

NEWS REPORTS from Oct09 to Oct10

Master Dr Christine Rigden

29th September - Election of New Lord Mayor - Guildhall



The day starts with the assembly of all Livery Company Masters, Aldermen & Sheriffs to process to St Lawrence Jewry from Guildhall at 1100 hrs for a City Service of thanksgiving. There is space in the church for about 50 Liverymen on a first come basis and we advise arriving no later than 1030 am.



The Aldermen process too as does the outgoing Lord Mayor with his Esquires: The Sword Bearer (The Swordbearer is the first Esquire of the Mansion House and the present incumbent can follow the line of his predecessors back to 1420) and Macebearer (The office of Common Cryer and Serjeant-at-Arms may be the oldest of the three ceremonial offices. The Common Cryer and Serjeant-at-Arms carries the Great Mace of Government before the Lord Mayor. The office was established well before 1338 when it was held by one of the King's Serjeant-at-Arms. In 1419 the title held by the mace bearer was Common Serjeant-at-Arms of the City, otherwise called the Common Cryer) lead into Church by The City Marshall. The origin of the City Marshall can be found in letters patent of Queen Elizabeth I dated 1595 which gave powers to a marshal to maintain order in the City. His job is to "clear the way" for The Lord Mayor.

Above is Lord Mayor Nicholas Anstee who will took office as the new Lord Mayor in November 2009.



Attending Liverymen will also see, the judges of the land, in the attendant Recorder and Common Sergeant; while the Sheriffs, Under-Sheriffs, Town Clerk, Remembrancer, Pleaders, Secondaries, Attorneys, Auditors, Wardens Clerks, and the host of minor functionaries, who pour in among the crowd, give the ceremony an imposing air of grandeur.

Open to all Liverymen - The Lord Mayor is elected by the Court of Aldermen, each of whom represents a Ward of the City of London. All Liverymen are entitled to attend Common Hall at Guildhall to receive the announcement of the selected candidate, and also to vote on the candidates for other City of London appointments.



Our New Lord Mayor Elect above. Alderman Michael Bear is the 683rd Lord Mayor of the City of London, to serve from Friday 12 November.

Alderman Michael Bear, who served as Sheriff of the City 2007-2008, is a leading figure in the property and construction industries and has a long history heading inner-city regeneration projects, for example Spitalfields, in the east of the City.

A trained civil engineer, Alderman Bear is Regeneration Director at Hammerson plc, MD of Balfour Beatty Property and a non-executive director of Arup. As Lord Mayor, Alderman Bear will be head of the City of London Corporation and be global ambassador for the UK-based financial services industry, an international role he is well-fitted for: born in Nairobi and brought up and educated in Cyprus and the UK, he then studied civil engineering at South Africa's Witwatersrand University before taking an MBA at Cranfield and embarking on an international business career.

All such joyous uplifting of spirits for us Constructors so to celebrate we took lunch at Painters Hall under the watchful but welcoming eye of Master Painter-Stainer Mr Peter Hammerson to whom we are indebted for his kind and generous hospitality.



The Master; Dr Christine Rigden and Her Gentleman; Mr Stephen Rigden at pre lunch drinks.



We gather with the Masons, Plumbers, Woolmen, Upholders, Horners, Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers, Makers of Playing Cards, Builders Merchants, Environmental Cleaners and ourselves The Constructors.

See above our Clerk Kim Tyrrell chatting to Mrs Heather Rowell, The Clerk to The Masons Company the senior Livery Company at luncheon.



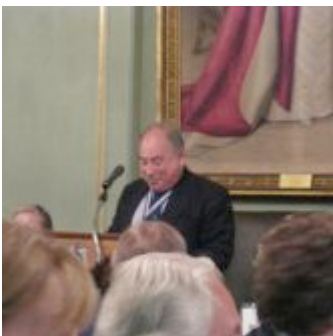
The tables allowed a nice and pleasant mix of liverymen and guests.



We dined on Avocado and Smoked Chicken Tian, Watercress and Preserved Lemon Salad with Lightly Soured Cream. Served with Conca de Barbera 2008. There followed a Pan Fried Bass Fillet, Asparagus Bundle, Saffron Potatoes with a Fine Dill Butter Sauce served with Vincent Bouquet Merlot 2009.



Chilled Passion Fruit Creme Brulee with Almond Shortbread and Pomegranate Syrup (Yummy)



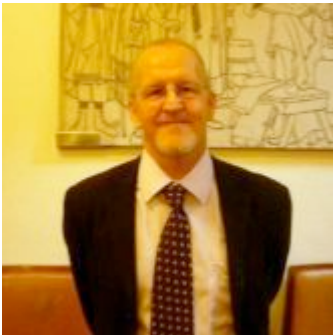
The Master Painter-Stainer Mr Peter Hammerson sent us on our way with a cheery and humorous note to remember to return next year! God Bless The Queen and God Bless The Lord Mayor and Lord Mayort Elect!

8th September - Election Court Meeting - Bakers` Hall.



At the Election Court **Freeman Mr Gregory Callaghan** BSc (Hons) MRTPI CMILT CMIHT was **Clothed as a Liveryman**. Gregory had been admitted as a Freeman in February this year. A Consulting Engineer currently a Partner of Peter Brett Associates LLP London.

The following were admitted to The Freedom of The Company:



Mr Michael Brooks FCIQB FICWCI MAPM a Construction Consultant. Currently Associate Director of MDA Consulting Ltd. London.



Dr Francine Baker BA LLB MA (1st Class Hons) PhD Solicitor of England and Wales. Currently Senior Lecturer and Solicitor in The Department of Built Environment at London Southbank University.



Dr Joseph Giordano BSc (Hons) MSc PhD MRICS AMIER a Chartered Quantity Surveyor. Currently A Director of Bargate Consulting Ltd. London.

Additionally

Mr Huw Myles BEng Sound Engineering was admitted as a **Yeoman Member**. An Acoustic Consultant. Currently an Assistant Acoustic Consultant with Building Design Partnership London. Also a member of the winning team at Teambuild held November 2009.

The Master and Court welcomed them all warmly into the circle of our hearts and wished them a happy and joyous time in membership.

8th September - Common Hall

The Company Common Hall, held each September, is an opportunity for Members to elect the new Master, Wardens, Court Assistants and Officers for the upcoming year.



The Master, Dr Christine Rigden, (seen here flanked by Mrs Patricia Bessey-Newton and Sir Michael Latham) gave a detailed report (above) on the year in a way of annual reporting. It had indeed been a most successful year. We gained our Royal Charter, increased our scholarships, grew our membership and continued with our charitable giving. Finally The Master thanked the retiring clerk; Mr Tim Nicholson who returned for one year and is now definitely and absolutely retired (he says).



Above see the new Master Elect gives an address as to her expectations on the year ahead.

Newly elected Master Elect Mrs Patricia Bessey-Newton RIBA FFB BAE FRSA (seen above) addressing Common Hall.

The other Wardens elected at Common Hall were:-

to be Senior Warden Sir M Latham DL MA

to be Middle Warden Mr Stephen Rigden BSc MSc CEng MICE MCIM

to be Renter Warden Mr D Barrat FRSA

to be Junior Warden Mr Alan Longhurst BSc BArch RIBA

The following Court Assistants were elected for office:-

CA 1 (M 15/16) V Russell LLB(Hons) FCI Arb FCIOB FFB

CA 2 (M 16/17) G Monteith BSc(Hons) CEng MICE FIHT

CA 3 (M 17/18) Sir V Ramsey MA MICE

CA 4 (M 18/19) A Ward CEng FStructE

CA 5 (M 19/20) I Mason MRICS

CA 6 (M 20/21) M Parrett FCIOB CSCI FRSA FIMMM FIOD

CA 7 (M 21/22) A Hovsepian BSc(Hons) MCIOB MASI

CA 8 J Sayers

CA 9 S Wells BSc(Hons) CEng FICE FCIWEM

CA 10 H Lamb BSc(Hons) DipIs FCIOB FBEng MAPM

CA 11 T Fitch BSc MSc DIC CEng FICE

CA 12

Honorary Court Assistants are:-

Hon CA 1 D Rundle RIBA FCIOB PPASI PPFH HonFGIS

Hon CA 2 K Kent FCIOB MRICS FASI MCMI (The Chairman of The Charitable Trustees)

Hon CA 3 A Seymour FCIOB FFB, (Hon Treasurer)

Hon CA 4 Godfrey Crook MSc FICE FStructE ACI Arb

Hon CA 5 R Heathfield PPCIOB

Committee Past Masters M Wade FRICS FCIOB & R Adcock FCIOB FFB

Immediate PM Dr C H Rigden BSc PhD FGS CGeol

Committee Chairmen & Reporting (to GP & the Court) Wardens.

Scholarships and Awards; Chairman Bob Heathfield, Reporting Warden, S Rigden

Events; Chairman Graeme Monteith, Reporting Warden D Barrat

Sponsorship; Chairman Mike Parrett, reporting Warden, A Longhurst.

Steward 1 (Senior Steward) D Fell F Weld I,

Stewards 2, 3, 4 to be advised

Almoner & Archivist J Burrell BSc MICE

Following which reports were given by Officers of the Company:-



The Chairman of The Charitable Trustees Honorary Court Assistant Kenneth Kent reported on the CT activities and funds available.



Honorary Court Assistant Arthur Seymour our Hon Treasurer gave his report and the Quarterage for the year ahead was approved.



Newly elected Junior Warden Alan Longhurst briefed Common Hall on the news of our new sponsors.



Court Assistant Bob Heathfield PPCIOB reported on the excellent progress of the Scholars this livery year.



Finally The newly Appointed and Elected Clerk; Mr Kim Tyrrell gave administrative details for the year ahead and called for Common Hall to be concluded which was approved by The Master.

The Agenda was:-

1. Welcome – The Master
2. Election of Officers nominated by The Court
3. Report on 2009/10 – The Master
4. Report – Chairman of Trustees.
5. Report – Scholarships and Awards.
6. Report – Sponsorship.
7. Report - Finance matters, including the 2008/9 accounts.
8. Report – Administrative matters - The Clerk.
9. Questions from the floor and discussion.
10. Address by the Master Elect.
11. Conclusion.

8th September - The Company held the 35th Annual Service at The Chapel Royal of St Peter Ad Vincula in H M Tower of London

By kind permission of the Constable General Sir Richard Dannatt GCB CBE MC The Master had arranged for The Company to enjoy a most enjoyable Annual Service held by The Reverend Roger Hall MBE Deputy Priest in Ordinary to HM The Queen.

The Choir sang so beautifully and uplifting. To this end the Company thanks every one of them lead by The Master of Music Mr Colm Carey BMus.





See here Constructors and guests mustering at the main entrance to be admitted by Steward Jon Coles.



The spot where many were sent to their deaths.



Anne Boyleyn`s Royal Residence (herself the grand daughter of a Liveryman) from where she departed to be executed.



The inside of Henry VIII built Chapel Royal inside H M Tower of London. Rev Roger Hall pointed out the Royal Burials after execution below the altar shown in the photo above. Her skeleton was identified during renovations of the chapel in the reign of Queen Victoria and Anne's resting place is now marked in the marble floor.

Of particular interest non attending members should know we prayed for our departed friends in the year. Past Masters Denis Blackburn and Bob Craig and Liveryman Peter Martin. The Choir of St Peter's sang Elgar's "They are at Rest". A thoughtful way of bringing those we knew close to the circle of our hearts.

The Master and Master Elect both read Lessons. The Master from Job Chapter 1 and Master Elect from Matthew Chapter 17.

After the Service and many thanks to The Reverend Roger Hall MBE the congregation enjoyed a glass of wine and supper in Balls Brothers establishment of Marks Lane. A pleasant end to a long but very enjoyable day.

1st September - The Three Clerks' Golf Trophy



The teams from the Constructors, Tylers and Bricklayers, Paviers and (for the first time) Makers of Playing Cards, met up at Verulam Golf Course in St Albans. Verulam has a tradition steeped in the game of golf. Samuel Ryder, a wealthy St Albans seed merchant, former Captain of Verulam and prolific supporter of early professional golf, donated the Ryder Cup in 1926. His biennial competition between Europe and the USA is now, without doubt, the most important matchplay event in the world of golf, and the cup will be fought for again at Celtic Manor, Newport, Wales next month.

The Constructors' team has won the Three Clerks' Trophy four times out of the five it has been contested, but this year produced the tightest result ever, with the Tylers and Bricklayers scraping home with 126 points against 125 for both the Constructors and the Paviers. Tim Nicholson won the highest individual score with 39 points, on count-back with two others. The Constructors' team comprised Tim, Alan Longhurst, Melville Dunbar and Peter Tomsett. Christine Rigden came along top support the side, and presented the Trophy to the winning Team."

In photos above on left: The Master presents the Three Clerks' Trophy to the winning Tylers and Bricklayers Team.

On right: The Master with Melville Dunbar and Alan Longhurst

22nd July - The Constructors Company Golf Day - Tandridge Golf Club



Once again The Constructors held their Golf Day at the beautiful Tandridge Golf Club. We were welcomed and pampered with lunch then Stapleford Golf followed by dinner. The course was dry indeed but played wonderfully with scores as high as 40 carded.



Kim Tyrrell drives off with John Sayers watching then John Sayers "this must all add up to more than 9!"



Terry O'Neill enlarges the 9th green bunker and Andrew Jones in red puts out on the 18th.



Penny O'Neill, Tina Seymour, Lee Longhurst taking some light liquid refreshment in the shade on a very hot day.



AH! Half way round The Clerk was seen stocking up for the longest drive attempt with a wedge of strawberry cream sponge! Tim was asked to wait for the ever popular dessert table until later.

Now the prizes presented by The Master:-



on left = 1st and Winner of Ken Brown Trophy: Melville Dunbar (36 points).

on right = Renter Warden and Golf Day Organiser Alan Longhurst (35 points)



above 3rd = Glan Blake-Thomas (32 points) Glan said to your reporter he had been a member at Tandridge for 46 years.



on left = Winner of The Visitors Peter Allen Bowl (Kindly donated by AET in 2009) was (again) Richard Higgins with 40 points

on right = 2nd Clive Hebden on 35 points. Rosemary Lilly came 3rd with 31 points.

20th July - The Master and Marster`s Gentleman attend Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.



The Master Dr Christine Rigden and Renter Warden Stephen Rigden attended the Garden Party on 20th July. They started the day with lunch at The Goring Hotel SW1, along with the Masters & Mistresses of the Tylers & Bricklayers Company, The Chartered Surveyors Company, and Joiners & Ceilers Company with their families.

Following the garden party, in temperatures close to 30 degrees, they completed the day with dinner at the East India Club with the Masters and Mistresses of the Tylers & Bricklayers and Joiners & Ceilers Companies.

20th July Court Assistant Doug Barrat represented the Master at the funeral of Corporal Jamie Kirkpatrick of 101 Eng Regt (EOD) killed in Afghanistan

Please see 27th entry for full details of the life and work of Jamie Kirkpatrick.



Senior Court Assistant Doug Barrat represented the Master and all the members of the Company at Corporal Kirkpatrick`s funeral in Llanelli on 21st July and sent this report to the Master:

“I had the honour to represent both you and the Constructor's Company at Jamie Kirkpatrick's funeral yesterday. I personally had never been to a full military funeral before. It was an extraordinary experience.

All Saints was quite a large church and it was filled to capacity with many hundreds of people and the overflow filling the churchyard. The service was conducted by the local vicar in partnership

with the Regiment's Chaplain. There were a number of very moving eulogies from his brother, sister and his best friend who was his best man at his wedding.

There was also a wonderful tribute from **Lt. Col. Aidan Smyth** Commanding Officer of the Regiment and Honorary Member of our Company whom, of course, you know and have met on a number of occasions.

Cpl Jamie Kirkpatrick, like so many young men who have lost their life in this conflict, was an outstanding soldier and the leader of one of the most successful bomb disposal units engaged in this war.

The service had a number of readings and some very beautiful hymns. At one stage, half way through the service and much to the surprise of the congregation, the whole of the South Transept rose as one, they were all men numbering around one hundred, members of Cor Meibion Male Voice Choir who proceeded to sing two Welsh hymns. This was an extremely moving part of the service. It made your hairs stand up on the back of your neck and many strong men reach for their handkerchiefs.

The final eulogy was bravely given by Heidi Kirkpatrick, Jamie's wife, a very beautiful young lady who with great dignity gave a very moving account of her husband. The eulogy finished when they played a recording of a nursery rhyme which he had recorded and left for his eighteen month old daughter, Holly.

This service was reported quite extensively on ITN news at 6.30 p.m. and 10 p.m. last night and it particularly featured this recording.”

www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-10706262

10th July The Master and The Master`s Gentleman entertain at home.

Phew what a scorcher!



The Master & the Master's Gentleman entertained 53 members of the Company and their families on their farm under a glorious clear blue sky on Saturday 10th July. See here "the bathers" after an afternoon of food, wine, champers and excellent fellowship.

Even The Master entertained a small boy in a red hat (asking for more ice cream perhaps?).



In the morning 24 guests attempted, with varying degrees of success, to shoot clay pigeons flying through the air. Court Assistant and Liveryman Henry Lamb won the open prize, the Master won the ladies' prize [against stiff competition from 3 other ladies who all hit 0 clays!].



The afternoon was spent eating & drinking, including the drinking of a **9 litre bottle of champagne** in under one hour [another splendid effort from the Constructors' Company]. This event was unusual for a Constructors' Company as it was attended by 11 children aged between 1 & 10 years who were all extremely well behaved, yet seemed to enjoy themselves immensely. The day was concluded with the Master, Senior Warden, Renter Warden & 7 guests sitting cooling their feet in the children's paddling pool and reflecting on a very hot, but very enjoyable, day.

7th July The Master hosts a luncheon for invited visiting Masters at The Guildhall Club.



The Master, Dr Christine Rigden, thoughtfully arranged and hosted a luncheon for visiting Masters at The City Guildhall Club.

Each year The Master Constructor is keen to reciprocate hospitality but sometimes events and invitations to some other Masters clash and they are unable to attend. The Master therefore hosted a luncheon to express her gratitude for the hospitality given and hoping all will see as an additional opportunity to discuss matters of mutual interest to each livery company.

This was achieved with style and aplomb.

The Master was delighted to be joined by the following hosts:

Mrs Patricia Newton - Senior Warden

Sir Michael Latham - Middle Warden

Mr Stephen Rigden - Renter Warden

Mr Roger Adcock - Immediate Past Master

Mr John Trussler - Past Master

Mr Tim Nicholson - Clerk

Who all hosted the following guests:

Mr Follett Balch - Senior Warden The Worshipful Company of Farmers

Mr Christopher Dancaster - Master The Worshipful Company of Arbitrators

Mr Peter Hammerson - Master The Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers

Mr Richard Chellew - Renter Warden The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths

Professor Trevor Beedham - Master The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries of London

Mr Peter Ellis - Master Turner

1st July 2010 Court Assistant Stephen Wells, with colleagues from Costain raised £17,500 for charity.



Costain Executive Board Director and Constructors Liveryman Stephen Wells has led a major fundraising exercise for one of the UK's top charities.

Stephen Wells, Group Strategy and Business Development Director, is the Company Executive in charge of Corporate Responsibility. Stephen, with two colleagues, entered the 2010 London Marathon to raise money for WellChild, the national charity for sick children. In total, £17,435.00 was donated to the charity including £8,620 from the Costain Group PLC. The Company matched the money raised in donations by the Costain team. Many of the donations were contributed by Costain employees, customers and suppliers. The Costain Group PLC cheque was handed over to WellChild this week.

With regard to his London Marathon effort, Stephen said: "I had never done a marathon before. I did a 14-week training course, stuck to the plan and bought the best possible trainers! It's just discipline, but what really made it for me was the support I got from inside and outside the company.

"There was huge support from the external world - many customers, suppliers etc. The charity was delighted because they generally need around £1,500 per runner to make it worthwhile for them."

Stephen (pictured left above) was joined in the Marathon by colleagues Graham Read (right), Communications Director and Caroline Harris (notice to have two pictures of her!), PA to the Finance and Communications Directors.

27th June - Corporal Jamie Kirkpatrick of 101 Eng Regt (EOD) killed in Afghanistan



The Constructors are associated with 101 (City of London) Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) (Volunteers) Lieutenant Colonel Aidan Smyth TD Royal Engineers, Commanding Officer 101 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) is an Honorary Member of The Company. So it is with great regret we read of the death of Corporal Jamie Kirkpatrick.

The Ministry of Defence has confirmed the death in Afghanistan of Corporal Jamie Kirkpatrick from 101 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal). He was killed in Afghanistan on Sunday 27 June 2010.

Corporal Jamie Kirkpatrick was 32 years of age. He was born in Edinburgh but lived in Llanelli, South Wales.

He enlisted in the Corps of Royal Engineers in September 1997 and following training as a Combat Engineer and trade training as a Plant Operator Mechanic, he was posted to 28 Engineer Regiment in Hameln, Germany. Over the next 6 years in Germany he qualified as a Class 1 Plant Operator Mechanic, promoted to Lance Corporal and deployed to Iraq on Operation TELIC as a Plant Section Second-in-Command. After a spell at the Land Warfare Centre in Warminster he was promoted to Corporal in 2006. A tour as a Corporal instructor at the Royal School of Military Engineering in Chatham quickly followed and in 2009 he was posted to 33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) where he successfully gained his Intermediate Explosive Ordnance Disposal qualification.

In April 2010 he volunteered for a tour of Afghanistan on Operation HERRICK 12, just as his Squadron was transferred to 101 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal). He was attached back to 33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) for the deployment to Afghanistan. Corporal Kirkpatrick was a member of the Joint Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group, part of the Counter-Improvised Explosive Device Task Force. His role was as the Number 2 in a Counter-Improvised Explosive Device Team, supporting the Bomb Disposal Operator.

In Afghanistan he and his team started the tour in Lashkar Gah helping to increase the security of the area by disposing of Improvised Explosive Device constituent parts brought in by the Afghan National Police. In May 2010 he deployed to Kajaki in the Sangin District of Helmand Province to work with 40 Commando Royal Marines Battle Group and played a large part in increasing the freedom of movement for the local Afghans by removing Improvised Explosive Devices from key routes as well as conducting life-saving training to members of the Battle Group. Most recently the team moved to support the 1st Battalion Royal Gurkha Rifles Battle Group, Combined Force Nahr-E Saraj (South).

On the evening of 27 June 2010, Corporal Kirkpatrick and his team were being held in reserve whilst a clearance operation was being carried out in order to increase security to an area around one of the Check Points. Corporal Kirkpatrick and his team were extracting from a compound to

move back to Check Point KINGSHILL when the team came under attack from Insurgent small arms fire. A single round hit Corporal Kirkpatrick and despite immediate first aid he was sadly killed in action.

He leaves behind his wife Heidi and their 16 month-old daughter Holly.

Lieutenant Colonel Aidan Smyth TD Royal Engineers, Commanding Officer 101 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) said:

"Corporal Kirkpatrick's talent was quickly recognised: he passed his Junior Non-Commissioned Officer's Cadre in 2001 and was immediately promoted to Lance Corporal before being further promoted to Corporal in 2006. Initially posted to 101 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) as a Plant Operator, he recognised the importance of the fight against Improvised Explosive Devices in Afghanistan and volunteered for training as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Number 2.

"Corporal Kirkpatrick was an extremely professional soldier, an example to others and it is devastating that he should lose his life whilst doing the job he loved. Our thoughts are with his wife Heidi and his young daughter Holly on their tragic loss. Corporal Kirkpatrick will be sorely missed but always remembered by all ranks in 101 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)."

12th June - Queen's Birthday Honours. Peter Lobban OBE



It is today announced that an ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, CIVIL Officer (**OBE**) is awarded to Liveryman **Peter Lobban**, formerly Chief Executive, CITB-ConstructionSkills. For services to Further Education, Skills and Training.

Peter was the Chief Executive for a decade retiring in late 2009.

The Master, Wardens and all members send their hearty congratulations to Peter.

ConstructionSkills are the Sector Skills Council and Industry Training Board for the construction industry, working to deliver a safe, professional and fully qualified UK construction workforce. ConstructionSkills work with construction companies to help them improve skills to increase their competitive edge. These are difficult times for the industry. ConstructionSkills are working with employers to provide support and to help them to train through the recession so that they are prepared for the upturn when it happens.

21st to 23rd May - The Master's Weekend – Kings Lynn, Norfolk,



58 members and partners assembled at the Knights Hill Hotel, a few miles outside Kings Lynn, on Friday 21 May. Those that arrived early were fortunate as a traffic accident closed the M11 later in the day, causing long delays and diversions.



The first destination was the Royal House of Sandringham, and in the marvellous sunshine that stayed with us the whole weekend the house and gardens looked magnificent (pic).



After a stroll round the gardens we regrouped outside Sandringham Church for a conducted tour and presentation (pics above).



Next stop the house, where many chose the easy travel option of the Sandringham land train (pic above) to be delivered to the waiting guides. The House is a delight; grand enough to impress from

the outside but small enough to have a true family feel. Many of the small photographs and artefacts that lay about were of considerable interest, and the tour ended with a display of many small private possessions and memorabilia of the Royal family that have not been seen by the public before. With some difficulty we collected everyone together and got back onto the bus to the hotel.



After an excellent supper in the Hotel's banqueting Barn, Friday night was dancing night for some (pic); whatever your inclinations it was a very good and jolly party.



The following day we got back on the bus in one or other of the morning and afternoon groups and went into Kings Lynn for a guided tour of its many historical buildings. Our guide was Paul Richards (pics above) whose deep knowledge and enthusiasm made him an ideal leader.



After returning to the Hotel to dress up a little, it was back to Guildhall (pic) for a Mayoral Reception and Dinner, entertained by an excellent string quartet from Springwood High School.



The Mayor and the Master posed with their escorts in front of the Mayor's sword and mace bearers (pic), before being welcomed into dinner in the usual Livery manner. Dinner was much enjoyed, for its food, surroundings and of course, the excellent company.



On Sunday morning most of the party returned to St Margaret's in the town (pic) for morning service – which included the distraction of watching an incense swinging assistant nearly disappear in his own smoke – before returning for lunch, after which the majority set off for home.

An excellent weekend, much enjoyed by all.

TJN

24th May - Sad News of the death of Past Master Denis Blackburn and Past Master Bob Craig.



Past Master Denis Blackburn FCIQB in 1994/95

On Friday 14th May after a short illness we lost a our friend Denis. Active in The Company right up to a very short while ago including having booked into The Master's Weekend we now know of his very sad passing. A wonderful man will always a word of encouragement and advice to all.

Our prayers and thoughts go to his wife Elsie and their family.

From The Clerk:

There will be a family only crematorium service, followed at 1400 by an “open” service of thanksgiving, on 25 May. The latter is at St Paul’s Church, St Paul’s Hill, Winchester SO22 5AB. Parking is difficult, and a multi storey in Tower St, which is the opposite side of the station from the church, is recommended. Family flowers only, but donations to a cancer charity (I will get the details later) via the Undertakers, Richard Steel & Partners Ltd, Alderman House, 12-14 City Road, Winchester SO23 8SG, 01962 862333.

Tim Nicholson Clerk 01580 712657



Past Master Bob Craig FCIOB MCI Arb in 2005/06

With great sadness and tragically Bob lost his fight with cancer and died on Monday 17th May. Our great friend and dedicated member of our Livery.

Our thoughts and prayers go to Georgina and their family now and always.

From The Clerk:

I now have the funeral arrangements for Bob Craig. There will be a family only burial in the morning of Thursday 27 May, followed at 1430 by a Thanksgiving Service. Georgina and the family hope that some of Bob’s friends from the Company will be able to make it. The service will be at The Church of St Peter and St Paul and St Thomas of Canterbury, Bovey Tracey, post code TQ13 9EP.

No flowers, but donations instead to either Christ’s Hospital (Bob’s old school) or Rowcroft Hospice, Torquay where Bob spent his last few days and which Georgina reports as being marvellous. There will be a box to put donations in at the back of the Church, and cheques should be made out to one or the other of the designated charities, or they can be posted to Mrs C Elston, Torbay & District Funeral Service, Wellswood House, 11 Babbacombe Road, Torquay, Devon TQ1 3SB. If you put your name and address with the donation it will be acknowledged.

Tim Nicholson Clerk 01580 712657

We shall miss them both but they remain in your thoughts and our hearts.

If anyone would more information about arrangements please contact The Clerk.

20th May - Honorary Members - News update

At the lunch held at Vintners' Hall following the Court meeting on 5 May 2010, the Master announced that Lieutenant Colonel Aidan Smyth TD RE, Commanding Officer of 101 (CoL) Engineer Regiment (EOD)(V) – who was present with his Adjutant and RSM – had accepted the Company's invitation to become an Honorary Member.

We can now announce that we are proud the Commissioner of the City of London Police, Mike Bowron QPM, who was our Principal Guest at the Livery & Awards Dinner at Clothworkers' Hall in February, has also accepted the Company's invitation to become an Honorary Member. The head of the City of London Police traditionally holds the rank of Commissioner. With the exception of the Metropolitan Police Service, which has its own Commissioner, all other UK police forces have a Chief Constable at their head.



Mike Bowron took up the post of Commissioner in July 2006 having previously served as Assistant Commissioner for 4 years.

He joined the Sussex Police in 1980 having previously enjoyed a 4-year career in the Insurance world working for a Lloyd's broker.

He rose to the rank of Chief Superintendent in Sussex before transferring to Kent as Assistant Chief Constable in 1997, where he served for 5 years.

He has served on two overseas postings, firstly in the Czech Republic following the "Velvet Revolution" and in 2000 in Indonesia where he was tasked with separating the National Police from the Indonesian Army. He also enjoyed a posting to New Scotland yard where he was the ACPO advisor and head of the European Policy Analysis Unit.

In 1995 Mike attended the Strategic Command Course at the Police Staff College, Bramshill and is also a graduate of its Special Course. He holds an upper second Honours Degree in Sociology from Sussex University.

He is the ACPO National lead on Economic Crime as well as Business Continuity, and is also Secretary of Police Sport (UK).

He was awarded the Queens Police Medal in the Queens Birthday Honour list in 2007 and in November 2008 received an Honorary Doctorate of Science from City University. In 2007 he was appointed a Commissioner of Lieutenancy for the City of London and is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. In 2007 he graduated from the FBI National Executive Programme.

Mikes passion outside policing is athletics. He has represented the British Police cross-country team and has run a sub 3-hour marathon.

We therefore now have 4 Honorary Members, the two named above, and Lord O’Neill of Clackmannan and Rt Hon Nick Raynsford MP.



Lord O’Neill of Clackmannan

Martin John O'Neill, Baron O'Neill of Clackmannan (born 6 January 1945) is a Scottish politician. He was a Labour Member of Parliament between 1979 and 2005, representing the Clackmannan and Eastern Stirlingshire, Clackmannan and Ochil seats successively. He was a shadow defence secretary and later was Chairman of the Trade and Industry Select committee.

On 13 May 2005 it was announced that he would be created a life peer, and on 14 June 2005 was created Baron O'Neill of Clackmannan, of Clackmannan in Clackmannanshire, Scotland.

Lord O'Neill is Chairman of the Nuclear Industry Association.

He is a lifelong follower of Hibernian F.C. and was a director of the club for a few years. He is also a Distinguished Supporter of the British Humanist Association.



Rt Hon Nick Raynsford MA (Cantab) MP PC

Rt Hon Nick Raynsford MP, Deputy chairman of CIC (Chairman June 2006- June 2008).

Nick Raynsford has been the Member of Parliament for Greenwich and Woolwich since 1997 (Greenwich 1992-1997). He joined the Government in 1997 and held responsibility for housing, planning and construction as well as being Minister for London. He was Minister for Local and Regional Government in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister from 2001 to 2005. He was made a privy councillor in the 2001 New Year’s Honours.

He was Shadow Minister for Housing and Construction from 1994 and front bench spokesperson for London from 1993. He was a member of the Environment Select Committee from 1992 to 1993.

He was Member of Parliament for Fulham from 1986 to 1987 and was a councillor for the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham from 1971 to 1975.

He was Director of SHAC, the London Housing Aid Centre from 1976 to 1986, and Director of Raynsford & Morris Housing Consultants from 1987 to 1992.

Nick Raynsford is a Vice President of the Town and Country Planning Association, an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers and of the Royal Town Planning Institute. He is President of the Labour Housing Group and Chairman of the NHBC Foundation, the Fire Protection Association Council and the London Open House Supporters at Large Group. He is a Non-executive Director of Rockpools and of Hometrack.



Lieutenant Colonel Aidan Smyth TD RE

Commanding Officer of 101 (City of London) Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) (Volunteers)

Extraordinary people doing an extraordinary job. A great privilege to bind our longstanding relationship together.

18th May - Constructors City Lecture held at The City University Sponsored by Costain Plc



Professor Julius Weinberg, the Acting Vice Chancellor on left opening the evening and on right Darren James MD of Infrastructure Operations at Costain our Sponsor.

Held with the kind permission of Professor K T V Grattan FREng of The School of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences at The City University our Annual Constructors City Lecture. Sponsored by Costain Plc again this year we thank The Directors of Costain for their continued support and in particular Group Business Development Director Stephen Wells and Darren James MD of Infrastructure Operations at Costain.



This year the lecture was given by: Humphrey Cadoux-Hudson, MD New Nuclear Build EdF, on the topic of meeting the energy gap.



Here see The Master presenting Humphrey Cadoux-Hudson with a memento of the evening with all our grateful thanks.

5th May - 179th Session of the Court Vintners' Hall, Upper Thames Street, London EC4V 3BG at 1100 hours.



On the morning The Master presided over a Court Meeting of Wardens, Past Masters and Court Assistants at the 179th Court Meeting. See above The Master in the Court Room and to right Court Members Doug Barret, Past Master John Trussler and Hon Court Assistant David Rundle taking coffee before the meeting.

During the Court Meeting the following were admitted to the company:-

(Photographs of individuals to follow)

To The Livery:



Professor Rudi Klein LLB (Hons.)(Lon.) FCIOB Cert Ed SECG - Chief Executive of the Specialists Engineering Constructors` Group. (above left & left!)

Iain Meek Dip Arch (Edin) RIBA (and Independent MP candidate for Holborn & Saint Pancras!) (above left standing on right)

Nelson Ogunshakin BSc(Hons) MSc MBA CEng MICE MCIM MCI Arb MIO D - Chief Executive of the Association of Consultancy & Engineering (above right standing on right)

Jessica Taylor LLB (Hons) a partner in Trowers & Hamlins' Projects and Construction department also a member of Women in Construction. (photo to follow)

To The Freedom:



Colin Mannix MAPM ICIOB an Independent Planning Consultant.

Clinton Leeks OBE. Lately Corporate Development director, Hong Kong Airport Authority now Corporate Affairs Director of Cross London Rail Links Ltd (CLRL).

Roger Fry

Steve Brawley BA(Hons) MCMi MCIP - Chief Executive of the Joint Industry Board for the Electrical Contracting Industry



Richard Whitfield (Yeoman) with Yaeger Rolfe (Yeoman) (left photo)

Ruth Bailey MEng Oxon CEng MICE MStructE (Yeoman) a Project Manager with MACE in HK with Faye Galligan (Yeoman) (right photo)

Later during the meeting The Court were delighted to receive a detailed proposal from Past Master David Hattersley MBE BSc(Eng) FCGI FICE FCMI (who had been a serving member of this squadron) for **the company to be affiliated** with RAF 5001 Squadron based at RAF Wittering. 5001 Sqn are part of No 42 (Expeditionary Support) Wing and No 5001 Sqn provide a range of expeditionary airfield facilities, including Portable Aircraft Arrestor Gear, Temporary Working Environments, liquid oxygen and nitrogen production and environmental conditioning units. The Squadron routinely deploys around the world to provide or maintain these facilities to support deployed air operations

This proposal to invite affiliation was joyfully and proudly agreed with grateful thanks to PM Hattersley.

5th May - Court Luncheon at Vintners' Hall



Following The Court Meeting The Master moved to the Great Hall to host a well-attended Luncheon. The Master had arranged as a Guest of The Company the commanding officer of our affiliated regiment Lt Col Aidan Smyth TD, 101 (City of London) Regiment RE (EOD) (V) who attended with Captain Rob Hamilton RE and RSM (WO1) Graybrook RE all senior staff of the magnificent bomb disposal corps. Extraordinary people doing an extraordinary and essential job in protecting our troops and civilians in Afghanistan. It was a great privilege to break bread with such folk. See above The Master hosts Lt Col Smyth at lunch.



The reception before lunch was an opportunity to meet old friends and see here Past Master Bob Wharton PPCIOB PPFB who made it from Birmingham despite recent difficulties and on the stairs Court Assistant Doug Barrat with his lovely wife Lesley both on the way to lunch.



Lunch in the superb Great Hall. See here on the extreme left Master Scrivener Lee Brace and on right The Masters parents Keith and Margaret Holliday both tucking into the thoughtfully provided chocolate truffles!



For everyones enjoyment The Master had invited Mr John Bexon the Head Brewer of Greene King to provide a suitable bottled beer and to say a few words of introduction of each beer for each course.

First Course - St Edmunds (4.3%)

Main Course - Old Speckled Hen (5.2%)

Desert Strong Suffolk (6%)

Much appreciated by ALL.

Ale Conning in Vinters` Hall

The Master is one of The City Ale Conners - Elected each year on Mid Summers Day. (See side tab) and kindly arranged to "Con" a Green King beer for the luncheon.



Together with Senior Ale Conner Mr Pip ***** the following was undertaken:

Dressed in leather trousers beer is poured on wooden chairs



The Ale Conners sit in it! and gossip.



They stand after a while and proclaim the ale "Good and fit to serve!" The Master then presented a certificate to Head Brewer of Greene King Mr John Bexon.

5th May - The Royal Charter itself arrives



Following granting of our Royal Charter by HM The Queen the sealed charter arrived for us all to see. Above The Master reads the words over and Court Assistant Henry Lamb together with Court Assistant Michael Parrett also check out this wonderful document on show at Vinters Hall for a Court Meeting.

22nd April - Ladies` Banquet - Drapers` Hall

The Company`s first major event since the grant of a Royal Charter by Her Majesty The Queen.



The Master, Dr Christine Rigden together with Her Gentleman Renter Warden Mr Stephen Rigden and The Wardens Mrs Patricia Bessey Newton Senior Warden, Sir Michael Latham Middle Warden and Mr Alan Longhurst Junior Warden welcomed our guests to Drapers` Hall for our most splendid and prestigious Annual Ladies Banquet. Seen here above forming the receiving line.



Guests dined in the splendour of The Great Hall to a menu specially selected by The Master the highlight of which was a most succulent Tournedos of Beef with a wild mushroom sauce accompanied by a delicious Chateau La Fleur Carrerre Montagne St Emilion 2005. In deference to Past Master Martin White a course of Stilton Rarebit was served to end the meal.



Following the victuals, as is the tradition of The Company the Ceremony of The Loving Cup an ancient tradition of City Livery Companies was undertaken using the fine silver cups owned by The Company of Constructors. See here above Liveryman Dr Colin Rickard and Miss Victoria Rickard passing and drinking the Cup with Mrs Jean Murray and Hon Treasurer Arthur Seymour protecting Miss Rickards` back. There followed a delightful and highly enjoyable music entertainment performed by students at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama. See above Mr Paul Curievici - Tenor, Ms Lilly Popaloannou - Mezzo, Louise Lloyd - Soprano and Ms Helen Mills - Piano.



The Guests were welcomed by Mrs Patricia Bessey Newton The Senior Warden and included with their partners and as appropriate their Clerks as guests of The Company:-

Mr Richard Lawman - Master Glass Seller

Mr Roger France - Master Chartered Architect

Mr Ken Pepperell - Master Builders Merchant

Mr Adrian Sarson - Master Mason

Alderman Gordon Haines and Mrs Caroline Haines.

Following the welcome Alderman Haines spoke of the City and the achievement of achieving a Royal Charter for The Constructors Company in this year. Alderman Haines finished with the toast " The Worshipful Company of Constructors may it flourish root and branch forever"



The Master responded to all these kind words and outlined her delight at the evening. Seen here above in full flow, which included her appreciation to The Master Draper for the use of his hall and to The Clerk to The Constructors Tim Nicholson who worked so diligently and purposefully to ensure nothing was left out for everyone's enjoyment. "Another Triumph!!" they were heard to exclaimed as everyone filed out to enjoy a Stirrup Cup provided by The Master.



The Beadle, Ted Prior who does so much to ensure the smooth running of our events and Trumpeters from the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery who announced and preceded each of our speakers.

15th April - The Master attends The Worshipful Company of Management Consultants' Annual Gala Dinner



The Master and Her Gentleman Mr Stephen Rigden, Renter Warden, were guests of the Master at The Worshipful Company of Management Consultants' Annual Gala Dinner at which they raised funds for the sea cadets.

HMS President, the base for RN personnel in London, is literally next to St Katherine's, so only a very short walk from The Masters' city abode in St Katherine's Dock.



Moored alongside were two training vessels which we had the opportunity to visit.



The entertainment for the evening comprised sea cadets dancing the hornpipe, their band [playing together for the first time], and an excellent sea cadet jazz pianist aged 12.

A silent auction, and noisy auction followed, at which we were relieved of some of our hard earned cash in support of this very good cause.

13th April New Members' Lunch held at Watermen's Hall



The Master hosted another of her "New Members` Luncheon" this time at Waterman`s Hall.

Seen here above from left - The Clerk Tim Nicholson, Dr Ann Heywood, The Master, Alexandra McLaren, Stephen Rigden, Elaine Lawford, Sir Michael Latham.

It was noteworthy that the three new members present were all ladies! A good lunch was had by all.

Members are invited to note that the next NML will be held on: 9th June; New Members Lunch, OPEN TO NEW INVITED MEMBERS NO GUESTS. Butchers` Hall. Please apply to The Clerk for your seat at The Masters` Table.

8th April - Whitechapel Bell Foundry social.



Report to follow of a great success organised by Senior Steward Liveryman David Fell.

The Master reports to your unworthy web scribe "I was somewhat of a fashion victim - I chose to wear white trousers - not a lot of thought going on there as it is very much a working foundry with dirty surfaces everywhere. By trying to stand in the center of each room, and not touching anything, my trousers did manage to come out unscathed."

Sounds like a great event.

12th March - The Merchant Adventurers of York Civic Dinner



The Master and Her Gentleman Renter Warden Stephen Rigden accompanied by Hon Court Assistant Ken and Norma Kent attended a dinner in York on 23rd March all as Guests of The Governor Merchant Adventurer and Liveryman of The Constructors Dr Paul Shepherd CBE.

Dr Paul Shepherd is currently Governor of the Merchant Adventurers and is rightly proud of the Company's long history and beautiful timber framed 12th Century Hall. The dinner coincided with a three day visit to Yorkshire by the German Ambassador Mr Georg Boomgaarden [central in the photos of five standing on right above] and was co-hosted by them.

The dinner was attended by many dignitaries of York and North West - five Vice-Chancellors, Town and City Mayor's, Military Leaders and many more such is the world wide reputation of The Merchant Adventurers.

The Master reports she never seen as many gongs in one room!

The artist, David Hockney was a guest of Dr Shepherd and Mrs Norma Kent managed to get his autograph on her menu card!

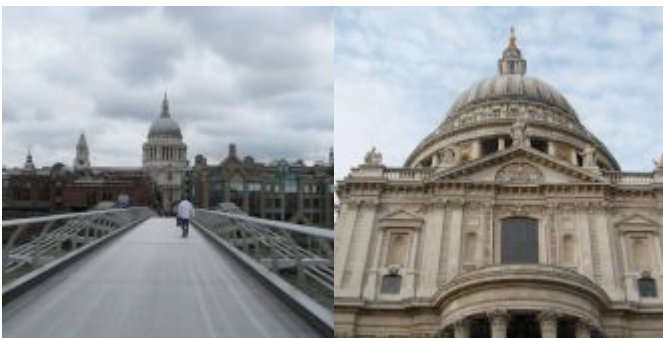
11th March - Worshipful Company of Loriners' 750th anniversary exhibition at Guildhall Art Gallery.



The Master gatefully accepted an invitation to the exhibition held in the Guildhall Art Gallery. The exhibition was opened by The Past Master Loriner The Princess Royal, with the Lord Mayor & Sheriffs in attendance.

The photo above shows The Master chatting to The Master Plaisterer & Master Tyler & Bricklayer.

10th March St Paul's Cathedral – Tour of the Crypt.



See above the members and Nelsons Tomb. On right inspecting one of the limepits used by Masons under the instruction of Wren in building St Paul's

The Master is most grateful to Andrew Hornby, Director, Project Consultancy Services, ARCADIS-AYH for his complete and thoughtful organisation of this most interesting tour for members.

In St Paul's Cathedral's 300th anniversary year, members and guests undertook a guided tour of the Crypt followed by a light supper afterwards;

A Cathedral dedicated to St Paul has stood on this site since 604AD. The current Cathedral (the fourth to occupy this site) was designed by the court architect Sir Christopher Wren and built between 1675 and 1710 after its predecessor was destroyed in the Great Fire of London. You probably already knew that, but did you also know that the crypt is the largest in Western Europe?

Unusually for a cathedral, it is also the exact footprint of the cathedral floor above. The crypt is also the cathedral's foremost burial place, and the place where those who have made an outstanding contribution to the life of the nation and of the world now rest. Sir Christopher Wren himself was fittingly the first person to be buried here, in 1723. The inscription on his burial slab states, "Reader, if you seek his memorial, look all around you."

The crypt contains over 200 memorials as well as another chapel and the treasury. There are also effigies and fragments of stone that pre-date the Cathedral, relics of a medieval world...

The evening started at The Crypt Entrance at 6 o'clock. The tour lasted approximately one hour. Afterwards the interested parties retired to a nearby watering hole where a drink and a light supper were laid on.

5th March - The Master and her Gentleman attended the Worshipful Company of Masons "Masters' Banquet" at Mansion House.

Held at Mansion House with kind permission of The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor.

The Master Mason Mr Adrian Sarson hosted this fine dinner. Attending were The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs together with their ladies. Also Honorary Court Member (of The Masons Company) HRH The Duke of Gloucester attended. Music was provided by the students of The Guildhall School of Music.



See here The Master in another new outfit - perfect for the occasion, with her Gentleman Renter Warden Stephen Rigden.

24th February - Liveryman Michael Brown presented with a CIOB President's medal

CIOB President Professor Li Shirong FCIQB presented this medal to Michael at the CIOB Annual Dinner held at The Guildhall. Michael is Deputy Chief Executive Director, Policy and External Relations at CIOB.



Michael is seen here recently at CIOB Ascot HQ hosting a visit from China where he has been largely responsible for the spread of CIOB membership in China.

17th February - The Master hosts the Annual Past Masters Luncheon. This year held at The Little Ship Club.



The Master, Dr Christine Rigden, kindly and most generously provided a champagne reception for the attending Past Masters and two Wardens. See here PM John Burrell in conversation with Hon Treasurer Arthur Seymour.



PM Martin Wade chats to Warden Sir Michael Latham and right PM John Trussler swap stories with PM Denis Blackburn.



Before lunch PM John Robson and The Clerk Tim Nicholson (recovering from a minor hand operation) enjoy The Masters` champagne. On the right PM David Hattersley MBE perhaps explaining the details of his other role as Secretary of The Charitable Trust to Warden Stephen Rigden.



Above the detailed discussion on our Royal Charter celebrations and the future good health of The Company. PM Martin Wade, to whom we are most grateful for his foresight and determination in driving the company in the direction of seeking a Royal Charter addresses the meeting on details of our grant.

Others attended not in photos were PM Peter Knight & IPM Roger Adcock

16th February Shrove Tuesday - Guildhall Yard Pancake Races



The Master reports: "The weather was awful, raining all morning, but I managed to improve my performance of a couple of years ago. We were entered in the Wooden Spoon race, along with 5 other Livery Companies. I won heat two, and then ran against the Insurers Company Athletes in the final. Unfortunately, I was then well beaten. The races are organised by the Poulterers Company; this was the eighth event. A buffet lunch, and opportunity to dry out, followed in the Guildhall Crypt.

Renter Warden Stephen Rigden was our team leader (watching sheltering from the rain) and PM David & Betty Hattersley also attended to cheer me on [and Arthur Seymour earlier in the morning].

Each team is made up of four members, usually from one of the traditional livery companies (trade guilds). Teams taking part may include air pilots/navigationers, butchers, chartered surveyors, clockmakers, cooks, constructors, cutlers, distillers, environmental cleaners, farmers, farriers, founders, fruiterers, fuellers, gunmakers, Mansion House, musicians, Old Bailey, poulterers, remembrances, tax advisors and turners.

The cooks from Cook & Butler cook pancakes, Gunmakers start the races, clockmakers check the times and Sheriff Peter Cook this year made a speech.

This event raises money for the Lord Mayor's chosen charity (note that a new Lord Mayor is elected each year).

Members requiring even more info should see the superb web site record of Cook and Butler www.thecookandthebutler.co.uk/Clients/Pancake%20Races/city_inter-livery_pancake_races_2010.htm

11th February - Honorary Court Assistant David Rundle RIBA FCIOB PPASI PPFB (Seen here in photo with his wife Ann) writes to The Clerk:-



"Tim

I have now founded a new Photographic Section in the City Livery Club. We are going to run a photographic competition and of course we need judges. I have been asked if I can find someone from the Constructors, not necessarily a member of the City Livery Club. Please can you circulate members and ask them if they are interested.

If you are able to do this please ask for the replies to be sent, preferably by e-mail, direct to me.

Regards

David Rundle

david.rundle3@btinternet.com"

Anyone wishing to apply please contact David directly.

10th February - Livery & Awards Dinner. The Master Dr Christine Rigden together with The Wardens & Court of Assistants hosted 180 liverymen and guests to the Livery and Awards Dinner in the fabulous Clothworkers` Hall in the City.

Official Photographs from Gerald Sharp photography at www.sharpphoto.co.uk – gallery – livery company – constructors awards dinner; view and order photos.

This being the first time the Constructors Company had dined in Clothworkers` Hall. An inspired choice by The Master for both the mid afternoon Court Meeting at which new Freeman and New Liverymen were admitted and the magnificent dinner which followed.

The Master hosted many company guests who included:

City of London Police Commissioner Mr Mike Bowron QPM



Vice President of The Chartered Institute of Building Mr James Wates FCIQB (We did not know on the evening but on 11th February Mr James Wates has been announced as the new chairman of the CITB Construction Skills Board seen here being welcomed by The Master. Mr Wates takes over from our Middle Warden Sir Michael Latham on 1st April. Sir Michael steps down after eight years in the role).

Master of The Worshipful Company of Plaisterers Mr Robert Dalrymple and his Clerk Ms Hilary Machtus

Master of The Worshipful Company of Paviers Mr Andrew Panter DL and his Clerk Mr John White

Master of The Worshipful Company of Chartered Surveyors Mr Laurence Johnstone FRICS

Master of The Worshipful Company of Actuaries Mr Adrian Waddingham and his Clerk Mr David Johnson

Master of The Worshipful Company of Lightmongers Mr Hugh Ogus

Major Caroline Eyre Officer Commanding 221 Field Squadron RE (EOD) who served on bomb disposal in Iraq.

Staff Sergeant Mr Richard May of 221 Field Squadron RE (EOD) who has served on bomb disposal in Iraq and Afghanistan now Winner of The Shafting & Shoring Trophy.

SSgt May – Winner of the Shafting and Shoring Cup and member of 221 Fd Sqn (EOD)(V)

Staff Sergeant May enlisted in the Territorial Army at Chatham in October 1988, attending and passing the Recruit Training Course in March 1989. He qualified as a Bomb Disposal Engineer Class 1 in July 1997. He was promoted to Staff Sergeant after successful completion of the Royal Engineers Senior NCOs Course in September 2007. He is a member of 221 Field Squadron Royal Engineers.

Staff Sergeant May was mobilised for a second time in December 2008 for service in Afghanistan, with 58 Field Squadron (EOD). He deployed to Helmand Province in March 2009 as a Bomb Disposal Officer leading a Conventional Munitions Disposal team comprising both Regular and TA soldiers. His team conducted numerous disposal operations across Helmand Province. During his 6 months in Afghanistan he provided expert EOD assistance to the Immediate Response Team, on standby 24hrs a day to deploy by helicopter anywhere in the province to provide front line medical assistance and evacuation. His team was also employed at numerous Forward Operating Bases supporting front line infantry units. He deployed for a number of weeks during Operation Panther's Claw, providing EOD support during the offensive against the Taliban launched in the run up to the Afghan National Elections.

Staff Sergeant May returned to the UK in October 2009 and following a period of leave returned to work just before Christmas. He is employed by Network Rail as a Project Manager based in London and lives with his wife Christine and their children in Sittingbourne.

Ms Faye Galligan Winner of Constructors Prize

Mr James Anwyl - Constructors Scholar

Ms Yaeger Rolfe Winner of The David Tong Cup



Above see The Master & Wardens receiving line.



Left: Liveryman Professor Barry Symons, Senior Steward Mr David Fell and Dr Gheorghe Multescu Course Director for Surveying & MBA at LSBU.

Right; Liverymen Mr Mark Evelyn-Wood and Mr Phillip Wynn all enjoy a pre dinner chat on meeting old friends.



The Master leads the procession in accompanied on her right by Mr Mike Bowron QPM



Liverymen and Guests arrive in The Great Hall for Dinner



Left; The Master with Mr Mike Bowron QPM (who proposed the toast to The Company "May it flourish root and branch forever") and to his left The Senior Warden Mrs Patricia Newton RIBA.



Left; Mr Richard Newton (Gentleman of The Senior Warden) and Steward Liveryman Mr Julian Kent with The Loving Cup.

Right: The Master helpfully arranged and generously supplied a Stirrup Cup for a jolly time to end a simply superb evening. See here Freeman Mr Paul Fletcher with his guest Ms Dianna Floud of ADP Architects, Steward Liveryman Mr Jon Coles and Court Assistant Mr Artin Hovsepian.



Our Scholars and Prize Winners respond to "Taking Wine with The Master". Including Ms Yaeger Rolfe BSc Hons, David Tong Cup; James Anwyl, Sustainability Scholar; Tom Baldwin, Sir Ian Dixon Scholar; Lydia Ingram, the Master's Apprentice; Ms Faye Galligan BSc Hons, Constructors' Prize; together with Andrew Read, Freeman and former apprentice. Clearly a nice end of the table sprig to sit on.

Middle Warden Sir Michael Latham DL proposed the toast to The Guests



The Masters' favourite and personal selection for all: "Caribbean sunset layered with mango and pineapple Malibu fool and passion fruit jelly. (if you were not there see what you missed!)

At 2300hrs members cleared the hall with many happy memories of a wonderful occasion and with grateful thanks to our Master Dr Christine Rigden and our Clerk Mr Tim Nicholson for their attention to every detail leaving nothing aside for our comfort and enjoyment.

10th February - Constructors Court Meeting held at Clothworkers' Hall in The City of London

At the Court Meeting held prior to The Livery Dinner The Master Clothed new Liveryman



Mr Mike Nestor clothed as a new Liveryman



The Master then admitted new Freeman Ms Theresa Mohammed and Mr Greg Callaghan.

6th February - Liveryman Paul May breaks radio silence to report in on his trip from Antigua West Indies to Rio Brazil sailing his Oyster 45 Yacht "Taboo of St Helier".



Antigua to Rio (hard to pick between).



Taboo of St Helier racing in the Antigua Oyster Week 2009



Liveryman Paul May (center Pirate) having caught tea a fine 30lb Dorada.

Paul has a blog of his trip that members may wish to view on www.travelpod.com/travel-blog/yachttaboo/1/tpod.html He left West Indies on 5th January and is now off Salvador Brazil.

Paul writes to say he is attending our 10th March event at St Pauls` Crypt so much for him to tell us all.

Travel safely.

3rd February - Lord Mayor & Livery Company Masters visit Treloars School in Alton Hampshire.



The Master and her Gentleman Stephen, along with around twenty other Livery Masters and their partners, visited Treloars School & College on 3rd February as part of the Lord Mayor's annual visit. Treloars was founded over a hundred years ago by Lord Mayor Treloar and continues to enjoy the support of the City of London. The school and college provide education and training, as well as medical support, on both a boarding and day basis to some of the country's most severely handicapped children and young people. The visit was an uplifting one for all who participated, as the youngsters all seemed to be happy and confident, and very keen to show off the excellent facilities at Treloars.

27th January - WCoC/CIOB/Happold Trust Sustainability Scholarship Presentation at London South Bank University



Sustainability Scholar, James Anwyl, presented his research findings as part of a one day conference organised by the London Branch of the CIOB on sustainability. The Master, Dr Christine Rigden, introduced James and the scholarship to those present.

James' made an excellent and thought provoking presentation entitled "Sustainable Construction: Driven by market forces, not by regulation", concentrating on how to incentivise sustainable construction in the UK by learning from other European countries, and on the findings of cases of Eco Housing developments and planning permission issues.

Following his presentation and a question and answer session, James was presented with a medal inscribed with the names of the three sponsors of the Sustainability Scholarship: The Worshipful Company of Constructors, the CIOB, and the Happold Trust.

Also in attendance from the WCoC were Past Master David Hattersley, and Freeman Dr Sarah Peace and John Abbott.

Photos above show James in full presentation mode and right Bridget Boreham, Chief Operating Officer, CIOB with James and The Master.

In late 2006, James was approached by the Company of Constructors regarding the Happold Scholarship, a scholarship for promising graduates specialising in Sustainability and Construction. James was selected as a result of the design of the Lowhouse and how it was developing one of the first Code Level 6 homes. When it didn't get planning, (because the planners hadn't heard of the Code yet!), James started to research other cases of eco housing developments not being awarded planning. His findings were alarming and he slowly put together a number of pieces of a complex jigsaw that explained the lack of sustainable construction in the UK.

20th January - The Sir Ian Dixon Scholarship Awards Presentation Evening



The 2008/09 Sir Ian Dixon Scholarship Awards presentation evening (hosted jointly by Kingerlee and Laing O'Rourke) was held at The Royal College of Pathologists SW1. This annual Scholarship funded by Lady Dixon was first awarded in 1998. It is a joint initiative between the Chartered Institute of Building and The Worshipful Company of Constructors. The Scholarship is designed to recognise exceptional emerging talent within the construction industry.

The most recent scholars to complete their research and 10,000 word research paper presented to an invited audience of industry leaders.

Firstly Tom Baldwin BSc (Hons) ICIOB a 26 year old Section Manager with Kingerlee of Oxford who is working on his current contract Kendrew Quadrangle project for St. John's College in Oxford. His subject was **"An investigation into the Economic and Environmental Impacts of Site Waste Management plans in the UK Construction Industry"**. Then followed Steven Sanzone BSc, MSc, ICIOB a 25 year old trainee construction manager for Laing O'Rourke who is working on his current contract at Glasgow Caledonian University. Steven's subject was **"The Impact of an Organisation's Culture upon Musculoskeletal Disorders within the UK Construction Industry"**

Both papers were exceptional and extremely well received by the audience.

Dr Sarah Peace, CIOB Scholarship and Research Manager commented, "Tom and Steven have identified excellent research findings which are of great benefit to the industry. Both presentations

were extremely professional and the Chartered Institute of Building and the Worshipful Company of Constructors are very proud of what they have achieved.”

See above photos: From Left: Liveryman and Court Assistant Bob Heathfield PPCIOB who has mentored both scholars over eighteen months launches off the evening and acted as MC. Next Tom Baldwin, Steven Sanzone in kilt at the lectern and to the right both scholars with Lady Dixon.



Questions from Liveryman Professor Roger Venables (standing behind Mr Mark Dixon who created and engraved the beautiful award icons) and in right photo a question from Liveryman Andrew Hornby sitting next to Liveryman Mike Threadgold with Past Master John Robson and Bridget Boreham Chief Operating Officer of CIOB just behind.



To open the evening Michael Puttick Managing Director Kingerlee Ltd introduced the upcoming scholars

To complete the evening short presentations were made from:



Andy Crompton, Business Unit Leader for Construction North, Laing O'Rourke who thanked both scholars and his own employee for hitting an important spot on Health & Safety.



And from Alan Crane CBE FCIQB Vice President - The Chartered Institute of Building. Who set the scholarships in the context of the wider industry.



Then from our Master Dr Christine Rigden who outlined the scholarship in importance to the industry and reminded the company have 10 scholars in the pipeline.



Finally after all the excitement and awards the Scholars with Alan Crane and Christine Rigden joined Bob Heathfield and Lady Dixon for a final photograph.

20th January - The Master hosts a New Members Luncheon.

The Master hosted a new members' lunch at Butchers' Hall on 20th January, supported by the Middle Warden, Renter Warden and Clerk. An excellent carvery of forerib of beef was enjoyed by all [although Michael did ask if there was vegetarian]. Six recent members of the Company attended: Andrew Crispin, Jonathan Bowcott, Francis Murray, Roger Venables, Matt Rawson and Henry Mayes.



The photos show, from left to right:

Professor Roger Venables, Matt Rawson, Henry Mayes, Stephen Rigden, Sir Michael Latham, The Master, Francis Murray, Andrew Crispin, Tim Nicholson and on extreme right Jonathan Bowcott.

18th January - The Master attends "Arts For All " Urban Diversity Exhibition and Auction.



The Master attended the "Urban Diversity" Exhibition by Arts for All on Monday 18th January at The Dickens Inn, St Katherine Docks. Arts For All is an East London based children's charity supported by our Charitable Trust.

Many of the children were present, with their works and were very happy to talk about them to viewers and perspective purchasers. The Master purchased one of the paintings; an ink on canvas depiction of The Dickens Inn. The artist is Ishtyra, aged 12, and it was his fifth exhibition with Arts For All.

At the end of the exhibition an auction was held of various items donated for the event. The Master bid for several items, and was successful in purchasing a couples of bottles - one of 1977 vintage port."

Members will know of the involvement of The Company in supporting Arts for All especially through the drive and determination of our Past Master Peter Knight.

12th January - The Master attends the Plaisterers' Annual Masters & Clerks Dinner at Plaisterers' Hall



Our Master Dr Christine Rigden continues her life in The City post Christmas with The Plaisterers' Annual Masters & Clerks dinner at Plaisterers' Hall on 12th January. Our Master attended with our Clerk Tim Nicholson, and were entertained perfectly and graciously by The Master Plaisterer Mr Robert Dalrymple (see above welcoming Dr Rigden)

This Annual event kindly hosted by The Worshipful Company of Plaisterers number 46 in precedence and with a Royal Charter dating to 1501. The Hall itself is one of the largest in the City capable to seating up to 275. Of particular note in The Hall is where our Master dined: The Great Hall; the centrepiece of the venue, where the decorations and plasterwork are seen at their grandest and which features a Minstrels' Gallery at one end. The mouldings are of the original Hall made from original hardwood moulds: quite unique and a delight.

9th January - International Liveryman Christine Gausden



Liveryman Christine Gausden RD FCIOB is now Chair of The Chartered Institute of Building Dubai Centre. Christine moved to the Middle East from Gleeds Project Management to work on the booming Dubai Market and now tells the story of the commercial changes in this region.

Christine reports to us "Numerous personnel have departed Dubai and several sites have literally ground to a halt and not even received a proper close out. We are all seeking work opportunities here in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Oman." However there is Optimism for the region now Abu Dhabi injected \$10bn to help pay off debt.

Members will note Christine's RD award. She served as a RNVR Officer lately at HMS President (London) where as a Lt Commander she undertook, amongst other duties, senior roles in the organisation of The Lord Mayor's Parade. HMS President (London) has over 220 Officers and Ratings and is based immediately upriver on the north bank beside Tower Bridge only a hop and skip to our Master's yacht moored in St Katherine's Dock.

The Royal Naval Reserve Decoration (RD) is awarded to officers in the Royal Naval Reserve after 15 years service.

22nd January - Liveryman Professor Barry Symonds retires from London South Bank University



At the end of January Liveryman Barry Symonds MSc. FRICS. FCIOB. FEng. ACIAT. Senator h c. (Biberach an der Riss) retires from his role as Head of Department for Property Surveying & Construction at London South Bank University. (Faculty of Engineering Science & the Built Environment). The Department has over 1000 students (60% postgraduate) involved in a wide variety of property & construction related programmes, serving London & International markets.

Barry has developed his department into one of the leading construction faculties. LBSU courses are considered to be some of the best in London. They achieve this by continually developing their content to reflect today's industry needs and challenge our students to be truly innovative. Astonishingly Barry and his Faculty have always been at the forefront of surveying and reflect this still today by training 1 in 12 of the world's surveyors!

Of particular note has been the very kind invitation of Barry, over the past few years, for The Master to present the course MBA certificates in Germany for the MBA International Real Estate Management course. The programme is jointly provided by the Bauakademie Biberach an der Riss (Germany), Department of the Built Environment at London South Bank University, and Wüest and Partner, one of Switzerland's most renowned companies in the field of property consulting. (See items in previous year News Sections).

Barry worked in private practice as a quantity surveyor, both in the UK and overseas, for over 20 years before entering Academia (1982). He has held roles of course director in surveying courses and developed numerous undergraduate & post graduate programmes. He has travelled extensively overseas and carried out visiting lecturer & external examiner roles in Malaysia, Singapore, China, HK, UAE, Sarawak, Brunei, Sabah, Jamaica and New Zealand, where he worked for five years.

In the UK his work with the RICS has included Chairmanship of the Essex Branch in the 1990s and a period of 3 Years on the QS Divisional Council.

Barry, a Fluent German speaker, remains one of our most generous and engaging hosts who now looks to be developing his interests into external international examining duties.

Wednesday 9th December - Court Meeting followed by Lunch and Carol Service

Court Meeting - Vintners' Hall

The Constructors' Court met at Vintners' Hall on 9 December. Business conducted included the granting of The Freedom of The Company to new Freeman Jonathan Bowcott, Keith Bishop, Edward Hardy, John Abbott, Jonathan Cope and Keith Mayes and Dr Colin Rickard and Ajay Nehra, where Clothed by The Master as New Liverymen of The Company.



This photo showing our two New Liverymen with New Freeman from left; Jonathan Bowcott BSc (Hons) MRICS ACI Arb, Managing Director MBM Consulting Ltd, Construction Consultancy, Keith Bishop C Eng MICE MCI OB MRICS, Construction Director, Kier Regional Ltd., Dr Colin Rickard MA PhD FRICS, Director of Projects for Royal Marsden NHS Trust and Surveyor to The Building Fabric of The Royal College of Physicians London, Edward Hardy Chief Executive Officer of The Considerate Contractors Scheme, Ajay Nehra Owner/CEO AJ Business Centres Ltd, John Abbott B Eng (Tech) C Eng MICE MCI OB, Director, Kier London Ltd, Jonathan Cope BSc (Hons) FRICS FCI OB MCI Arb MAE Barrister, Director MCMS Ltd, Legal and Technical consultants.



New Freeman Keith Mayes BA Marketing MCIM, Business Development Manager of Malson, an M&E Design Consultancy.



New Liverymen Dr Colin Rickard and Ajay Nehra seen after Clothing by The Master at Court.

9th December - Livery Luncheon

The Vintners' Company is one of the Great Twelve Companies, and their Hall is full of wine memorabilia, and is a splendid place to have a pre Christmas lunch with friends and colleagues.

The Master introduced Lord O'Neill of Clackmannan (seen sitting to the right of The Master) to The Court and The Members at luncheon as one of our new Honorary Members.

By coincidence of timing on 12th December The Nuclear Industry Association (NIA) announced Lord O'Neill of Clackmannan has been appointed chairman.

The veteran Labour MP and member of the Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology said he was relishing the challenge at such a vital time for the UK civil nuclear industry.

“We are at a crucial point for the future of the UK’s energy mix with real and challenging issues over delivering security of supply and a low-carbon future for Britain,” he said.

Lord O'Neill has been a member of the upper house since 2005 and currently sits on the Select Committee for Science and Technology and is vice-chair of the All Party Group on Energy Studies. Prior to that, he was a Labour MP from 1979 - 2005. During this time, he chaired the Trade and Industry Select Committee for 10 years from 1995 and was a member of the Liaison Committee from 1997 - 2005. Lord O'Neill was educated at the Heriot-Watt University and Moray House College, Edinburgh. He is married with two sons.



In addition The Master welcomed our new Company Chaplain. An important decision of the Court has been the appointment of the Reverend Canon David Parrott, the new incumbent of St Lawrence Jewry, as the Company’s Honorary Chaplain. He succeeds the Rev. Dr David Burgess and The Master was delighted to be able to introduce David Parrott to the members assembled.



Seen here above Revd Canon David Parrott as the new Guild Vicar of St Lawrence Jewry, on Gresham Street, is the official Church of the City of London Corporation and the Lord Mayor of London. The church dates from the 12th Century, and having been destroyed in the Great Fire of London was rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren. It suffered serious damage in the Blitz during the Second World War, but was again reconstructed to Wren's design.



The Hall was filled with Members and their guests for luncheon prior to proceeding to St Lawrence Jewery of the Carol Service.

9th December - Carol Service



The Service was of traditional style with carols and lessons, with anthems from St Lawrence's excellent choir all chosen by The Master. The Service started at 4.00 pm and was open to all members and their guests whether or not they can attend the lunch.

A collection for CRASH, the construction industry's homeless charity, was taken in the Church.

Friday 28th November - Master updates The Membership with her activities since her Installation:-

The beginning of the Livery year (October 14th - See News item below) has been a busy one with 16 events attended in addition to our own committee meetings and social events. Since Installation, The Master has attended nine banquets, five of which with her Gentleman. Of these, six were Livery events [Glass Sellers, Builders Merchants, Environmental Cleaners, Joiners & Ceilers, Paviers, Basketmakers]. Other dinners were 101 Regiment Royal Engineers [EOD] [V] Regimental Dinner at RAF Northolt, and the Society of Construction Arbitrators' Dinner.



The Master seen here being greeted by The Master Environmental Cleaner at thier Ladies Banquet held in the beautiful Drapers` Hall. (Seen here on Gerald Sharp draft photos displayed for drafting) purposes.

Other functions include the City's Garden of Remembrance Service at St Paul's Cathedral, the Silent Ceremony at Guildhall, the Lord Mayor's Show, the Lord Mayor's briefing for Masters and Clerks, lunch with the judges at the Old Bailey, the Red Cross Xmas Market Preview, and the CIOB London Branch Anniversary Event.

In addition, the first event of the Livery year was attended by the Master's Gentleman: a Modern Liveries' Mistresses Lunch.

Thursday 26th November - the Building Crafts College Annual Prizegiving in Carpenters` Hall at the invitation of The Master and Wardens of The Worshipful Company of Carpenters.

Members will know we not only support graduate professionals in events like TEAMBUILD but also the most important craft skills. We award TWO prizes to students each year studying at The Building Crafts College at Stratford. Supported by the Worshipful Company of Carpenters, the College offers excellent facilities, expert tutors, eminent visiting lecturers and very supportive staff. Our modern purpose-built college, now extended for September 2008, offers an excellent environment for study.



The College (see above inside photo of Carpentry Workshop area) was founded in 1893. For over 100 years we operated from the site of the original Building Crafts Training School, located in central London, before moving in 2001 to a brand new, and much larger building in Stratford, East London. Demand for our courses has grown so rapidly that already a further extension has been planned.

They offer full-time, advanced craft Diploma and specialist conservation options for students who come to the College from all parts of the United Kingdom.

The College offers apprenticeship programmes for students employed by specialist companies in bench joinery, shopfitting and the stonemasonry industries. These students normally attend at College in short blocks of two weeks at a time, interspersed with six or seven weeks work experience with their employers. The excellent transport links to Stratford mean that students can easily travel to the College each day from most parts of Greater London and the Home Counties.

More locally, the College provides craft training options for local schools and courses in basic skills for construction for adults changing career or returning to work. Taken together, these courses open up opportunities for residents in East London who wish to learn the skills needed to gain employment in the large number of major construction projects in the Thames Gateway, including the 2012 Games.

The Immediate Past Master Roger Adcock (who sat with The Master Mason) and Liveryman Jon Coles attended representing The Master Constructor and Clerk. They enjoyed seeing our awards being presented and followed by a most convivial and generous reception mixing with VIPs, Apprentices and thier parents.

In front of an invited audience apprentices from Build Crafts College received thier prizes for excellence in Carpentry & Joinery and Masonry Craft



In the superb Carpenters` Hall Apprentices with thier Parents, friends and partners assembled for the prizes to be Major General Keith Cina, CB RE. Resident Governor HM Tower of London who kindly presented each prize and spoke afterwards to conclude the evening. Major General Cina was born in 1951, educated at Ranelagh School, Bracknell, and Brasenose College, Oxford. He was commissioned into the Royal Engineers in October 1974. He commanded Royal Engineer units at troop, squadron and regimental level, with service in Northern Ireland, Germany, Belize and Africa . He attended the Royal College of Defence Studies in 1996, and returned there as Senior Directing Staff in 2002.



Worshipful Company of Constructors Prize for Best Performing 2nd Year Bench Joinery Student was won by James Hibbert employed by James Johnson & Co Ltd.



Worshipful Company of Constructors Prize for Best Performing 3rd Year Wood Occupations Student was won by Neil Strasman employed by Fermot Kitchens



Worshipful Company of Joiners & Ceilers for Best Performing 2nd Year Joinery Apprentice was won by Adam Skinner employed by The Immediate Past Master Roger Adcock and Liveryman Jon Coles` Company Killby & Gayford Ltd.



Worshipful Company of Joiners & Ceilers Craft Competition Winner was won by Luke Ireson employed by The Immediate Past Master Roger Adcock and Liveryman Jon Coles` Company Killby & Gayford Ltd.

Friday 20th through to Sunday 22nd afternoon - TEAMBUILD at Enysham Hall Oxon

Young construction professionals solved a real-life construction challenge to scoop The Constructors £1,500 prize.



Teambuild 2009, (www.teambuilduk.com) sponsored by ConstructionSkills, challenged teams to plan and design the development of a new civic centre in South London. Now in its eighteenth year, the competition 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.

This years competitors represented 45 top employers. After a gruelling pre-qualification selection, nine teams of six members were invited to a weekend-long final event at Eynsham Hall in Oxfordshire. The selected teams were given a brief based on a real site, presenting a masterplan on

the opening evening. Several quick-fire challenges spread over an intense weekend took them right through the design process, finishing with the construction stage.

Team rEvolve, all working for BDP in London, took the overall prize at the finals. Team member Emma Coxall, exhausted but delighted by their win, said: "I loved the way our team pulled together and communicated in the short time frames we were given. The experience re-energises the passion that can sometimes be lost in the real world."

rEvolve were presented with a £1500 prize from Roger Adcock, Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Constructors. The team was commended for showing excellent group dynamics, skills in co-ordination, integration, presentation and leadership in what was a very closely fought competition.

The judges' discretionary prize of £1000, awarded to the runner-up team was awarded by Freeman of The Company Richard Schofield (Richard is also past Chairman of the RICS PM Professional Group) to Multiplicity, a team hailing from Buro Happold, Corderoy, and Foster+Partners in London, for their consistent efforts over the weekend and for coming a close second overall. Tom Reynolds, the cost consultant for Multiplicity, said "I entered the competition because I wanted to see how other professions work and deal with design issues. We've had a fantastic weekend, being put under intense pressure, but the greatest prize is learning from each other."

The winner of the procurement strategy prize was East Midlands- based Totus, who received a £1250 prize from Ronnie Murning on behalf of the prize sponsor, the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects. The team all work for Arup in different offices.

James O'Donnell of Totus said after the weekend: "This was an excellent CPD event. I am surprised it is not compulsory for all young professionals in our industry!"

The competition is supported by professional built environment Institutions, employers, ConstructionSkills, the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects and the Worshipful Company of Constructors, among others. We are indebted to John Laing and EPR Architects, who generously provided the site briefing information said Yeoman Member of The Company Alex MacLaren who is Joint Chair of The Working Party and a Director of Teambuild.



The winning team with Chairman of Teambuild and Past Master Richard Rooley supported by Past Master Roger Adcock

Thursday 19th November - Freeman of The Company Alexandra MacLaren wins Constructing Excellence Awards 09 - "G4C Champion" Award



Alexandra seen here above with Chair of the G4C, David Whysall (a Senior Cost Manager at T&T) on her left and on her right is Vaughan Burnand, Chairman of Constructing Excellence and ex CEO of Shepherd Construction. The group photo shows Building Excellence award winners.

Architect RIBA Member and Yeoman of The Company Alexandra won this award, for the "Best contribution by a young professional to improving collaboration, sustainability or the 'change agenda' in the Construction Industry". The awards dinner was at Lord Cricket Ground on Thursday evening. On accepting her award Alex said "The subject is also relevant as the 'industry collaboration' agenda is one of the principal reasons I was keen to become part of the WCC- because of the opportunities it offers for increasing collaboration, understanding, and (a personal favourite of mine) engaging in Education of our young professionals."

The Master passed her appreciation to Alex noting how many ladies in the industry were such "High Flyers".

G4C is part of Constructing Excellence, and we share joint aims. Following CE's lead in collaborative practice we seek to harness the power of new people in the industry to make changes for the better and improve the way we work together. We are open to anyone looking to join the industry, or in the early stages of their career in the built environment sector. We have a board of around 16 people who meet monthly to plan G4C initiatives and events through which we communicate to our peer group. Please read on to find out more on why you should get involved in G4C.

Members of The Constructors will immediately see the relationship with our aims and that of G4C in that we are the only multi disciplinary Livery Company in the Construction or Built Environment Industry.

Alex is partner in a small architecture and project management firm, WyattMaclaren LLP, based in Hackney, London. She is founder of engineroom llp, a multi-disciplinary building design consultancy, and she teaches at Brighton University. She is also an accredited RIBA Client Design Advisor for education and community projects

WELL DONE ALEX!

Saturday 14th November - The Lord Mayor`s Show 2009

For this year`s show the Company has teamed up with The Chartered Institute of Building, the international voice of building professionals, which is celebrating 175 years of commitment to achieving and maintaining the highest standards in construction.

The Master made these arrangements for us and here follows the report from the streets of The City:-



The Lord Mayor The Rt Hon Nicholas John Anstee at the start of the day with The Sheriffs and Pageant Master



The Lord Mayor with Sheriff Peter Cook



The Lord Mayors` Coach in the parade.

(Screen grabs from Lord Mayor Parade 2009 on BBC iPlayer used here for drafting only)





The Master Constructor with her supporters and members in the parade.



The CIOB / WCC Float in the parade together with CIOB & Livery members. We particularly thank Liverymen Andrew Hornby & Mike Threadgold for a very significant input. Andrew mustered the troops and Mike provided the lorry float from his business and wore the "Ivor Goodsite" outfit kindly loaned by The Considerate Contractors Scheme!!



www.youtube.com/watch = You Tube Video posted by Elizabeth Toni (to whom the Constructors are grateful but as yet without her permission - being sought when we can make contact if not given will be removed) shows our group in the first minute of showing and Ivor Goodsite at work! Thank you Elizabeth.



Corney & Barrow in Paternoster Sq was gathering for lunch and Little Ship Club gathering for cancelled fireworks! Oh well it was warm and wet outside!

The history of the Lord Mayor's Show dates back to 1215, when King John granted a charter allowing the citizens of London to elect their own mayor.

Every year since, the newly elected Mayor has travelled from the City of London to Westminster to pledge allegiance to the Crown.

This year marks the 794th Lord Mayor's Show, and these days it is more of a celebration than a show of loyalty. Join in the fun as around half a million people turn out to watch as the colourful procession travels 1.7 miles (2.7km) across London.

The Master lead our float together with The Chartered Institute of Building in this year's The Lord Mayor's Show:- In dreadful weather the procession set off at 11am from Mansion House to the Royal Courts of Justice, where the Lord Mayor takes an oath of allegiance to the sovereign before the Lord Chief Justice and the judges of the Queen's Bench Division. The procession started on the return journey from Victoria Embankment at 1 o'clock and returned to the Mansion House at 2.30pm. The procession filled the whole area between Bank and Aldwych. Sadly the awful weather in London on the day caused the fireworks to be cancelled.

Constructors, and their families and friends turned out to watch the parade, and to get together at our especially reserved watering hole during the day for refreshments and lunch, before gathering in the Little Ship Club to console themselves over the cancellation of the fireworks. However a warm and dry venue at Corney & Barrow (10, Paternoster Square), was very much appreciated. Liveryman Andrew Hornby (ably supported with his son Edward) both walked in the parade and hosted the Corney and Barrow venue for Walkers and Watchers alike.

Photographs show The Master, with Senior Warden Patricia Newton, walking in front of the stunning CIOB float together with CIOB staff and members together with Liverymen of The Company.

The CIOB are celebrating 175 years this year and an entry on the LMS together with staff and members proved a great success.

NEXT YEAR the Lord Mayor's Show is on Saturday 13th November - pop it in your diary.
www.lordmayorsshow.org/

Friday 13th November - Silent Ceremony - Guildhall



The Master with Her Gentleman, Renter Warden Mr Stephen Rigden attended The Silent Ceremony sitting in The Constructors seats in Guildhall.

The Lord Mayor is formally admitted to office in November, the day before the Lord Mayor's Show. The ceremony is known as the Silent Ceremony because, apart from a short declaration of office by the incoming Lord Mayor, no words are spoken. The outgoing Lord Mayor ceremonially hands the City insignia to his successor.

Guildhall is the City of London's City Hall and is the seat of the Lord Mayor and the Court of Aldermen. The present building dates in parts back to 1439, although it was severely damaged in both the Great Fire and World War 11.

Thursday 12th November John Wilson - Lunchtime Lecture at National Army Museum



Liveryman John Wilson presented his lunchtime lecture at The National Army Museum (www.national-army-museum.ac.uk) A Woman! A Soldier. in the Art Gallery to a large audience which included The Master and her Gentleman together with other members. A most interesting argument over the role and the future of women in the armed services.

John Wilson is a member of the Press and P.R. Branch of the National Union of Journalists with interests in Defence, Sport and Equality issues. He was a contributor to the 1998 Strategic Defence Review. He is a member of the Royal Institute of International Affairs. (Chatham House).
www.chathamhouse.org.uk

John walked with the Constructors float in the Lord Mayor's Parade.

Monday 9th November - Constructors Site Visit the construction of the 2012 Park.

Court Assistant Artin Hovespian has been able to secure an exclusive look around the Olympics Site for Members of The Company.

The event was well attended by 30 members who were fortunate enough to be drawn from a ballot as the event was substantially over subscribed.



We were very lucky (as Constructors are) with the weather as it was a clear sunny but rather chilly day which showed off the site in its full glory. The afternoon commenced with a very detailed presentation by Mr Mark Reynolds (Deputy Programme Director) explaining the principles, targets, challenges and progress of delivering such a high profiled project. The stats were mind boggling and it was very encouraging to hear that the construction is on programme with completion planned for 2011, one year ahead of the games, a true reflection of the efficiency of our industry in the UK.



Following the presentation we headed off on a coach to see the site. The planning and logistics can only be explained as entering a self contained town. What was obvious was how efficiently people were moving and working around the site. The construction was just as impressive with the Velodrome, Media Centre, Athletes Village, Temporary Handball venues well underway. However the most impressive sight was the Aquatics centre and the main Stadium with their impressive steel structures close to completion.

We were collectively in agreement as to how impressed we were with the project and proud that our industry can truly show the world how to deliver a first class, high profiled project ahead of time (fingers crossed!).

The company would like to thank, Mr Mark Reynolds, Mr Jon Pettifer and Ms Gemma Goulder for their time and support in organising the visit.

Announcement in The Times

An Announcement of The Election and Installation of our New Master and Wardens is due for publication

Cast an eye out for this copy:

"CONSTRUCTORS COMPANY

The following have been elected and installed as Officers of the Constructors Company for the ensuing year: Master, Dr Christine Rigden FGS; Senior Warden, Mrs Patricia Newton RIBA, Middle Warden, Sir Michael Latham MA DL."

Wednesday 14th October - The Installation Court was followed by The Installation Dinner at Drapers` Hall by kind permission of The Master Draper.

Before the Installation of The New Master and Court two new Liverymen were Clothed as Liverymen (Seen below). Messrs Simon Wilkinson MCIOB The National Sales Director of Wates Construction Ltd (seen here on left) one of the largest privately owned contracting business in the UK and Alan Bromage BSc CEng MICE MCIM (on right) Head of Civil Engineering at The Concrete Centre. The central development organisation for the UK cement and concrete industry.



The Court then proceeded to admit to the Freedom of The Company (seen below) Messrs Andrew Crispin MCIOB the Surveying Director of Walter Lilly & Co Ltd a leading London construction company, Ian Mellor BSc (Econ) Dip TP FRITPI FFB a Chartered Town Planner and Partner of Barton Willmore a leading Town Planning Consultancy and Architectural Practice. The Court invited Ian`s wife Tina to attend without the bar to witness his admittance. Finally Steven Hayter BSc (Hons) MSc (Proj Mgt) CEng MICE MAPM a Project Manager with the leading UK business MACE Limited.



The final item of business before the Installation process was to bind Bethwyn Monteith to her Master; Court Assistant Graeme Monteith for a period of four years and this was done also in the presence of Mrs Kirsteen Monteith who attended below the Bar. Master and Apprentice were instructed by The Master Roger Adcock to register these apprentice deeds with The Guildhall.

On taking the Chair The Master, Dr Christine Rigden, received a most gracious gift of a solid silver "Stoup" suitably engraved and with stone sets mounted around the base fashioned by Stephen Cox a well known sculpturer in stone. A breathtaking gift from her husband Renter Warden Stephen Rigden, All this to recognise her year and her role as **City Ale Conner** but also reflecting her work in geomaterials. A beautiful piece, much admired. See below the admiring glances.



Finally our new Livery year started



The New Master and Wardens together with The Members of Court before The Installation Dinner

The FULL DETAILS of the Court can be found on the side tab.

The Installation Dinner which followed was held to much acclaim. A TRIUMPH of organisation by our Learned Clerk and the staff of Drapers Hall.



The Master and Wardens greeting the guests as they arrive



The magnificence of Drapers Hall makes for a very special occasion. Over two hundred attended and the Guests of The Company included:

Professor Graham Zellick CBE - Master Draper

Lee Brace - Master Scrivener

Jack Amos - Master Environmental Cleaner

Michael Wren - Master World Trader

Julyan Gordon - Master Tyler & Bricklayer

James de Saumarez - Master Joiner & Ceiler

Peter Doe - Master Glazier

The Master's Special Guest was Professor John Sharp Emeritus Professor of Ceramics, The University of Sheffield



The Constructors are proud one of our former Clerks is now Master Scrivener and to mark this occasion The Master presented (above) a most handsome Cross fountain pen with hardwood mounted block and engraving as a memento.



Liveryman Michael Rigden, (above) keeping the evening close to The Master, handsomely proposed the toast to The Guests to great acclaim.



Leaving nothing for our guests to want The Master thoughtfully arranged a beautiful musical accompaniment of Piano and trumpet playing to delight us all mid evening.