

# The Constructor

The Journal of the Worshipful Company of Constructors

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This year, the Worshipful Company of Constructors was very privileged to be the Mother Company of Sheriff Dr Christine Rigden who was elected as the Non-Aldermanic Sheriff of the City of London in June 2015 and took up her post in September 2015.



On 14 November 2015 our Past Master Dr Christine Rigden, wearing her ceremonial regalia as a Sheriff of the City of London, took part in the traditional Lord Mayor's Show. As can be seen in the photograph, she travelled in some style from The Mansion House to the Royal Courts of Justice and back, despite the somewhat inclement weather.

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# The Journal of the Worshipful Company of Constructors

## The Constructor

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The Worshipful Company of Constructors is a modern City of London Livery Company for professionals working in, and in support of, the Construction Industry. Members of the Company are drawn from all sectors of the industry, including architects, surveyors, engineers, builders, legal professionals, developers, clients, building owners and accountants.

There are various grades of Membership. Most new members join as Freeman, in the process of making certain commitments, or Obligations to the Company. Freeman are entitled to apply to the City Chamberlain to become a Freeman of the City of London. That achieved, and after a period of satisfactory service with the Company, a Freeman can apply to become a full Liveryman, which entitles him or her to vote in City elections and attend certain events, like the United Guilds Service at St Paul's Cathedral.

Other grades of membership include Yeomen – most of whom have been scholars or prize winners; Apprentices, bound to a Liveryman or member of the Court for a prescribed period of indenture, and inrolled at Guildhall; Companions, the widows or widowers of a member of the Court or a Liveryman. The Company has also recently admitted its first International Constructors.

There are charges for entering into the Freedom and Livery of the Company as well as an annual quarterage (subscription) charge. Members are also expected to contribute to the Company's Charitable Trust.

Fellowship is a key aspect of the Company's activities. Each year there are three formal dinners and a programme of informal smaller events or activities. These provide an excellent opportunity to meet and entertain friends, colleagues, clients and family members in either one of the City's splendid livery halls or other suitable venue.

Those wishing to know more about the Company should view the Company website ([constructorscompany.org.uk](http://constructorscompany.org.uk)) or contact the Clerk.

### The Master's Year

|  |    |
|--|----|
| A Message from the Master .....                                | 4  |
| The Immediate Past Master reflects on his year as Master ..... | 5  |
| The Mistress looks back on her year .....                      | 6  |
| The Master's Weekend .....                                     | 6  |
| Formal Events .....  | 8  |
| The Charitable Trust .....                                     | 11 |
| TeamBuild 2015 .....   | 12 |
| Aeternum Vale .....  | 14 |
| Informal Social Events .....                                   | 15 |
| Lunch Club .....   | 16 |

### The Company Officers

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| The Clerk .....               | 17 |
| The Almoner .....             | 18 |
| Past Master Martin Wade ..... | 18 |
| Past Master John Robson ..... | 20 |

### The Company

|                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Structure and Committees .....    | 21 |
| Outreach and Fellowship .....     | 23 |
| The Coat of Arms .....            | 23 |
| Event Feedback .....              | 24 |
| Mentoring .....                   | 25 |
| Sheriff Dr Christine Rigden ..... | 25 |
| New Members .....                 | 27 |
| Our Members .....                 | 28 |

### Our Military Affiliations

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| 5001 Squadron RAF .....        | 32 |
| 101 Regiment RE .....          | 33 |
| HMS Lancaster .....            | 34 |
| 14 Company SW London ACF ..... | 34 |

### Scholarships & Awards

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Scholarships and Awards .....        | 35 |
| Scholarship Presentations 2016 ..... | 36 |
| Scholars 2016/7 .....                | 37 |

### The City of London

|                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| The most famous Lord Mayor? ..... | 38 |
|-----------------------------------|----|

## contents



## EDITORIAL

This is the 2016 issue of “The Constructor”, the annual journal of the Worshipful Company of Constructors. Following a positive response to last year’s issue we have decided to continue in the same vein, and this is now my second year as the Editor.

I hope you will find this, the 38<sup>th</sup> issue of the journal, both interesting and informative. We

would welcome your feedback in order to help inform future editions.

We would also welcome articles for the next issue and these should be sent to the editor at [thejournal@virginmedia.com](mailto:thejournal@virginmedia.com) no later than 31 July 2017.

*Roger Lilley - Editor*

## A Message from the Master

### The newly elected Master gives his thoughts on the year ahead

It is a great honour to have been elected as the 40<sup>th</sup> Master of this Worshipful Company of Constructors and I am delighted to be given such a privilege, representing the Company within the City and beyond as well as following in the footsteps of those Masters that have gone before. I would like to thank you all for giving me this opportunity to serve as Master for the next twelve months.



I've spent my working life as a Quantity Surveyor and I am currently a Director of a Quantity Surveyor and Cost Consultancy Practice. I set the Company up in 2006 to provide a bespoke QS/ Financial service not only to the Client but also the Contractor side of the industry. This country-wide role has brought me into contact with the whole spectrum of Client, Consultant and Contractors and their inherent relationships.

Outside of the building industry I have been a Scout Leader and an Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts in my home area, where I was involved in organizing and running management training courses and in mentoring scouts to develop their full potential in a wide range of subjects as well as advising on appropriate career paths specifically in the building industry and related disciplines. I have also been a parent Governor at a Grant Maintained Secondary School, where I served on both the Finance and Building committees, and I am an active member of The National Trust, English Heritage and the City Livery Club.

For my year as Master I've chosen the theme of “Apprenticeships and Membership”. Like many Livery Companies our biggest challenge is to encourage and recruit new and younger women and men to become initially Apprentices, then Yeomen and move on to be a Freeman with a swift transfer to the position of Liveryman. Therefore, during my year, and hopefully beyond, I am looking for the Company to develop our apprenticeship, mentoring and membership programmes to achieve an increase in our core membership. I will also seek, on behalf of the Company, to provide further awards and scholarships which will continue to expand our current commitment and thereby enhance our standing within the City Livery community. Communication will also be at the forefront of my year, with a newly designed website, use of social media, briefing forums, presentations and events for the younger members on topical and relevant subjects.

The last twelve months have been special for the Constructors in that we had Past Master Dr Christine Rigden as the non-aldermanic Sheriff. In my year we expect to have an Honorary Constructor, Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley, (a member of the Government Committee for Apprentices) as Lord Mayor.

I have some exciting events planned for this year. The Master's weekend will be held in Guernsey and I anticipate a wide range of evening and day visits which are intended to suit the whole age range and disciplines of the Company. Knowing that I have the support of the Mistress, Wardens, all the members of the Court, the Company and our Gallant Clerk will enable me to commit myself to being your Master with all the effort that I can muster.

### The Immediate Past Master reflects on his year



To date I have attended many dinners, luncheons and other events, including lectures, awards ceremonies, receptions, a Treloar's visit, church services etc, but one of the highlights of my year was my Master's Weekend in Edinburgh, which was attended by 52 members.

The Sir Christopher Wren Banquet in Drapers' Hall was well attended and my principal guests were His Honour Judge Peter Rook and his wife.

Kirsteen and I thoroughly enjoyed the Livery visit to Ironbridge. It was a full programme with a fair bit of eating involved!

There is no doubt that the Constructors are held in high regard by the rest of the Livery. This was very apparent at Ironbridge which was attended by around 90 of the 110 Masters. Our focus on education in our industry has been noted – we are, of course, helped by the fact that we are a broad church covering all aspects of construction meaning we can support a wide variety of individual professions and trades. A number of other Masters made this comment about us during the weekend. Some of them feel quite limited in their scope.

A number of the Ironbridge people highly praised the Constructors for our continuing support for what is one of the UK's most important heritage sites. We can hold our heads up!

A few weeks ago I had a particularly busy week – a Thanksgiving Service for the Lord Mayor's year in St Stephens Walbrook on the Tuesday, Court and luncheon and then the Sapper 300 versus Gunners Charity Boxing Match and Dinner on the Wednesday, the Lord Mayor's Prizegiving at the City of London Freeman's School on the Thursday and the Lightmongers' Banquet in Mansion House on the Friday. This probably equals the week when I attended 4 dinners with only the Thursday off for a rest!

In the meantime, I intend to ensure that Court plays its full role in the governance of our Company and I urge all members of Court to raise competent issues for debate such as the one regarding movement from Freedom to Livery. The Wardens and I are working on this, currently gathering the necessary facts and figures to allow us to properly consider the options to bring to Court for discussion. I would also encourage all Company members to share their views and concerns because if we don't know of them we can't consider them.

One disappointing note is the still relatively poor level of regular giving to the Charitable Trust. We really must do better. I discussed this issue at Ironbridge with some of the Modern Company Masters and a fair number of them believed that it should be a prerequisite to joining. This would, however, introduce a degree of compulsion about which I know some of our members feel uneasy.



On a positive charitable note, having recently attended a meeting of the Trustees, I would like to thank them all for the work they put in to ensure that, not only can we continue our giving, but do it in a way that keeps us on the right side of Charities law!

In terms of the direction in which the Company is headed the current Senior and Middle Wardens have a joint plan for continuing to develop the Company and raise its profile, and the Senior Warden expanded on this when he made his address at our Common Hall in September.

### And now the View from the Mistress



Whilst many of the events that I have attended have been with the Master there have been a number to which I received an individual invitation. One of the first was an informal lunch with the Lady Mayoress in Mansion House which I attended along with 10 other Mistresses and Consorts. It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know people and have a wide ranging discussion about City and charitable topics. We also had a brief tour of the Mayoral apartments and viewed their large and impressive collection of silverware.

I was also invited, along with about a dozen others, to lunch in the Old Bailey which was hosted by Stephen Rigden, our very own Sheriff's Consort. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to sit in on one of the cases after lunch as I had to return to Glasgow.

Later in the year, prior to Ironbridge, I attended a supper in the Guildhall Club with the Lady Mayoress and other consorts. I found this particularly helpful when we got to Ironbridge as I already knew some of the people quite well. One of the consorts made a very amusing speech which made us all chuckle – it was Stephen Rigden!

Another highlight was the charity fashion show in the Old Bailey – amazing clothes in an amazing setting.

Although not a Livery event Graeme and I had an excellent evening in the Old Bailey at “Even More Trial and Error”, a re-enactment of notable trials from the past in Court Number 1. The driving force behind this was Judge Peter Rook and the good news, which he announced at the Sir Christopher Wren Banquet, is that more are planned for next year. I can commend them to you.

I have found being Mistress Constructor a great privilege – it has been interesting, entertaining and rewarding, and I have made many new friends.

### THE MASTER'S WEEKEND

This year's Master's Weekend was held in Edinburgh towards the end of May. The Master chose Edinburgh because, whilst he is a Scot who has lived in Glasgow for many years, he felt that Edinburgh would be an ideal location for his weekend away and because we had previously visited Glasgow on a Master's Weekend not that long ago. Thus we visited not only another country but also enjoyed a splendid weekend and experienced our wide and convivial fellowship in Scotland. The spectrum of attendance was also very considerable – Companions, Past Masters, Wardens, Court Assistants as well as many Liverymen and Freemen, many with their spouse/partner. Most of them stayed in the Malmaison Hotel in Leith and wine and dined to the full. Our members also travelled to Edinburgh by various means – some by car, some by train and quite a few by air.



Graeme had organised a very full itinerary which started on the Friday evening with a visit to Mary King's Close, one of the myriad dwellings built both above and below the level of the High Street. These tenements extended up to 10 stories with 3 or 4 beneath the level of the street. There was no running water or sewerage system, hence the expression "gardyloo" a corruption of the French "gardez l'eau" or "watch out for the water" when water was thrown out. We were organised into groups of 10 to be guided

around the premises by people dressed in costumes of the period. Mary King's Close took its name from a certain Mary King, daughter of advocate Alexander King, who in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century had owned several properties within the close. It was partially demolished and buried under the Royal Exchange, but in 2003 it was opened to the public and is now a commercial tourist attraction that capitalises on the tales of haunting that grew popular during the time in the early and middle part of the 1900s when these "underground" tenements were hidden, and closed to the public.

After a good night's rest and a full Scottish breakfast, we boarded a coach to visit Edinburgh Castle. There we were again split into groups and given guided tours around the Castle before being left to our own devices to go inside the many buildings that are within the Castle, which remains to this day not only an important historic monument but also a working Army barracks. The highlight of the visit was, for many of us, a visit to the Scottish crown jewels and St Margaret's Chapel – probably the oldest ecclesiastical building in Scotland, having been constructed in the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

After the tour around the Castle we all went our separate ways to see the other sights of Edinburgh, or perhaps to indulge in a little retail therapy before making our own way back to the Malmaison Hotel before changing into our finery for the "official" black-tie dinner that was held in the State Dining Room on Her Majesty's Yacht Britannia.

Whilst Leith Docks were relatively close to the hotel, we were treated to a coach to and from HMY Britannia. On arrival at the Yacht we were greeted by a glass of champagne and given a guided tour around the Yacht, which was just like going back to the 1950's. Even the clocks on board were all stopped at just after 3pm, which was the time that Her Majesty last left the Yacht. It was stylishly decorated and fitted out, as would be appropriate for HM the Queen's private yacht, and many of our company questioned the wisdom of its de-commissioning.



The formal dinner on the Yacht was just unbelievable – service was impeccable, the menu delicious, and a nice touch was that a small HMY Britannia pin was provided to everyone dining. Our formal guests were Mrs Pat Denzler, the Master of the Company of Edinburgh Merchants and Mr Gregor Murray, the Company's Chamberlain and Secretary – the equivalent of our Clerk.



Sunday morning again started with the hotel breakfast and was followed by attendance at Canongate Kirk (the Kirk of Holyrood House and Edinburgh Castle and where Zara Philips was married) where we were warmly welcomed by the Assistant Minister, Peter Sutton (the Minister being absent on duty as Chaplain to the Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland), the Assembly being held

that week in Edinburgh. The service was a chance for our mainly Anglican members to see the Presbyterian Church in action!

After Church some people went their various ways, but the rest returned to the Malmaison Hotel to partake of a buffet lunch, following which some more of the party departed for home, leaving only the hard core of attendees to enjoy supper at “a room in Leith” and then stay on for another night before they too wended their merry way.

Yet again, the Master's Weekend really was a most enjoyable occasion, encouraging our members to visit not just another part of the country, but this year, even another country. Like all our informal events it gave everyone who attended the chance to extend their fellowship with other members of the Company and we would welcome anyone who wishes to attend next year, when we expect to visit Guernsey to join up with those of our members from that Bailiwick and Crown Protectorate – keep your eyes open for more information on the website.

### FORMAL EVENTS

We always hold three formal evening dining events each year, the Installation Dinner, the Livery and Awards Dinner and the Sir Christopher Wren Banquet. These three formal occasions are the focal point for each successive Master and allow the Master and the Company to invite special guests, many of whom are senior members of City institutions or Masters of other Livery Companies. In addition, we hold Common Hall (the Company's AGM) each September at which the Court's proposals for Company Officers for the forthcoming year is announced and, if approved by Common Hall, these Officers are duly elected. Various officers are then invited to give their reports to the assembled company. This leads into the first formal event of the year, the Installation Service and Dinner which is held in October. We also hold an Annual Carol service at St Lawrence Jewry, which this year was again held in conjunction with the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects and was followed by a less than successful buffet with wine.

The Company year started with the Installation Ceremony in St Lawrence Jewry, which has now become a public occasion during which Reverend Canon David Parrott supervises the clothing of the New Master and Wardens. This year Graeme Monteith and his Wardens, Ian Mason (Senior Warden), Tony Ward (Middle Warden), Michael Parrett (Renter Warden) and Sir Vivian Ramsey (Junior Warden) were clothed. After the service the assembled company joined the 134 Company members and guests at the Installation Dinner in Carpenters' Hall where the Immediate Past Master's Consort, Steve, passed the Consort's badge to Graeme's wife, Kirsteen and, not surprisingly given the Master's origin, we were entertained in true Scottish fashion by a Piper.

The next formal dinner was the Livery and Awards Dinner, which was held in February at Haberdashers' Hall. This is the Dinner where we formally present our military awards and scholars' prizes. It was attended by 172 members and guests who witnessed the award of the prizes and awards for 2015. Three civilian prizes were awarded – the Constructors prize, the David Tong Cup and the Royal Charter Award for Excellence. Three military awards were also presented – the HMS Lancaster Prize, the Shafting and Shoring Cup and the Air Commodore Dow Trophy.



## Constructors Prize



The Constructors' Prize was awarded to Luke Simms. Luke graduated from the University of Westminster in June 2015 with a First Class Honours Degree in Architectural Technology. Luke undertook the degree course on a part time (day release) basis whilst employed with Ingleton Wood, a multi-disciplinary building consultancy, providing architecture, building services engineering, building surveying, structural engineering, planning and sustainability advice. Throughout the duration of his course Luke achieved consistently high grades in his modules, culminating in the award of a first class honours degree. Such a level of performance is obviously exceptional, but to achieve it whilst having to balance his studies with the demands of full time employment is clear evidence of Luke's commitment. He is a worthy recipient of the Constructors' Prize.

## David Tong Cup



The David Tong Cup was awarded to Nathan Clothier of London South Bank University. Having previously held various roles as a Quantity Surveyor and then Site Manager for a number of employers in the UK, Nathan relocated to Jersey. In 2008 he took up a role as Project Manager and subsequently as Director of Jayen Limited, more recently taking up a new role as a Senior Quantity Surveyor at AC Mauger Construction. In 2013 he embarked on his studies with London South Bank University on the BSc (Hons) Construction Management Degree. In common with so many on construction related courses Nathan has managed to successfully complete his studies whilst holding down a full time job. Throughout his studies Nathan has produced work of the highest standards. Of course Nathan didn't just stop at producing exceptional coursework; his drive and determination to succeed meant that he consistently achieved some of the highest marks in examinations further proving that his knowledge and understanding is second to none.

## Royal Charter Award for Excellence



The Royal Charter Award for Excellence was awarded to Robbie Burns of Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd (left), who was accompanied by Dr Mike Gallop. During the storms of early February 2014, the railway line between Exeter and Plymouth was washed into the sea at Dawlish. This is the only rail line connecting South Devon and Cornwall to the rest of the country, and the loss represented a serious economic threat to the region. Network Rail staff were at the site within minutes of the first reports of damage, and in some cases assisted the emergency services in evacuating homes. In the longer term, significant numbers of staff subsequently relocated to a temporary base in Dawlish for weeks or months. Their task was to reinstate the rail service and repair not only the main breach, but also the many other points of damage along the seafront line. In addition to the main breach, Network Rail's integrated plan ensured the completion of works to the station, the sea wall, the signalling and the public walkway. The fact that COBRA took a close interest in the progress indicates how serious the situation was.

Some weeks after work commenced, a landslip was identified further along the track, with around 20,000 tonnes of earth balanced precariously above the line – the biggest single landslip in the history of this railway. Despite this the line was completed and reopened on the morning of April 4th, 52 days after the initial damage. The Prime Minister was amongst hundreds who celebrated this moment at the station. The works had required 500 tonnes of steel and 5,000 tonnes of

cement at the main breach. The repairs cost around £15M for the main breach plus another £20M for the other works.

We then turned to the Military prizes:



**Chief Petty Officer Graham Mawdsley** was awarded the **HMS LANCASTER PRIZE**. An enthusiastic, highly motivated and consummate professional, Chief Petty Officer Mawdsley has delivered an exceptional performance through what has been a challenging year for HMS LANCASTER. Following his selection for promotion last year, he stepped up to run the Communications Group in 2016. He adopted this new role with a number of key engineers missing from his team; however, with seemingly endless capacity he managed to fulfil his new management role while still delivering as an engineer at the coalface to fill the gaps. Notwithstanding an exceptional performance in the technical sphere, it is the care and compassion for those around him where he has made an immeasurable difference. His team is widely recognised as the most cohesive and successful team on board HMS LANCASTER;



**Corporal Dwayne Paul** was awarded the **Shafting and Shoring Cup**.

Corporal Paul is a Section Commander. Throughout 2015 he commanded the Engineering Support Team; in this role he was responsible for using engineering and construction skills to build structures designed to mitigate the impact of an explosion during the disposal of unexploded WW2 bombs. This work is vital to reduce the risk to civilian personnel and infrastructure and is commonly carried out on construction sites where bombs have been uncovered due to excavation. Corporal Paul is specifically nominated having

commanded his team to ensure the safe disposal of several unexploded WW2 bombs in locations including Wembley, Bethnal Green and Coventry. Corporal Paul's ingenuity in the application of engineering techniques has been exemplary and, furthermore, he has been able to deliver this under the most demanding and stressful conditions.



**Acting Corporal Chris Shaw** was awarded the **Air Commodore Dow Trophy**.

He was a key figure in the dismantling of 2 sunshades at Mussanah Air Base, Oman, in June 2015; not only drawing praise for his physical stamina and hard-working ethics, but also in the way he questioned established processes, resulting in a method to reduce damage to the sunshade skins during the removal process being implemented. During the high profile build of a combination of structures in support of the Operation SHADER Reaper

detachment, Shaw again came to the fore. Revelling in having command and control over his subordinates, he ensured that his team were well supervised and took adequate breaks in the harsh environment. His eye for detail on this, and other, tasks have enabled rapid solutions to emergent problems to be put in place.

On 5<sup>th</sup> May the Court met at the RAF Club in Piccadilly. They and other members of the Company then joined a number of our Companions (June Olley and Georgina Craig being the stalwarts here) at a most enjoyable luncheon which was also held in the RAF Club where the food and surroundings were thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

The last formal dinner of the year was the Sir Christopher Wren Banquet, which was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June in the magnificent surroundings of Drapers' Hall. Some 187 members and their guests including the Masters of the Carpenters, Painter-Stainers, Masons, Plumbers, Apothecaries, Glass Sellers, Builders Merchants, Chartered Architects & Parish Clerks accompanied by their Partners & Consorts, sat down to a splendid meal served in a correct, but relaxed, fashion. The Master's Principal Guest was His Hon Judge Peter Rook, who gave an amusing speech where the Clerk go off lighter than the Master, when the Old Bailey's records were raided ... not a cattle rustler in sight! Peter Rook is well known for the production of "More Trial and Error" each year, (the judges support for the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund), as well as dealing with some of the grimmer trials of recent years. The musical entertainment came from the Band of the Royal Marines Association and finished with the Post Horn Gallop with the post-horn player circling the room whilst not dropping a note. All in all, a successful and enjoyable evening which showed the Company off in a very good light.



On 6<sup>th</sup> July, the Court met at Tallow Chandlers' Hall. Following that session there was a champagne reception in the open courtyard of the Hall, with the weather proving to be more than kind given that it was during the first week of a Wimbledon that had been seriously affected by rain. The Master entertained Ian Makowski, the Immediate Past Master of the Tinsplate Workers and Wire Drawers; Mark Spofforth, Master Chartered Accountant; Peter Simeons, Master Feltmaker and Captain Flavian D'Souza, Master Mariner. We were also pleased to have with us some of our newly admitted Freemen together with other members of the Company and their guests.

Our final formal event was Common Hall, which was held on 21 September. The Master thanked all the members who had supported him during his year and announced (God Willing) the Officers who had been elected for 2016/17. They were the Master – Ian Mason, the Senior Warden – Anthony Ward, the Middle Warden – Michael Parrett, the Renter Warden – Sir Vivian Ramsey and the Junior Warden – Arthur Seymour. By the time this issue of the Journal is published they should all have been installed at the Installation Service in October.

## THE CHARITABLE TRUST

The Worshipful Company of Constructors Charitable Trust seeks to "advance education, training and research in the Construction Industry in particular by awarding certificates and other distinctions and establishing and maintaining scholarships, grants and awards to individuals; the relief of persons in need, hardship or distress who are members of the Company or their dependants and for other charitable purposes as the Trustees may from time to time decide".

As a Livery Company we focus specifically on charitable giving, and we draw funds from both investments and by contributions from our members. We are particularly dependent on regular contributions from our members as such contributions give an assured income to the Trust. Indeed, you all, when you were elected as either Yeomen or Freemen, gave an undertaking that you would support the Charitable Trust. Often, despite your best intentions, this does not actually happen, and the Court would very much like you to reconsider your position in this respect. If each Yeoman were to give as little £2 per month and each Freeman/Liveryman were to pledge as little as £10 per month that would provide a regular, and more importantly predictable, income to the Charitable Trust. As in many cases contributions by members can also be Gift Aided the Charitable Trust is able to reclaim basic rate tax from these donations, which makes an even larger sum available for their good works and may also allow members who pay higher rate tax to reflect their generosity to their

own advantage in their annual self-assessment tax return. Through the medium of this Journal the Company is therefore asking all members to put their promises on election into action and commit to providing to the Charitable Trust the monthly sums suggested above even though they may seem embarrassingly trivial. The forms for your donation (Banker's Order and Gift Aid Declaration) are available on the Company Website or by emailing the Clerk, but please do not forget to complete the Gift Aid Declaration if you can.

This year the Charitable Trust is donating a total sum of £22,150.00 to various causes. 12% was donated to Livery City Commitments such as The Lord Mayor's Charity Appeal, the Company's associated church, St. Lawrence Jewry, the Sheriffs & Records Fund, Ironbridge Museum and City & Guilds; 43% was donated to Scholarships including Team Build, awards to the Company's affiliated Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force units, The Mansion House Scholarship Fund and South Bank University Prizes. The remaining 45% was donated to youth and training in the Construction Industry, which includes supporting Stonemason Apprentices at Salisbury and Hereford Cathedrals and providing building tools and materials, prizes, career advice and mentoring to a Secondary School in Hampshire where there was an under resourced construction skills department and a history of under privileged pupils.

Over the financial year to 30th September 2015, the Charitable Trust received total incoming resources from members of the company of £41,256 which included the very successful auctions at the Company's event at the Tower of London which have been added to the capital of the Trust. In addition, £14,373 was received as investment income. Regular donations from members including those wishing for their donation to increase the capital of the Trust amounted to £9,762 which were enhanced by a claim for Gift Aid where available. The Trustees seek to significantly increase this latter sum to enable the Trust to increase both the size and number of its donations year on year.

If members would like further information please contact HCA Ken Kent, Chairman of the Charitable Trust.

## TEAMBUILD 2015

As usual, the Company was a co-sponsor of Teambuild, the final weekend of which was held in November 2015.

Teambuild is now in its 25<sup>th</sup> year and continues to attract the brightest young professionals from some of the best construction practices around the UK and Ireland. It is an exhilarating, fast paced, challenging and exhaustive test of skills, leadership and collaboration. Teams produce a short pre-qualification document in September, from which 11 teams are allowed to proceed to the finals weekend in November.

With a brief dominated by infrastructure-investment and SMARTcities innovation, the 2015 Teambuild Finalists were challenged to their limits. The result was a series of outstanding proposals from 11 inspiring teams, demonstrating true excellence in communication: and finally, triumph for **'BlueSteel'** a team from Hawkins/Brown, Arup, Price & Myers, Max Fordham, Balfour Beatty and Sir Robert McAlpine.

The winning team, excelling against a strong field, was formed of individuals from companies across the spectrum of the construction industry. Everybody was aged under 30, and the majority were female. They all demonstrated excellent team-working and collaboration skills. Their proposals put the feedback loop in the foreground of their design and procurement ambitions, using digital technology to harness data in use, and enable an evolving, ever-more efficient, operational asset, based around local identity and local employment. The team were awarded a cash prize of £2,000, sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Constructors.

Teambuild 2015 challenged teams to plan, design and present hypothetical proposals based around 'Edinburgh Gateway' – the complex infrastructure interchange at Gogar, west of Edinburgh, connecting road, tram, rail and air transport. The base project information was provided by the real site team for the new interchange: WSP|PB allowed competitors viewing access to the federated project BIM model through Autodesk's BIMglue software. A further level of challenge was provided by asking teams to engage with the SMART cities concept, and make intelligent data management and IT a key driver in developing their schemes.

Eleven teams, representing twenty-four top construction industry companies, made it through to the hotly-contested finals, and impressed throughout with their professionalism, enthusiasm and dedication. Their performance was evaluated by fourteen senior industry figures, each representing a construction institution. This year the panel included George Adams (Past President of the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers), Peter Murray (Master of the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects, and Chair of the National Landlords Association), Patricia Newton (Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Constructors), and John Brennan (Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Building, and past winner of the Construction Manager of the Year Award).



*Photograph by kind permission of TeamBuild*

The diversity of the judging panel was reflected in the institutional membership and employers of members of the winning team: Laura Purton (ICE, Sir Robert McAlpine / Arup); Alex Moffat (ICE, Balfour Beatty); Kate Keightley-Smith (RIBA, Hawkins/Brown); Harriet Lilley (CIBSE, Max Fordham); and Carmel Lennon (ICE, Price and Myers).

The Procurement Strategy Prize of £1,250, awarded by the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects, was awarded by Master Peter Murray to **Hestia** a team from Hawkins/Brown, Eckersley O'Callaghan, Curtins, Arup and Core Five, which included members of the ICE, CIOB IHT, APM and CIAT.



The winners of the Judges' Prize of £1,250, awarded for the team which showed the greatest improvement over the weekend were **Vokse**, a team from BuroHappold Engineering and Hawkins/Brown, including members from IStructE, CIBSE, ARB, IMechE and ICE.

The Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) sponsored a prize for Excellence in Construction. This prize of £1,000 was awarded to **Ekistiks**, a team from BDP, comprising team members from RIBA, ICE, CIBSE and LI. CCS Ambassador, John Sayers, presented the award for proposing 'Halo', an outstanding innovation for construction sites, improving reporting and safety through mobile data capture.

Teambuild is a registered Charity, providing education and training in the construction industry. This endeavour has been supported for three years by the LCCI Commercial Education Trust, who this year awarded an individual prize for Leadership. The prize of £500 was awarded to Sarah Dean, a Civil Engineer from AECOM. The objectives of Teambuild focus on developing skills in leadership, communication and coordination beyond the sum of the individual's skill. The competition helps identify the way teams must work together in the construction industry by challenging them with scenarios common to construction projects across the UK.

The overall standard of the event was extremely high, and all eleven finalist teams should be congratulated on an immense achievement.

### Aeternum Vale

We lost a number of our long standing members over the last year and we will miss their fellowship, wise counsel and presence in the future. We remember them and our thoughts are with their friends and families.

Freeman **Andrew Newland** BSc MRICS died on 10 March 2016. He joined the Company in 2007 and was greatly interested in the history of the City of London. He had been ill for some time.

Honorary Court Assistant **Godfrey Crook** MSc CEng FICE FStructE ACI Arb passed away on 29 March 2016 aged almost 85. He was admitted to the Company in March 1979, was granted Livery in August 1999 and subsequently he was appointed to the Court. Godfrey was a civil and structural engineer by profession and a staunch supporter of the Company who had previously worked for British Airways. He was a committed Methodist and gave much of his retirement time to supporting children in Bangladesh by building a special village for them. His memorial service on 22 April 2016 was attended by several Past Masters and the Middle Warden among others.

Liveryman **Lilian Adelaide Stephenson-Durell** ARIBA DipAA FRSA passed away on 9 July 2016. She was born in 1928 and had been involved with the Company since the formation of the Company of Builders along with Henry Stephenson who is both a Liveryman and our Company Illustrator. Lilian had spent many years with London South Bank University and was a joint Honorary Fellow of the University. Lilian was held in high regard by many of the Company and her funeral was held on 3 August 2016 at Old St Mary's Church, Stoke Newington. It was attended by nine members of the Company including The Master, Past Masters and many other representatives. It is expected that a memorial service for Lilian will be held in St Lawrence Jewry later in the year.

## INFORMAL SOCIAL EVENTS

Our social events had a very strong following, many in fact being fully booked well in advance.

Our first informal event of the Master's year, on 21 October, was a private tour of Dr Johnson's House off Fleet Street. It proved to be a most interesting visit and after drinks and nibbles some of us re-convened for a meal at a pub in Fleet Street.

On 14<sup>th</sup> November, a few intrepid constructors braved the elements to cheer Past Master and Sheriff Dr Christine Rigden on her way as part of the Lord Mayor's Show. Whilst the continuous rain did its best to dampen our spirits we were not discouraged, and following the parade we assembled at the City Livery Club for Lunch, where a splendid time was had by all.

The following Wednesday a few Constructors took advantage of one of the Gresham Lectures at the Museum of London. These lectures are a popular (and free) event that is usually over-subscribed, and this one was no exception. After the lecture we assembled at the nearby London Wall Restaurant, where we had another enjoyable meal and a few drinks.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> December members of the Court and their spouses/partners attended a formal dinner in The Old Bailey at the invitation of Sheriff Dr Christine Rigden. This was a great honour, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended as it is not often that one is invited to dine in such august surroundings.

The following Monday we held our Christmas festive lunch at Ironmongers' Hall, which was enjoyed by many Constructors and their guests.

December 17<sup>th</sup> saw the Annual Carol Service, which we again shared with the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects. The service was, as usual, ceremonial, musical and also a good introduction to the festive season, probably being the first Christmas carol service attended by most of us. After the service we all went to the City Centre for a joint Reception. Unfortunately, this was nowhere near our normal standards and apart from not going there again, we decided that attendees should not be asked to pay for the reception, which everyone considered to be very bad value for money.

On a Saturday evening in early February several intrepid members and guests again found their way east of the City to Docklands to join in the festive revels of a traditional (and rather risqué at some points) Brick Lane Music Hall pantomime. Whilst political correctness was not always the principal focus we enjoyed (Oh no we didn't! – Oh yes we did!) a cabaret style sit down meal and refreshment.



9 February 2016 was Shrove Tuesday, the occasion when many City Livery Companies take part in the Pancake Races in Guildhall Yard. This year they were overseen by our very own Sheriff, Dr Christine Rigden, with PM Alan Longhurst acting "in locum parentis" for our Master, who couldn't get down from Scotland for the event.

The Constructors' Lecture was another free event and was held on the evening of 17<sup>th</sup> February at the University of Westminster. In all some 89 people, many of whom were Constructors, attended Dr Uly Ma's lecture on "Managing Sustainability in Construction" which was followed by a reception.

20 Members and their guests attended the Constructors' Lunch at Ironmongers Hall on 29<sup>th</sup> February, and a good time was had by all.

The United Guilds Service was held on 11<sup>th</sup> March and the pomp and circumstance was followed by a splendid lunch at Painter-Stainers' Hall. On reading the Menu our Middle Warden thought that he had been "dipped" to speak, only to find that the speaker was in fact his namesake, who happened to be the Master Painter-Stainer. He was greatly relieved!!!

On 9<sup>th</sup> April several of us together with spouses/partners ventured to the far north (well nearly to Milton Keynes) to visit Bletchley Park and the National Museum of Computing. The trip was both

## The Company Officers

informative and enjoyable, and was made all the more interesting because our guide was one of our own – Liveryman John Wilson, who has been a guide at Bletchley Park for many years. We also had afternoon tea in the Mansion on the estate.

The New Member's Evening was again held (through the good offices of CA Jane Wright) at the University of Westminster. This is separately reported on as part of our Outreach initiatives.

We held another Lunch Club at Ironmongers' Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> May, which was attended by 22 members and their guests, all of whom seemed to enjoy the event.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> June some of us ventured to the City of London Gin Distillery. Needless to say, the trip was quite quickly filled to bursting point (who says that the Constructors' don't like a drink?). The event was both informative and enjoyable.

28<sup>th</sup> June saw the Networking Event, which is separately reported on in the Outreach section.



In July we also held two “sporting” events and an evening walk to celebrate the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great Fire. The **Company Golf Day** was held on a reasonable day in mid-July at Croyham Hurst Golf Club, Croydon. The occasion was enjoyed by all and we were joined by the Master for a splendid Summer Meal that was provided by the catering team at Croyham Hurst. The Constructors' Cup was won by Melville Dunbar (left) and the winner of the Guests' Prize was Joe Allen. The **Great Fire Walk** was one of a series managed by the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects and took place on 27 July. It was more than fully subscribed. The weather was relatively kind to us and our excellent guide was able to take us around the Livery Halls that survived the Fire.

29th July saw the third **Constructors Sailing Event** take place in the Solent. Ten intrepid sailors spent a full day in two yachts sailing from Portsmouth to Cowes on the Isle of Wight for lunch and back again. The weather was set fair and the wind blew (up to Force 7) so some exciting sailing was enjoyed by all! Even Ben Ainslie and his winning UK Americas Cup Boat must have heard we were on the water as they performed manoeuvres close by.



The final event of the Master's year was another Constructors' Lunch at Ironmongers' Hall. 22 members and guests, including John Kernot, the winner of the business card draw at the Networking Event, enjoyed another splendid lunch, which rounded off yet another year of informal events.

## LUNCH CLUB

One of the new initiatives that the Company started in 2013 was that of a regular informal lunch club to be held some 5 times a year in Ironmongers Hall. This has proved to be a very popular event which is almost always fully booked and provides a splendid opportunity for regular networking and outreach. Many members also take the opportunity to invite guests as we keep the cost of the event as low as possible. We do this by a careful selection of location and leaving members and their guests to decide and pay for whatever type of beverage they want to accompany their lunch. This allows people who work to return to work after the lunch and those who do not have to do so to enjoy a glass of wine with their meal and if they wish, continue to network in a nearby establishment. We typically have around 20 members/guests attending our lunches, and one of the advantages of the Lunch Club is that it has attracted some members who might otherwise not attend a function probably because – as its name suggests – it takes place during the day and therefore does not require people to travel home late at night.

## THE CLERK

Our Clerk, Kim Tyrrell, is the key company focus for most of you. In last year's "The Constructor" he wrote a piece about what he does for the Company. This year, he has spent some time in dock being patched up so that he can continue with his active lifestyle. Being "laid up" was not something he greatly looked forward to, so the Editor asked him for his views on being "out of action" ...



He writes "Those of you who have attended events throughout Graeme's year as Master would have seen me first limping with a stick at the Installation, absent entirely at the Livery & Awards Dinner (deputised for with great style & skill by my predecessor Tim Nicholson) and back in robes and performing my role as a somewhat malevolent bat at the Sir Christopher Wren Banquet. This was because during the period from October 2015 to June 2016 I was diagnosed with osteoarthritis of the head of my left femur and thus entered into the process to have a new hip.

As a reader of this journal you might ask "What possible interest is this to me?" – well, going through the process as an NHS patient I learnt a great deal, which might, if you are unlucky enough to need the same sort of treatment, be of use to you.

Firstly, the thing to remember is that there is no such thing as a "National" Health Service. All Trusts have independent budgets and thus can do (within limits) what they want. Secondly, you can merge the public and private sector for small cost to greatly accelerate your movement through the system. My own experience was as follows:

- Initially referred by GP for X Ray;
- Referred by GP to Consultant – In the Portsmouth area via a clearing centre;
- Clearing centre (after 2 weeks) allocated me to a Consultant;
- The Consultant's PA then tells me it will be 12-15 weeks to see the consultant and a further 12-15 weeks to the procedure;
- I then asked if consultant did private consultations, and was told no, but, helpfully, I was given the number of one who did;
- The private consultant was seen the next day, (at a cost of £150) and he told me about the "Choose & Book" system (which is now called "E Booking");
- I Immediately called at the GP practice to ask to be referred by "choose and book" only to be told "We (the practice) don't like to do this". As you can imagine, I told them that their views were of little interest and they duly referred me as requested. (It is now your right to choose the hospital you go to - E Booking will tell you how to do so even if your GP refuses to refer you.)
- The upshot was that I chose the Spire (a private hospital) as an NHS patient and had the procedure in 10 weeks (the minimum under NICE guidelines). Spire have done all follow ups since the procedure and the experience has been all one would hope for."



Having submitted himself to the skills of the medical profession Kim was then required to recuperate at home. However, he was back to his old form and in full swing after 13 weeks for the Master's Weekend in Edinburgh, where this picture was taken of him, fighting fit and ready for action, on the quarterdeck of Her Majesty's Yacht Britannia, now moored in Leith Docks, and where we were very lucky to hold our formal Dinner on the Saturday evening.

### THE ALMONER

John Burrell is our Almoner, but in reality much of the work is done on his behalf by his wife, Michele, who is pleased to act as our Almoner, looking after the needs of any of our members who require assistance from the Company, be it through ill health or other reasons. We are most grateful to Michele for all the work she does on our behalf.



John writes "The role of the Company Almoner (the word was originally related to the dispensing of alms) is to make contact with members and their partners who are ill or have been recently bereaved. One of the major tenets of the Company is fellowship thus it is important not to be fair weather friends and to reassure our members and their close families that we are here and thinking of them.

For many years the Company Almoner was Past Master Tony Appleton but latterly I have been the titular Almoner. I write 'titular' because it is really Michele who does all the work. She does a similar job for Breast Cancer Care and also our Past Masters Association and it is something that she is very good at. I am therefore very pleased to have this opportunity to give her the recognition she so rightly deserves.

But, however good Michele is at the job, she can only contact people whom she is aware may benefit from a telephone call, and for this she relies heavily on the good offices of our Clerk, Kim, who is usually the first to know when members may need her help. Whilst her dealings with anyone are between her and them and are kept confidential, when appropriate she reports back to Kim so that the Court and Company can be kept informed of her involvement. So if you know of anyone who may benefit from the services of the Almoner do please let the Clerk know."

### PAST MASTER MARTIN WADE



Martin was our Master in 2007/8. He writes "On Wednesday 17 October 2007, at Salters' Hall, I was installed 31st Master of the Worshipful Company of Constructors; as David Cameron famously remarked, 'I was the future once!'

Martin writes "There is no job description for the Master. Each incumbent arrives with their own aspirations and agenda; some believing it is a twelve-month period of autocracy when they can change the world whereas others see it as a tenancy when they progress the Company's agenda. However, there are a number of certainties: your diary will be very congested for the next twelve months; considerable pressure will be put on both your stamina and waist line and you will meet some very interesting people in some magnificent surroundings.

Some will notice the Gallant Clerk develops a nervous twitch at the beginning of each September as he realises he has to break in yet another New Master. He can also be seen with an occasional silly grin betraying his relief that the existing one is moving on. After some six months a Master begins to understand what he/she is doing and that, of course, is very perturbing for a Clerk. The Clerk is The Company's Chief Executive and brings the benefit of experience, wisdom and continuity to each new Livery Year. We have been very fortunate over the years to have had the services of some very capable Clerks, including Tim Nicholson in my year, and now with Kim Tyrrell in post.



Many may not appreciate what the Company owes to the Master's partner; The Mistress. Janet fully supported me during my year, both representing the Company at functions as well as supporting me with many of the practical things that go with the office. As with most Mistresses she is not a member of the Company and we're extremely fortunate that partners of our Masters give so freely to our Company.

When I assumed the mantle I had no burning desire to instigate sweeping change, believing my predecessors had left the ship pretty much on course. I wished to continue with the development of the Company through growing our membership, encouraging more Freemen to become Liverymen and increasing the Charitable Trust's capital. In addition, I was keen for the workings of the Company to be more transparent and inclusive with as many members as possible contributing to how we run our affairs. None of these initiatives might appear particularly dynamic, however the fact is we have now reached our optimum membership of high calibre construction professionals, the Charitable Trust is developing a healthy capital fund, and there is more opportunity for members to be involved with Company activities. However, encouraging Freemen to move up to Livery seems to remain a challenge.

Whilst there were many highlights during my year, there were also low points, particularly the coming to a head of our negotiations with HMRC over the PAYE and NI status of our Clerk and Beadle. The Revenue had targeted City Livery Companies and we were not alone, so despite a visit to the House of Commons to lobby my MP, it was no surprise when the Revenue came out on top. Anyway the matter was concluded and we were able to move on poorer and wiser.

A highlight was my Master's Weekend in Paris when Janet and I were joined by 27 members and their partners for a truly memorable couple of days in the French Capital. Setting off at about 10.00 am from St. Pancras International, suitably refreshed by a glass of Môt & Chandon, we arrived at our centrally based billet next to The Louvre in the early afternoon. We then indulged ourselves with a sumptuous dinner on the River Seine, a guided tour of the magnificent Palace of Versailles, a formal dinner at The Hotel St. James & Albany (with exceptional wine I recall). We concluded with a wander through the bohemian district of Montmartre, including a visit to the landmark church of Sacré-Coeur before setting off for home ... and the sun shone!

At our December Court, I suggested we consider applying for a Royal Charter. This was a stated objective in our Ordinances and, as we were growing in stature and were well regarded in the City, the timing seemed right. I was therefore surprised when I received a cool reception to my proposal. I concluded the short debate by offering a paper for the February Court meeting. This set out the benefits of incorporation and the protection that would be given to our office holders. I said it also gave us the opportunity to review our ordinances and amend these if appropriate, and clearly it would give us the kudos of chartered status. It was agreed to take the matter forward and we were then very fortunate when Tim Nicholson offered to lead on this. He took us through the process such that we received our Royal Charter from The Duke of Gloucester three years later.

It is a remarkable year, as I'm sure all Past Masters will agree. However, it is the support and vibrancy of the membership that makes our Company great and with the future leadership in good hands, the Constructors will, I am sure, continue to go from strength to strength."

### PAST MASTER JOHN ROBSON

John was our Master in 2002/3. He writes “The Editor has invited me to recall some of my experiences when serving the Company as Master and his words included the dubious description of “Past” and “respected”. I answer to the former but remain hopeful of the latter.

I was invited to join the Company in 1985 and was proposed by the then Court Assistant David Sheppard. I got to know David very well through working with him in my career developing airports. No formal networking existed in the Company and at that time would have been discouraged.



In 1985 there was no e-mail communication and the then Clerk, who was Tony Appleton, had to provide a plethora of paper in order to keep the members informed of all matters that led up to the Company gaining Livery in 1990. I was elected to the Court in the next year and subsequently became Master in 2002.

Up until this time the Court was held in either the Aldermans' Court or a committee room in Guildhall free of charge. However, this was frequently an unsatisfactory arrangement as at the whims of the Guildhall management the locations were frequently changed at the last minute much to the detriment of the formalities of the Court. In order to bring a degree of decorum to the Court meetings it was accepted that the Company would have to pay for the use of Livery Halls where the surroundings could enhance the occasion, especially with the introduction of new applicants and appointment of officers and members of the Court. Shortly after taking office as Master I had the task of finding a replacement to our then Clerk, Lee Brace, and was fortunate to appoint Tim Nicholson as his successor. A period of time in a Master's Year without a Clerk is not an enviable situation when managing and responding to Livery, City and Company business.

During the year the Master organises a weekend break. My predecessor Paul Lacey arranged for the Company to have an enjoyable time in Guernsey. It seemed appropriate to arrange a weekend with easier travelling arrangements, and with an eye on the cost I arranged for the Company to visit Portsmouth. During the year less formal social events were introduced, including the Companions' lunch and a “Bangers and Mash” evening as a way of encouraging wider Company fellowship.

During the Master's year it is customary for all the Livery Masters, together with their spouses/partners to attend a weekend at Ironbridge Museum. It is here that the Masters select a Chairman to form the Past Masters' Association for that year, together with an identifying name. My year being 2002/3, and it being 50 years since the Queen's coronation, the association decided on the name of “Coronation Masters”. Each Past Masters' Association arranges a programme of dinners and social events and the Coronation Masters spouses/partners have their own dinners but we meet together for social visits to theatres and over the years we have also arranged visits to Zurich, France, Portugal, Switzerland and the Middle East. However, as the years pass the numbers attending decline unlike, I am pleased to say, the Constructors Company.

I am sure each Master of the Constructors Company, on becoming “Past”, reflects on matters in their year that they would have handled differently. Those of us sitting in Court amongst the purple gowns respect the decisions of the Master and Court and only occasionally are we moved to seek permission to offer advice on matters that we feel are to the detriment of the workings of the Company. You may rest assured that we act in good faith for the benefit of the Company.”

## The Company

The Worshipful Company of Constructors is a Modern Livery Company within the City of London. It was founded in 1976 as the Company of Builders and in 1990 was granted Livery by the Court of Aldermen as the Worshipful Company of Constructors.



So, in 2015 we celebrated the 25th Anniversary of our being granted Livery and to commemorate the occasion special lapel pins were commissioned and distributed to all Liverymen. These pins were kindly donated by some members of the Company.

Following the grant of Livery, the Company continued to prosper and was granted a Royal Charter of Incorporation by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II in 2010. His Royal Highness Prince Richard, The Duke of Gloucester, subsequently presented our Royal Charter to us at a Civic Dinner held at Merchant Taylors Hall in the City of London on 14 April 2011.

### Structure

The Company is governed by a Court comprising some 30 people. Some are elected officers – The Master and Wardens for example, and others either aspire to these positions, or, like the Past Masters, have held office and remain to give the Court the benefit of their experience. Court is also attended by the Honorary Court Assistants who, like the Past Masters, give the Court the benefit of their particular knowledge and experience.

The day-to-day administration of the Company falls to the Clerk who arranges the formal functions on behalf of the Master and pays the corporate bills. General management of the Company is carried out by a number of formal executive committees who each meet some three times per year.

### The Privileges Committee

The Privileges Committee is charged with managing the membership of Court, agreeing the appointment of officers of the Company and ensuring that appropriate succession arrangements are in place within the Court.

### The Election Committee

The Election Committee reviews all potential members of the Company, assessing their suitability and managing the interview process

### The Charity Committee

The Charity Committee makes recommendations to the Trustees for disbursement of available charitable funds

### The General Purposes Committee

The General Purposes Committee deals with all financial and most other management and policy matters.

### The Sponsorship Committee

The Sponsorship Committee performs a very important function. Whilst we are a Livery Company

## The Company

and seek to give as much as we can to Charity, both to our own internal Charitable Trust and other good causes within the City, we also run events for our members. The cost of these is always increasing and over recent years we have depended to quite a large extent on external agencies supporting our programme. The Sponsorship Committee has the difficult job of balancing the commercial advantage gained by our sponsors with our role as a Livery Company, particularly where Charity events are involved. There are many who would say that this should never be an issue, and with some of the more established Livery Companies it isn't, because their income is assured from historic investment. Ours is not, and funding to maintain our charitable commitments is always a challenge.

### The Publicity and Events Committee

The Publicity and Events Committee is the workhorse of our organising committees in that it is responsible for organising all our informal events, which are the fundamental component of our outreach and fellowship activities. The chair of the committee is CA Andrew Hornby, who would welcome any suggestions from members and readers for future events, which can be sent care of "The Constructor".

### The Membership Committee

The Membership Committee was previously an essential part of the Publicity, Events and Membership Committee (PEM), but because of the importance of membership it has now been established in its own right, and is chaired by Michael Rigden. Michael is now inviting other members of the Company to form the committee. Some of these will naturally be drawn from the previous PEM committee whilst others may be new to our committee work.

### The Honorary Treasurer

We rely greatly on the services of our Honorary Treasurer (Arthur Seymour) who records all monies paid and received by the Company and provides the accounts necessary for our monies to be audited each year. It is he who administers our day to day accounting and also manages members' retrospective payments for events. Whilst he was previously an Honorary Court Assistant Arthur has recently become a Court Assistant and his role as Honorary Treasurer will be taken over from October 2016 by HCA David Fawlk.

### Membership

There are various grades of Membership. Most new members join as Freeman, in the process of making certain commitments, or Obligations to the Company. Freeman are entitled to apply to the City Chamberlain to become a Freeman of the City of London. That achieved, and after a period of satisfactory service with the Company, a Freeman can apply to become a full Liveryman, which entitles him or her to vote in City elections and attend certain events, like the United Guilds Service at St Paul's Cathedral

Other grades of membership include Yeomen – most of whom have been scholars or prize winners; Apprentices; bound to a Liveryman or member of the Court for a prescribed period of indenture, and inroled at Guildhall; Companion – the widow or widower of a member of the Court or a Liveryman.

The Company has also recently admitted International Constructors, the first of whom was Frank Lesh from USA and Honorary Members, who are recognised as being leaders of their field and highly

supportive of our objectives as Constructors. These include Senior Officers of our military affiliates, members of the Upper House as well as Mike Bowron (Lately the Chief Constable of the City of London Police, and now the Chief Constable of Jersey) and of course Lady Valerie Dixon, who has been extremely supportive of our cause as well as being most generous in her support of our educational scholarships. We are also now proud to count Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley and Baroness Scotland QC amongst our Honorary Members.

## OUTREACH AND FELLOWSHIP

The Company is particularly focused on its outreach and fellowship activities. Indeed, one of the key points that Graeme Monteith has made in his year as Master was that previously espoused by our Immediate Past Master – our fellowship both within, and looking outwards from, the Company.

In addition to the fellowship extended at our many events we always make a particular effort to hold a Networking Event each year, and this year, through the excellent auspices of Westminster University (and our fellow Constructors, Jane Wright and Henry Lamb), we also held the second New Members' Evening where future and younger members of the construction industry were able to talk to more experienced members of the Company over a glass of wine and some canapés. This followed an informative illustrated talk by one of our Military affiliates, Lt Col Dickie Hawkins MBE, and his commercial colleague from Dynasafe BACTEC Ltd, Philip Norville. Dickie addressed the role that 101 Regiment played in various theatres of war whilst Philip talked about the minimisation of risk to construction schemes caused by unexploded ordnance.

This year's Networking Event was again successful and we moved to a new location – The Charterhouse. Unlike last year, we were fortunate that the event was sponsored to a large part by Butler & Young, so it more or less paid its way, although we were unable to contribute as much to the Charitable Trust as we had hoped. The Master of Charterhouse, Brigadier Charles Hobson, kindly gave attendees a short, but very informative, talk on how the foundation had started and had been developed over the years. As usual, we asked attendees to give us their feedback and more than a third of the attendees responded, with nearly all considering that it was exceptionally good and hoping that we would organise a similar function next year, even if we had to increase the donation significantly.

## The Coat of Arms



The Company coat of arms is no doubt familiar to all of us, but how many of us understand why it is what it is? The College of Heralds description is “Gules a Carpenters Square in chevron throughout proper surmounted palewise of a T square Or on a Chief Argent a reinforced bridge with two main piers spanning Water barry wavy of two Azure and Argent. Upon a helm on a Wreath Argent a Rainbow and issuing from the inner arc thereof a Cubit Arm the hand holding as if measuring with a Pair of Compasses the points expanded and downwards all proper.”

In non-heraldic speak – The Company Crest is formed of a hand holding compasses surrounded by a rainbow. The hand represents God the Great Architect and is based on Blake's picture of Newton, which itself is based on a detail from the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.



# The Company

The top part of the Arms is one of the spans of Waterloo Bridge with the Thames depicted under it, thus representing construction and London, forming a link with the City. The bottom part of the Arms is a device formed from two squares, again representing construction. The divisions on each side of the carpenter’s square are unequal signifying the change from imperial to metric measurement in the industry concurrent with the year of approval of the design. The scroll below the arms depicts the motto of the Company “Constructio cum Honore”; this translates to “Construct with Honour”.

## Event Feedback

As those of you who attend our various events will already know, we always seek your opinion on how well the function meets your requirements and wishes. We have now been doing this for about three years, but last year was the first year that we shared the results with you, our members. We are doing the same again this year.

As you know we use a free web-survey format provided by fluidsurveys.com®. Those of you who have attended an event are sent an e-mail after the event giving you access to the relevant survey on the fluidsurveys® website. You can then complete the survey on whatever device you prefer to use. The completed surveys are anonymous (unless you decide to put your name on the form) and are collated by fluidsurveys® in such a way as to give us a report that is then transcribed onto an Excel spreadsheet for distribution to the Chair of the Publicity and Events committee and thus to Court via the Reporting Warden.

The vast majority of our surveys this year have resulted in “Very Good” and/or “Excellent” markings, but the reception following the Carol Service was clearly so deficient that the Company decided not to charge anybody for it, so it has been left out of the annual analysis.



Looking back over the last year (previous year’s figures in brackets) 81% (78%) of responses marked events overall as “Very Good” or “Excellent” and value for money was marked as “Very Good” or “Excellent” also in 81% (76%) of the responses. These figures would again suggest that, whilst we should not be complacent, our events over the past year have improved slightly and have continued to meet the requirements of our members. The Publicity and Events committee hope to provide an even better and more varied programme of events for next year. As such, they would welcome suggestions from Members for informal events that our Members might find attractive. As always, we are looking for unusual, but not necessarily expensive, events and we will endeavour to find refreshment venues post-event that Members would find conducive to extending the fellowship experienced during the event in an even more relaxed style.

## MENTORING

The Company wishes to expand on our successful support of scholarships and awards, and we are developing a mentoring programme whereby our members will join a group of fellow Constructors who are willing to give their time and expertise in mentoring young people and perhaps also former Service personnel who have suffered adversely as a result of their time on active service.

Despite sterling efforts by HCA John Sayers this initiative has not taken off as fast as we would have liked, but we are hopeful for the future. We continue to maintain our association with Livery Schools Link which is being restructured to provide more capability including an interactive web-site which will look to match particular school requirements with appropriate Livery Companies. We have confirmed that we wish to assist here and we will therefore continue to strive towards a robust mentoring programme because we are certain that we have a lot to offer in this respect.

## Dr Christine Rigden

### A Year in the Life of “Your” Sheriff



At the time of writing, well over half my year in office has passed. Time has really flown by; to date I have attended over 400 events [including 85 banquets and 80 Old Bailey lunches] and given 21 speeches.

On Admission to office at Guildhall on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2015, I entered a parallel universe centred on the Old Bailey. A world inhabited by footmen and chauffeurs, and very unlike my usual life on a farm in East Kent. Immediately following the Admission ceremony is the Sheriffs’ Breakfast – by tradition the longest lunch in the City. This was a tremendous occasion, surrounded by many friends, family and City folk at the magnificent Drapers’ Hall, from whence we travelled to the

Bailey by Shrieval Rolls Royce. Having enjoyed a glass of champagne with family, and before I had chance to settle into my apartment, I was taken aside by the Secondary & Under Sheriff Charles Henty to sign over my powers, such as they were [to issue writs and the like on behalf of the City of London Corporation], to him.

The second big day for the Sheriffs is the Quit Rents & Services Ceremony. Travel included Rolls Royce to Tower Pier, the Corporation’s launch “Lady Aileen” to Temple Pier, then by foot to the Royal Courts of Justice. The Queen’s Remembrancer presented the Sheriffs with their Royal Warrant; Her Majesty the Queen’s approbation of our election by Liverymen of the City of London, a right exercised by Liverymen since 1153. The ceremony also includes the quit rents of two pieces of land, “The Moors” in Shropshire and “The Forge” in the City parish of St Clement Dane, with both ceremonies dating from the early Thirteenth Century. The former involves testing a hazel tally stick by bending it over a blunt knife and cutting it with a sharp knife, and the latter by the presentation of six horseshoes and sixty-one associated nails.

The life of a Sheriff is centred on the Central Criminal Court, better known as The Old Bailey. An important part of the role is “taking care of the comfort of Her Majesty’s Judges”, which takes the form of hosting daily lunches. The rule of English Law is a significant factor for many foreign businesses choosing to locate in London, so inviting guests to attend these lunches provides a fabulous opportunity to showcase the work of the most famous Courts in the world. Three or four times a year the normal rhythm of the Bailey is interrupted to include a formal opening ceremony. The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the City Marshall, Sword Bearer and Sergeant-at-Arms, arrives at

## The Company

the ceremonial entrance on Old Bailey; the only occasions each year when this entrance is used. Led by Officers of the City of London Police he processes with the Sheriffs, The Recorder, and Secondary through Grand Hall to Court no.1. The Lord Mayor sits in the central chair at the bench, the only occasions on which this seat is used, and exercises his right as Chief Magistrate in the City.

The first six weeks of my Shrievalty were spent with the Late Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Alan Yarrow, prior to the installation of the new Lord Mayor, Alderman Lord Mountevans. The installation, at the Silent Ceremony in Guildhall, was followed by the Presentation of Addresses to the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs. I was privileged to receive presentations from the Constructors, Masons, Tylers & Bricklayers, and The Royal Society of St George (City of London Branch). The Lord Mayor's Show was a spectacular, though damp, day, starting with the River Pageant involving many Livery Company cutters. The rain didn't dampen spirits, which were much improved by the early morning tot of rum aboard HMS President. The Civic Party viewed the outward procession from the balcony at Mansion House before joining our carriages for the Royal Courts of Justice and the formal swearing in of the new Lord Mayor. Returning with the procession to Mansion House we enjoyed lunch with family, friends and supporters. It was certainly a day to remember.

Church services are frequent special occasions throughout the year, and some are particularly memorable. The Agincourt service at Westminster Abbey was spectacular, with the Master Cutler holding aloft King V's sword, and a Shakespearean actor presenting the Bard's famous lines whilst striding through the Quire and Nave. The 23<sup>rd</sup> December was also memorable on a more personal note as I had the pleasure of reading a lesson at the carol service at St Paul's Cathedral to a congregation of over two thousand souls – quite an experience!

State visits are renowned for their pageantry. Just three weeks into my year of office, when all was still very new to me, there was a State Visit from the President of China, Xi Jinping. I found myself at Horse Guards Parade as part of the welcoming party. The seniority of the Mayoralty in London ensured that I was fifth in the receiving line to be introduced to Her Majesty who in turn carried out the introductions to the President of China and his lady. It was quite a surreal experience gazing out across ranks of gleaming guardsmen on a beautiful sunny October morning, thinking "how did I end up here?" The following day the City hosted a State Banquet in the President's honour. Guildhall looked stunning and was filled to capacity. A truly splendid occasion.

Events involving the Armed Forces are always special, especially for those of us without a military background. The 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of bomb disposal was marked by a service at St Paul's Cathedral followed by a reception at Guildhall honouring the contribution of bomb disposal experts in the City of London from the Second War to the present day. 101 City of London Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) is the most recent regiment to be granted privileged status by the City of London, which confers the right to proceed through the City with "drums beating, colours flying and bayonets fixed".



Although having been conferred with the same honour a few years ago, the Household Cavalry exercised their privilege for the first time in May. Guildhall Yard was witness to a march past of mounted and dismounted contingents of the Household Cavalry, complete with their bands. Colonel of the Blues & Royals, HRH the Princess Royal, and Colonel of the Lifeguards, Field Marshall The Lord Guthrie, took the salute. Truly specular on a bright sunny day.

The Sheriffs also attend a whole host of Charity fundraisers and other events supporting good causes across the City. City Giving Day took place two days after my Admission to office. Whilst the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress covered the City, the two Sheriffs headed east to Canary Wharf to visit companies enrolled in the scheme, helping to showcase the extensive activities of City business

in charity and community support. This has now become an annual event and provides an excellent opportunity to highlight the tremendous work done throughout the City. The ninth Lord Mayor's Big Curry Lunch served curry to 1000 people in April. This event in aid of ABF, the Soldiers' Charity, was attended by HRH Prince Harry who spent much time talking with supporters, particularly beneficiaries – injured servicemen and ex-servicemen and their families. A contingent of Her Majesty's Judges was happy to forego their usual lunch arrangement to enjoy a curry and bring a little of the Bailey to Guildhall.

As Sheriff I am busy organising fundraising events. The first major event, in aid of the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund, took place on 27 July and involved the two Sheriffs touring the City on horseback escorted by the Honourable Artillery Company Light Cavalry. I had not ridden before and I managed to squeeze in ten lessons over the six months prior to the event. In our full Shrieval outfits, complete with swords, gloves presented by the Glovers' Company, and hats loaned by the College of Arms, the procession was quite a spectacle. The rain held off and there were many photo opportunities at the twenty stops along the route. Stops included 15 Livery Halls, St Paul's Cathedral, Mansion House and Guildhall, and generous refreshments were offered to both riders and horses.



My fellow Sheriff and I were delighted to raise over £20,000 in sponsorship for the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund. Very many thanks indeed to all who supported us.

The remaining event is the Sheriffs' Ball in aid of the Lord Mayor's Appeal, which is to be held at The Guildhall on 23 September. It promises to be a splendid evening of dining, dancing and fund raising and will include a Silent Auction which will contribute significantly to the monies raised in aid of our Lord Mayor's two chosen charities – JDRF and the Sea Cadets, and will be our final "Hurrah" as Sheriffs. The Shrieval role is a very busy one, but far too enjoyable to be described as "hard work". My sincere thanks to the many Liverymen who supported my election; I would not be here without you!

## New Members

At the 206<sup>th</sup> Session of the Court held at Wax Chandlers' Hall on 17 December 2015 Michael Salmon, Tim Ellis, Peter Geraghty and Paul Leech were admitted as Freeman and Chris Turner was admitted as a Yeoman.

At the 207<sup>th</sup> Session of the Court on held at Haberdashers' Hall on 11 February 2016 Rob Palles-Clark was admitted to the Livery; Max Tillson and Geoff Taylor were admitted as Freeman; Rhiannon Monteith, Stefan Raw-Rees and Harry Gilder were admitted as Yeomen and Dominic Lamb was admitted as an Apprentice.

At the 208<sup>th</sup> Session of the Court held at the RAF Club, Piccadilly on 5 May 2016 Nick Morris was admitted to the Livery; Femi Santos and Colin Morrell were admitted as Freeman and Jonathon Li-Parrett was admitted as a Yeoman.

At the 209<sup>th</sup> Session of the Court held at Tallow Chandlers' Hall on 6 July 2016 John Rowsell (The Master Lightmonger) was admitted to the Freedom and the Livery; Adrian Stammers, Cheryl Moreton, Jason Farnell, Weng Keong Kong, Andrew Harris and James Shannon were admitted to the Freedom and Phil Tansey was admitted as a Yeoman.

At the 210<sup>th</sup> Session of the Court held at Wax Chandlers Hall on 21 September 2016 Dean Wincott was clothed as a Liveryman, Anthony Trainor was transferred from a Yeoman to a Freeman, and Barry Fletcher, Andy Hyde and Peter Phillippo were admitted as Freeman.

# The Company

## Our Members



**Max Tillson** joined the Company in February as a Freeman. He is 60 years of age and has been married to his wife, Denise, for 34 years. They have 3 grown-up sons and have lived for the past 29 years in Littlestone, a village on Romney Marsh. Max is currently a project manager for Niblock Builders Limited, a South London company, and he has been with them for 8 years. Max's main interests outside work are Crystal Palace Football Club, classic cars, fine wine and dining, cinema and theatre. He has joined the Livery to become part of an ancient cause as well as meeting with like-minded people and becoming a valued and active member of the Worshipful Company of Constructors.

He writes "Having been a Freeman of the City of London since 2003 I didn't actually come across the Constructors until 2005. I have been involved in various membership organisations, both social and professional, and felt that this Livery Company would offer the best of both worlds – a fellowship organisation made up of like-minded people with a shared interest in the built environment. I was not disappointed and soon found how this fundamental ethos is embodied by the Company's structured social activities and enriched by its professionally diverse membership."



**Alicia Burrell** joined the Company as an Apprentice in 2007. She is now a Freeman of the Company. She writes "Most of my childhood was filled with Constructor talk. My father's certificate of freedom hung proudly above our sitting room door. His scarlet (now purple) robes carefully stuffed into a wardrobe. Every now and again my parents would dress up to the nines and swoosh off to London for glamorous evenings called banquets at great halls.

Sometimes a night without them brought riches when they sequestered cow-shaped chocolates from the Butchers' Hall for me to gobble the next morning. Do they still have those? If so, can I request a dinner at the Butchers' Hall as soon as possible?

Our family roots run deep within the Company. My grandfather, Merrick, was one of the 12 founding Constructors and Master from 1980-81. My father, John, was Master twenty years later and of course, my mother, Michele, shouldered much of the duty, too. Now, my sister, Alexandra, and I are both members.

I became an apprentice in 2007, just after my 17th birthday and after seven long years of avoiding taverns and playing dice – two of my absolute favourite vices – I became a Yeoman. It was terrific to be inducted in front of my parents in 2013. I felt proud and honoured to join a company that means so much to my family.

I'll hold my hands up now and say I'm not in or in any way (bar membership of the Company) involved in the industry. Maths and science were never my scholastic strong points. Instead, I became a journalist and I must admit there's always a little pang of guilt that I never followed the path into the family business. I may not be a Constructor by profession but I love being part of the company which invited me in so openly and warmly.

I love being able to meet as many different people as possible – seeing the table plans is one of the most exciting parts of the evenings. I love how we get access to the city's incredible livery halls I otherwise would unknowingly march past, buildings steeped in history and of beautiful architecture.

Every Constructors event brings something new and interesting to learn whether that be gin distilling or bomb disposal. And, every year I am amazed at the sheer determination and capability of the prize-winning scholars who attend the Livery and Awards Dinner.



So, while I may not be able to wax lyrical about site plans or rail tracks or scaffolding, I do love listening to stories about your work. Hopefully you can look past my ineptitude with a compass.”



**Alexandra Burrell** is not only another of our Freeman but is also Alicia's older sister, so like Alicia, she shares the incredible Burrell history within the Company. She writes “My family has been involved with the Company of Constructors for many years, and my sister and I are now the third generation Burrells to be members. I was 14 years old when I became an apprentice and then I always appreciated the grandeur of the Halls; met a lot of interesting people; and felt proud to be involved in such a long standing City tradition. I also understood how important it was to my family that the tradition of our family's involvement continued to the next generation and was pleased to be carrying that on. Although the family link is the reason I initially joined, and remains important to me, the Constructors has come to mean a lot more to me as an individual. When I moved to London and started working it became easier for me to come to more events - I was also working in the City so I saw first-hand some of the quirkier activities that the City supported (sheep over London Bridge!). I began to learn more about the philanthropic side of the Constructors, the importance of supporting the industry for future generations and the huge benefits that newer companies like the Constructors bring. It has also enabled me to do things and meet people that I wouldn't ordinarily get to e.g. learning about bomb disposal has been great dinner party conversation! As I get older, I can only see that I will become even more involved and hopefully will be able to contribute to the Company in the same way my father and grandfather did.”



**Andrew Hornby** is one of our Court Assistants. His first event was the Christmas service at St Lawrence Jewry where, as the newest recruit, it was his duty and privilege to read one of the lessons. At the reception afterwards he was recognised by a fellow Constructor as being a member of Round Table and was soon introduced to a number of ex-Tablers within our membership. Straightaway he knew he was in good (or bad!) company, and the knowledge of this shared background gave him the confidence that as a Constructor he would be among friends. He also recognised that the unofficial maxim of Round Table would apply to this organisation too: ‘the more you put in, the more you get out’.

As he writes, “From that point I made a point of getting involved and attending whatever I could, and soon found out which were the best value events for a young(ish) Constructor to come along to – it's not all fancy dinners! Within a couple of years of joining I found myself on the Events Committee and since then have helped ensure that our social calendar comprises a broad spectrum of activities to reflect members' interests. It has also been my aim to incorporate sufficient low cost activities into our programme so that everyone (and particularly our newer members) can join in, meet their peers, and develop their social networks, without a significant financial burden.

I am indebted to former Clerk Tim Nicholson and Past Master Roger Adcock for the respective parts they each played in welcoming me into the Worshipful Company of Constructors.

Continued support for our new members by their sponsors and others, to ensure they are aware of the opportunities available and to help them get involved, is crucial to their long-term engagement and retention and to the future of our Livery Company.”

## The Company



**Jason Farnell** joined the Company as a Freeman in July 2016. He writes “Over the last few years I have had a growing interest in the ‘shadowy’ organizations that were known to me only as ‘the liveries’. More recently I have attended events by invitation from friends to the Painters & Stainers and the Joiners & Ceilers which raised my interest level and informed me a little about the history and purpose of the trade guilds, to the extent that I made tentative enquiries about membership.

My father was a painter & decorator and my childhood was filled with the smell of paint, but it is not what I do and for me there had to be a personal connection and reason for wanting to belong, which is why after guidance from a distinguished Past Master (!) the prospect of applying to become a freeman of the Worshipful Company of Constructors appealed greatly. The construction industry is itself a small community, rich in variety of work, of projects, professions and occupations and being a member of an organization which is effectively a microcosm of that community seemed fitting.

The real clincher for me happened when Cheryl and I attended a Constructors’ event at the University of Westminster when the current Master introduced himself and enthusiastically told us that we should both join and that we would be very welcome. We are both very interested in the history of the livery companies and the City of London and the opportunity to attend events and participate in the work of the Company seemed ideal and the decision was made then and there that we would apply to the Clerk the following day.

We very much enjoyed being brought into Court in the Tallow Chandlers Hall, the formal lunch and the afternoon which followed and we are looking forward to becoming Freeman of the City and hopefully progressing to become Liverymen.”



**Georgina Craig** is one of our Companions. Her husband, Bob, was our Master in 2005/6 and he organised a very successful Master’s Weekend in Glasgow, one of our first forays to our northern land. Unfortunately, Bob passed away in 2010. Since then, Georgina has been a stalwart amongst our much respected and valued Companions, attending many of our functions as well as Master’s Weekends. She writes “To be a Companion of the Worshipful Company of Constructors is to greatly enjoy the company of fellow Constructors and their partners, people whose association has been much valued over many years.

To have the opportunity to annually visit varied and interesting locations for a long weekend in the early summer, visiting places one would not necessarily associate with a holiday location but being surprised and delighted by the unexpected, Sheffield being a case in point! The huge effort that goes into organising the weekends is very much appreciated by all and especially the Companions who attend. June Olley and I have become very great friends as we have ‘roomed together’ on these special occasions since both being widowed. This year’s Livery Company visit to Edinburgh will stay in our memory for quite some time, the highlight obviously was the banquet on the Royal Yacht Britannia. Thank you, Graeme and Kirsteen.

It is very special to attend the various functions in our own right but it also helps to continue the connections and memories of our husbands/partners. It is a much appreciated thank you from the Company who allow us the honour of being Companions. An Honour not shared by many other Livery Companies in the City of London.

It is very gratifying to witness the Company succeeding and carrying on the traditions. To see so many young people joining the ranks of the Worshipful Company of Constructors and enjoying the benefits offered is marvellous. May they also continue to flourish root and branch.”

## BUTLER & YOUNG

Butler and Young Limited have been associated with the Worshipful Company of Constructors for many years, and this year they were not only involved with the production of the Company Yearbook but they also provided financial sponsorship for the Networking Event.



**Butler & Young**



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## Company Merchandise



The Company has regalia for sale as follows:

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Ties                        | £15 each |
| Silk Scarves                | £12 each |
| New design Cufflinks (pair) | £20 each |
| Wall Shield                 | £38 each |
| Freedom Medal               | £75 each |
| Livery Medal                | £83 each |

All available from the Clerk.

(postage will be added to each order)

*Livery Ribbons are available for purchase by members who take Livery and already have a Freedom Medal. They cost £10 plus postage and are available by contacting the Clerk.*

### NEWS FROM 5001 SQUADRON (RAF)

Sqdn Ldr Dave Green, the OC 5001 Squadron has written to say “This year has, again, seen 5001 Squadron heavily committed in support of UK military operations worldwide. The Squadron’s core capability, to rapidly construct aircraft hangars and other items of Technical Working Environments (TWE) at austere locations, has been a key enabler for deployed forces and continues to be in high demand.

The largest task this year has been the construction of TWE in support of Op SHADER, the UK’s contribution to the coalition campaign against Daesh. This has involved our Facilities Installation Teams constructing aircraft shelters at RAF Akrotiri in Cyprus where the teams have constructed Rapid Environmental Shelters (RESs) as well as an Environmentally Conditioned Armament Storage Shelter (ECASS) to support Tornado and Typhoon aircraft conducting missions over Iraq and Syria.



*TWE in Middle East © Crown Copyright/MOD*

Teams from the Squadron have also deployed to the Middle East to construct aircraft shelters for use by the RAF’s Reaper deployment in the region, which is again part of the UK’s contribution to the campaign against Daesh. These Remotely Piloted Air Systems, whilst being considerably lighter than modern combat aircraft, have a large wing span which necessitated the construction of the larger variant of RES equipped with a “heli-door”, normally used to allow access for large rotary wing aircraft. These tasks also posed challenges due to the austere location of the detachment and the harsh environmental experienced during the build; which saw not only the expected high temperature but also extremely high winds and dust storms which prolonged the task and damaged equipment.

In the UK, the Squadron has provided aircraft shelters for an environmental trial of Typhoon aircraft at RAF Coningsby. This trial was a success and advantageous to all parties; the Typhoon Force proving the viability and benefits of utilising small aircraft shelters on a flight line. It also provided 5001 Squadron with an invaluable opportunity to train new personnel in TWE construction on a Fast Jet operating base, representative of an operational deployment, whilst still being within easy reach of home base. With over 60 TWE structures in use around the world, the Squadron has a large and ever growing commitment to both maintain and inspect all of them on a 6 monthly basis as well as repairing damage and faults as required to ensure they remain safe and provide the required capability.

The coming year is sizing up to be just as busy as the last as far as planned construction tasks are concerned, with site surveys having already been undertaken for the construction of TWE in the Falkland Islands to support the return of Chinook Helicopters. Planning is already at an advanced stage and equipment is being prepared for the long sea voyage. Planning is also in progress for the construction of TWE to support aircraft trials in the Outer Hebrides and Indian Ocean. Two very different locations, which will each come with their own logistical and technical challenges, but will again prove the capability and worldwide role of 5001 Squadron.

This year has also seen the Squadron change in structure with the introduction of a new Spearhead Support Engineering role. This will complement the Squadron’s current roles and provide a coherent and agile support engineering capability held at readiness to enable RAF deployed operations. As part of this new capability, the Squadron’s HQ and Operations Flight have, along with the newly constituted Spearhead element, relocated to new premises at RAF Wittering, swapping hangars and

office accommodation with 2 Mechanical Transport Squadron. The new location provides both increased workshop space and office accommodation. Preparations are also underway for a formal event to mark the Squadrons 75th anniversary, with 5001 Sqn having been formed in 1941 as an Airfield Construction Squadron during WW2."

## NEWS FROM 101 REGIMENT RE

Lt Col R B Hawkins MBE, the CO, has written to say that "101 (City of London) Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) remains as busy as ever. In addition to the large number of operational commitments abroad, this past year has provided time to reflect upon our obligation to defence of mainland UK and our ever closer links with the City of London.



*The Regiment at work*  
© Crown Copyright/MOD

Short term training teams remain the flavour of the moment within Defence and for good reason. Small, well qualified teams are able to deliver Explosive Ordnance Disposal and High Risk Search training to local security forces, providing them with the tools to maintain their own security. The regiment currently has personnel deployed around the world fulfilling this role, notably in Iraq directly contributing to the fight against ISIS, and in Nigeria countering Boko Haram. In addition, training teams from the regiment have supported security forces in Nepal, Pakistan and most recently Ukraine. Our masters in Whitehall particularly like our work as we are far cheaper than an aircraft carrier to deploy and sustain, although admittedly far less impressive!!

In the UK, an upturn in the construction industry revealed six WWII Luftwaffe bombs, for which the regiment provides Military Aid to Civil Police. Bombs were rendered safe in London, Tunbridge Wells, Coventry and Bath all within the past 12 months and our engineering support teams provided safe access for the Bomb Disposal Operator to render safe the bombs and provide mitigation against any possible chance of the bomb exploding prematurely. In every instance the soldiers performed exceptionally and I am very proud of their work.

The professionalisation of the Army Reserve continues apace, with the Regiment's reserve squadrons growing in capability and confidence month by month. Both have recently deployed on a large flagship overseas training exercise to Denmark which further enhanced our strong ties with the Danish Army Engineers that many of our personnel have fought side by side with in Afghanistan.

Closer to home the Regiment has been able to reflect upon a proud history. Firstly, we marked the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Royal Engineer Bomb Disposal, which culminated in a National Service of Commemoration at St Paul's Cathedral with His Royal Highness Prince Harry being our guest of honour. Whilst correctly marking this important anniversary, the commemoration also generated £90,000 for three charities; Blesma (Limbless Veteran's Charity), Walking with the Wounded and the Royal Engineers Benevolent Fund. Secondly, the regiment was honoured to march at the front of the Lord Mayor Show for the first time with bayonets fixed as a newly declared "Privileged Regiment of the City of London". I would particularly like to thank the affiliated Livery Companies for their support throughout this process. Lastly, our year of reflection draws to a close as we, with the wider Corps, commemorate the 300th Anniversary "Sapper 300" of the establishment of the Royal Engineers.

Finally, it would be remiss if I did not say thank you for your continued engagement and the support you show to our regiment and families."

### NEWS FROM HMS LANCASTER



This year's report from our Royal Navy Affiliate, HMS Lancaster is somewhat shorter than usual and is by way of both an au revoir and a look to the future.

At the beginning of 2016 HMS Lancaster returned from her very successful deployment overseas and prepared to go into a state of reduced readiness (or in non-naval speak – temporary dormancy). As such the crew depart and the ship temporarily loses her “cap tally”. So, from September 2016 HMS Lancaster entered an extended refit period in Devonport, Plymouth, from which she is planned to re-emerge in early 2018. Prior to that (probably in summer 2017) a new ship's company will move on board. Lt Cdr James Thomson, the outgoing Senior Naval Officer, has written to the Master to reiterate that whilst HMS Lancaster's relationship with the Company may be “on hold”, the Company will certainly not be forgotten, and the new ship's company will renew the contact and regenerate the affiliation. He went on to say that whilst “We are coming to the end of an era, the Ship has achieved so much in her 23 years, and is due some well-earned R&R.” However, he looked forward to her emergence from refit ready to tackle a new deployment and regenerate the affiliation with the Worshipful Company of Constructors.

### NEWS FROM 14 Company, South West London Army Cadet Force

Major Ed Sokolowski has written to say “The Army Cadet Force is the oldest national youth organisation dating back to 1859. The ACF Charter provides developmental, challenging and adventurous training to teenagers where other organisations cannot. We at 14 Company, in the Croydon area, aim to fulfil the ACF Charter as best we can with the diverse membership that we have. There are 217 Cadets that are currently managed by 20 Staff.

Detachments are located at Shirley, Croydon, New Addington, Coulsdon and Mertsam. 14 Company headquarters consists of a Staff Officer Captain and Company Sergeant Major. Needless to stay all 14-Company staff work hard and give up so much of their own time for the benefit of others.



As for the Cadets! This is a long ongoing story and not without its trials and tribulations. But, we have achieved much in the Company, holding several successful shooting weekends at Pirbright and Ash Ranges and qualifying some 80 Cadets at 2 Star shooting level with the L98A2 5.56mm Cadet General Purpose Rifle.

Cadets have also attended Expeditions around the Crowborough area and some even took part in the Arnhem March (Wandeltocht) in Oosterbeek in Holland to commemorate the battle. All Cadets love Fieldcraft – after all, what's wrong with crawling around in the mud with some camouflage on your face trying to get close to an enemy position without them hearing you? Conducting Exercises and training leaders to make firm positive decisions under pressure is all part of our process.

Detachments have also been involved in collections for Help for Heroes and the British Legion Poppy appeal. One or two have small community projects they work on throughout the year. Senior Cadets also enjoyed an afternoon trip to the National Arboretum and were duly moved by what they saw. For one cadet it was more emotional when she saw her father's name on the Iraq section, as he was killed in action out there. Each Detachment also participated in Remembrance Sunday Parades around the Croydon area and I would like to add that with the kind support of the Worshipful Company of Constructors Livery Company we will be able to achieve that little bit more in changing lives”.



### Scholarships and Awards

Every year the Worshipful Company of Constructors, in conjunction with the CIOB, the BRE Trust and the College of Estate Management offers scholarships and awards to suitable applicants including substantial research and travel awards to young persons.

As a champion of the built environment, the Company offers a range of scholarships to support students, graduates, academics and practitioners and to promote and reward the construction leaders of the future. The scholarships, awards and prizes on offer include awards for research, travel, course fees and projects covering the whole built environment.

Our current scholarships are:

#### **Sir Ian Dixon Scholarship**

Sir Ian Dixon was the President of the CIOB from 1989 – 1990 and the head of Willmott Dixon. He sadly died before he could become Master. Established in 1998 in conjunction with the CIOB, the scholarship supports research in the general field of construction management and offers an annual scholarship award of £3,000.

#### **The Faculty of Architecture and Surveying Scholarship**

In conjunction with the Faculty of Architecture and Surveying at the CIOB, this scholarship supports research in the field of architecture and surveying and offers an annual scholarship award of £3,000.

#### **Sustainability Scholarship**

This scholarship in conjunction with the CIOB and the College of Estate Management supports research in sustainability and offers an annual scholarship award of £3,000.

Our current prizes are:

#### **David Tong Cup**

In association with London South Bank University awarded to a First Class Honours Degree in Construction Management graduate of that year.

#### **Constructors Prize**

In association with The University of Westminster, this prize is awarded to a First Class Honours Degree graduate of that year

Our current awards are:

#### **The Royal Charter Award for Excellence in Construction**

The Royal Charter Award is part of the Constructors' Charter Legacy Project which is given in honour and recognition of excellence in construction. Recipients of the award are nominated by members of the Company.

#### **Royal Charter International Research Award**

In collaboration with the BRE Trust, this award seeks exceptional young individuals from the construction sector to undertake an innovative, topical study relating to construction, planning, design systems and processes or a market study in a country of their choice. The winning applicant receives £7,000 towards the cost of their study and the publication of their work through the BRE Trust publishing company; IHS BRE Press.

### Scholarship Presentations 2016



The **Sir Ian Dixon Scholarship** was awarded to Adam Golden, who works for Costain and whose paper addressed the subject of “Dispute Management in the Supply Chain”. It was formally presented at Portland Place on 5 May 2016. He is pictured 2<sup>nd</sup> right in the photograph. Lady Dixon is in the centre of the photograph and 3<sup>rd</sup> from the left is Inga Geach who works for Willmott Dixon and was one of the three Sustainability Scholars. Her topic was “Assessing the influence of Sustainability in tender processes in non-domestic tenders”.

There were two other Sustainability Scholars, who made their formal presentations at the Building Centre on 8th June. One was Emma Gains, who works for Faithful and Gould. She wrote a paper on “Adapting buildings to climate change risks”. The other was Szilvia Zakar, who works for Sir Robert McAlpine. She wrote a paper on “Natural capital and how it relates to the performance of Sir Robert McAlpine and the wider construction industry”. Both papers were well received by the audience, and all the papers maintained the high standards that we have come to expect over the years.

**Emma Gains’** paper addressed the fact that the climate is changing, temperatures are increasing and the UK is experiencing continually more extreme weather events – how will these risks will impact the built environment? There has been much discussion about the potential industry responses to sustainable adaptation and the risks of climate change. The paper included a detailed review of existing literature which highlighted two key climate change risk areas for London: increased temperatures and elevated precipitation levels. It then took a detailed look at the way the office fit-out sector tried to mitigate those risks as well as addressing other key issues of sustainability.

Within the paper methods were developed and guidance presented on adaptation against these risks and, in some instances, the paper has represented these risks in working toolkits. The research included within the paper showed that toolkits and other guidance could provide a means to address the risks

The principal findings of the research show that toolkits and guidance can provide an array of different topic areas around adaptation and present ideas to deal with possible climate change risk aspects and suggested that the content of current guidance is only reaching a selective audience, thereby restricting its application to the wider industry. The final conclusion of the paper shows that more needs to be done to provide a combined guide that has a broad outreach and looks to address a wide variety of topic areas that will ensure and enable the fit-out industry to adapt quickly to climate change risks

**Szilvia Zakar’s** paper explored the applicability of Natural Capital Accounting (the use of natural products) to the construction industry by first placing Natural Capital thinking into a theoretical framework in order to show how it differed from other approaches to environmental preservation. It then went on to elaborate on the key financial and accounting concepts involved and looked at some objections from within the wider environmental movement. Having defined and explained the principles involved, a number of practical examples were examined, by way of case studies and interviews, both within and beyond the construction industry with a view to illustrating the practical benefits of implementation, as well as some of the obstacles and shortcomings emerging from *concrete* experience. The paper also presented the results of a limited awareness survey of

construction industry sustainability professionals and then pulled these results together to form a set of practical recommendations and areas for further study.

After **Vera Bukachi** was awarded her share of the WCC and BRE International Research Award in 2015, she travelled to Nairobi to carry out her main fieldwork and in July attended the Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC) conference at Loughborough where she participated in the sessions associated with her research project. Later in the autumn of 2015 she travelled to Stockholm to attend the World Water Week conference. As Vera needed to write up and complete her PhD thesis in the following 6-9 months and simultaneously take up full time employment with Ove Arup, it was jointly agreed with BRE to postpone the delivery of her final report. Her presentation will thus take place later in the year.

The International Research Award was shared with Buro Happold (**Richard Look** and **Caroline Field**). They published their highly professional 70-page report into a “Resilience Insight into 12 Cities” in February 2016. It addressed the resilience of developing cities to withstand a broad spectrum of shocks and stresses with the declared objective of assisting in-built resilience design; gaining an holistic understanding of the components of such resilience and prioritizing and measuring the performance of resilience policies. The model created by Buro Happold was unique in that, unlike many other assessment tools, the methodology was risk-based and took long-term trends into account. The full paper is available on the WCC website.

It is hoped that the Worshipful Company of Constructors, the BRE and Buro Happold will be able to stage an event in the next few months to congratulate Richard and Caroline and allow them to present their paper.

## Scholars 2016/17

### SIDS Scholars

The SIDS Scholars are **Andrew Thompson** of Lakeside and **Liz Walters** of Sir Robert McAlpine. Andrew is progressing well on his scholarship which is focusing on “increasing Primary School places and improving school buildings in the South East with innovative designs”. Liz is also proceeding well with her Scholarship which is focussing on “Construction as a Career Choice for Young People”.

### Sustainability Scholars

There are 2 Sustainability scholars for 2016/17, Holly Gregory and Anthony Hull.

**Holly Gregory** works for Atkins and is writing a paper on “Whole Life Carbon Assessment on Building Projects, a Review and Recommendations”.

**Anthony Hull** works for Network Rail and is writing a paper on “Identifying and overcoming barriers to integrating sustainability into management of infrastructure projects.”

### Royal Charter International Research Award

The Company are now looking at the applications for the 2017 International Research Award and it is expected that interviews for selected candidates will take place in December.

## The most famous Lord Mayor?



How many of us are able to name a Lord Mayor? If we are talking about modern times I suspect that (apart from the current incumbent) many of us would be challenged, but we probably all know something about Sir Richard (Dick) Whittington, who was a Sheriff and Lord Mayor four times at the end of the 14th Century. As Constructors we are justly proud of our own modern day Sheriff – Past Master Dr Christine Rigden, and she has kindly provided “The Constructor” with an article about her experiences during her year of office as the non-aldermanic Sheriff 2015-16, but as Editor I thought we should look back about 600 years to probably the most famous Sheriff and Lord Mayor of London.

Richard Whittington lived from about 1350-1423. He achieved many things in his life but he is now best known for having a pet cat and ‘turning again’.

Richard or ‘Dick’ Whittington was the younger son of Sir William Whittington, Lord of the Manor of Pauntley in Gloucestershire. Sir William died in 1358 and the oldest son inherited the estate, so Richard travelled to London to find work.

Whittington served an apprenticeship, and eventually became a ‘mercier’, dealing in valuable cloth from abroad, such as silks, velvets and cloth of gold. The main market for selling these cloths was the Royal Court. Whittington supplied large quantities to King Richard II (who owed Whittington £1000 when he was deposed in 1399) and to King Henry IV. Whittington became rich. After 1397 he often lent large sums of money to the Crown. In return it appears that he was allowed to export wool without paying customs duty on it.

He became a City alderman, or magistrate, in 1393. In 1397 the then Mayor, Adam Bammie, died in office and the King chose Whittington to become the new mayor. He was re-elected the following year, and again for 1406-7 and 1419-20. This made him Mayor of London four times.

Whittington died in March 1423. His wife Alice, daughter of Sir Ivo Fitzwaryn (or Fitzwarren) of Dorset, had died before him. They had no children.

### Whittington's will

In his will Whittington asked that his great wealth be used to the benefit of the city. The money was used to establish an almshouse (residence for poor people), a college of priests and a library, and to carry out a number of other public works. These included improvements to the water supply and building a public lavatory, which became known as ‘Whittington's longhouse’. Disadvantaged Londoners can still benefit from Whittington's will through the Whittington Charity.

### Medieval mercers and mayors

As a mercier Whittington would have belonged to the Mercers' Company, which was the leading livery company of the time and the first of the “Great Twelve”. The various livery companies controlled their respective trades and received rights from the King. The trade of a mercier does not exist today, and the modern day Mercers' Company is now devoted to charitable works.

In Whittington's time Westminster and the City of London had separate governments. The Mayor of London was the head of Government for the City of London, and was based at Guildhall. The

Guildhall is still the seat of the Corporation of London now. The Mayor was not called 'Lord Mayor' as he is today until much later.

### The Dick Whittington myth

The gifts left in Whittington's will originally made him famous. However, Londoners did not know how he first made his money. Stories began about how a poor boy became rich with the help of his cat. There is no evidence that Whittington kept a cat, and as the son of a Lord he was never very poor. Despite being untrue the stories still flourished and a play produced in 1606 tells most of the story. There are many different versions, but essentially the tale was that Dick Whittington was a poor boy from Gloucestershire who walked to London to seek his fortune. He found work in the house of a rich merchant, Fitzwarren, and fell in love with Fitzwarren's daughter, Alice. Dick had a cat to keep down the mice in the attic where he slept. Fitzwarren invited his servants to put money into a sailing voyage, but Dick had no money, so he gave his cat to the captain to sell.



*Dick Whittington's Statue*

Dick then decided that there was no future for him in London, and left to go home to Gloucestershire. He stopped on top of Highgate Hill on the way out of London, where he heard the bells of London ringing - they seemed to say: 'Turn again, Whittington, thrice Lord Mayor of London'. It is on Highgate Hill that he is commemorated in the, now famous, statue, pictured on the left.

Dick thought this was a good omen and returned to Fitzwarren's house. He learnt that the ship had returned with great news. The sailing party arrived in a foreign land where the king's court was overrun by rats. Dick's cat killed or drove out all the rats. In thanks the king paid a huge sum of gold to buy the cat. Dick was now a very wealthy man. He married Alice Fitzwarren, and eventually became Lord Mayor of London.

The story continued to grow in the 17th and 18th centuries and appeared in many children's books. In the 19th century, the story became the subject for pantomimes and other characters were added. The story is still told today in pantomimes and new versions of the story are often published. Even now, Dick Whittington and the cat that made his fortune are familiar to people who have never heard of the 'real' Richard Whittington.

Much of this article has been developed from material published by the Museum of London, which is a prime source of information about the City of London and is the location of many of the free Gresham Lectures which the Worshipful Company of Constructors often attend. They are organised by Gresham College which was founded in 1597 and has been providing free lectures within the City of London for over 400 years.

If you wish to comment on this edition of the Journal, you can contact the editor at [thejournal@virginmedia.com](mailto:thejournal@virginmedia.com).

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The Master, Immediate Past Master, Wardens, Officers and Guests at the Livery & Awards Dinner held in Haberdashers' Hall in February 2016

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