

The Constructor

The Journal of the Worshipful Company of Constructors

In 2014 the moat of HM Tower of London was bedecked with 888,246 ceramic poppies in memory of the people who were killed in the First World War. It was a sight that will long be remembered by all who witnessed it.



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A year later the Worshipful Company of Constructors was, by kind permission of the Governor, allowed to hold their biennial Charity Fund Raising Event, a Gala Dinner, in the New Armouries of the Tower.

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The Journal of the Worshipful Company of Constructors

The Constructor

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

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

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

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

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

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

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EDITORIAL

This is the 2015 issue of The Constructor, the annual journal of the Worshipful Company of Constructors. The Constructor has had a number of guises over the years and this is but the latest. I was asked to take over as Editor in April 2015 and my first task was to discuss with the current Master what she wanted the magazine to be – should we continue to develop the magazine as a professional journal, with appropriate technical articles, or should we concentrate on providing a journal that told our members what the company had been doing over the year?

We decided that the most appropriate format would be one which informed our members what the company had been doing. This edition of the journal is the result of that decision.

Whilst there are articles on what we have done over the year there are also pieces from some of our officers which will give you an insight into

what they do, and how we can all help them to do it. The format has also been changed to A5 to help reduce cost.

My objective in editing this issue of the journal has been to provide something that all our readers will find interesting and will give you insight into how the Company works to provide a full programme of events and further our outreach and fellowship ideals.

I hope you will find this, the 37th issue of the journal, both interesting and informative and we would welcome your feedback in order to help inform future editions.

We would also welcome articles for the next issue and these should be sent to the editor at thejournal@virginmedia.com no later than 31 July 2016.

Roger Lilley - Editor

A Message from the Master

The newly elected Master gives his thoughts on the year ahead

I am privileged to have become the 39th Master of this Worshipful Company. Little did I think on the day of my joining the Freedom that I would end up in this position! All Masters say how honoured they are to be Master, but that is only because it is true.

My aim for the year is to continue the excellent work done by my predecessors in raising the profile of our Company. Talking to Masters and Wardens of other Companies it is clear that we are 'on the radar', especially amongst some of the long established Livery Companies whose Livery lifespan is measured in centuries rather than our mere 25 years!

My task in this is made so much easier by the fact that Sheriff Dr Christine Rigden's Mother Company is the Constructors. During her Shrieval year the Constructors will be represented at several high profile events which they would not otherwise have been. We all owe a great deal to Christine.

I have thought hard about a theme for my year but at the end of the day I will adopt Immediate Past Master Victoria Russell's one of Fellowship but perhaps without the "bling"! The reason I became a Constructor was fellowship and it is the theme that I always use with potential new members – being a Constructor is fun!



The Master reflects on an eventful(l) year



I chose 'Fellowship' as the theme for my year as Master as one of the Company's objectives is to provide our members with opportunities, both formal and informal, for fellowship and entertaining guests and I am keen to promote our various activities to as many people as possible.

I am delighted that all the events in my year have been extremely well supported and, in a number of cases, over-subscribed. We have had wonderful formal dinners at Saddlers' and Drapers' Halls and over 320 people came to a memorable Sir Christopher Wren Banquet at the Mansion House, with the entire civic party in attendance and the Lord Mayor and our principal guest speaker, Lord Justice Jackson, both in sparkling form.

Our informal events have all been tremendous fun and highly enjoyable; I am particularly pleased that we have succeeded in holding some events which were free of charge, including our Crossrail and Sky Garden site visits.

By the time my year concludes, I will have had over 180 engagements – that's an awful lot of eating and drinking! In addition to coming to some of these with me, my husband, Steve Lawrence, has also attended nearly 20 separate 'Wives and Consorts' events.

My personal highlights are too numerous to mention. I will always carry with me fantastic memories of delicious meals in beautiful surroundings with incredibly friendly and interesting people, a number of whom will be friends for life. I have learned a lot, laughed a lot, eaten and drunk too much, slept too little and been lucky enough to have been given the most extraordinary opportunity to meet an amazing variety of engaging people and go to a wide range of fascinating places which I would never otherwise have had the chance to do.

I am deeply grateful for the honour and privilege of having been your Master. I greatly appreciate all your support, particularly the enthusiastic encouragement consistently given to me by Steve, Kim, Ted and the Wardens. Thank you all!

Alan Longhurst signs off on his year as Master



Looking back almost a year from the end of my time as Master of the Constructors Company gives a welcome opportunity for reflection.

The theme for my year was to celebrate the achievements of our charitable trust, a cause very close to all our hearts. The speakers at our main functions were from organisations our trust supports and I hope this helped make real the benefits and achievements made possible by our charitable giving.

Certainly the significant growth in the fund throughout the year will create the opportunity to further our aims, so my thanks must go to the trustees and all others who have made this possible.

My further thanks must go to our sponsors; the clerk, the beadle, the court and all others within the company whose support made the year so enjoyable and of course Lee, the Mistress, who supported me and embraced the role of consort.

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Lee saw the opportunity as consort to raise the profile of the Constructors Company within the City. The Consort's event is now a part of the calendar. I believe the Constructors have made great strides over the years in establishing our place in the city and we now organize an inter-livery event jointly with the plumbers which can only further this objective.

Once again we had an excellent programme of social events to which we have added a lunch club which is well supported and meets every other month at the Ironmongers' Hall. It was at one of these that I hosted a lunch for the other Masters in my year who were educated at Whitgift School in Croydon.

Another newcomer to the social calendar was the Sailing Day which took place in the Solent and was much enjoyed by all those who took part. The company golf day became a charity event brilliantly staged at Sundridge Park. My thanks to all concerned.

During this year I had the pleasure of attending a number of events with our affiliates in the forces. It was great to see at first hand the spirit and commitment of those on whom we rely but also to see how highly our affiliates value the support of the livery. I am proud to report that our Company shield is now displayed in the Captain's cabin of HMS Lancaster.

A major part of the enjoyment of the Master's Year is exploring the places and architecture of the City of London and gaining an appreciation of its heritage. A new venue for the Constructors was Trinity House where we held our Companions' lunch which was a lovely setting for a fantastically supported occasion.

So in conclusion, I will always cherish the memories of my year as Master and nor will I forget the many people within the Constructors who made it possible. May the Worshipful Company of Constructors flourish, root and branch for ever.

THE CONSTRUCTORS' GRACE

At this year's Master's Weekend we were honoured to be invited to use Exeter Guildhall as the location for our formal Dinner and to have as a guest the Dean of Exeter, the Very Reverend Jonathan Draper, who penned a bespoke Grace for us, for which we are extremely grateful. The Grace is, with his permission, printed below:

Loving and merciful God,
You have given us a vision of a heavenly city built on the foundations of your love for the world,
Give us grace to work with you in building a world worthy of your love,
With the scaffolding of our fellowship, and the tools of your spirit,
Construct through us a dwelling, with the cornerstone of truth and integrity,
So that all people may inhabit the house of your love,
Bless this food and our fellowship,
Thank you for those who have prepared it,
Open the doors of our hearts to those in need.

Amen.

The Life and Loves of a Male Consort



Steve Lawrence writes “When I was asked to write a short piece about my year as Master’s Consort, I thought it was a great idea. After all I haven’t had a chance to say anything publicly since receiving my badge of office from Lee last October.

I’ve done this once before, during the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Year with the same Master but for the Arbitrators. Back then I was one of only two male Consorts with Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence, Farmers Company, as the other. However not much was seen of Sir Tim on the Consort circuit. That was probably because back in 2001-2 the circuit didn’t exist. Consorts were little seen or heard. The whole thing was a bit of a let-down.

This year has been another kettle of fish. There have always been at least four or five male Consorts. This means being able to retreat with a male friend when the conversation becomes a bit too focused on matching shoes and handbags. However male Consorts are still rare enough that no Consorts’ event is complete without at least one in attendance.

Being a Consort allows a lot of freedom the Masters don’t have. Essentially Masters just invite each other to lunches or dinners (the recent City Churches Tour organized by the Constructors and Plumbers is an exception). However for Consorts it’s an open field. Lee organised a Lambeth Palace Garden Tour and I organized a Pop-Up Painting Event. Both were very well attended but had very little in common except everyone had a really good time.

Being invited to, and sending out invitations for, Consorts’ events has placed a lot of pressure on the Clerks as this activity was never part of their original job description. Some Clerks resent this but Kim has been extremely helpful 100% of the time.

It’s inevitable that eventually there will be a better balance between male and female Consorts. I feel I got in at just the right time. I’ve had a wonderful year with plenty of good times and no headaches. I’ve almost done my year and become friends with a lot of good women. I hope Kirsteen will be able to say the same thing next summer. I’m sure she will.”

THE MASTER’S WEEKEND

This year’s Master’s Weekend was held in Exeter on the last weekend of June. The Master chose Exeter because she went to university there and she thought that it would be an ideal venue for her weekend away.

40 members and partners enjoyed a splendid weekend, staying in the Exeter Mercure Hotel and wining and dining to the full. Most of the attendees made their way to Exeter either by car or train although a few intrepid souls travelled by air.

Victoria had organised a very full itinerary which started on the Friday evening with a leisurely guided tour round the centre of Exeter in order to work up an appetite for the evening meal that was held in

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the upstairs room at the Cote Brasserie, facing on to the Cathedral Green. A very good time was had by all, and some of our number then even ventured to try the night-life of Exeter.

After a good night's rest and an ample breakfast we boarded a coach to visit Castle Drogo, an early 20th century residence now owned by the National Trust and located on the edge of Dartmoor. The building has been undergoing significant fundamental restoration over recent years, and the works are expected to be complete in 2017. For those of us who were interested, the National Trust arranged for their project

manager to take us around the construction site – he explained how the Trust had concluded that earlier preservative work was not now considered to be appropriate and how they were making the building waterproof for the years to come. It was clearly a very complicated and expensive operation and, being Constructors, we all found the trip up the impressive scaffolding most interesting. For those of us who were less inclined to climb the scaffolding (or perhaps more inclined to visit the beautifully maintained gardens) the National Trust had also organised a guided tour of the gardens, and that too was enjoyed by many of our party.



Leaving Castle Drogo we took the scenic route (however did the coach driver manage it, given the very narrow roads in the area?) to Tedburn St Mary where we enjoyed a magnificent lunch at the King's Arms, with the group assembling for the obligatory "Group Photograph" on leaving.



Then it was back to the Hotel for either some rest and recuperation (or even some retail therapy) prior to changing into our finery for the "official" black-tie dinner that was held in the ancient Exeter Guildhall.

Exeter Guildhall is most impressive and is the oldest municipal building in the United Kingdom still in regular use. The Lord Mayor graciously allowed us to use the hall for our formal dinner.



The Lord Mayor of Exeter and her consort, the Dean of Exeter and his wife and the immediate past Master of the Incorporation of Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen were our official guests, together with representatives of the University.

We all enjoyed a formal 3-course meal with wine and port in an absolutely magnificent setting.

Sunday morning again started with the hotel breakfast, although by then a number of us were complaining of “food overload” and modified our food intake accordingly. This was followed by attendance at the Sung Eucharist Service held in Exeter Cathedral. The service was set to music by Palestrina and the Anthem was by Orlando Gibbons.

After Church a number of people went their various ways, but the rest walked to “The Mill on the Exe” to have a traditional Sunday lunch, following which more of the party departed for home, leaving the hard core of attendees to enjoy supper at the Nobody Inn, Doddiscombsleigh and then stay on for another night before they too wended their merry way.

Yet again, the Master's Weekend really was a most enjoyable occasion, encouraging our members to visit different parts of the country and experience our widespread and convivial fellowship. The spectrum of attendance was also very wide – Companions, Past Masters, Wardens and Court Assistants as well as many liverymen and freemen. Like all our informal events it gave everyone who attended the chance to extend their fellowship with other members of the Company and we would welcome anyone who wants to attend next year – keep your eyes open for information on the website.

FORMAL EVENTS

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

The Company year started with the Installation Ceremony in St Lawrence Jewry, which has now become a public occasion during which Reverend Canon David Parrott supervises the clothing of the New Master and Wardens. This year Victoria Russell and her Wardens, Graeme Monteith (Senior Warden), Ian Mason (Middle Warden), Tony Ward (Renter Warden) and Michael Parrett (Junior Warden) were clothed. After the service the assembled company joined the 152 Company members

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and guests at the Installation Dinner in Carpenters' Hall where the Immediate Past Master's Consort, Lee, passed the Consort's badge to Victoria's husband, Steve.

The next formal dinner was the Livery and Awards Dinner, which was held in February at Drapers' Hall. This is the Dinner where we formally present our military awards and scholar's prizes. It was attended by 157 members and guests who witnessed the award of the prizes and awards for 2014. Three civilian prizes were awarded – the Constructors prize, the David Tong Cup and the Royal Charter International Research Award. Three military awards were also presented – the HMS Lancaster Prize, the Shafting and Shoring Cup and the Air Commodore Dow Trophy.



James Shiner BSc(Hons) was awarded the **Constructors Prize 2015**. He graduated from the University of Westminster in 2014 with a first class honours degree in Construction Management having studied for five years part-time whilst employed by SCD Builders Ltd. To achieve such results is exceptional, but to do it whilst in full-time employment showed the exemplary nature of his attitude to his studies while meeting the demands of his employment and made James a worthy recipient of the Constructors' prize.

Harold Gilder BSc(Hons) was awarded the **David E Tong Cup 2015**. He studied part-time at London South Bank University, graduating with a first class honours degree in Quantity Surveying from London South Bank University having previously completed their HNC in Construction course. Harry worked for an interiors subcontractor where he quickly climbed the ranks within the company and commercially managed their first contract to exceed £1m. This was extremely challenging as he carried on studying part-time for his degree.



The quality of the candidates meant that there were joint winners for the **Royal Charter International Research Award**.



The first winner was **Vera Bukachi**, of Arup and UCL, for her proposal on the evaluation (using a systems engineering based framework) of the viability of replicable and scalable ICT based decision support tools for use by local authorities in the provision of safe and sustainable water and sanitation service delivery in informal settlement in Kenya. Following her trip to Kenya in the early part of the year Vera has now completed much of the fieldwork and data gathering and is now working on the analysis stage, expecting to reach the conclusion stage in October.

The second winners were **Richard Look** and **Caroline Field** of Buro Happold, for the development of a diagnostic programme to support more resilient cities. Buro Happold have now developed a framework of measures and have tested the validity of the proposed measures through a comparative study of 12 major developing conurbations (including London) in an international context.



We then turned to the Military prizes:



CPO Daryl Jackson was awarded the **HMS Lancaster prize** having performed outstandingly well in his role as Underwater Battle Manager throughout an extremely demanding year for HMS Lancaster. He was considered by all his comrades to be a true team player, with good humour, abundant energy, vim and tenacity and to have an unconditional loyalty and commitment to the Ship. Sadly, Daryl was unable to attend the Dinner so his award was accepted on his behalf by Lt Tom Johnson.

Corporal Rob Burgess 21 Field Squadron (EOD) was awarded the **Shafting and Shoring Cup**. He had demonstrated selfless commitment to the Regiment in a number of areas since his arrival in January 2014 taking command of a station construction task, being the President of the Corporals Mess, running Ground Sign Awareness training for search specialists, raising a significant sum for charity and supporting the MOD effort to increase Army Reserve Recruiting. .



SAC(T) Kevin Hartley was awarded the **Air Commodore Dow Trophy**. He was nominated for the award in recognition of having consistently performed to the highest of standards and demonstrated outstanding diligence, commitment and technical abilities whilst employed in the construction of Technical Working Environments in locations such as the Falkland Islands, Ascension Island, Lithuania, Cyprus and Afghanistan. He has also been a leading light of the Squadron's deployment in support of Operation HERRICK

In May the Court met at Suttons Hospital, Charterhouse. Following the normal business of the Court they took wine with PM Dr Christine Rigden, who was standing for election as Non-Aldermanic Sheriff on 24 June at Guildhall. They and other members of the Company then joined a number of our Companions at a most enjoyable luncheon which, by kind permission of the Master, Brigadier Charlie Hobson RM, was held in the Great Hall of the Hospital. The food and surroundings were magnificent and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.



The Court take wine with PM Dr Christine Rigden



Unusually, and additionally, this year we also organised a celebratory luncheon for PM Dr Christine Rigden and her supporters following her success at the Shrieval hustings.

This was organised in conjunction with Christine's other companies and was held at Vintners Hall. There were 152 people present including 36 members of the Company and their guests.

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The last formal dinner of the year was the Sir Christopher Wren Banquet, which was held in June. By kind permission of the Lord Mayor, 322 Members and their guests attended the banquet at the Mansion House. We were honoured to have the Lord Mayor as our Principal Guest and Lord Justice Jackson as the most entertaining Principal Speaker. Music was provided by the Royal Marine Association Concert Orchestra whose mobile rendition of the Post Horn Gallop was greatly appreciated by all.

On 2 July, the Court met on board HQS Wellington. Following that session there was a drinks reception on the quarterdeck and the Master entertained Mr Graeme Groom, Master Innholder, Air Vice Marshal Patrick O'Reilly, CB Master Engineer, Mr Neville Chamberlain CBE, Master Fueller, Mr Bryan Spearman, Master Firefighter, Mr Robert Potter, Master HR Guild, Dr John Moore-Gillon Master Apothecary, Mr Mark Hardy, Master World Trader, Brigadier Charlie Hobson, Master of Charterhouse, and Alderman Sir Paul Judge Master Entrepreneur to Lunch. We were also pleased to have with us Dr Christine Rigden Past Master & Sheriff Elect together with our newly admitted Freeman and other members of the Company and their guests.



Having taken a short respite in August, the formal programme for the year ended with a Gala Banquet at the Tower of London.

One of Her Majesty's Royal Palaces and Fortresses, the Tower of London was founded in 1066 and the White Tower was built by William the Conqueror in 1078. Since then, the Tower has served variously as an armoury, a treasury, menagerie, the home of the Royal Mint, a public records office and latterly, the home of the Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom. As such, it was a very impressive location for our Gala Event which was, without doubt, the 'Bling' event of the Master's year.

So it was then that on a splendid evening on 10 September some 240 members and their guests converged on the Tower of London, to be met by the Clerk and escorted through the Tower to the Jewel House by a Yeoman Warder where they were given a private viewing of the Crown Jewels. The assembled company then progressed to a drinks reception in the White Tower before being escorted to the New Armouries, where they were wined and dined in style.

A raffle and Auction in aid of the Charitable Trust were held during dinner, with auction lots and prizes being graciously donated by both Company members and corporate supporters.

It was a fitting and stylish celebration of the Master's Year raised over £16,000, net of Gift Aid, to be donated to the Charitable Trust.

Our final formal event was Common Hall, which was held on 23 September with 32 members in attendance. The Master thanked all the members who had supported her during her year and announced (God Willing) the Officers who had been elected for 2015/6. They were the Master –

Graeme Monteith, the Senior Warden – Ian Mason, the Middle Warden – Anthony Ward, the Renter Warden – Michael Parrett and the Junior Warden – Sir Vivian Ramsey. They will all be installed at the Installation Service in October. The Master also presented a splendid “Travelling Badge” to the Company which would reduce the financial risk to the Company of travelling with the formal Master’s Jewel and provide a lighter alternative for the Master when out and about.

RECENT WORK BY THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF CONSTRUCTORS CHARITABLE TRUST

Mill Chase is a secondary school (11-16) located in Bordon, a small town in Hampshire. Bordon for many years has been a base of the British Army which is closing and the town has major plans revitalising the area with large scale house building. Due to the closing of the army base the area was becoming very run down and the school was placed in special measures. In November 2013 Chichester University Academy Trust became involved and made the school into an Academy.

The current situation is that there are approximately 16% of the town’s over 16 year olds with only Level 1 qualifications, 19% with no qualifications at all and only 22% of over 16 year olds have attained level 4 qualifications. Going forward, the construction industry will be of greater importance in the town with the proposed creation of over 4,000 new homes being built on the various Ministry of Defence sites across the town.

The new Mill Chase Academy is now offering a construction course which allows students to achieve a BTEC Level 2 qualification in Construction and the Built Environment, with some practical instruction in a Brickwork workshop. This is a key focus for the Charitable Trust.

What does the future hold?

The trustees are in full agreement with the Academy’s Principal, Paul Hemmings, that it is important that the students have a full appreciation of opportunities in the industry beyond the level 2 skills that they are presently acquiring, and it is the intention in the future for the Company to provide guest speakers from our members, explaining the many craft and management careers that are available in the construction industry, arrange site visits for the students, and links with the higher construction education facilities. A small working party of members of the Company now seeks to further this objective and this has the full support of the Master, Wardens, Trustees and The Court.

The Charitable Trust has already provided benches and tools for a carpentry workshop to be added to the brickwork workshop already installed, and have provided construction materials for the two workshops and other items for their classrooms. The Charitable Trust has also made provision for future prizes associated with the Company for worthy students at the Academy’s annual prize day.

The Company has already received a private donation of £5,000 from one of our members to purchase the work benches and the first set of tools and, with the help of CA David Sheehan and Sainsburys, construction materials for their workshops have been supplied. Signage outside and within the school now acknowledges the support of our Company, again financed by a private donation from a member of the Livery. All of these are greatly appreciated by the Academy.

The trustees hope that, once annual ongoing Livery support has been fully established at Mill Chase, schools/academies in other areas of the country with similar facilities will also be supported by the Trust.

A third/fourth workshop for painting & decorating and heating & plumbing skills is now proposed and further donations via the trust from members and associated companies would be appreciated.

If members would like to get involved with the Academy’s Construction Department or provide further funds please contact HCA Ken Kent, Chairman of the Charitable Trust.

TEAMBUILD 2014

As usual, the Company was a co-sponsor of the TEAMBUILD event, the final of which was held in November 2014 and was attended by our Master, Vicky Russell.

A team of young professionals from KSS, Mott MacDonald, Gardiner & Theobald and BWB Consultancy solved a real-life construction challenge to scoop a £2,000 top prize!

Teambuild 2014 challenged teams to plan, design and present proposals for the extensive revamp of Land Securities' Eastbourne Terrace site, adjacent to Paddington Station. The real masterplan from Fletcher Priest Architects was used as the basis for a weekend of quick-fire challenges. This fascinating project provided the background for a series of taxing scenarios at all stages of the construction process, watched and scored by eminent Judges from all fields across the construction industry. Twelve teams, representing twenty-seven top construction companies, made it through to the hotly-contested finals, and impressed throughout with their professionalism, enthusiasm and dedication.

The winning team, awarded a cash prize of £2,000 by the Worshipful Company of Constructors, was STRATA, a group from KSS, Mott MacDonald, Gardiner & Theobald and BWB Consultancy. The prize was awarded by the Master of the Worshipful Company of Constructors, Victoria Russell. STRATA impressed the judges with their consistent teamwork, great leadership, and their confidence and professionalism in presentations and under pressure.

Team members were Samantha Barclay (RIBA), Emily Bonner (ICE), Sally Emery (RIBA), Arran Ewin (RIBA), Helen Payne (CIBSE) and Emillie Webster (RICS).

The Winners of the Judges Prize of £1,250, awarded for the team which showed the greatest improvement over the weekend were studioforma, a team from BuroHappold Engineering and Create Design, including members from the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE), CIBSE, and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA).

The Procurement Strategy Prize of £1,250, awarded by the Worshipful Company of Chartered Architects, was awarded by Master Geoffrey Purves to Kaleidoscope, a team from AECOM, which included members of the ICE, RICS, IHT, APM and CIAT.

This year we also had two new prizes. The Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) sponsored a prize for Excellence in Construction. This prize of £1,000 was awarded to Promoveo, a team from Hoare Lea, Sweett Group, AHR, Curtins Consulting Ltd and Galliford Try. CCS Ambassador, John Sayers, presented the award for outstanding performance during the final stage Task, construction and handover.

The other new prize this year was a prize for Leadership. Great teams need great leadership, and this prize recognises that skill, as voted for by both judges and competitors. The Commercial Education Trust sponsor this prize and their Chairman, David Coughtrie, awarded the prize of £500 to Samantha Barclay of KSS and Lucy Townsend of BDP.

The objectives of Teambuild focus on developing skills in leadership, communication and coordination beyond the sum of the of the individual's skill. The competition helps identify the way teams must work together in the construction industry by challenging them with scenarios common to construction projects across the UK.



The competitors and Judges at TeamBuild 2014 (photo courtesy of TeamBuild)

The overall standard of the event was extremely high, and all twelve finalist teams should be congratulated on an immense achievement. Further details of each of the finalist teams is published on the Teambuild website.

A special thank you is also due to Wates Contractors, Land Securities and Fletcher Priest Architects, who were TeamBuild's site sponsors this year and enabled them to use such a wonderful location as the basis for the competition.

As a sponsor of TeamBuild we, the Worshipful Company of Constructors, are always keen to support any of the individual competitors to become members of the Company, and this year the Master was very pleased to be able to invite the winning team to our 'New Members' evening. They are about to enter an industry that will construct new facilities for future generations to use and enjoy and as such we welcome them into an industry that has served many of us so well during our careers and we hope that they will join the Company.

INFORMAL SOCIAL EVENTS

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

Our first informal event of the Master's year was a visit to Dowgate Hill Fire Station. Here the Station Officer gave us a talk on how the Fire Service was run, and the role that Dowgate Hill Fire Station has played over many years in the life of the City. After a most informative talk we reconvened next door in the Loose Cannon for a meal and drinks.

On a cold and damp Friday evening in January several intrepid members and guests found their way east of the City to Docklands to join in the festive revels of a traditional (and rather risqué at some points) pantomime. Whilst political correctness was not always the principal focus we enjoyed (Oh no we didn't! – Oh yes we did!) a cabaret style sit down meal and refreshment. As this was our first venture in this direction we were quite surprised to find we were not the only Livery company there. We will make the journey again in 2016.

We went to the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) on a rather blustery evening in May. Our main objective was to understand the evolution of the architecture within ZSL including how they had managed to "re-invent" various original buildings for different uses, bearing in mind that a large number of the buildings and structures within ZSL are listed as either Grade 1 or Grade 2 and cannot therefore be significantly altered, if at all. The visit to ZSL was finished off in grand style by a Chinese meal on the nearby Feng Shang Princess, a vessel moored on the Paddington arm of the Grand Union Canal.

Our visit to the Old Bailey took place on a sunny evening in June. Under-Sheriff Charles Henty, who is responsible for the management of the Central Criminal Court (more commonly called the Old Bailey) gave us a most amusing and informative talk and tour round the Central Criminal Court and generated a degree of mirth by placing our Master and her Consort in the dock of one of the courts. Overall, it was a real privilege to be able to visit the Old Bailey and a really excellent event was topped off by a convivial meal and drink in the nearby Magpie and Stump Public House.

In July we held two "sporting" events. The Company Golf Day was held on a sunny day in early July at Croham Hurst Golf Club. The day was enjoyed by all and we were joined by the Master for a splendid Summer Meal that was provided by the catering team at Croham Hurst. On a windy and rainy day at the end of July (by courtesy of David Sheehan and Tony Ward) eight intrepid sailors took part in the second Company sailing day. Unfortunately the weather was not kind as it was very windy and rained all day and the plans for a leisurely sail in the Solent were severely curtailed, however all involved said that they enjoyed the event.



Our next informal event was the Master's Summer Event which was a visit to her beloved Fulham Football Club to see a friendly football match between Fulham FC and Crystal Palace FC (supported by our immediate Past Master, Alan Longhurst). This was a most enjoyable event, with the assembled company (except the Master and Alan) being relieved that the result was a 1 – 1 draw and celebrating in fine style after the game in the Temperance Public House in Fulham High Street.

The final event of the Master's year was the opportunity to climb over the O2 Arena. 30 members and their guests, including the Master and her Consort, plucked up the courage to do so and then adjourned (due to a gas supply failure in the O₂ area) for a meal at an Indian Restaurant in Waterloo.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT VISITS

We also visited two significant construction projects in London. Without the influence and contacts that the Company and its Members have these visits would have been almost impossible to organise. We will be seeking to arrange more such visits in the future, which we hope will particularly give our younger members the chance to see and hear about some of the most prestigious construction projects in the world.

In March, through the kind auspices of Court Assistant David Sheehan, we visited the Crossrail works at Paddington where we descended to tunnel bore level. As limited numbers could be accommodated on this trip, and numbers far exceeded the places available, the organisers held a draw – something that we may well do again in the future. Those that went on the visit found it both informative and enjoyable. The Master, who had not been lucky enough to have her name drawn out of the hat, met everyone afterwards for supper at 'Gyngleboj' in Paddington.



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In April, through the kind auspices of Honorary Court Assistant John Sayers, we were lucky to be invited to the new 'Walkie-Talkie' building in Fenchurch Street. The Project Manager gave us a talk on the various challenges (including the melting car) that they had experienced whilst constructing this iconic landmark skyscraper and then gave us access to the Sky Garden – the impressive rooftop garden that was an aspect of the planning permission for the building that was imposed by the City of London. As there are extensive waiting lists to experience the Sky Garden this was an opportunity not to be missed.

LUNCH CLUB

One of the new initiatives that the Company started in 2013 was that of a regular informal lunch club to be held 5 times a year in Ironmongers Hall. This has proved to be a very popular event which is almost always fully booked and provides a splendid opportunity for regular networking and outreach. Many members also take the opportunity to invite guests as we keep the cost of the event as low as possible. We do this by a careful selection of location (Ironmongers Hall, who hold a fixed price lunch every Monday and allow us to join them "en-masse") and leaving members and their guests to decide and pay for whatever type of beverage they want to accompany their lunch. This allows people who work to return to work after the lunch and those who do not have to do so to enjoy a glass of wine with their meal and if they wish, continue to network in a nearby hostelry. The highest attendance during the last year was at our festive lunch club, held on 15 December 2014, when 59 members and guests joined together to celebrate the forthcoming festive season. It really was a splendid occasion and the Master kindly provided wine for all who attended. One of the advantages of the Lunch Club is that it has attracted some members who might otherwise not attend a function probably because – as its name suggests – it takes place during the day and therefore does not require people to travel home late at night.



Ironmongers Hall, London

The Company Officers

THE CLERK

Our Clerk is Kim Tyrrell, who spent most of his working life with the Royal Marines.

Thus we have “Gallant” Clerk – ie one who is serving or has served within the armed forces. Any Livery Company Clerk who has attended a University is described as the “Learned” Clerk and if they have been a Member of Parliament they are described as the “Honourable” Clerk.



Kim’s view of life as a Clerk is that for most of you the Clerk is simply the chap who sends you an almost unending stream of flyers and Clerk’s notes. For those of you who attend the Company’s major functions the Clerk is the man wandering around in a black gown beforehand like some malevolent bat, and, who, at the end of the Stirrup Cup is inviting you to occupy the road outside, just when you’ve settled into a great chat with your Guests.

All of this is so, but Kim hopes that this short article will give you a better idea of what he does and how you can help him make his role more efficient. He writes as follows:

“All Livery Companies have Clerks. Their job is to be the servant of the Court and to assist the Master of the day. Some people like to equate the relationship between Master and Clerk to Chairman and CEO – The Master & Wardens set policy and the Clerk enacts it.

I prefer to think of it as more of a partnership where both the Master & the Clerk are working for the benefit of the Company.

That’s all rather formal, and, in some circumstances (particularly Court) the role remains formal and rightly so. I also act as Secretary to the Court and the principal Company Committees — Privileges (which confirms the succession and reviews membership of the Court), General Purposes (which runs the Company), Election (which arranges interviews for prospective new Members) and Charity (which is the interface between the Company and the Charitable Trust).

Yes, all right I hear you ask, that’s all very well but what do you really do? My task is to:

- run the Company day to day, which means answering the 30 to 40 letters and 200 plus e mails each week;
- ensure the Company complies with its responsibilities to the City;
- ensure that Masters are made aware of those people who wish to invite them to a dazzling collection of functions;
- ensure our own major functions are well advertised, efficiently costed and managed and that seating plans and special menus take account of Members wishes.

Oh and of course I pay the myriad day to day bills. I also send out the flyers for the Events Committee’s informal events.

As those of you who have contacted me know, I try to be available to answer e mails most days and to answer all questions from Members.

How can you help me? It’s pretty simple – if I e-mail you, please answer, hopefully with 24 hours. Please also read any flyers. The information requested by Members approaching a big event is usually already on the flyer or Pour Memoire Card. Lastly, be proactive. If you haven’t heard from me in over a month, e-mail me and check that my sausage like fingers have not accidentally removed you from a mailing list!

I look forward to seeing as many as possible of you in the year to come.”

THE BEADLE



Our Beadle is Ted Prior, who is currently the National President of the National Association of Toastmasters (NAT). Ted's working life was in the International Moving Industry, where he often helped people to relocate abroad either personally or commercially. He took early retirement in December 2004 and pursued his lifelong ambition to be a Toastmaster. He is a highly valued and respected member of our leadership team, officiating as he does, at all our formal events. Ted writes:

“My duties as Beadle are ‘to attend to the Master, Wardens and the Court of this Company on all lawful occasions, properly robed and bearing my staff of office: to guard the door of the Court Room against intruders, to carry messages, serve summonses, to collect fines levied for blasphemy, cursing or reproachful speaking and, in former times, to execute whippings as punishment for offences when ordered by the Master. Also, I protect and identify the Livery on attending Common Hall when voting for the Election of the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs and other Officers of this City’

This magnificent description – read in Court with a certain zeal before clothing new Liverymen for another Livery Company – encapsulates, in an historic sense, the role of the Beadle but is by no means the complete picture of a modern Beadle!

Beadles fall into two categories: those representing Companies with their own Halls and those without!

The former are usually full time employees and are possibly required to manage the Hall, bookings, staff and much, much more.

Known, affectionately as ‘Maggie Beadles’, those without Halls, whilst being employees, are engaged on part-time basis for Company events and may represent more than one Livery Company. The role is wide ranging, requiring different skills such as tact, diplomacy, patience, ‘people’ skills, respectful authority, presence and a sense of history coupled with an appreciation of theatre!

Assisting the Master and Clerk at Court meetings, collecting Company valuables such as the gowns, Loving Cups, and other silver from their ‘home’ at Carpenters’ Hall. Safely transporting them to and from the venue where the Court and Lunch/Dinner or Banquet is being held, ensuring they are accounted for at the end of the function, all of which is largely an unseen part of the role. Close liaison with the Clerk enables the smooth running of Court Meetings – where it is very much a ceremonial function announcing the entry and departure of the Master, Wardens and Clerk and candidates for the Freedom and Livery.

Candidates often arrive a little nervously, especially young Apprentices or Yeomen, so a friendly, warm welcome from the Beadle and Senior Steward is important to put them at their ease. The procedures are explained directly and informally just by chatting and generally making them feel comfortable. After their admission the smiles on the faces of new Freeman/Liverymen as they have their photos taken makes it all worthwhile!!

The Company organises a number of splendid formal functions during the year, including the Sir Christopher Wren Banquet, where the skills of the Toastmaster are pre-eminent. The ‘delivery’ of the event falls onto the Beadle’s shoulders underlining the importance of the close working relationship the Beadle enjoys with the Clerk and Master ensuring, as far as possible, a successful evening. The Beadle is very often the first person Members and Guests meet at functions and a warm, friendly welcome is important. Also, crucially, the Beadle must build the trust and support of the Banqueting Manager and their team, as well as other professionals such as photographers and musicians.

The Company Officers

Likewise, new Masters appreciate the support a Beadle provides, guiding them through the evening, Grace, Taking of Wine, Sung Grace, Loving Cup, the Loyal Toasts and, of course, the Speeches. The quiet experience that the Beadle brings offers a sense of re-assurance for the Master and continuity for the Company.

My training as a Toastmaster has helped me to understand the role of the Beadle and equipped me for the magnificent Banquets and Dinners I attend, especially when the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs and, on occasion, Royalty are in attendance. Truly, a privilege and honour.

It is very nearly ten years since I was appointed your Beadle, December 2005, when I shadowed my predecessor at the Christmas Court. They have been eventful and great years. In that time my Toastmaster career has grown and I am the current President of the National Association of Toastmasters and will be leaving that office in October. In that time I have worked at many wonderful venues and occasions, meeting some very famous celebrities.

As a Past President of the National Association of Toastmasters my ribbon will be claret & blue – the same as that of my beloved West Ham United FC whom I have supported since a boy. As a Fulham fan, I hope the Master will forgive me!!

Do I have any regrets? None – it has been a very enjoyable journey!"

THE HONORARY CHAPLAIN

We are very proud to have as our Honorary Chaplain the Reverend Canon David Parrott BA LL.M, the Guild Vicar of St Lawrence Jewry, which is the official church of the Lord Mayor of London and the City of London Corporation and stands in the Yard of the Guildhall. Canon Parrott worked for 25 years in Chelmsford Diocese before moving to St Lawrence Jewry in 2009. He is married to Sue and they have two adult sons. He has a wide ministerial background, and has particular interests in ministerial formation, preaching and church law. He is the author of 'Your Church and the Law' (Canterbury Press, 2008). David is also Education Adviser for the Ecclesiastical Law Society. He sees his duty as being there, but not there!



The Chaplain's Challenge – to remain invisible!

"I have the privilege to be Chaplain to a number of Livery Companies in the City including the Worshipful Company of Constructors. I am also Chaplain to the City of London Corporation (which includes Guildhall, Mansion House and the Old Bailey). The role of the Livery Company Chaplain is an odd one! It involves a number of elements. I say grace at Company dinners. I seek to support the Master and Wardens and staff of the Company. I lead the Annual Carol Service, and other services for some companies: installation services and celebrations of various sorts. I am also available to take weddings or memorial services for any member of the Company who wishes to come to St Lawrence Jewry. I seek to be a friend to any Liveryman in need at any time.

But my real work, or at least my most important work, is to be invisible! It is to be available to any member of the Company, of any faith or none, who would find it helpful to have a private conversation. You will not find a report anywhere as to who has seen me and what they wanted. That is the nature of the role and that is why I describe it as invisible! At the most important moment in the Chaplain's life I need to be the invisible man.

This may sound an odd challenge, given that at grace and in services I have such a high profile. But that is the mystery of the role. To be visible enough that people know who I am and where to find me, but to be invisible when they do find me. It is a privilege I take seriously. In the City there is still a high tradition of Chaplaincy and this needs handling carefully and nurturing. It is a God given gift. St Lawrence Jewry has the by-line: 'Bringing the light of Christ to the City of London'. My ambition is to be Christ-like to you and to each and every person I meet. May God bless you and our Company."

David Parrott

There another post within the company that interfaces directly with you, the members. That is the post of Senior Steward, which is currently held by Roger Lilley, who is responsible to the Master and the Court for arranging steward cover for our various events and supporting the Gallant Clerk and the Beadle in performing their duties. Whilst stewards try to perform their duties very much in the background their key role is to be front facing ambassadors for the company be it for the guests at formal functions or for our new Freemen and Liverymen when they are presented to Court. Roger says "We always try to be as welcoming as we can and to be the fount of all knowledge about the event for our guests. Despite trying I think that we are quite good about the former, but, in the famous school report phrase – 'could do better' about the latter. However as we use more and more venues we are beginning to learn where everything is and this goes a long way to making our guests (and members) feel at home in any particular venue. We always try to make the "Constructors' experience" one that people will remember (for all the right reasons) and as Senior Steward I manage, on behalf of the Publicity, Events and Membership Committee, the feedback process".

We also rely on a number of other honorary officers to make sure that we are seen as a well-oiled machine. They work very much behind the scenes, but without them we wouldn't function as well as we do. Omissions are always odious, so the Editor craves indulgence if this piece doesn't mention you – perhaps we can put things right next time?

Money is always important to a Livery Company. Our Honorary Treasurer is Arthur Seymour, who spends much of his time officially administering our financial records and maintains the Yearbook. Without his efforts we would not be able to function or satisfy the requirements of the auditors or HMRC.

In modern times we all rely on the internet – and there is no Livery Company that does not have a website – so our Webmaster is another key member of our management team. PM Roger Adcock has undertaken this task for several years now, and our web site is very much a product of his endeavours. It is a fundamental source of information on the Company and it has evolved over time to provide a valuable resource for members and non-members alike. Roger was our Master in 2008/9 and he gives much of his time to supporting the Company and its charitable works.

We also rely on the efforts of our historian and Almoner, PM John Burrell. John, who was Master in 2000/1, maintains the history of the Company and looks after the best interests of our members when they need support or assistance for whatever reason.

The Company

The Company

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



So, this year we are celebrating the 25th Anniversary of our being granted Livery and to commemorate the occasion special lapel pins have been commissioned and distributed to all Liverymen. These pins have been kindly donated by some members of the Company.

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

Structure

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

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

The Privileges Committee

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

The Election Committee

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

The Charity Committee

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

The General Purposes Committee

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

In addition there are other committees that assist the Master and Court to run the Company, the principal of these being the Sponsorship and the Publicity, Events and Membership Committee.

The Sponsorship Committee

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

The Publicity, Events and Membership Committee

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

The Honorary Treasurer

We also rely on the services of our Honorary Treasurer (Arthur Seymour) who records all monies paid and received by the Company and provides the accounts necessary for our monies to be audited each year. It is he who administers our day to day accounting and also manages member's retrospective payment for events.

Membership

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

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

The Company has also recently admitted International Constructors, the first of whom was Frank Lesh from USA and Honorary Members, who are recognised as being leaders of their field and highly supportive of our objectives as Constructors. These include Senior Officers of our military affiliates, members of the Upper House as well as Mike Bowron (Lately the Chief Constable of the City of London Police, and now the Chief Constable of Jersey) and of course Lady Valerie Dixon, who has been extremely supportive of our cause as well as being most generous in her support of our educational scholarships. This year, at the Sir Christopher Wren Banquet we also invited Alderman Doctor Andrew Parmley and Alderman Baroness Scotland QC to become Honorary Members and we are delighted that they have both accepted.

The Company

OUTREACH AND FELLOWSHIP

The Company is particularly focused on its outreach and fellowship activities. Indeed, one of the key points that Vicky Russell wished to make in her year as Master was that of our fellowship both within, and looking outwards from, the Company.

In addition to the fellowship extended at our many events we always make a particular effort to hold a Networking Event each year, and this year, through the excellent auspices of Westminster University (and our fellow constructors, Jane Wright and Henry Lamb), we also held a New Members' Evening where future and younger members of the construction industry were able to talk to more experienced members of the Company over a glass of wine and some canapés. This followed a most informative illustrated talk by another Constructor, Court Assistant Andrew Hornby, on the 2015 changes to the Construction Design and Management (CDM) Regulations.

We were particularly pleased to have many of the TeamBuild participants present as they will no doubt form the backbone of the construction industry in the years to come. TeamBuild itself is another fine example of how the Company reaches out to the wider industry. We work closely with the CIOB on it and our Master is one of the judges.

This year's Networking Event was again successful although for various reasons we had to hold it on a Monday, and that seemed to reduce the number of people attending. 44% of booked attendees attended last year's event, which was very creditable and our subsequent survey showed that many of the attendees wanted to attend the event if it was held again. Unfortunately we were unable to find a sponsor this year so although we were able to donate some £840 of entrance donations to the Charitable Trust, of which £800 was Gift Aided, the cost of the event was borne by the Company. Whilst we hope to hold a Networking Event next year that will, to a large extent, depend on whether we can find the necessary sponsorship, which has now been promised by Butler & Young.

Event Feedback

As those of you who attend our various events will already know, we always seek your opinion on how well the function meets your requirements and wishes. We have now been doing this for about three years, but whilst we have reported regularly to the Master and our Court we haven't shared the results with you, our members. This article aims to rectify this obvious omission.

Firstly, it is probably a good idea that we tell you how we manage the survey process. We use a free web-survey format provided by fluidsurveys.com®. Whilst this is fairly basic, it does seem to serve our purpose, albeit that it is not perhaps as "polished" as the equivalent "paid for" service would be – we cannot for instance "brand" our surveys and we are not able to condition survey questions as a result of previous answers.

All members who have attended an event are sent an e-mail after the event giving them access to the relevant survey on the fluidsurveys® website. They can then complete the survey on whatever device they prefer to use. The completed surveys are anonymous (unless you decide to put your name on the form) and are collated by fluidsurveys® in such a way as to give us a report that is then

transcribed onto an Excel spreadsheet for distribution to the Chair of the Publicity, Events and Membership committee and thus to Court via the Reporting Warden.

The vast majority of our surveys have resulted in “Very Good” and/or “Excellent” markings, but the feedback from the Livery and Awards dinner was considerably less good. We used that feedback to discuss the issues that were identified with the Drapers’ Hall staff and, in the face of that evidence, they gave us a significant rebate, which was passed on to those who attended.



Looking back over the last year 78% of responses marked events overall as very good or excellent and value for money was marked as very good or excellent in 76% of the responses. These figures would suggest that, whilst we should not be complacent, our events have met the requirements of our members. The Publicity, Events and Membership committee hope to provide an even better programme of events for next year.

MENTORING

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

Following some initial work in this field by HCA John Sayers and others we have identified the following opportunities:

The Poppy Factory

The Poppy Factory is run by the Royal British Legion and assists wounded, injured and long term sick ex-Service men and women to find meaningful civilian employment. Our members will be supporting them through the process of securing a job.

Construction Youth Trust

The Construction Youth Trust runs the “Budding Brunels” programme which is a 3-day schools engagement programme with 30 students [A-level/BTEC] to raise their awareness of professional careers in construction. It focuses on disadvantage and diversity and particularly includes female and ethnic minority students. The Trust also runs a lighter touch careers advice and guidance session for schools which targets people aged 11 and upwards.

The Company

Mill Chase Academy



Mill Chase Academy is a community based co-educational secondary school with some 600 pupils in Bordon, Hampshire. The Worshipful Company of Constructors has taken a great interest in this school and is supporting its endeavours to become a leading example of a school which prepares its pupils for a wide range of careers including apprenticeships and other

opportunities in the construction sector. The support that the Company has given Mill Chase Academy through the Company's Charitable Trust is detailed elsewhere in this issue and is evidenced by the signs that are now in place on the Construction Department at the Academy. Any members wishing particularly to support the Mill Chase initiative should contact the Chairman of the Charitable Trust, Ken Kent.

Livery Schools Link

We have recently begun working closely with Livery Schools Link. Livery Schools Link is a voluntary organisation that aims to promote support for schools in the Greater London area by Livery Companies of the City of London and their members, helping to prepare young people for the world of work. They seek to act as the link between schools in need of help and members of the Livery who wish to offer assistance in any form. They also act as a forum for the exchange of ideas and best practice in the field and maintain links with the educational community. Livery Schools Link's mission is to assist children from less advantaged backgrounds to receive an enhanced educational experience at school and to have their personal aspirations raised, thereby increasing their employability and career options. The Company's commitment to mentoring is thus very closely aligned with the aspirations of Livery Schools Link and we are looking forward to supporting their activities, one of which is support for the new Design and Engineering University Technical College (UTC) under construction in London's East Ham.

The Design and Engineering University Technical College

This new college is a student focused, high tech school where academic excellence and employer partners create the next generation of confident, independent, work-ready individuals. They will have first class facilities and specialist equipment, combined with outstanding staff and will provide experiences that will equip students with the skills needed to secure employment or routes into higher education. The college will have rooms dedicated to BIM, CAD/CAM, Welding and Fabrication, Carpentry, Environmental Science and Electronics. The Principal Designate of the college is hoping to find people in the Livery who would be willing to give some time and possibly arrange work experience placements when the UTC opens in September 2015 and we in the Constructors would like to be able to contribute to that objective. They are also requiring school governors especially those with financial, legal or marketing experience

Mentoring is a new venture for the Company and it will only be successful if members of the company support it by giving freely of their experience, time and talent. Any reader who feels that they have something to give here would be a most welcome addition to the team and they should, in the first instance, make contact with HCA John Sayers, whose details are in the Company Year Book.

Dr Christine Rigden



As many will know, Dr Christine Rigden BSc PhD FGS C Geol was Master Constructor 2009–10.

Christine was born in County Durham in 1965 and was raised in Norfolk. She graduated from The University of Sheffield, with a first degree in Geology and a doctorate in Materials and for several years was a Lecturer in Geomaterials at Queen Mary, London University, where her research and teaching focussed on the use of geological materials in the construction industry. During this time she also served two four year terms on the Council of the Geological Society including one term as an Honorary Secretary

She became a Freeman and Liveryman of the Constructors in 1993 and is also an active Liveryman of three Companies [Constructors, Masons, Tylers and Bricklayers] serving on committees of each, and a new Freeman of the Educators' Company. She is also currently a member of Council of the City Livery Club and is an active member of many other City institutions as well as being a Friend of HQS Wellington, St Lawrence Jewry, and the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

Outside the City, she is involved in a number of public and charity roles including serving as a member of the Independent Monitoring Board for HMP Swaleside, a category B prison on the Isle of Sheppey; Vice-Chairman and Trustee of the Kent Enterprise Trust; governor of The Orchard School, Canterbury and secretary of the Wye Rural Museum Trust.

Christine's husband Stephen is also much involved in the Livery having served as Master Constructor in 2012/13. He is also a Liveryman of the Farmers' Company; a committee member of his Masters' Association, The Great 13, and a member of Candlewick Ward Club.

Both Christine and Stephen enjoy sailing, having spent three summers cruising in the Baltic, and two summers circumnavigating Great Britain and Ireland. They live on, and manage, their arable farm on the outskirts of Canterbury.

In 2014 Christine stood as a candidate for Non-Aldermanic Sheriff of the City of London and on Midsummer's day 2015 she was elected unopposed as the Non-Aldermanic Sheriff.

The Liverymen of the City of London elect two Sheriffs annually at Common Hall on Midsummer's Day, and they are admitted to office on Michaelmas Eve. One post is normally held by a serving Alderman [the Aldermanic Sheriff] the second post is that of the Non-Aldermanic [or lay] Sheriff.

The post of Sheriff is the oldest in the City of London and one of the oldest in existence, dating from the 9th Century when Sheriffs [or Shire-Reeves] were appointed by and responsible to the King, with duties including the collection of royal revenues and enforcement of royal justice. When London was granted a degree of independence and self-government in 1130 this included the right to select its own Sheriffs, a right which continues to be exercised to this day – a privilege of Liverymen of the City of London alone.

Today, the two Sheriffs form an integral part of the Civic team, and it is customary for one or both Sheriffs to attend and support the Lord Mayor in carrying out his or her official duties; this includes at City functions and national and international visits undertaken by the Lord Mayor on behalf of the City of London Corporation and the Business City.

A key role undertaken by the Sheriffs is that of attending the daily opening of the Central Criminal

The Company

Court at Old Bailey; in particular they are responsible for the comfort and well-being of Her Majesty's Judges at lunch each day, and for receiving distinguished guests; the two Sheriffs undertake this important ambassadorial role on behalf of the City of London Corporation.

It is also expected that the Non-Aldermanic Sheriff will liaise with the Livery, advise on the activities of the Mayoralty, and update the Livery on progress in key areas of the City Civic. Other Civic duties include conducting meetings and speaking at functions in place of the Lord Mayor [in his or her absence] or in their own right, attending meetings of Common Hall, and participating in ceremonial occasions.

New Members

At the 201st Session of the Court held at Wax Chandlers' Hall on 9 December 2014 Garry Thomas was admitted as a Freeman and Liveryman. Simon Parker, James Tweedie and Mathew Gonzalez were admitted as Freemen.

At the 202nd Session of the Court on held at Drapers' Hall on 12 February 2015 Roger Southam was admitted as a Freeman and Liveryman. Greg Sharp was admitted as a Freeman.

At the 203rd Session of the Court held at Sutton's Hospital, Charterhouse on 7 May 2015 Clinton Leeks, Terry O'Neill and Steve Hart were admitted to the Livery. David Miller was admitted as a Freeman and Liveryman. Ian Beatwell and Suryen Nullatamby were admitted as Freemen.

At the 204th Session of the Court held on HQS Wellington on 2 July 2015 Gary Jackson, Gary Kinrade and Daren Touhey were admitted as Freemen.

At the 205th Session of the Court held at Wax Chandlers Hall on 23 September 2015 Ian Livesey, David Fawlk and Tom Daly were admitted to the Livery and Michael Chilton and Robert Sheppard were admitted as Freemen.



Roger Southam joined the Company as a Liveryman in February 2015.

He has written to The Constructor saying – “As a new Liveryman with the Worshipful Company of Constructors I am delighted to tell you my reasons for joining the Company and the pleasure derived since. I have been a Liveryman since 1992 with Chartered Surveyors Company and passed through the chair in 2013. As a Past Master it is easy to become cynical and grumpy seeing things “not as they were in my day”.

After my year as Master I engaged more with City organisations such as City Livery Club, Candlewick Ward to name but two. I was honoured to be asked if I would consider joining the Constructors Company and being admitted to the Company was a delight.

I have found it fascinating the differences in how Livery Companies run and operate and I have to say the Constructors are very progressive and active in all the right ways. In my short period with you I have participated in all the events and activities I can. I am a great believer in the old adage “you only get out what you put in”!

The Company has an extensive and varied programme which must offer something for everyone in terms of price points, interest and even leisure. You have a first class Clerk who is as attentive and caring as any Clerk I have seen, and when you are Master you get to see a lot of Clerks first hand.

I am hugely proud to now call myself a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Constructors and I expect to play my full part for years to come. I hope I will have the opportunity to meet each and every Constructor at events, since to date I have been welcomed most warmly by all I have met so far.”



Clinton Leeks has recently been clothed as a Liveryman and writes “I was deep in the process of helping Crossrail to get across the construction start line when Past Master David Hattersley asked me in late 2009 if I had thought of joining the Worshipful Company of Constructors as a Freeman. I did my research and decided to seek membership, for it was clear to me from the start that the company was something different, and rather special.

Even though a new company, founded in 1976, it was and is a part of the City traditions of livery companies going back centuries, traditions and history I had already encountered in working with the City authorities on managing the impacts of Crossrail’s planned route. The company had extra attractions as a new company: not being tied to its own hall, it met in a range of exciting and spectacular venues around the year. Its membership reflected the full range of construction skills and interests, making it different from the various learned and professional bodies I had come across, and the breadth and variety of its membership especially attracted me. Importantly, it gave unstinting support to building construction expertise among the young (and not so young), to those engaged on construction projects in the Armed Services, and to a range of City and construction charities.

Above all, it was and is fun. Its events have a buzz about them that is always inevitable when such a diverse bunch of people come together first in a common purpose, but also to enjoy themselves. So five years after joining it felt time to progress within the company, and to seek to be admitted to the Livery, which I duly was in a moving ceremony on 7 May. I have never for a moment regretted my decision back in 2010 to ask to join, and now as a liveryman I wait to see what new adventures lie ahead.”



Greg Sharp joined the Company as a Freeman in February 2015. He writes:

“I established Park Refurbishment in 2004 from a larger construction company and have grown it from a small company taking on small works to its current state where it retains jobs with a value in excess of two million pounds. These range from internal and external refurbishments, redecoration works, remodelling, and renovations of both office space and private rental accommodation projects.

My work has taken me all over London and involved me in many different communities, including projects in The City of London. It was my involvement in construction regeneration schemes such as the one at Hackney, coupled with wanting to return something back into the community, which led me to becoming a Freeman of the Company.

I have always felt it is important to be an active participant in the communities I work and live in. For this reason and others I wished to be become a Freeman of the City and to be an active participant in the City, where many of my clients, contacts and jobs are.

I look forward to being able to meet many of the Freeman and interacting with a group of people who have such a wealth of experience and knowledge, and to learning and sharing with one another.”

The Company

Aeternum Vale

We lost a number of our long standing members since printing issue 4 of the New Constructor and we will miss their fellowship, wise counsel and presence in the coming months and years. We remember them and our thoughts are with their friends and families.

Thomas B Skinner died on 18 December 2014. He was admitted as an Honorary Freeman in December 1995 having previously been our Beadle for many years.

Kenneth S A Davis ARIBA (Emeritus) died on 12 May 2015. He was the Chief Architect of the Littlewoods Group and Master of the Worshipful Company of Constructors in 1990/91. He was admitted to the Company in June 1978.

Philip Everett was a retired quantity surveyor who passed away in June 2014. He was Master in 1996/7 having been admitted in May 1978. At the Companions Lunch in July 2014 his widow, Mary, presented a Loving Cup to the Company in his memory.

Patrick Maloy died in December 2013. He was a long-standing and active member of the Company and took Livery on his retirement in February 2008.

John F S Pryke was the Chairman of Pynford's, his family firm, and was Master in 1986/7. He was also our Honorary Treasurer for a number of years. He was admitted in October 1978 and granted Livery in July 1990 when the Company was granted Livery status.

David Hutchison MBE died at the age of 78 in August 2015, following a long illness. An Architect by profession, he had been a Senior Partner in Hutchinson Locke and Monk (HLM) and was Master in 1999/2000 having been admitted in 1977, before the Company became Liveried.

Company Merchandise



The Company has regalia for sale as follows:

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

All available from the Clerk.

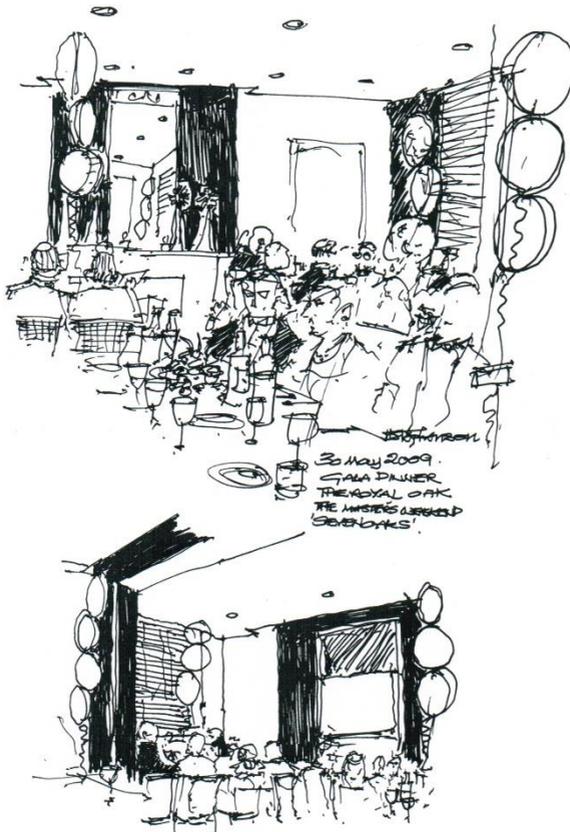
(postage will be added to each order)

Company Illustrator



The Company is privileged to have many and varied talents within its membership. Not the least of these is Henry Stephenson, whose skill with the pencil and paintbrush is probably unmatched within any other Livery Company. Henry has been a member of the Company since 1976 and was granted Livery in December 1998. He is pictured here with PM Doug Barrat at an exhibition of his work held after Common Hall in 2012. Henry hasn't been too well recently and hasn't been able to attend as many of our events as usual but we hope to see him again soon.

We are indeed very lucky to have our own illustrator who is often to be seen with pencil in hand recording our events in his own inimitable style. This is a sketch by Henry made at Roger Adcock's Master's Weekend.



Our Military Affiliations

NEWS FROM 5001 SQUADRON (RAF)



The past 12 months have been amongst the busiest since the Squadron was reformed in 1999 and have seen teams from the Squadron deployed in support of every major UK military operation. At the start of the year Squadron personnel deployed in support of the UK contribution to the Baltic Air Policing mission. Deploying to Lithuania teams from the Squadron built aircraft shelters, manned the airfield runway arrestor system and provided convoy support to the Ground Line of Communication.



5001 Squadron at Work – Crown Copyright by kind permission of MOD

This year also saw the Squadron heavily committed to the drawdown of operations in Afghanistan with multiple teams deploying to recover aircraft shelters in theatre and provide additional facilities for the ongoing UK mentoring mission. The last team recovered to the UK on Christmas Eve after 3 months of continuous activity.

5001 Squadron has also been committed to Operation SHADER the UK contribution to the fight against Islamic State, providing critically needed aircraft shelters and additional manpower to assist in the maintenance of essential Aircraft Support Equipment at the Main Operating Base in Cyprus.

During this period the Squadron has also continued to undertake its standing commitments of providing specialist engineering support to the RAF's logistics Air Combat Service Support Units at RAF Wittering, maintaining all of the UK's aircraft shelters deployed on operations around the world and providing Environmental Conditioning support to both the UK's military Radar network and RAF overseas operations.

5001 Squadron has told the Constructor "We are exceedingly proud of our affiliation with the Company as it recognises our unique position as a specialist construction Squadron with the Royal Air Force. Being affiliated with such a prestigious organisation within the construction fraternity provides a clear indication of the high regard in which we are held."

NEWS FROM HMS LANCASTER

HMS LANCASTER sailed from Portsmouth on 21 March 2015 and since has visited eleven different ports in eight countries. So far the visits have been to Lisbon, The Azores, Bermuda, Key West, New Orleans, Mexico, Columbia, Panama, Chile and both Stanley and the East Coast Military Port in The Falkland Islands. In each, the Ship has been extremely busy; representing UK interests overseas, strengthening international relationships by hosting various dignitaries, politicians and military

personnel, as well as taking part in joint exercises, sporting events and outreach projects. Since being in the South Atlantic, LANCASTER has been providing a constant deterrent and taking part in tri-service exercises by providing Naval Gunfire Support to troops on the ground, as well as visiting various settlements and conducting ceremonies to remember those who fell in The Falklands Conflict.

Since sailing, LANCASTER has travelled over 16,000 nautical miles, navigated through the Panama Canal, the Magellan Straits and the Mississippi River, with a further 12,000 nautical miles, thirteen port visits and twelve different countries still to be seen.

The highlight for many of the Ship's Company was Fleet Week in New Orleans, where LANCASTER joined three US warships, a US Coastguard vessel and a Canadian warship to celebrate the longstanding naval tradition of city. During the week LANCASTER offered public tours of the Ship as well as many other engagements including; sports fixtures and community outreach projects, where members of the Ship's Company assisted in the on-going recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

The Ship also produced one of the iconic pictures for the birth of the Royal Baby - Princess Charlotte. It was no mean feat to take the photo, involving half the Ship's Company, careful planning, and the Wildcat helicopter used to take the picture.



© Crown Copyright by kind permission of MOD

So far the deployment has been a successful, rewarding, challenging and overall enjoyable one for all two hundred sailors and marines on board HMS LANCASTER, which returns to Portsmouth in December this year.

The Commanding Officer of HMS Lancaster told The Constructor “We continue to be extremely proud of our affiliation with the Worshipful Company of Constructors and it was a real privilege to be able to take you to sea last year. We hope to build on our already close ties on return from our deployment.

Opportunities for our sailors to take part in events with you are very much sought after and, in particular, the Constructors Prize is highly contested and a great motivational tool. Those who have won it have thoroughly appreciated it, enjoying the experience from start to finish and have emphatically raved about the dinner. The remainder of the Ship's Company have doubled down on their efforts to be considered for it, resulting in a boost to the Ship's output.

The reciprocally beneficial nature of our relationship is a fundamental tenet of a successful affiliation and, I believe, what makes our alliance special.”

Our Military Affiliations

NEWS FROM 101 REGIMENT RE

Lt Col R B Hawkins MBE, the CO of 101 Regiment RE has written to say that “The last twelve months have, yet again, been extremely busy for the Regiment. 2014 saw the end of the Regiment’s contribution to Operation HERRICK in southern Afghanistan. Nevertheless, the break from overseas operational deployments has been short-lived. We currently have a number of soldiers from the Regiment deployed in Iraq to train local security forces in their fight against ISIS; follow on forces from the Regiment are scheduled to deploy soon. Naturally, our focus has been on preparing our personnel and setting the right conditions for the families left behind. In the context of a much less dangerous task compared to our work in Afghanistan, the uncertainty surrounding the deployment has been difficult to adjust to after the routine cycle of planned six month tours over the last decade.

As the Regiment transitions away from operations in Afghanistan towards what we term ‘Contingency’, our training is shifting subtly towards ‘Defence Engagement’ and the ability to prevent future conflicts through capacity building i.e. giving other nations the tools to maintain their own security. The success of the Improvised Explosive Device in Iraq and Afghanistan has been observed by many and the ability to combat these ubiquitous weapons is a skill that is in high demand. Consequently, we currently have training teams in Pakistan and personnel due to deploy to Nepal within the year.

In the UK, the regiment continue to provide Military Aid to Civil Police and have supported the live rendering safe of two large WW2 bombs, in Bermondsey and Wembley, within the last six months.



These pictures are of the two WW2 bombs discovered in London during the last six months, which were dealt with by 101 Regiment RE © Crown Copyright and by kind permission of MOD

Our Army Reserve elements continue to grow in confidence and capability. We have made some slight changes to the structure of the Regiment’s reserve component. 221 Field Squadron (headquartered in Catford) have opened new detachments in Victoria and Bexleyheath whilst 579 Field Squadron (headquartered in Tunbridge Wells) have taken command of the detachment in Rochester to add to their existing detachment in Reigate.



This year marks the 75th anniversary of Royal Engineers Bomb Disposal, where a series of events will commemorate an important part of Royal Engineers history. From the very first Royal Engineer Bomb Disposal teams formed to protect our

nation during World War II, through to the high risk role played by our Bomb Disposal Sappers on recent operations. The flagship occasion, on Thursday 22nd October, is a National Service of Commemoration at St Paul's Cathedral in the presence of a senior member of the Royal Family, followed by a reception at the Guildhall. The intent is to raise money for three selected charities; Blesma (Limbless Veteran's Charity), Walking with the Wounded and the Royal Engineers Benevolent Fund.

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

Focusing very much on younger people, the Company also supports 14 Company South West London Army Cadet Force.

Scholarships and Awards

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

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

Our current scholarships are:

Sir Ian Dixon Scholarship

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

The Faculty of Architecture and Surveying Scholarship

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

Sustainability Scholarship

This scholarship in conjunction with the CIOB and the College of Estate Management supports

research in sustainability and offers an annual scholarship award of £3,000.

Maintenance, Adaptation, Refurbishment and Conservation Scholarship

In conjunction with the Maintenance, Adaptation, Refurbishment and Conservation Group at the CIOB, this scholarship supports research in the field of maintenance, adaptation, refurbishment and conservation and offers an annual scholarship of £3,000.

University Research Scholarship

The aim of the scholarship is to produce vocationally significant and practical research which will ultimately benefit the construction industry. The scholarship provides the necessary financial support to a post-graduate student for the purpose of undertaking research which may be required for completion of a dissertation or thesis. This award is currently under review.

Scholarships and Awards

Our current prizes are:

David Tong Cup

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

Constructors Prize

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

Our current awards are:

The Royal Charter Award for Excellence in Construction

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

Royal Charter International Research Award

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

QUEST- Institution of Civil Engineers & Worshipful Company of Constructors Award

The QUEST award in partnership with the ICE is for ICE members that wish to undertake a project that contributes to both their personal and career development. The award offers £2,500 of financial support to help with your chosen project, which will typically last 18 months. A representative from ICE and the WCC will provide guidance and act as a mentor throughout your project.

The Faculty of Architecture and Surveying Scholarship 2013-14 was awarded to Ryan J Close for his paper on "Determining the most Cost Effective Renewable Technology to Retrofit to Domestic Dwellings- Ground Source Heat Pump vs. Biomass Boilers".

The study investigated the cost effectiveness of retrofitting Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHP) and Biomass boilers to domestic dwellings in rural areas.

It compared them to the popular off mains gas solution of oil and also investigated the projected effects of the new Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) and how contractors could qualify for the Micro-generation Certification Scheme (MCS). The questions posed by the dissertation were answered by use of three research methods. A review of literature was carried out in order to ascertain the reasoning behind using renewable technologies, what financial aid was available to the individual homeowner and limiting, installation, planning and lifespan of the individual technologies. The knowledge gained in the literature review was then used to draft questions to be answered in interviews with a sample of local MCS certified contractors. Costings data was also collected from these contractors from previous projects that they had undertaken. This was used to build a whole life cycle cost model projection for the life span of the technologies, which included the RHI payments, the maintenance of the system and its running cost. The research obtained by the three methods was that both biomass and GSHPs were cost effective when compared to oil systems but the choice of technology depends highly on the dwelling it is being retrofitted to.

The Sir Ian Dixon Scholarship 2013-14 was awarded to Felipe Manzattucci for his paper on “Industrialised Building – A market differentiator for the principal contractor?”

He recognised that the construction industry in the UK was characterised by low productivity, inefficient use of resources, low profitability, and isolated innovation. Governments and institutions worldwide recognised this, and many initiatives had been put in place to overcome such issues, but Felipe considered, to little or no avail.

The research paper identified fragmentation as the main reason for the poor performance of the construction sector, fuelled by historic and cultural behaviours driven by the attainment of short term cost reductions. Any mechanisms aimed at improving the industry must, therefore, target fragmentation.

The study carried out as part of this research has identified Industrialised Building as a concept that significantly reduces the effects of fragmentation in the industry. Industrialised Building establishes a collaborative platform that allows for a safe and rewarding engagement between the key players of a construction project: client, contractor, and supply chain.

Whilst barriers exist to Industrialised Building, modern technology and innovative delivery processes, such as Building Information Modelling and Design for Manufacture and Assembly respectively, have emerged in recent years to support the implementation of Industrialised Building.

This paper has put forward a recommendation for the principal contractor to embrace industrialised processes and adopt them as part of their overall strategy. The future of a manufacture led construction industry is not so distant anymore, hence any contractor wishing to differentiate itself in a highly competitive and untapped market must adopt Industrialised Building.

A tool for the systematic and gradual integration of industrialised processes for the contractor has been developed as part of this study. This tool has been put forward for assessment and adoption by the main contractor, not only to strengthen its market position, but to improve the overall performance of the industry at the same time.

The Sustainability Scholarship 2013-14

There were two Scholars. The first was Edward Dixon, whose paper addressed the subject of “Lean and Green: How lean management can be used to reduce construction waste”. The second was Richard Bartlett, whose paper addressed: “The influence of sustainability drivers for main contractors with regard to material choices in non-domestic construction”.

Edward considered that sustainability was ever present in the geopolitical landscape, with concern over rising carbon emissions featuring prominently in headlines around the world. Closer to home, the construction and maintenance of buildings was responsible for half of the UK’s carbon dioxide emissions, with the industry producing three times more waste than all UK households combined; some 70m tonnes. In response to this the UK government had committed to reducing carbon emissions by 80% by 2050 and to divert all waste from landfill by 2020.

Lean management had been the subject of much research in the past twenty years with many papers highlighting synergies between lean management and sustainability. With waste reduction being the primary goal of lean implementation, the research explored how lean principles and methodologies could be applied to reduce physical construction waste. Incorporating a literature

Scholarships and Awards

review and both quantitative and qualitative primary research, the paper evaluated lean theory and examined its application in a variety of construction scenarios.

The principal findings of the research were that reducing waste required engagement through collaborative planning and training programmes, with techniques such as designing out waste and clash detection proving to be less effective. Attitude towards risk in procurement was cited as the greatest cause of waste, with heightened involvement of subcontractors in the design process cited as an opportunity for improvement. The findings also suggested that much work is needed in the measurement of lean benefits, as little empirical evidence is available which demonstrated the efficacy of lean management in the reduction of physical waste.

Richard considered that the recognition of the CO2 emissions that the construction industry accounts for had driven increased attention to the drive for the integration of sustainable practices into the construction industry. However, this recognition had now started to shift towards managing the exorbitant amount of resource use that construction is responsible for. With this in mind, to what extent did main contractors consider environmental, social and economic issues in their decision making process of construction elements? The aim of the project was to identify the influence that sustainability factors had when considered amongst the traditional decision making drivers for contractors in the specification of materials on construction projects. The study comprised an in-depth literature review and questionnaire, with the respondents being informed by Main Contractor employees operating in the UK.

The assessment focused on the following areas in the context of a design and build contract; the contractor's internal job roles and their varying influences on the selection of construction materials, the decision making drivers within these job roles and their levels of influence when selecting construction materials, the influence sustainability has on these decisions and the varying situations that affect that influence. This enabled a full appreciation to be grasped of current practices and a critical analysis undertaken of the future role of sustainability in influencing material choices.

The results of this study found main contractors to be inherently conservative and risk averse with the traditional time, cost, and quality model being the main driver behind the majority of decisions. It recognised that although clients and architects have a role to play, a circle of blame has developed where criticism is pushed onto construction practitioners for either not asking for sustainable materials, or not specifying sustainable materials. Although it acknowledged that a more collaborative and integrated approach is required to overcome this, the contractor has the scope and responsibility in all stages of a project to encourage a move towards more sustainable material selection.

Most notably though it was identified that globally there is still a great deal of complexity and lack of knowledge surrounding the evaluation of sustainability drivers, particularly in relation to risk and cost. This fundamental issue requires addressing through regulation or industry development for integration to be successful.

If you wish to comment on this edition of the Journal, you can contact the editor at thejournal@virginmedia.com.

If you require more details of the Company please contact the Clerk at:

constructorsclerk@constructorscompany.co.uk or write to Mr Kim Tyrrell at:

The Clerk, The Worshipful Company of Constructors, 5 Delft Close, Locks Heath, Southampton SO31 7TQ

Scholars 2014/5

This year's CIOB scholars are continuing the tradition. The SIDS Scholar is Adam Golden, who works for Costain and is writing a paper on "Dispute Management and the Supply Chain". The aim of Adam's research is to explore, capture and analyse disputes, relationships and barriers of collaboration in construction projects through the analysis of current views within the supply chain. The FAS Scholar is Andrew Mills, who works for Walter Lilly and is writing a paper on "New Rules for Measurement".

There are 3 Sustainability scholars, Emma Gains, Inga Brecht and Szilvia Zakar.

Emma Gains works for Faithful & Gold and is writing a paper on "Adapting buildings to climate change risks". Emma's research topic looks at the climate change risks facing the built U.K. environment and understanding how we can adapt buildings to mitigate these effects. Her study will be split into several areas to produce a comprehensive final research report. The research will use a number of case studies to focus on within the U.K., for example retail or office spaces in central London and then generate a review of building adaptation measures that can be applied to the built space. The case studies will require collaboration with the wider industry to carry out surveys/studies on specific buildings to fully understand measures already in place and the benefits of adapting to climate change risks and mitigation into the future.

Inga Brecht works for Willmott Dixon and is writing a paper on "Assessing the influence of sustainability in tender processes for non-domestic tenders". The aim of her research is to support Willmott Dixon in understanding clients' values and motivations with regards to sustainability so that they can produce more sustainable products and also understand what Willmott Dixon can do to encourage clients not to automatically look at sustainability as the first item to value-engineer out of projects with tight budgets. This research will help companies to grow as a business as well as benefitting the wider construction industry and society in general.

Szilvia Zakar works for Sir Robert McAlpine and is writing a paper on "Natural capital and how it relates to the performance of Sir Robert McAlpine and the wider construction industry". Natural capital is the basis on which the construction industry operates and it is essential that it is sustainably managed to ensure the security of both natural capital itself and the construction industry which depend on it. The research will demonstrate to the industry (clients, consultants, main contractors and the supply chain) how they can understand and analyse their reliance on natural capital and how they can begin to include it in their reporting and future business strategies. In the mid- to long-term this has two key benefits:

1. The natural capital which the construction industry uses will be managed sustainably;
2. Companies will be able to adapt to changes in availability, price and demand.

The research will clearly demonstrate the links between natural capital and performance in the construction industry by looking at case studies and empirical data. This will promote awareness of the issue and help to create a platform for discussion within and between companies.





The Master, Wardens, Officers and Guests at the Sir Christopher Wren Banquet held in the Mansion House in June 2015

Acknowledgements

Where not specifically acknowledged under a Dreamtime® stock image photograph or otherwise, the Worshipful Company of Constructors gratefully acknowledge the permission to publish photographs by the following – Roger Adcock, Jonathon Bowcott, Roger Lilley, Graeme Monteith, David Parrott, Ted Prior, Victoria Russell, David Sheehan and Kim Tyrrell.

The Constructor is printed by the Tuddenham Press on behalf of the Worshipful Company of Constructors