployed twice alongside US Green berets, most recently attending the JRTC exercise (the US army's premier combat training centre) in the USA. He was embedded in a USSOF Team (US Special Operations Forces), showcasing an ability on a par with the USSOF operators themselves. His attitude and hard work as an ambassador and his ability to operate above what is expected of his rank is thoroughly deserving of high recognition.



Lance Corporal William Webb received his award from the Master at Carpenters' Hall in December

Pastimes

Shooting

Inter-Livery Rifle Competition 2021

LIVERYMAN BRUCE HODGSON REPORTS:

On 24th September, the 8th Inter-Livery Rifle Shoot was held at Bisley. Once again it was promoted by a Past Master of the Bakers' Company, Colin Sach, a member of the National Rifle Association, and organised by the RAF Target Shooting Club, which provided the hospitality and the instructors. The RAF Club membership included several international target shooters and Queen's Prize winners, so we were in good hands! The money raised was in aid of the RAF Benevolent Fund.

16 teams of three shooters entered the Competition drawn from Livery Companies including the Barber Surgeons', Tax Advisers', Clothworkers', Horners', Builders Merchants', Gunmakers', Bowyers', Coopers', Art Scholars', Cordwainers', Merchant Taylors', Ironmongers', Carmen, and Carpenters'. In sunny weather and a challenging wind on the 1000-yard range, the teams competed in several shooting disciplines:

- At 1000 yards using a 7.62mm target rifle with 'iron sights'.
- At Fig.11 targets using a military style .223 rifle with telescopic sight at 300 yards with time constraints.
- Snap shooting at 4 second exposure targets with .22 Rimfire carbine at 50 yards.
- Black Powder 'widow maker' revolvers at 15 yards (American Civil War replica pistols).
- 'Running Boar' moving target with .22mm bolt action rifle at 30 yards.

The Carpenters' team, entering for the second time, was under some pressure to retain the overall Winning Team Cup. Liverymen Alex Cottrell, Nick Thornton, and I put in a steady performance, coming third overall, hard on the heels of the Gunmakers' in second place, and a few 'bullseyes' behind the Clothworkers', the overall winners. Nick Thornton shot especially well, achieving the highest individual score of all the competitors, and as a team we won the 'Running Boar' stand.

Our special thanks go to Colin Sach for organising a great fun occasion, and persevering despite the rigours of running an event in Covid times.

Anyone interested in taking part in any of the shooting events and pastimes should contact the Clerk's PA, Caroline Stevens (caroline@carpentersco.com)

Nick Thornton (left) and Bruce Hodgson



Company Clay Pigeon Shoot

LIVERYMAN RICHARD MITTON REPORTS:



Left to right:
Ben Brading,
4 RANGERS' Captain
Seb Purdy,
Philip Brading,
Richard Mitton,
4 RANGERS' Serjeant
Jim Bowen,
Michael Neal,
Nick Gutfreund,
Hugh Lancaster,
Peter Birts,
John Meardon,
Loyd Grossman,
Jonnie Barnes-
Yallowley,
Lawrence Mallinson,
Caroline Stevens,
Francesca Gregson,
Tim Gregson,
Dominic Symons,
Michael Morrison,
Rosie Orringe,
Alistair Gregory-Smith,
Tom Gregory-Smith

This year the very popular Company Clay Pigeon Shoot took place on 22nd April at West London Shooting School. It was again oversubscribed, with a Reserve List. Past Master Michael Neal captained us, dividing us into five teams. Having exhausted obscure carpentry tools and trees for team names on previous occasions, we were treated this year to a history lesson, being asked to identify Carpenters who had become Lord Mayors, ranging from Sir William Staines (1800/1801) to the much more recent Sir Edmund Stockdale (1959/1960).

After the customary bacon baps, we shot various stands interspersed by 'elevenes'. The finale was again the usual fast and furious Flush, this time largely made up of 'Rabbits', with some fast overhead birds, all great fun!

After an excellent lunch, the Clerk presented the first prize to Senior Warden John Meardon, who won the RIFLES Cup, closely followed by Ben Brading. Lawrence Mallinson and Nick Gutfreund were jointly third. The best scoring team was 'Boyce' comprising Senior Warden John Meardon, Nick Gutfreund, the Clerk

and me. We were fortunate to be joined by Captain Seb Pudney from 4th Battalion The RANGERS, who achieved a very commendable score of 44 out of 50 as well as Serjeant Jim Bowen.

As ever, our thanks to Caroline for organising the day and to the Court for supporting it.

Inter-Livery Clay Shoot

LIVERYMAN WILL BARNES-YALLOWLEY REPORTS:

The 19th May this year was a glorious sunny day and, like homing pigeons, the Livery team members made their way to the immaculate Holland & Holland shooting grounds at Northwood to take part in the Inter-Livery Shooting Competition. After a preliminary briefing over a bacon sarni, Past Master Michael Neal, Team Captain, checked our safety wear before leading us to the first of 10 stands. Each gun shot at 16 clays presented in pairs. The clays ranged in size from mini to standard, and Springing Teal and High Pheasants were on the agenda. Some very speedy mini clays hurled from an exceptionally high tower presented a particular challenge. Our team consisted of Michael Neal and liverymen Richard Mitton, Lawrence Mallinson and myself.

'One for all and all for one' was the motto of this year's Team — a reference to The Team Flush, the most exhilarating shooting of the day. This is the only stand where all guns shoot

at the same time, with birds emerging in twos, threes and fours and no clear distinction of who should shoot which. This can result in several guns shooting at the same clay before (typically) a single bird sails over as all are trying to reload. It makes for a fantastic six or seven minutes shooting. Midway comes a lone 'flash clay' — if you shoot this there is a £40 team fine (for charity) but if you miss you can't win the day. Suffice to say we dusted the flash clay, paid our fine and didn't win the day, though the Team came a sporting halfway down the final score!

Thanks are due to the Environmental Cleaners' Company for organising an excellent day and to the Company for entering us as the Carpenters' Team once again.



Left to right:
Lawrence
Mallinson,
Captain Michael
Neal, Richard
Mitton, Will
Barnes-
Yallowley



Lawrence Mallinson
 shoots a going
 away bird

Inter-Livery Rifle Competition 2022

LIVERYMAN BRUCE HODGSON REPORTS:

Carpenters entered the Inter-Livery Shooting Competition at Bisley in June for the third time. The team was unchanged from last year and consisted of Liverymen Alex Cottrell, Nick Thornton and myself. The event was once again impeccably organised by Colin Sach, with funds raised going to the RAF Benevolent Fund. Air Vice Marshal Harvey Smyth CB, OBE, DFC (UK Ministry of Defence Director, Space UK) presented the prizes.

Fifteen teams entered the Competition which consisted of five different disciplines, including the Running Boar moving target .22 calibre target rifle (we won this last year, but it seems to have got a lot harder since then!). The first four

disciplines are great fun and very varied but, for the purists, the most important discipline must be the 'full bore' 1000-yard shoot - it's certainly the competitive focus of the day.

Conditions for the Shoot were challenging, with a strong and erratic cross wind, despite the glorious sunshine. The bullet at this range can be 'blown' several feet off course by the wind, so timing and consistency are essential for a good score. The team dominated the event with Alex and Nick achieving the top scores, and myself not far behind. As a result, we won both the team and individual prizes! For the rest of the events we were slightly less consistent than last year, but still managed a respectable

close third overall behind the Gunmakers in second place, and Merchant Taylors in first place. To top off a very enjoyable day, we were treated to an informative presentation by re-enactment soldiers of the 95th Rifles, on the drill for firing the famous Baker Rifle. For Nick and me, as a couple of ex-Light Infantrymen, this was particularly nostalgic.

On behalf of the team I would like to thank the Company for enabling us to take part in the day.



Riflemen from the 95th Rifles Re-enactment Group with (left to right) Nick Thornton, Team Captain Bruce Hodgson and Alex Cottrell

If you would like to know more about the Snow-Camp Charity, please visit www.snow-camp.org.uk.

Inter-Livery Ski-ing

LIVERYMAN STEPHEN SAMUEL WRITES:

Sadly the Inter-Livery Ski-ing Championships were again cancelled due to lingering problems caused by the pandemic for a second year running. The championships, to be held in Morzine in January, were substituted with the first ever Inter-Livery Curling Championships speedily arranged at The Langham Hotel in London. Much smaller than the ski-ing event, it was attended by 90 Liverymen and women, split between 16 teams. This inaugural event was won by The Salters'. Participants had clearly been studying and learning their skills by watching the GB teams at the

Beijing Olympic Games – see Liveryman Richard Galbraith's article opposite.

Back to the ski-ing. As a warm-up to the main racing event, in recent years the Snow-Camp Charity has encouraged as many Livery skiers as possible to race up and down the pistes to log as many kilometres as possible in a limited time – an important fundraiser for the charity. Despite the cancellation, the Carpenters' Company was very pleased to agree a donation direct to Snow-Camp. Rest assured, we'll be back fully supporting the charity in 2023.

Representing Carpenters' is a great honour and the ski-ing team has been well supported by the Company over the years. We are very grateful to the Master for this continued support and shall return

in 2023 with, we hope, the strongest possible gents and ladies teams. Not only is the event a big social gathering, it also gives us the opportunity to network with other livery companies and individuals.

Inter-Livery Curling

LIVERYMAN RICHARD GALBRAITH WRITES:

The cancellation of the 2022 Inter-Livery Ski-ing was substituted by the introduction of Inter-Livery Curling in February. Inspired by Team UK's performance at Beijing, the Company was well represented by eight enthusiastic and completely novice curlers. Carpenters' was represented by three teams of three, comprising our Chef de Ski, Harry Neal, strongly supported by Will Frappell, and the multi-generational combos of Richard and Lucy Mitton, Philip and Ben Brading and Richard and Frances Galbraith.



Richard Mitton stepped up to the plate for two teams. Curling is an ancient Scottish sport played on an ice surface with granite stones. It became recognised as an Olympic sport in 1998. The goal is to place your stone closest to the tee. Further excitement comes from knocking your opponent's stones out of position. This is a game of skill and tactics, where understanding and experience is fundamental to success. The rear service courtyard of the Langham had been transformed into an imaginary Alpine wonderland. Decorated with fir-trees and alpine artefacts, it was a world away from Oxford Circus, the closest underground station. Ice was substituted by linoleum, snow by rain and the stones by plastic replicas on casters. Though following the general principles of this ancient sport, the reality was more akin to shove-half-penny.

All the participants set out to enjoy themselves, leaving the final outcome to inevitable chance; all enthusiastically immersing themselves into the event. Fellowship and conviviality are cornerstones of Inter-Livery Ski-ing and this culture remained at the forefront with the curling. Whilst the Carpenters' team did not return with a trophy, we did nevertheless create strong and good humoured competition and had a thoroughly enjoyable time. It was a resounding success and we express our thanks to the Ironmongers' Company for organising it.

Thanks also to the Company for its support of this valued inter-livery activity and, of course to Caroline for her support in arranging it.

Left to right: Harry Neal, Richard Mitton, Philip Brading, Lucy Mitton, Frances Galbraith, Richard Galbraith, Will Frappell, Ben Brading

Golf

Company Golf Day

LIVERYMAN GEOFF RHODES REPORTS:

On 7th April, when the US Masters was starting at Augusta National Golf Club, Georgia, USA, on the same day the RAC Golf Club at Woodcote Park, Epsom, was hosting the annual Company Golf Day, kindly sponsored by RAC member and Past Master Martin Samuel. The weather was dry but exceptionally windy in Surrey, making playing conditions extremely challenging, with tears seen streaming from the players' eyes whilst putting... and not only when a putt was missed!

Bacon rolls, orange juice, tea and coffee rewarded all who made the very early start to Epsom, ready to tee off just after

8am. As always, the Old Course at the RAC was in excellent condition for the morning Stapleford Competition and the scene was set for a very competitive day. Callum Macqueen, after a slow start and possibly inspired by what was going on in the US, played well, carding an impressive and ultimately winning 32 points. Our two guest players from the RANGERS enjoyed the day, playing competitively, and Serjeant Mitchell Springer managed to accumulate 33 points, receiving a bottle of Champagne to celebrate his achievement. The rest of the field were close behind with good scores, and following the presentation of the superb

Newman Trophy, a fine lunch was enjoyed by all in the Library of the Club House. Those with the necessary enthusiasm, energy and fitness played an afternoon round.

Any golfers in the Livery who have not attended this excellent annual golfing event would be very welcome.



Left to right: **Callum Macqueen** with the Newman Trophy, **Martin Samuel**, **Serjeant Mitchell Springer** (4th Battalion the Rangers)

Inter-Livery Golf 2022

LIVERYMAN RICHARD SAMUEL REPORTS:

The Prince Arthur Cup was first played for in 1927 to celebrate the admission of Prince Arthur of Connaught, a grandson of Queen Victoria, to the Coachmakers' Company. The event is now one of the largest one-day, two-course, amateur golf tournaments in the UK. Up to 54 Companies can compete every year at Surrey's Walton Heath Golf Club in one of golf's most unforgiving formats. Livery teams of two pairs play in a foursome, with pairings playing alternate shots on a single ball over 36

holes. Each pair plays in the company of two other Livery teams, but is effectively in a 'bogey' competition against course - that is to say, teams are playing match-play against each hole. A hole can only be won (+), drawn or lost (-) once a pair's combined handicap is taken into account. So now that's all made clear, suffice to say that part of the fun is in the challenge of this format over two rounds. Indeed, Walton Heath just happens to be one of the most difficult heathland courses in the country.



Left to right: **Captain Rowan Montague-Smith**, **Marcus Dill** (back), **Geoff Rhodes**, **Richard Samuel** (front)

The Club famously hosted the 1981 Ryder Cup on its Old Course.

This year, the Competition took place on Thursday 19th May under the captaincy of Rowan Montague-Smith, our team comprising Geoff Rhodes, Marcus Dill and myself. The Carpenters' team was drawn with pairs representing the Brewers' and Framework Knitters' Companies, which sounded like a great party before we'd even started. We weren't disappointed: they were really good company, both on and off the Course. After some early morning drizzle, all golfers were pleased to see the sun come out to help with the challenge and enhance the social nature of the event.

After completing both the Old and New Courses our team achieved a combined score of -28. Congratulations to the Leathersellers', whose team took the silver gilt trophy for their combined score of -2 and to one of the Merchant Taylors' pairs who finished the day +5 against both courses.

Last but not least, a big thank you to the organisers and to the Club, who put on another memorable event, including a sumptuous, four-course carvery luncheon between rounds. We look forward to being able to submit a team again next year; our top 30 finish should be enough to see us qualify!

Bridge

PAST MASTER MARTIN SAMUEL REPORTS:

The past Bridge season was again very challenging as we struggled to achieve sufficient numbers to make our planned events worthwhile. We need a minimum of 12 players, and unfortunately the event had to be cancelled twice because this number was not reached. Of course, Covid contributed to our lack of players. The events are great fun, with players of all abilities taking part, and we finish with a superb Steve Rapley dinner.

If you are interested in taking part please contact the Clerk's PA (caroline@carpentersco.com) or myself for further details. This request is not just aimed at Liverymen and Freeman but partners and friends as well, whether as individuals or couples. The new season starts in October and runs through to June with 7 events, one of which is an annual friendly match against the Girdlers' Company which will be our turn to host.

Sailing

Inter-Livery Regatta 2021

LIVERYMAN KAY BUCHAN REPORTS ON THE 2021 LORD MAYOR'S CUP, HOSTED IN SEPTEMBER BY THE ISLAND RACING CLUB, COWES AND THE FIRST TIME THE COMPANY HAS TAKEN PART IN THE EVENT:



Left to right:
William Avery,
Hugh Felton,
James Preston,
Chris Browne,
Mike Felton,
Lucy Mitton, Will
Barnes-Yallowley,
Kay Buchan.

It seemed fitting that on the weekend everyone was struggling to find fuel for their cars, we were heading to Port Hamble to harness the power of the wind for the Inter-Livery Sailing Regatta. At first it was a fresh 12-15 knots and the sun was out — perfect conditions to hone the team into a well-oiled racing machine guiding the Baldur (a 38 foot Maxi 1200) to, if not victory, then at least something to do our Company proud.

The crew of eight, comprising two women and six men, ranged from Freeman of four years Lucy Mitton, to Court

Member and Past Master Mike Felton. We had a wide scope of differing experience — from an almost total but very enthusiastic novice, Chris Browne, to boat-owners and regular sailors, our skipper William Avery, Mike and Hugh Felton, James Preston, and Will Barnes-Yallowley. Most of my sailing experience, like Lucy's, was gained from inland dinghy sailing as a teen — coincidentally including a trip on which the current Master crewed me on Barton Broad in Norfolk.

After lunch on board and a safety briefing, we set off

into the Solent, practising manoeuvring the boat and working out crew members' duties on race day. We had to act quickly in Friday's strong wind. Throughout this our tutor and skipper William was the perfect mix of calm and patience. We soon got the tacking down to smooth transitions and had a wonderfully invigorating few hours darting around the Solent before heading to our berth in Cowes Yacht Haven.

Once moored, we rushed to change into 'Smart Yachting' attire for the Regatta Party at the Royal London Yacht

Club. We spent a buoyant evening getting to know fellow Livery Company crews in a competitive yet affable atmosphere. At 8.30 am we congregated on the 'hard' for the race briefing and breakfast.

Unfortunately, news arrived that the race was postponed to 11am for lack of wind, but at 11.30 the starting gun was fired and off the 10-strong fleet went at an exceptionally leisurely pace, the Baldur getting a competent windward start on starboard tack. However, it was about an hour before we rounded the first buoy a nautical mile away. Mike has a lovely video of the amiable buoy-rounding at the great speed of 1.13 knots by the Carpenters', Plumbers', and Leathersellers' and the very courteous racing tactics we all employed. No jostling for water there! The tide had been with us up to now but all changed with the next leg when we found ourselves travelling, as the Race Officer helpfully put it on the

radio, 'in a Westerly direction backwards when [we] were supposed to be travelling in an Easterly direction forwards' as the course required.

Having drifted so far West, we lost contact with the race officers and around 4pm William suggested we call it a day. Unsurprisingly, the second race was also abandoned, but at the presentation dinner at the Club the atmosphere was not dampened by the lack of race results. Cups were presented for various accomplishments — first boat in Class 1 was the Wheelwrights' followed by the Carmen; first in Class 2 was the Blacksmiths' followed by the Actuaries'. The Baldur was awarded the trophy for enabling the most people to enjoy the event — in other words, for having the largest (and perhaps most difficult to manage) crew.

Chris Preston (Chairman of the RYA), the guest speaker, gave a heartfelt speech about

the privilege of the sailing community and his life's mission to make sailing a more inclusive and diverse sport. This reflection felt very much in keeping with the principles of the Carpenters' in supporting education, charity and fellowship.

On Sunday we were rewarded with a wonderfully lively sail, beating upwind to achieve a long speedy broad reach home. We all had a turn at the helm and got the spinnaker to behave beautifully (only one rousing broach), reaching maximum hull speed of an exhilarating nine knots.

So the Baldur did us proud. Named after the Nordic god of light, joy, purity and summer sun, she produced all those things for us that weekend.

Inter-Livery Regatta 2022

LIVERYMAN HUGH FELTON REPORTS:

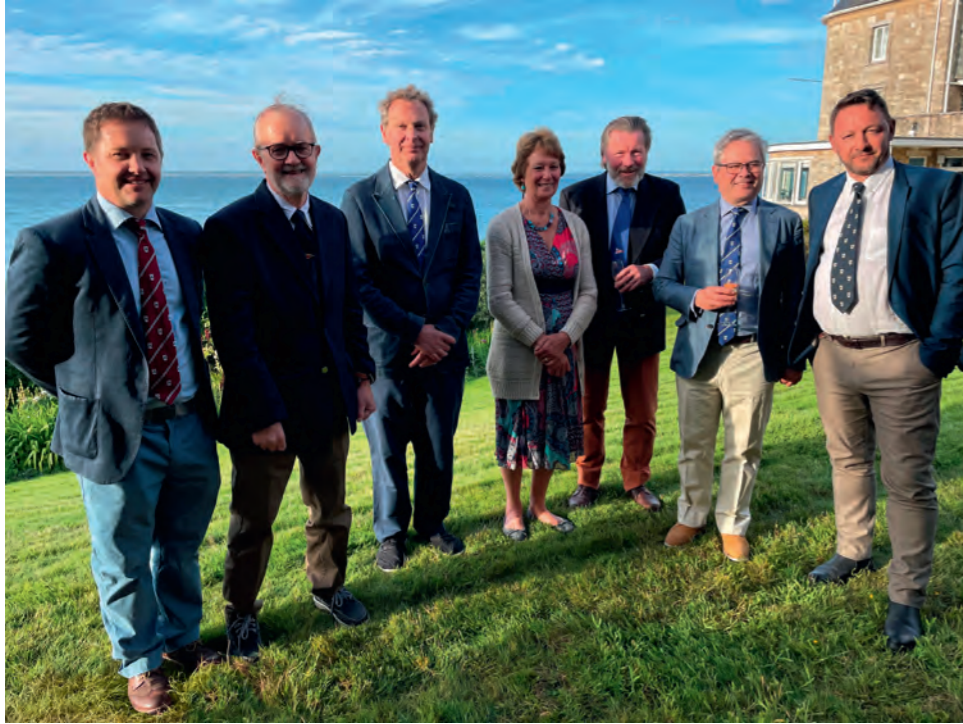
Soon after competing in the annual Inter-Livery Cowes Regatta, I stood in the prestigious Royal Yacht Squadron Club in Cowes reading the brochure for the INEOS Britannia British sailing team, led by the legendary sailor Sir Ben Ainslie. Sir Ben was quoted as declaring: 'Pain is weakness leaving the body!' alongside the words of Iain Jenson, the INEOS mainsail trimmer: 'No sacrifice, no victory!' While the Carpenters'

crew had certainly shown a competitive spirit in its racing, I had to concede that might be taking it up to a higher level.

Our adventure started as we poked our bow out of the Hamble River into the main Southampton channel at approximately 15.00 hrs on Friday 20th May. Wind blowing a fresh south-westerly, gusting at 28 knots. Thoughts of traffic on the A27 and the digital world of emails and Zoom

soon vanished as we took in two reefs. Baldur, our Maxi 38-foot yacht, heeled over, like a sleeping giant awaking from a long winter. A solid afternoon of training ensued. A memorable (and refreshing) moment was feeling a thud as a wave hit us broadside and soaked us.

On the hard at Cowes Marina at 08.30 hrs, Saturday 21st May, race director Peter Chugg laid out details for the day ahead.



Left to right:
Hugh Felton,
Mike Felton,
Sean Sutcliffe,
Bridget Avery,
William Avery,
James Preston,
Christopher
Browne

Our first race would be set to the west of Cowes. The forecast was blue skies with light winds from the southwest, force 3 strengthening to 4 later.

Two courses were set that day, the first starting at 10.25 hrs. We started out in front of Cowes, beating into the wind before heading northwest towards the entrance to the Beaulieu River. The tide flowed strongly against us heading eastward, so we tried to skirt the coast to avoid the main tidal flow. Some boats struggled to get round the south cardinal outside Beaulieu, but the unwavering judgment of skipper William Avery saw us round the buoy like a swallow dipping for water. We completed the Course well, coming in towards the second half of the field.

At the start of the second race we headed out east on a broad reach and were in the main fleet at the off. We soon moved up a couple of places and Baldur was responding well to the strengthening wind. As we tacked round the first buoy, satisfyingly, we overtook the Worshipful Company of Plumbers. Wind speed was above 10 knots, and the Maxi 1200 was flying. It was a solid performance, with all crew fully stretched and Baldur finishing mid-fleet. Carpenters' had by now moved a little closer to the spirit of Team INEOS for sure.

We enjoyed a fantastic evening at the Royal Yacht Squadron Club overlooking the Solent and it was a real privilege to be in such prestigious surroundings.

Innholders' won both races overall and were awarded the Lord Mayor's Cup. The Dyers' won the Cowes Cup for the second race with their handicap, and a special award was given to the Leathersellers' for the only female skipper competing in this year's competition. William Avery gave the welcome speech at the dinner and extended a warm welcome to all guests, exuding the warmth and hospitality that Carpenters' are well known for. Our thanks are due to him and the Company for organising and supporting this excellent event.

Tennis

Inter-Livery Tennis

LIVERYMAN WILL BARNES-YALLOWLEY WRITES:

On Monday 13th September, after a couple of false starts and the de facto year break due to Covid, the Feltmakers' Inter-Livery Tennis Tournament took place. There was a buzz in the air as, fired up by the recent spectacular win of Emma Raducanu, the players chatted prior to the morning briefing for the day's play. Due to renovation works elsewhere, the Hurlingham Club, among the finest of such clubs in the world, was our host and the lawns, courts and lakes sparkled in the Indian summer weather.

Past Master Hugh Lancaster led the Carpenters' team with his partner Carro Wolstenholme.

The second mixed pair comprised Janie Binney and myself. The ensuing tennis was tremendous: a wonderful mix of smashing shots and great bonhomie buzzed around the courts. Suffice to say that, while neither team collected silverware, those in both made friends and enabled the winners to shine. At the celebratory dinner held later that evening all agreed that the day had been a huge success, with great thanks given to the Feltmakers' and in particular Simon and Bruce for organising a wonderful event.



Left to right: **Janie**
Binney, Joshua &
Laura (Grocers'
Company),
Claire & Michael
(Fishmongers'
Company), Will
Barnes-Yallowley

Real Tennis Inter-Livery Tournament

LIVERYMAN CHRIS BROWNE REPORTS:



Left to right: *Will Barnes-Yallowley & Chris Browne with L. Ollins & A. Bourcier of the Fruiterers' and Skinners' Companies*

After a two-year delay due to the pandemic, the Inter-Livery Real Tennis Tournament returned to London's Queen's Club on 2nd November 2021. Unfortunately, the Carpenters' Company's usual pairing of Liveryman Charles Trevor and myself was disrupted by an ankle injury sustained by Charles. But to the rescue came Liveryman William Barnes-Yallowley, a complete novice in the dark arts of the noble sport of Real Tennis, but a supreme enthusiast who volunteered to undertake the near impossible task of learning the game in under a fortnight.

I introduced Will to the delights and complexities of the game during the last two weeks of October and attempted to cram 700 hundred years of the sport's illustrious history into two afternoons at the Petworth Club under the instruction of the Club's pro Tom Durack. Our coaching session was followed by a doubles match with two of the Club's members, more of whom later.

Will and I duly arrived at Queen's Club for our first tournament match at 9am to face what turned out to be the eventual winners of the Over 40s Handicap Tournament, Tim Fooks and Harry Pilcher of the Leathersellers' Company - by an extraordinary coincidence the same pairing as in our practice match at Petworth. It did not end well, with an 8-0 defeat to the unrelenting top pair. The format of the Tournament was a pro's set to eight or 35 minutes

duration, whichever was the shorter. We fared better in the second match, with a score line of 4-4 achieved after some tenacious play by us both and some very spirited returning from the indomitable Will, who was by now starting to make some headway in the game. Sadly, we were 30-40 down as the buzzer went off and the game was awarded to our opponents.

Finally, we fought our third opponents to a standstill and with the scores tied at 4-4, the incredible Howard Angus, our marker and former World Real Tennis and Rackets Champion, declared the match would be decided by one point to be played immediately. I took the rather ungallant decision to smash the first ball I received with everything I'd got in a last attempt at glory but thankfully was rewarded with our opponents' inability to handle the ferocious shot! Will had more than acquitted himself in tackling this hard-to-fathom sport and ultimately we both did the Carpenters' proud. We hope to have two pairs to enter next year as Will has definitely fallen in love with the game.

Thank you to the Court, the Clerk and Caroline for their support and for allowing us the fantastic opportunity to enjoy a day's sport and gala dinner at Queen's Club.

Livery Tennis 2022

PAST MASTER HUGH LANCASTER WRITES:

At 6.00 pm on 21st July eight Liverymen of the Carpenters' company met at The Hurlingham Club by kind permission of Past Master Peter Birts to compete for the Hutchons Cup. In previous years this had been arranged by the late Middle Warden Russell Hutchons, who had donated the cup, and it was felt that Russell's spirit was still with us. It was a most relaxed evening, of which Russell would have approved, and one of our number was late — of which Russell would certainly have approved!

The temperature was not as stifling as it had been a couple of days before at the peak of the heatwave, when we held the General Court of the Livery, and happily the rain

held off. Whilst this eagerly fought competition did not attract crowds of Hurlingham members to admire the evident skills of the participants, it was a really joyful event. A scoring system had been devised sufficiently complicated to confuse an actuary, but there was no argument: our worthy champion was our former Company Solicitor and Freeman Martin Ackland, making his debut in the competition.

After the match, we enjoyed an excellent supper and — a surprising treat — fine wines most elegantly served by Michael O'Dwyer, the Club Secretary/ Chief Executive himself¹, an honour not ordinarily accorded to mere carpenters.

Hurlingham is a such a fine venue and we were privileged to be allowed to experience its excellence. Peter will have expressed our thanks to the Club on behalf of the company and we in turn are most grateful to him for organizing it. This annual event is also a wonderful opportunity for Liverymen, both junior and senior, to meet and get to know one another in an informal gathering.

Martin Ackland receives the Hutchons Cup from Jane Eveleigh-Hall



¹ Formerly the Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Brewers

Company Business

Admissions

TO THE LIVERY

**On Wednesday,
6th October 2021**



Leonard Richard Conway

Len joined the Company in 2007 as Principal of the Company's Building Crafts College and retired in 2020. He began teaching in 1979, and his posts included head of the School of Construction at Lambeth College where he developed a wide range of traditional craft courses and training in historic building conservation. He continued his commitment to the teaching of employable craft skills as Principal of the College. An internationally recognised expert on conservation training, Len has assisted organisations such as the National Heritage Training Group to develop their conservation teaching. In 2014 he was awarded the Prince Philip Medal which celebrates exceptional City & Guilds learners and tutors and was awarded the Company's Craft Award for Excellence in 2021.

**On Wednesday,
4th May**



Lucy Ann Mitton

Lucy is a Tax Advisor for KPMG and formerly worked at Deloitte, having studied History at Newcastle University. The daughter of Liveryman Richard Mitton, she is a keen runner, especially for charity. Lucy completed the Lands End to John O'Groats cycle route for charity in September 2018 and recently ran the Paris Marathon for St Catherine's Hospice. She also completed the Brighton Marathon and two half-marathons for charity.

**On Wednesday,
6th July**



Ruth Avery

A Senior Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner for the NHS, Ruth took a BSc in Genetics at Cardiff University and has an MSc in Psychology. Ruth is a qualified personal trainer and a keen yacht and dinghy sailor, and is a member of the Royal Cruising Club. Ruth also enjoys playing the piano and clarinet and is the daughter of Liveryman William Avery.

TO THE FREEDOM

**On Wednesday,
6th October 2021**



Sean Benjamin Vize Symons

A Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, Sean is the son of Liveryman Lorna Symons and nephew of Past Master Alistair Gregory-Smith. He was educated at Latymer Upper School and the Royal London Hospital Medical School, and is married and has three children. Sean enjoys all sport, especially rugby, cricket, golf and ski-ing. His interests include geopolitics and history.



John Arthur Annesley Goodall

John is an author, historian and the Architectural Editor of Country Life. He studied architectural history at the Courtauld Institute of Art and worked as a senior properties historian at English Heritage. He was series consultant on the 2007 BBC series 'The Way We Built Britain' and his publications include 'The English Castle' (2011). A part-time lecturer at the City and Guilds of London Art School, John sits on the Fabric Advisory Commissions of St George's Chapel Windsor Castle and St Albans Abbey, and the Arts and Architecture Committee of Westminster Cathedral.



Alexander Edward Evelegh

Alex is an Architectural Assistant with Saunders Architecture and Urban Design. He was educated at Aldenham School and the Universities of Kent and of the West of England, graduating with a BA and MA in Architecture. Alex is the son of Liveryman Rupert Evelegh and grandson of Past Master Nick Evelegh. He is a keen sportsman, currently running for Shaftsbury Barnet Harriers.

**On Wednesday,
3rd November**



Martin Jeremy Ackland

Martin graduated in law from Wadham College Oxford in 1975 and qualified as a solicitor in 1979. He joined the London law firm Wedlake Bell in 2012 on its merger with Cumberland Ellis and was the Carpenters' Company Solicitor from 2014 until his retirement in 2020. He continues to work as a part-time consultant for Wedlake Bell on real estate matters. Martin's interests include tennis, swimming, playing the piano, literature, cooking, walking and writing.

TO THE FREEDOM

**On Wednesday,
2nd March**

From the Building Crafts College in recognition of seven years service

**Nancy Peskett**

Nancy has worked for over 20 years in the construction industry, first training in architecture and gaining her Part 3 in professional practice in London. In 2009 she studied for the Advanced Diploma in Stonemasonry at the Building Crafts College, and undertook a craft apprenticeship with the Prince's Foundation for Building Community. Nancy is a registered Assessor, delivering training and site-based assessments in stonemasonry, heritage and site management qualifications. She has a particular interest in education and learning, contributing to school and museum learning programmes and career development initiatives in the heritage sector.

**Darren Oliver**

Darren re-trained as a bricklayer at 26 and went on to become a construction lecturer at Epping

Forest College in 2005, teaching multi-skill courses to 16-18 year olds. Whilst at Epping, he graduated with a Certificate in Education in 2009 from Angela Ruskin University, and was promoted to Sectional Leader of Construction. He moved to the Building Crafts College in April 2013 as a Tutor for Construction Operations. Darren is married and has four children. An experienced football coach holding Level 2 Football Association badges, he coaches for Dagenham and Redbridge FC and his son's under-15 football team.

**On Wednesday,
4th May****Maximilian Anthony Hugh Barnes Yallowley**

Max is a Producer for the Edge Picture Company, where he has produced a number of films promoting craft and construction and for charities. He is the grandson of Past Master Hugh Barnes-Yallowley and son of Liveryman Jonathan Barnes-Yallowley. He graduated from the University of Reading with a BA (Hons) History and his interests include rugby, cricket, cycling, skiing, shooting, films and literature.

**On Wednesday,
4th May****John Bernard Barradell**

John has been the Town Clerk and Chief Executive Officer of the City of London since 2012. He was educated at the Bishop Challoner School and University College London, graduating with a BA (Hons) Geography. John is married with three children and his interests include recreational cycling, philately, social history and national public radio. John is a trustee of the National Emergencies Trust, a charity dedicated to supporting those affected by disasters in the UK. He also chairs the board of trustees at the Sir Simon Milton Foundation, which helps young people into work and tackles isolation among older people.

Obituaries

LIVERY

**Ian James Harper**

7TH JUNE 1950 - 5TH
APRIL 2021

Ian Harper has been associated with the Carpenters' Company since 1973-74 when he was the Company's 8th Exchange Scholar with the Philadelphia Carpenters' Company. He was seconded to R. M. Shoemaker Co in Philadelphia, where he gained invaluable experience of the North American approach to large-scale construction management. Ian began his construction industry career in 1965 at Doncaster College Department of Building, where his course included carpentry and joinery and brickwork. In 1969 he joined FPA Staveley in Sheffield, gaining practical training and experience in building and site engineering. On completion of his scholarship in Philadelphia, in the mid-1970s Ian worked as an engineer and manager for companies in Saudi Arabia, Dubai and Jordan on projects including Amman's

International Airport and Prince Faisal's private residence. After working on two regeneration projects in Yorkshire in the early 1990s and graduating from Heriot-Watt University Edinburgh with an MSc in Construction Management, Ian returned to the Middle East. Based in Amman and then Dubai, he managed projects at Dubai International airport and prestigious hotel and residential developments, including Dubai Marina and the Sheraton Hotel. In recent years Ian was Managing Director for EC Harris International Ltd in Abu Dhabi, working on large scale commercial and residential high-rise developments. Ian settled in Dubai with his wife Malak and children Yenal and Natalie. Highly respected by his colleagues, he later enjoyed a reputation as an outstanding Arbitrator and Mediator. He retained a keen interest in the Carpenters' Company and in 2007 was admitted to the Freedom, joining the Livery in 2008.

Benjamin Nicholas Ridley

12TH NOVEMBER 1952 - 28TH
MARCH 2021

Benjamin Ridley became a Freeman of the Company in 1983 by patrimony, and was admitted to the Livery in 1987. He was the son of Past Master Jasper Ridley, author of 'A History of The Carpenters' Company' published in 1995. Benjamin worked in a Health Food partnership, wholesale distribution and latterly estate and forestry management in Sussex.

FREEDOM

Doris Margaret Hallpike

11TH NOVEMBER 1927- 26TH
OCTOBER 2021

Doris Hallpike joined the Company in 1977 as Secretary to the Clerk Captain George Barstow. She became a Freeman of the Company on her retirement in 1982.

Robert Derrick Littlewood

2ND JUNE 1931 - 22ND
DECEMBER 2020

Robert Littlewood (Bob) became a Freeman in 1989. As Superintendent of Works for York Minster he was responsible for restoring the vaulting of the South Transept roof after the Minster was nearly destroyed by a catastrophic fire in 1984. Bob began work at the Minster as an apprentice carpenter in 1945, learning his craft with his grandfather. Together they worked on restoring the roof of the North Transept. He remained at the Minster throughout his career and in 1971 was appointed Superintendent of Works. His craftsmanship and long experience of the building enabled him to lead the reconstruction of the South Transept with workmanship of the highest order, from sourcing the oak trees to setting out the complex vaulted roof.

Profiles

THE MASTER 2022

Brigadier John Meardon DL

John Meardon was born in Devon in 1947, raised in Sussex and spent the next 34 years visiting many parts of the world as a Royal Marines officer. Trained as a commando and parachutist, he also qualified as an Army helicopter pilot, flying small reconnaissance and anti-tank aircraft in every climatic condition, and especially in the Arctic. He was staff trained by the Navy, Army and Royal Air Force before commanding a helicopter squadron and what is now 43 Commando Royal Marines, responsible for the security of the UK's nuclear submarines and ballistic missiles. His last job was Director of Naval Security.

Retiring from the military in 1998, John was appointed Receiver General of Canterbury Cathedral and moved to the city with his wife Ann to begin his new career. During his 18 year connection with one of England's most wonderful buildings John amassed an enviable wealth of knowledge about the Cathedral. His long-held interests in archaeology and historic architecture were inspired by the ability to work in such an environment and to have the Cathedral and the community that lived and worked around it in his care. Highlights of his time there included the opening up in 2004 of the 15th century pilgrim tunnel under the Pulpitum steps, new lighting schemes in the Crypt and Cloister and the making and installation of the statues of Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Philip at the Cathedral's west

end. He was closely involved with the project, finding the sculptor Nina Billbey (a former tutor at the Building Crafts College) and welcoming the Royal visitors to the unveiling in 2015.

John also helped found the Cathedrals Workshop Fellowship to raise the professional standards of young people training for careers in cathedral care and heritage conservation. Involvement with the training of future masons led to John's introduction to the Carpenters' Company through the Building Crafts College and he joined the Company in 2009. His connections with stonemasonry have inspired him to take up stone and wood carving, often using stone rejected by the Cathedral masons. A recent project resulted in the carving of a half-ton stone cross in an extremely hard Armenian stone which now sits in the Cathedral's Memorial Garden.

John and Ann continue to live in Canterbury and have three children and six grandchildren. John keeps bees and is involved with local choral and archaeological organisations. He has been a Deputy Lieutenant of Kent since 2007.



Left to right: **Middle Warden Loyd Grossman, The Master John Meardon, Junior Warden Steve Corbett, Senior Warden Allen Zimble**

THE JUNIOR WARDEN 2022

Steve Corbett

Steve established his own Joinery and Interior Design company in West London in 1980, and five years later became the proprietor of Cruisemaster Boatyard on Eel Pie Island. In 1994 he moved into consultancy as a technical author, using his expertise in the design and manufacture of specialised carpentry. In 1998 he joined The Green Oak Carpentry Company where he project managed a number of prestigious buildings, including the Savill Building in Windsor Great Park, the Weald and Downland Museum Gridshell, and The Reading Room at Waddesdon Manor for the Rothschild Foundation, all Wood Awards Gold Award winning projects.

His responsibilities at Green Oak Carpentry include designing modern timber structures for large-spanning buildings, as well as new oak-framed buildings and timber engineering. His expertise in advising on design and procurement has involved project managing both construction and restoration projects. Having studied Modern History at Oxford University, Steve returned to academic study in his professional specialism, graduating with an MSc in Timber Building Conservation from Bournemouth University in 2005. A secondment in 2010 as a consultant for Natural England saw Steve assessing and managing restoration and conservation projects for historic buildings in the South East.

Steve will retire from Green Oak Carpentry in 2023 after 25 years' service, but his close involvement with the timber community will

continue. He was delighted to join the Carpenters' Company in 2011. He was a member of the judging panel for the Wood Awards from 2017 to 2020. Having been involved in carpentry all his working life, Steve's enthusiasm for promoting excellence in carpentry and quality craftwork in timber buildings continues.

Steve lives in West Dean, West Sussex with his wife Carol. He is a local Councillor and was formerly a Trustee for the nearby Weald and Downland Museum.

NEW DUTCH AMBASSADOR

Karel Jan Gustaff Van Oosterom was appointed Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Kingdom in August 2020. He also becomes an Honorary Freeman of the Carpenters' Company in recognition of the close links between the Company and the Netherlands, and particularly the Dutch Church located in Austin Friars and its community.

Born in 1958 in Utrecht, Karel studied Contemporary History at Utrecht University before serving with the Royal Netherlands Army. He began his career with the diplomatic service in 1986, and his appointments include Canada (Ottawa), Syria (Damascus), The Hague, China (Beijing) and most recently, the United Nations, New York. He is married to Anna Sybranda van Oosterom-Niessen, and they have a son Gustaaf Jan Frederik.



The Dutch Ambassador with the Master after his Freedom ceremony at the Hall in January

Company Visit

THE MASTER MICHAEL MORRISON WRITES:

After having to cancel the 2020 and 2021 visits we decided to play it safe for 2022 and arrange an afternoon walking tour around the City to visit three other Livery Halls. We set off on our journey on Friday 27th May after an excellent informal lunch in Carpenters' Hall. (Photographs courtesy of Liveryman David Burns.)



The party walked down Throgmorton Avenue to Merchant Taylors' Hall in Threadneedle Street - a site the Company has occupied continuously since 1347.



We were given an entertaining guided tour of the building by the Merchant Taylors' Beadle. The first Hall of 1349 was destroyed in 1666 in the Great Fire. The rebuilt Hall was bombed and gutted by fire in September 1940. The walls and foundations survived and the building was recreated inside the original walls - similar to the rebuilding of Carpenters' Hall.



The Dining Hall occupies the same position in the building and has the same proportions as its predecessor. Reopened in 1959, it is an interesting stylistic contrast to the Carpenters' Dining Hall of much the same date.



We walked from Merchant Taylors' to Leathersellers' Hall in St. Helen's Place. The Leathersellers' have occupied this site since 1543. This is their seventh Hall. We were given a guided tour by the architect of the new Hall followed by the Company Archivist.



We were welcomed with a fine tea and a glass of Champagne, with time to look round the rooms and take in the splendid glass sculpture by the American artist Dale Chihuly.



The architect, Eric Parry, has designed a modern Hall on two floors within the early 20th Century building on the south side of St Helen's Place. This is the Court Room with a table made by our Liveryman Luke Hughes.



The Dining Hall is in the basement lit by high level windows. The tapestry which forms a frieze around the room was designed by artist Victoria Crowe and woven by Dovecot Studios in Edinburgh. The 52m2 tapestry depicts various moments in the history of the Company.

The party walked the mile from Leathersellers' to Apothecaries' Hall in Blackfriars Lane with an entertaining guided tour from **Murray Craig**, the recently retired Clerk to the Chamberlain's Court. Seen here in Paternoster Square.



The Apothecaries' Company acquired the former guest house of the Dominican Priory as their Hall in 1632. It was burnt down in the Great Fire and was rebuilt in 1672. The Dining Hall remains virtually unaltered since that date, making it the oldest Livery Hall in the City.



The day ended with drinks and canapés in the enviable courtyard of Apothecaries' Hall.

Company Appointments

The following held appointments during the Company year 2021/2022:

COURT

Master

Mr. M. Morrison

Senior Warden

Brigadier M. J. Meardon, DL

Middle Warden

Dr. A. Zimbler

Junior Warden

Dr. L. D. G. Grossman, CBE

Mr. V. G. Morton-Smith
Mr. W. S. Haynes
Mr. J. A. C. Wheeler
Mr. M. O. P. May
Mr. M. R. Mathews
The Revd. Dr. W. P. Povey, JP
Mr. H. M. Lancaster
Mr. M. J. Samuel
Mr. M. R. Mosley
Mr. M. W. F. Felton
Mr. M. H. W. Neal
Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith
Mrs. R. F. Bower
His Honour P. W. Birts, KC
The Lord Flight, of Worcester

Past Masters Emeritus:

Mr. F. D. Hornsby
Mr. N. B. C. Eveleigh, MBE
Mr. P. A. Luton
Mr. D. F. Newman
Mr. J. D. Sennitt
Mr. G. P. S. Downes, CVO

COMMITTEES*

General Purposes Committee

The Master
The Senior Warden
The Middle Warden
The Junior Warden
Mr. M. R. Mathews
Mr. H. M. Lancaster
Mr. M. R. Mosley
Mr. M. H. W. Neal
Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith
Mr. L. S. Mallinson

Mr. S. G. Corbett
The Clerk
The Financial Controller
Company Surveyor
Company Solicitor

Building Crafts College Board of Governors

The Master
The Middle Warden
Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith
Mr. M. R. Mathews
Mr. R. F. Bower
Lord Flight of Worcester
Mr. J. Burton (Co-opted)
Mr. N. Gutfreund (Co-opted)
Mr. A. T. Mortimer (Co-opted)
Mr. B. J. D. U. Hodgson (Co-opted)
Mrs. P. A. Bendall (Co-opted)
The Clerk
The Principal of the BCC
The Bursar of the BCC
The Financial Controller

Craft Committee

The Master
The Junior Warden
Mr. M. J. Samuel
Mr. M. R. Mosley
Mr. M. W. F. Felton
Mr. J. C. M. Taylor
Mr D. J. S. Hill (Co-opted)
Mrs. B. Pegg (Co-opted)
Miss F. L. Gregson (Co-opted)
The Principal of the BCC
The Clerk

Investments Committee

The Master
The Senior Warden
Mr. M. O. P. May
Mr. H. M. Lancaster
Mr. M. R. Mosley
Mr. E. A. C. Cottrell (Co-opted)
Mr. J. R. D. Korner (Co-opted)
Mrs. M. C. Roberts (Co-opted)
Mr. A. B. Cottrell (Co-opted)
The Clerk
The Financial Controller

Rustington Convalescent Home Committee of Management

The Master
The Junior Warden
Mr. M. J. Samuel
Mr. M. O. P. May
The Revd. Dr. W. P. Povey
Mr. M. H. W. Neal

Mr. J. W. Preston (Co-opted)
Mr. R. H. Eveleigh (Co-opted)
Dr. C. N. Birts (Co-opted)
Miss H. M. Bower (Co-opted)
The Clerk
The Home Manager
The Financial Controller

Charitable Grants Committee

The Master
The Senior Warden
Mr. M. J. Samuel
Mr. M. W. F. Felton
His Hon. P. W. Birts
Mr. D. H. Thompson (Co-opted)
Mrs. C. E. Whittaker (Co-opted)
Mrs. R. Orringe (Co-opted)
Mr. R. J. Samuel (Co-opted)
The Clerk
Craft & Charities Administrator

Admissions Committee

The Master
Mr. M. R. Mathews
Mr. M. R. Mosley
Mr. M. W. F. Felton
His Hon. P. W. Birts
The Clerk

TRUSTEES*

Carpenters' Company Charitable Trust

Mr. M. R. Mathews
Mr. M. J. Samuel
Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith
Mrs. R. F. Bower
The Clerk
The Financial Controller

Company Pension Fund Trustees

Mr. M. R. Mosley
Mr. R. G. Gregory-Smith
Mr. J. C. M. Taylor
Mr. D. R. Pearham
The Clerk
The Financial Controller

Building Crafts College Trading Ltd

Mr. A. M. Gregory-Smith
Mrs. R. F. Bower
The Clerk
The Principal
The Financial Controller

**Names in bold are Chairmen*

OFFICERS OF THE COMPANY

Clerk

Brigadier T. J. Gregson, MBE

Financial Controller

Ms. J. Brundell

Beadle

Mr. D. Neal

Manager of the Rustington Convalescent Home

Mrs. J. Haynes

Principal of the Building Crafts College

Mr. D. Dowdles

Bursar of the Building Crafts College

Mr. J. Mercer

Company Solicitor

Ms C. Nelson of Wedlake Bell

Company Surveyor

Mr. J. C. Harding of Daniel Watney

Company Auditor

Mr. E. Finch of Buzzacott

Gifts

Mrs. Joscelyn Bucke

(Widow of Liveryman Clive Bucke)
Cuban Mahogany Turned bowl by F P Morton, with Company coat of arms and inscription G V I R I 1937 (Rex Imperator), a gift to the Livery from the Company on the Coronation of George VI

Mr. Robert Stuckey

(Son of Past Master Derek Stuckey)
Three Programmes of Vocal Music for Company events; 17 November 1864 (Livery Dinner), 28 June 1865, 8 August 1865; Invitation to Carpenters' Hall Foundation Stone Ceremony, 1876, addressed to Horace Stuckey

Past Master Dr. W. P. Povey

The Treasures of English Churches Matthew Byrne (2021); *The Remarkable Pinwill Sisters* Helen Wilson (2021)

Dr. Jasmine Kilburn-Toppin

Crafting Identities. Artisan Culture in London, c. 1550-1640 Jasmine Kilburn-Toppin (2021)

The Drapers' Company

Secrets of the Gardens. Archaeologists unearth the lives of Roman Londoners at Drapers' Gardens Pre-Construct Archaeology (2009)

The Worshipful Company of Wheelwrights

Wheels and Wheelwrights Clive Birch (2021)

Professor Trevor H. J. Marchand

The Pursuit of Pleasurable Work. Craftwork in Twenty-First Century England Trevor H. J. Marchand (2022)

The Honourable Artillery Company

Reflections of a Regiment. The Honourable Artillery Company and the Great War in Pictures Justine Taylor and Ian Denning (2016)

Mr. Adrian Corder-Birch

(via Liveryman John Burton)
The Works. A History of Rippers Joinery Manufacturers (2014); *Bricks, Buildings and Transport* (2013); *Our Ancestors were Brickmakers and Potters* (2010)
Adrian and Pam Corder-Birch

The Worshipful Company of Joiners and Ceilers

Join Loyalty and Liberty. A History of the Worshipful Company of Joiners and Ceilers Charlotte Young (2021)

Calendar

2022

5th October
Liverymen and
Freemen's Reception

18th October
Wine Tasting

1st November
Inter-Livery Real Tennis
Tournament

12th November
Lord Mayor's Show

16th November
Livery Dinner

23rd November
Wood Awards

29th November
Building Crafts College Prize-giving

2023 (Provisional)

25th-27th January
Inter-Livery Ski-ing, Morzine,
France - TBC

6th March
Inter-Livery Bridge

15th March
Livery Spring Dinner

3rd April
United Guilds Service

20th April
Livery Golf

28th April
Livery Clay Shoot

12th to 13th May
Company Visit to Madrid

18th May
Inter-Livery Golf

18-19th May
Inter-Livery Clay Shoot

TBC May
Inter-Livery Regatta, Cowes

14th June
Court Summer Dinner

21st June
Building Crafts College
End-of-Year Show

23rd June
Sheriffs' Election

11th July
Court Visit to Rustington
Convalescent Home

18th July
**General Court of the Livery
and Election Court**

TBC July
Company Tennis

TBC September
Open House

27th September
Sheriffs' Admission

28th September
Lord Mayor's Election

4th October
Livery and Freemen's Reception

17th October
Wine Tasting

11th November
Lord Mayor's Show

15th November
Livery Dinner

22nd November
Wood Awards

TBC November
Building Crafts College Prize-giving

