

News Reports Sept06 to Jan08 Master John Trussler then Master Martin Wade

Sir Ian Dixon Awards - January 2008

Lady Dixon presented the Sir Ian Dixon Awards on 16 January at the Royal Hospital Chelsea, to Daphne Denjis of Sir Robert MacAlpine and Gemma Jones of Laing O'Rourke. Tony Douglas, COO Laing O'Rourke welcomed us all and led the proceedings, and Geoff Wright PPCIOB and Martin Wade, the Master Constructor, both spoke of their support for training and development in the industry.

The Hospital's State Apartments are as grand a venue as you will find outside a royal palace, and the room we were in had portraits of Kings and Queens, including a Van Dyke of Charles 1 and his family, and we learned that Mozart had played there as a child prodigy.



From L; Tony Douglas; the senior industry audience; Gemma Jones, Martin Wade and Daphne Denjis.

Both Scholars fully deserved the enthusiastic recognition given to their presentations. Daphne compared health and safety practice and records in the Netherlands and UK, and Gemma presented a most interesting and useful study of the merits and otherwise of new build versus retained sites for NHS construction. We are all most grateful for the generous hospitality, and full support throughout the years of research, of the host employing companies, Laing O'Rourke and Sir Robert MacAlpine.

Court and Carol Service 6 Dec 07

The Court enjoyed its annual Christmas Lunch at Pewterers' Hall. Geoffrey Bond, Pastmaster of the Glaziers' Company, currently Master of the Guild of Art Scholars, Dealers and Collectors, and Chairman of the Livery Committee, was the Master's guest, and he spoke about the workings of his Committee and some of the issues currently facing it.



Left; Janet Wade and Tina Adcock. Right; Geoffrey Bond, with the Master on his left

The Court then moved to St Lawrence Jewry for the annual Carol Service, which was being shared with the City Livery Club, and there was an excellent turn out of over 90 people. The sum of £528.98 was taken for CRASH, and we were delighted to welcome the new Chief Executive of CRASH, Francesca Roberts. Once again, the choir excelled, and the congregation made up for in enthusiasm anything it may have lacked in musical quality.



Left; Junior Warden Sir Michael Latham, the Master, and Renter Warden Patricia Newton. Right, St Lawrence Jewry and its Christmas tree.

Finally, 80 or so moved on to the Jamaica House Wine Bar for refreshments and conversation. A full, useful and most enjoyable day.

Ale Conning in Guildhall - 27 Nov 07

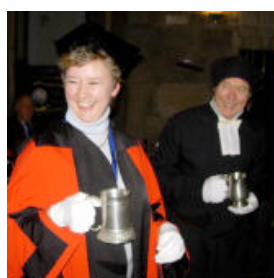
4 Brewers, IPA Greene King, Shepherd Neame, Davy's and Youngs, submitted their ales to the City of London Ale Conners at Guildhall on 27 November. The Conners, the ales, the Aldermen and the Citizens gathered in the Crypt for this ancient and mysterious ceremony, by and through which ale and beer is tried and tested for its fitness to be tipped down the thirsty throats of the City's drinkers.

More art than science, the procedure requires a good deal of flummery, colourful clothing, an audience ready to believe anything for a sip or three of free beer, and a generous publican or brewer willing to watch people in leather trousers first spill their ale on a bench, then sit on it for a bit, then see it all given away without that welcome tinkle of a cash till.



Left; the great and the good assemble - Right; the Aldermen in solemn array

Dr Christine Rigden, our Middle Warden, and Master Pip conned the ale, and found it wholesome.



Left; thinking about it - Right; oooh, I like that!

Several Constructors turned out to support the Red Cross Christmas Market, which was the main event at Guildhall that evening, including the Master and the Senior Warden (the latter just off a plane from the Indian Ocean).

Common Councilmen and Aldermen

Guidance has been received about the process by which people can become members of the City's Common Council and Aldermen. Please see the Publications Section of this website, and select "CC,AldermenNov07".

Lord Mayor's Show - 10 Nov 2007



The Constructors' marching party - left above Master Martin Wade, Apprentices Lydia Ingram and Richard Knaggs, and Senior Warden Roger Adcock - again took part in the Show with the Modern Companies' Float on Saturday 10 November. Above centre the massed ranks of the modern companies, and right, our group passing the Constructors' spectator party.



Also in the show from left above were Hon Ct Assistant David Rundle (with hand puppet) in his capacity as President of the City Livery Club, the Lord Mayor's coach (the LM was hanging out of the window on the other side at the time!) and, right, lunch for the spectators at the Little Ship Club.

City Walk 25 Oct 07

Constructors and guests were led by City Guide Malcolm Dick from St Paul's to Borough via the "Wobbly Bridge" in the Company's latest City Walk exploration of the ancient and interesting parts of the City London and environs. Things you have walked passed for many years take on a fresh significance; Ave Maria Lane and Amen Corner by the Cathedral; the theatres, inns, and general notoriety of the area around Tate Modern and the Globe.



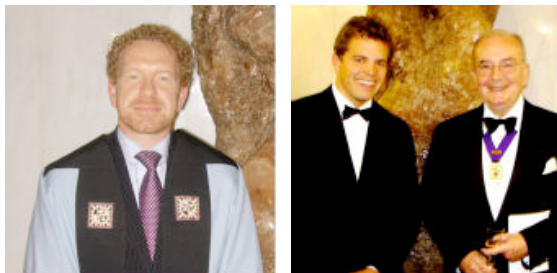
Above left; admiring the architecture around Paternoster Square and right; supper at the George, Borough.

Installation Court, Church Service and Installation Dinner: 17 Oct 07



Martin Wade was installed as Master of the Company at Salters' Hall on 17 October 2007. Sir Michael Latham DL moved from the Court Assistants roll to become Junior Warden. The full Court as now installed is listed in the "The Master and the Court" section of this website.

Paul Smith, below left, was admitted to the Livery, and seven candidates were granted the Freedom of the Company. They are Glan Blake Thomas, Paul Fletcher, Tom Holbrow, James Ward, Richard Schofield, Tony Rimoldi and Andrew Read. In taking the Freedom, Andrew was released from his apprentice's indentures, and is seen below right with his apprentice Master, John Trussler.



The Company's Annual Church service took place at St Lawrence Jewry and was conducted by the Rev Prebendary David Burgess, our Honorary Chaplain.

172 members of the Company and their guests packed Salters' Hall for the Installation Dinner. The Master and Mistress, Martin and Janet Wade (photo above), welcomed everyone, supported by Roger and Tina Adcock, the Senior Warden and his wife.



Above, Salters' Hall and the Ted della trio



Court Assistant Victoria Russell made a speech of welcome to the Guests, and Louis Armstrong CBE, CEO RICS, responded.

Election Court & Common Hall

The Court sat at Pewterers' Hall on 12 September to elect the officers for the year commencing 17 October 2007. Martin Wade was elected to be the 31st Master, with Roger Adcock Senior Warden. The full election list appears in the "Master and the Court" section. Mark Evelyn-Wood was elected to succeed Norman Brown as Honorary Treasurer. Norman Brown has served as Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer for ten years, and the Master made a particular point of thanking him for his excellent contribution to the Company.

Michael Rigden, Barry Wood and Jon Coles (from L to R below) were admitted to the Livery.



The Court was honoured by a visit by Sheriff Richard Regan, who spoke on the Mayoral selection process, the life and work of a sheriff based at the Old Bailey, and related matters, and took questions and comments from Court members. He is seen below left with the Master and Wardens.



At Common Hall the Court's Election List was presented to the assembled members and received strong support, and the Master and Wardens reported on their stewardship over the past year, and took questions. This was followed by a presentation to the Master of a silver quiche from Lilian Stephenson, above centre, and then of a painting by Henry Stephenson, of Stamford, to commemorate the Master's weekend in June 2007, above right. The Master expressed his gratitude for these generous gifts.

After the formalities ended, the company retired to the upper Livery Room for drinks and a buffet supper.

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