

# TYLERS AND BRICKLAYERS

The Newsletter of the Worshipful



Company of Tylers and Bricklayers

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE MASTER

**Denis R. Munnery**

This is the 10th edition of our Newsletter, the brainchild of Past Master Paul Harris and first produced by his Upper Warden Nick Carter. We have come a long way since then and the technology now available means that we have colour and a more glamorous production.

However, a search through the various subsequent editions clearly shows that each successive Master has had similar objectives in encouraging Court and Livery to maintain the Tradition of Tylers and Bricklayers in supporting the City, our Crafts and our Charitable giving and I totally support these views.

Notwithstanding these laudable intentions, change is inevitable, although resisted in some quarters. In my Installation address I announced my proposal to bring a more democratic and open way of running the Company. I stated that I did not intend any major earth shattering changes, (up to now nothing I have done has registered on the Richter Scale), but a number of improvements have been instigated which will hopefully add to the enjoyment of being a Liveryman of our ancient Company. Watch this space.

The kind of changes I envisaged are, for example:- The innovation that newly elected Freemen and Liverymen will be invested with their Company Medals at the first Company function that they attend. This will help greatly in encouraging members to get to know one another as they will have to stand up and be recognised before the

assembled throng! By the way, can we please have a throng at all our Company functions? You will enjoy them! The Installation Court, our Annual Service and the Lunch that follows are something that any Past Master will tell you, are days to be remembered. I found them be most friendly and enjoyable. His Honour Judge Sir Lawrence Verney and Lady Zoe graced the occasion as did the Masters and their Ladies of the Liveries of Carpenters, Masons and Joiners and Ceilers together with many other distinguished and very welcome guests.

I am indebted to the Court Assistant John Martin for a witty and sparkling speech and toast to the Guests, which evoked a most entertaining and enjoyable response from Sir Lawrence who was, until recently, Recorder of London, the Senior Judge at the Old Bailey. The Installation Service was beautifully conducted by our Chaplain, The Venerable George Cassidy, who very sadly has now to resign as our Chaplain. Our sadness is very well overcome by the joyful news that George has been appointed Bishop of Southwell and I know you will all join Effie and myself in sending our very best wishes for a wonderful future to both George and Jane. (You will see an article elsewhere in this edition which Church Times has kindly allowed us to reproduce).

At this time I will not regale you with a list of functions to which we have been invited to represent the Company but can assure you that we are not stuffing ourselves at the Mansion House twice a week!

The most enjoyable aspect of the various activities in which we have been involved is in the delightful people of all walks of life we have been privileged to meet; ranging from HRH Prince Philip down to the children who were able to visit Disneyland in our taxi thanks to the Tylers and Bricklayers sponsorship organised by Deputy Master Newlyn Mason-Elliott in support of the Hackney Carriage Drivers Company.

I can feel the Upper Warden breathing down my neck and waving his Editorial Scissors but I must take this opportunity of thanking him and Richard Ellis St Quintin for the work and generous sponsorship of this Edition No 10 of our Newsletter.

Finally may I thank everyone for their kind support during this first half of my year of office. (Yes you have another six months of me to survive.)

*The Master getting down to the root of a problem*



# The Worshipful Company's Enamelled Box

The Millennium Year is being celebrated by the Company with presentations to the Corporation of the City of London of Brick Sundial and a stained glass window bearing the Company's Coat of Arms in St Margarets Lothbury, the Company Church.

In order to provide individual members of the Company, their families and friends of a memento of the Millennium Year, Halcyon Days, the famous enamellers have been commissioned to produce an enamelled box bearing on the lid the Company's Coat of Arms. An order form for purchase of such boxes will be circulated during the year, and provided there are sufficient numbers required then Halcyon Days will produce a Worshipful Company of Tylers & Bricklayers box, which will be one of half a dozen or so boxes being produced for City Livery Companies to mark the millennium. The small production number will ensure that these boxes will become collectors items.

Halcyon Days revived the Georgian Art of making small enamel boxes, the production of which had ceased in the early 19th Century. These boxes were introduced in the 1970's and commissions have been received from Her Majesty the Queen, the Queen Mother, Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh and Charles, Prince of Wales.

Boxes have remained the most sought after enamels just as they were in Georgian days and the international

success of the enamelled boxes has ensured that Halcyon Days works closely with many leading museums. The English Art of enamelling on copper arose from snuff boxes when snuff was widespread. Not only men indulged in taking snuff but also women. Queen Charlotte the



wife of George III was so addicted that she became known as "Snuffly Charlotte". Snuff was carried in small decorative containers from humble tin or wood to exotic confections of gold, silver, rock crystal and gem stones, and thus arose the enamelled snuff box a speciality of Georgian Craftsmen. From these developed small boxes frequently exchanged as gifts or bought as souvenirs in commemoration of a special event. Hence the specially commissioned unique box bearing the Coat of Arms of the Tylers & Bricklayers Company.

Later in the year an order form will be circulated and as an addition to the box, individual names can be added. The boxes will cost in the order of £80 + VAT, a more precise figure will be given when the leaflet is circulated.

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When Liveryman George G Brown retired after 30 years from Chambers in the Inner Temple the day after his son Liveryman Richard was called to the Bar. Fathers wig was duly handed over to son. The wig is still in use around the Courts in London and on the Western Circuit. Richard is the fourth generation of the Brown family to be a Liveryman. The family tradition in the Livery exists outside the construction industry!!!

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO...

John Wilson-Wright  
Ian (Sandy) Angus  
who have been nominated to the  
Court of Assistants

Michael Ash  
Lord Robin Glentoran CBE  
William Longrigg  
Neville Harris  
Gerald Emerton  
Gordon Penrose  
Richard Holden  
Edward Cowan OBE  
Clive Wheatley  
who have been elected to the Livery

Richard Timmis  
Peter Rogerson  
Robert Napier  
Gary Newsome  
Julian Fuller  
John Pritchard  
David Wood  
who we are delighted to welcome as  
Freemen.

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## Carol Service

The Carol Service every year is an event not to be missed as it is a popular livery event with great Christmas hospitality afterwards in the Parish Rooms alongside the church. Over 80 people attended the service conducted by the Rector, Tom Farrell. Some £254 was collected in the collection which was divided between St Margarets, Lothbury, a homeless project and a water project in Africa.

St Margaret Lothbury is the Company's church. There has been a church in Lothbury dedicated to St Margaret (of Antioch) as early as the 12th Century when it was in the ownership of the Abbey of Barking in Essex. The original church was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666 and rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren who completed it in 1690.

### CAROL SERVICE - 21 December 1999

Please make a note in your diary for this year's Carol Service on the 21st December, when in addition to the traditional carol service the Company's Millennium Project of a new stained glass window will be dedicated. There will be an opportunity to view the new window and then to enjoy the Christmas refreshments and generally start the Christmas festivities with a Company Function.

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# The Three Musketeers

Having attended the Court & Livery Dinner at the Armoury & Braziers Hall, I felt that we should put on record that three members of the Tylers & Bricklayers regularly parade in Armour with Pike and Musket.

Ensign of Muskets Andrew Stroud, Clerk and Adjutant David Carrington and Pikeman Jeremy Stokes have over the past twenty years been Members of the



Company of Pikemen and Musketeers of the Honourable Artillery Company (the oldest Regiment in the British Army). They are the official Bodyguard of the Lord Mayor of London. They march on either side of the Lord Mayor's coach and parade on most major City ceremonial occasions.

They are armed and accoutred as a company of Pikemen and Musketeers in the time of King Charles 1 - 1625-1649 (we have not lost our heads!) and were reformed in 1925, granted the Royal Warrant in 1955. The establishment is 63 in all ranks.

The Drill is based on 17th century books, Directions for Musters 1638, 1639 and Militaire Discipline 1647.

The equipment consists of:

Armour: 11-12 lbs  
Morion: 2 1/2-3lbs  
Pikes: 12ft (17ft in 1638) 4lbs  
Musket: 9 1/2 lbs Rest 2lbs

The leading Staff is the badge of office of the period carried by the Captain or Officer in charge of the parade.

**Jeremy Stokes**  
Pikeman

## WORSHIPFUL COMPANY'S CHAPLAIN

# Unopened post for St Paul's man

When the brown envelope arrived inviting the Ven. George Cassidy to become the next Bishop of Southwell, he left it unopened. "I thought it was a letter from English Heritage saying there was going to be no grants for some of the churches," he said, at the announcement of his appointment on Tuesday.

Archdeacon Cassidy has been Archdeacon of London and Canon Residentiary at St Paul's Cathedral for 12 years. He will be consecrated in York Minster on 29 June, succeeding the Rt Revd Patrick Harris, who retires in April.

The Bishop designate was introduced on Tuesday at a press conference on the 11.18 train from Nottingham to Worksop, in the north of the diocese. The new Robin Hood Line travels through areas of the Nottinghamshire coalfield devastated by pit closures.

Archdeacon Cassidy, who is the grandson of an engine-driver, declared himself thrilled to be appointed to Southwell. "My ministry over the last 12 years has been dominated by responsibility for the fabric and finances of St Pauls Cathedral and the historic churches of the City of London," he said. "It's a deep personal delight that the new emphasis of my ministry will be in preaching, teaching, pastoring and encouragement."

An Ulsterman, the Archdeacon, who is 56, worked in Kenya for two years as a civil servant before training at Oak Hill Theological College; he was ordained in 1972. He served incumbencies in Bristol and London before taking up his present post in 1987.

He has been a member of General Synod since 1995.

Mission and evangelism are high on his agenda, he said, and he promised on Tuesday to deliver a working style as "open and transparent" as discretion allowed, both with colleagues and people in the parishes, and in his dealings with



the press. "Life's too short to be politicising around," he said. "I've always felt happy with the media, and convinced by the place that it plays in Western democratic society today."

Archdeacon Cassidy is married to Jane; they have two grown-up daughters. He lists among his interests rugby, art, chamber music and walking.

**Pat Ashworth**

Reprinted from *CHURCH TIMES*,  
29th January 1999.

# The Freedom of the City of London

## IT'S HISTORY, CUSTOMS AND PRIVILEGES

Following their admission to the freedom of the City, some people say that they have achieved one of their ambitions in life, then immediately ask to be told what the freedom means. This always reminds one of the legal maxim from Alice in Wonderland:

**“sentence first - verdict afterwards.”**

So, what does the freedom mean? The answer is: The freedom is another name for membership of the Corporation of the City of London.

The Corporation is made up of the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of the City. The Mayor is the Lord Mayor - to give the title by which he is addressed. The Commonalty is the Common Council and the Citizens are the freemen of the City. The freemen, otherwise the Citizens are an integral part of the Corporation. All candidates for election to the governing body, called the Common Council, composed of Aldermen and Common Councilmen, must be freemen. **The freemen of the City are, therefore, not merely possessors of an historic name - they are an integral part of the Corporation.**

There are two ways of obtaining the freedom of the City. One method is to join a livery company. This gives the right to apply for the freedom of the City, the right having its origin in an early 14th century ordinance that no-one should be admitted to the freedom of the City unless he was of some trade or mystery. The other and comparatively modern way of obtaining the freedom is without the intervention of the livery company. This has been possible only since the year 1835, and it was made possible by the Court of Common Council in an effort to preserve the exclusive privileges of freemen.

At the beginning of the 19th century, these privileges were largely what they had been in the Middle Ages. No-one but a freeman could keep shop or exercise a trade in the City. No-one but a freeman could claim exemption from

tolls at markets and fairs and ports. No-one but a freeman-householder could vote at elections of Aldermen and Common Councilmen. No-one but a freeman and liveryman could vote at parliamentary elections or at elections of Lord Mayor and Sheriffs. No-one but a freeman could be an Alderman or Common Councilman. The non-freeman had no trading privileges and no say at all in the government of the City.

If he wanted to play a part in it or to trade, he had first to obtain the freedom of the City, and to buy it cost him about £34 in fees to the Corporation and its officers, over and above the fees he had to pay to the livery company he was required to join. This was an oppressive situation in a large city where non-freemen greatly outnumbered freemen. The population of the City in the year 1831 was 122,000 and perhaps 20,000 of them were freemen. In 1832, the Reform Bill was passed, and the parliamentary vote in the City and elsewhere was given to the “£10 householders”, whether or not they were liverymen or freemen. In 1835, the first of the Municipal corporations Acts was passed, and the freemen of cities and boroughs outside the City were deprived of their exclusive voting and trading privileges.

Today the freedom is still a link between people and the Mayor and Commonalty, stronger in many ways for being unforced and not a pre-requisite to trade. To seek the freedom is to demonstrate an appreciation that the unique governing body of the City still has a vital role in regulating the conditions in which the business City operates, just as it had in the past.

There are three modes of admission to the Freedom (patrimony, apprenticeship and redemption) both a livery company and of the City, and have a recorded history of nearly 700 years. The honorary freedom is not a separate type of freedom; there is nothing honorary, in the sense of nominal, about it. The highest honour the Corporation can bestow is the freedom of the City, and, when it presents the freedom as an honour, it presents the full and complete freedom, with such rights and privileges that go with it. The Court of Common Council is the

legislative body in freedom matters, and, when the law or custom of the City relating to the freedom or apprenticeship is to be altered, it is altered by an Act of Common Council which is bye-law binding on all members of the Corporation that is to say, on all freemen of the City.

**The powers of the Court of Aldermen in freedom matters, though extensive, are limited by the general principles laid down by custom and by the Court of the Common Council. The court of Aldermen deals with the granting and increasing of Companies' liveries, with amendments of their ordinances and charters, and with all matters arising out the freedom through a livery company.**

The privileges are now of a charitable and educational nature. The orphans of freemen are eligible for admission to the City of London Freemen's School, which is partly maintained by the fees payable on admission to the freedom.

The children of freemen are, whenever possible, given preference for admission as paying pupils to one of the Corporation's schools. Freemen and their wives, and the widows and daughters of freemen, can be admitted to almshouses and widows of freemen can apply for a small grant of money at Christmas voted by the Corporation.

Freemen of the City of London enjoy a distinguished roll of honour. Recent recipients of the Freedom by Patrimony, Servitude or Redemption include Roy Jenkins, Edward Heath, Morecambe and Wise, Lord Whitelaw, Cliff Richard, High Commissioners, Service Chiefs, Governors of the Bank of England, Bishops and Judges. Other recipients of the Honorary Freedom are the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Princess Royal, Pierre Trudeau, Harold Wilson, and Margaret Thatcher. The Roll of past Honorary Freemen is a very distinguished one with names like Nelson, Wellington, Disraeli, General Booth, Florence Nightingale, Smuts, Baden-Powell, Winston Churchill, Nehru, Montgomery of Alamein, and Earl Mountbatten.

**Harry Druce**  
**Past Master of the Worshipful**  
**Company of Marketors**

*as first published in the Newsletter of the Worshipful company of Marketors February 1998*

# Ben Jonson

1572 - 1637

*Citizen and Bricklayer of London*

## HIS PLACE IN HISTORY

**Ben Jonson** was born in 1572, some eight years after Shakespeare, whose friend he was to become and whom, in his introduction to the "First Folio" published posthumously in 1622, he was to call "*The Sweet Swan of Avon*", saying that "*He was not of an Age but for all time*".



Oil painting of Ben Jonson from *Ben Jonson His Life and Work* by Rosalind Miles published by Routledge

Shakespeare was already established in the world of the London theatre when Jonson entered it in 1598 and they were to work in it together until Shakespeare died at his house in Stratford eighteen years later, in 1616, soon after (according to one tradition) entertaining Ben Jonson and the poet, Michael Drayton. This period was the golden age of the late Elizabethan and early Stuart theatre, and both were active as playwrights and also as actors in one or other of the itinerant companies of actors which were under the patronage of Noblemen or the Managers of the London theatres.

The names of these theatres, even today so evocative of the time and place, include above all the theatres on Bankside, "The Rose" which opened in 1587 followed by "The Swan" in 1595 then "The Globe" in 1599 which was rebuilt in 1613 after being burned down while Shakespeare's "Henry VIII" was being performed with Jonson in the audience, and then "The Hope" which opened in 1613 where Jonson's "Bartholomew Fair" was first performed in the following year.

Jonson, himself, was no great actor, but Shakespeare was more accomplished and took a part in the first performances of Jonson's first major comedy "Every Man in his Humour" in 1598 at the Globe, and again in Jonson's tragedy "Sejanous" when it was first performed, also at the Globe - this time by Shakespeare's own company in 1603. As a playwright, Jonson's works include some thirty plays, and as a Masque Maker, Jonson wrote and devised some twenty Masques and Entertainments for which Inigo Jones sometimes provided designs and which were produced chiefly for the Courts of James I and Charles I and for the Corporation of the City of London. He was also a highly regarded poet, and was without doubt, a giant in the field of drama and poetry in the English Renaissance during the first thirty years of the Seventeenth Century.

His works are still in print and some of his plays are performed today, especially the comedies such as "Volpone" 1606, "Epicene" 1609, "The Alchemist" 1620 and "Bartholomew Fair" 1614. James I gave Jonson a pension in 1616 which was confirmed by Charles I in 1630 and supplemented with what became the traditional annual cask of canary wine, so that he has been regarded as the first Poet Laureate. He died in 1637 and was buried in Westminster Abbey under the stone bearing the inscription "O Rare Ben Jonson".

## HIS EARLY LIFE

The first 30 years of Jonson's life are particularly relevant to his connection with the Company. He was born in 1572, the son of an Anglican Priest. Shortly before his birth, his father died, and it was not long before his mother married again. No details are known of any of these events, but Thomas Fuller, author of "The Worthies of England", writing some time in the middle of the 17th Century, is the source of the tradition that Jonson's step-father was a bricklayer, that the family lived in Hartshorn Lane in Westminster, and that the young Jonson was sent to a private school in the church of St. Martins-in-the Fields before going on to Westminster School. He also tells us that, on leaving school, Jonson worked with his step-father bricklaying in Lincoln's Inn, a tradition that is also supported by John Aubrey, writing about the same time, who adds a gloss to the effect that, in Lincoln's Inn, Jonson worked with a book in his pocket and that one of the Benchers of the Inn heard him reciting Homer in Greek as he worked.

Jonson himself said that he was taught at Westminster by the then Second Master, William Camden, the Classical Scholar and Antiquarian who later became Headmaster and Dean of Westminster. Jonson wrote of him "*Camden, most reverend head to whom I owe all that I am in Arts and all that I know*". He left before he could enter the upper school and probably not later than 1589 being then presumably apprenticed to his step-father, although he never could bring himself to be more specific in later life than to say that he "was set to a trade".

He soon escaped from what he must have found to be an uncongenial employment to join the English Army supporting the struggle for independence by the Dutch against the Spanish in the course of which he claimed to have challenged a Spanish soldier to single combat between the lines, and killed him. This

# Ben Jonson

*continued*

was probably between 1591 and 1592 when he returned to London initially to resume his apprenticeship before finally leaving it for the theatre. He then found himself in trouble with the law on three occasions. First, in 1597 he was imprisoned in the Marshalsea prison for his contribution to an allegedly seditious play. Secondly, in 1598, he killed a fellow actor Gabriel Spencer in a duel, and was imprisoned in Newgate prison before being found guilty of murder, he avoided the death penalty by pleading "Benefit of Clergy" and escaped with a branding of the letter "M" on the thumb. Thirdly, in 1599 he was sued for non-payment of a debt of £10 by fellow actor, Robert Browne and was ordered by the Queen's Bench to repay the debt.

## THE COMPANY CONNECTION REVEALED

It remains to see how Jonson's connection with the Company has gradually been revealed during the last fifty years. There had always been a tradition that Jonson's mother had been married again to a Bricklayer, that the family had lived in Hartshorn Lane and that Johnson was taken from school and put to the craft presumably as an apprentice, by his step-father, and had worked as a bricklayer in Lincoln's Inn. However there was little evidence to support any of this and certainly no evidence that Jonson had any connection with the Company. The first step in this direction came in 1936 when Professor Leslie Hotson wrote to the Master, Dr. Gordon Ward, to say that he had found in the Public Record Office the records of Robert Browne's action against Jonson in the Queen's Bench to recover the debt of £10 in January 1599 and that they referred to Jonson as "Citizen and Bricklayer of London", the usual description for a freeman of a City Livery Company.

There the matter remained until, 1960 when Mr. J. M. Bamborough writing in the Times Literary Supplement revealed that he had discovered a lease granted in 1586 which referred to "a little garden lately made over the sewer in Hartshorn Lane" by Robert Brett Bricklayer, whom he identified as a Liveryman of the Company who was Master in 1609.

This information was used by Rosalind

Miles in her book "Ben Jonson, his Life and Works", published in 1986 in which she identified Hartshorn Lane as the street running from the Strand down to the Thames, which was demolished in 1761 to be replaced by the present Northumberland Street. She also tells us that Robert Brett was employed as Bricklayer by the Benchers of Lincoln's Inn between 1590 and 1591 and again between 1600 and 1609, and that the names of Robert Brett and Ben Jonson appear together in 1597 in the records of the Parish of St. Martin's in the Fields as assessed for a contribution to the upkeep of the pews. Lastly, Rosalind Miles discovered that in the records of his prosecution at the Old Bailey for murder in October 1598, Jonson was described only as "Yeoman" and deduced that he became free of the Company between then and January 1599.

Finally, David Riggs in his book "Ben Jonson, a Life" published in 1989 reveals that Professor Paul Seaver had examined the Company's Quartermage Book and found a payment of 4d and another payment of 3s 4d paid by Benjamin Johnson (sic) recorded on 25th April 1599 which he concludes were respectively for quartermage and the fee for the Clerk on his taking up the freedom.

He also found examples recorded in the Minutes in the 1620's where a Master and his apprentice had appeared before the Court to plead that the breaking by an apprentice of the terms of his indenture be overlooked as a bar to his eligibility for the freedom, and concludes that this process must have been adopted in Jonson's case, for his apprenticeship was certainly interrupted.

It remains to point out that in England in 1598 and indeed until 1752, the year ended on the 25th March, so that between the date of Jonson's prosecution for murder when he was described as a Yeoman in October 1598 and his appearance before the Court of Queen's Bench to answer Robert Browne's suit for debt in January 1599, there was an interval of some 15 months, not 3 months, and that although it now seems that Jonson did not take up the freedom before April 1599 this was some 9 months before he appeared in court as a freeman at the suit of Robert Browne in January the same year!

**John Peck**

# A Profile Renter

**Graham Bateman JP, FCIQB, FIOR**



Born in 1931 he lived in Croydon until early in the Second World War when a stray bomb destroyed the family home. His stockbroker father immediately joined the Royal Air Force as an account officer and the family then commenced a nomadic life throughout the U.K.

He briefly joined his fathers' company in their Angel Court offices in the City of London. The Dickensian offices, high stools, ledger and dirty windows were an anathema to him and against parental approval he became an indentured estimator/surveyor with building contractors, R Mansell Ltd of Croydon.

When almost 23 years old he qualified and his deferred National Service had to be served. With thoughts of the future for new motorways, he joined the RAF with an earlier promise to allow him to construct runways only to be trained and posted to Oldenburgh, Germany to become part of a fighter control team.

His diversions during serving these 18 months were summer sailing on an adjacent inland lake surrounded by beer gardens and playing rugby for any Unit, Station, Command or occasionally RAF team that would allow him a place.

Towards the end of his service a one off home leave brought marriage to Valeray and eventually two daughters, Shelley and Heidi. His Service completed allowed him to rejoin the construction industry

# e of the Warden

with Holliday and Greenwood of Victoria and to rebuild war damaged City churches and buildings. Their obligatory uniform was a bowler hat.

In 1964 he was invited to join the roofing contracting company, Robert and Burling Ltd to allow his owner uncle to retire and over the next 30 years developed a £20 million turnover multi roofing skilled company based in Croydon with seven depots in the South East of England. His company was awarded the Tyler's & Bricklayers Triennial Award for roof slating and tiling in 1975, 1987 and 1990 and in 1976 he was elected to the Livery and is now also the Chairman of the Company's Craft Committee and the Craft Fund Trustees.

Unfortunately his first wife died suddenly in 1980. Six years later he married Ann-Marie and is now the proud owner of a son (9), five granddaughters (8-3) and a recent grandson.

The major recession in the construction industry 10 years ago brought problems to the whole industry which caused the closure of his Company in 1992. Since that time has had been the part time director of the Institute of Roofing (1992 to 1998), the Roofing Industry Alliance (1997 to 1998) and for the last six years heavily involved in the development of higher level N.V.Q's with the Construction and Civil Engineering Chartered Institutes.

Currently he is developing an NVQ Assessment Centre to support the management and technician Standards for the soon to be launched Roofing Industry Alliance with 7 regional NVQ seminars funded by the Department for Education and Employment and aimed at promoting this pilot scheme for higher standards in the construction industry.

In 1975 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Croydon and is currently their Chairman of the Liquor Licensing Committee responsible for over 1000 license premises in the area.

His hobbies are daily swimming, twice weekly golf on the adjacent Addington Golf club and 'garden damage limitation'.

# Liveryman David Malkin in the USA

Because David Malkin now lives and works in the USA we see little of him at Livery functions but he is still in correspondence with the Company. A recent letter containing description of his work is of interest to the Livery.

"I have been involved in the ceramic tile industry all my life. In fact the last 50 years. After a series of takeovers in the 1960's I found myself Head of Public Relations, for H & R Johnson Richards Tiles Ltd, of Stoke on Trent at that time one of the largest and most successful companies in the world. In the early 70's we were asked if it was possible to remake a tile that was very popular in the last century - the encaustic tile, reinvested from a medieval process of inlaying design into the surface of a floor tile.

This technique was used on the tiles specified in 1845 by AWN Pugin for the floors of the rebuilt Palace of Westminster



*Smithsonian Institution Arts and Industries Building*

after the fire of 1835. Soon after, similar tiles were purchased for the extensions to the US Capitol in Washington DC. The tiles were ordered from the Minton Hollins Company in 1855 and laid in the Capitol over the years 1859 to 1863 (during the Civil War). Many of the parliaments of the then British Empire took advantage of this design trend in

floors. Several State Capitols in the USA were also tiled with encaustic tiles, as was the Smithsonian Institution (Arts & Industry Building) in 1876. It was this building which started our re-interest in what in the 20th century had become a lost craft. The original tiles had been taken up in the 1950's and replaced with thermoplastic tiles. To coincide with the centenary of the building it had been decided to replace the original tiled floor. None of the old tiles could be found, but after much experimentation and an old black and white photograph, it became possible to recreate the original floor. This was laid in July 1976 and a reception was held at the Smithsonian to show architects and designers interested in restoration that it was now possible to restore these very ornate 19th century floors.

The next major commission came from the Palace of Westminster to start a programme for retiling their floors. Similarly the then Architect of the Capitol in Washington DC instigated a scheme for restoring about 10% of the original floors. Both these projects are still ongoing with varying degrees of impetus. I was involved in the spearheading of this new trend in restoration. I travelled the world several times advising on the best and most economical way to restore the floors of cathedrals, parliaments and other buildings in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Africa. It became possible to keep the small production plant in Stoke on Trent busy.

Many projects were undertaken in the UK and these included Hotels, Churches, Law Courts and private homes. For the past 8 years I have lived in the USA looking after tile restoration projects. In the last 2 years my son and I have started our own Company, Tile Source Inc of Roswell, Georgia. We currently import materials for restoration purposes including Tiles from three English manufacturers. We also import Terra Cotta and Slate. We have every expectation of making our Company the main specialist for this type of work in the USA. I am the fifth generation of my family in the tile industry and it is very satisfying that there is another generation to follow me. Maybe two!"

The Craft of bricklaying within the Livery is well represented, many being Architects, Surveyors, or Builders, but roof tiling as such, as far as I am aware, by only a few, two of them being the Immediate Past Master, and myself.

The roll of the Builders' Merchant, as stockholder to the construction industry, is comparatively recent. Until the turn of the Century almost all building work relied on local sources for its materials, stone, clay bricks and tiles, lime, sand and timber.

The larger builders could afford to be self sufficient, having their own stores and workshops and servicing their work from

and the firm of Broad and Co of Paddington was a typical employer. In 1852 Mr Broad a Builder, went into partnership with my great grandfather, Edward Harris, also a Builder. The latter had surplus space in his large yard at South Wharf, Paddington, at the end of the Grand Union Canal, and from which they proceeded to resell cement, lime and bricks to others in the trade. Edward Harris could not persuade his son George to join him, for what he saw as a life of filial slavery and he ran away to sea, sailing before the mast in the "windjammers" which brought wool to England from New Zealand and later the gold rush. Disillusioned he returned to England

1899, the Construction Industry was thrown into a state of depression and the brickworks at Southall were sold at a loss. As soon as the Building trade had once more returned to normal, a site at Cliffe near Gravesend was acquired where the manufacture of cement was commenced. Jamaica Wharf was purchased and the "Blackfriars" cement was brought up the Thames to the City by barge.

The Company still owned the land at West Drayton where they now established a foundry for the production of the well known range of Broads manhole covers which may be seen all over the country.

George Harris' two older sons were now directors and his younger son, my father Maurice Harris, joined them in 1912. Serving in the Artillery during the first world war he returned to the firm for a period before leaving it in 1932 to start his own business in East Sussex. From a small beginning, with two branches and a brickworks making clamp stocks, M P Harris & Co grew until able to cover the counties of Surrey, Sussex and Kent.

As roof tiling was a craft exercised only at the completion of a new building or the repair to an old one, most Builders preferred to have their tiles supplied and

# The Livery & the Industry

this base whilst purchasing their materials direct from Manufacturers. In addition many country Builders supplied the local community with their coal and logs, making coffins as required and acting as undertaker for the area. With the improvement in road and rail transport a major change took place. The average

none the richer and joined his father, who's business now appeared more attractive than before. By 1881 the two Founders having retired, George Harris was in control. Some land was acquired from the Church Commissioners at Hillingdon and West Drayton, and Broads commenced the manufacture of the soft



*View at the head of the canal or basin at Paddington 1801. The boats from Hillingdon and West Drayton arrived at the end of the Grand Union Canal in horse drawn monkey barges and were unloaded under the unique umbrella roof (shown above)*

Builder no longer had to tie up capital in carrying large stocks of materials, as many Manufacturers with any surplus yard space, added to their own products by bringing in other goods for resale. Some builders changed course, and did the same, some adding a manufacturing interest as well in bricks, clay tiles, cement, lime, cast iron goods, and sanitary pottery. From these two sources the trade of the specialist Builders Merchant developed

yellow stock bricks with which so much of London is built. They were transported from the works, by canal in horse drawn monkey barges to the wharf at Paddington to be unloaded. Heavy horses would pull a cartload of a thousand bricks or a ton and a half of cement in 2 cwt jute sacks as far as to Ealing in the West, or to the far side of the City to the East, a full day's work. With the outbreak of war in the Transvaal on 12 October

fixed by sub contract and so the company employed its own gang of experts to fix the tiles in addition to their supply.

**Paul Harris**  
*Tiler*

*The first of a series of articles showing the link between the Livery and the Industry through Livemens firms.*



# Livery Committee Report

For a variety of reasons it was not possible to arrange many events during the court of 1997/98 although the Committee again represented the Company at the Inter-Livery Swimathon in May. The Company's response was most generous with a record amount of sponsorship raised.



Thanks are again due to all those who swam and in particular to Piers Sherlock for organising the team. However we again struggled to compete with an under strength team and unless we are able to recruit more swimmers it is likely that we will be unable to participate further in this enjoyable and high profile event. Accordingly the Committee would be delighted to hear from anyone willing to take part. The event is run on a friendly basis and even if you were only able to swim a few lengths this would help spread the load. There is no limit to numbers but a minimum of 5 swimmers is required. To assist in obtaining "external" sponsorship it is intended that part of the monies raised this year would go to a specific good cause based within the City of London and suggestions are invited from all.

A number of events are planned for 1998/99 with a highly informative visit to the Millennium Dome already having taken place in December with the help of Liveryman Edward Turner to whom many thanks. Unfortunately due to a Health & Safety Notice it was not possible to go beneath the Dome itself as originally hoped. Notwithstanding I am sure all present will agree that if nothing else the structure itself is suitably impressive and it will be a great shame if the infrastructure is not of a comparable quality by 2000.

There are a number of other events planned

in the course of the year including a reception to which it is intended to invite the youngest 20 or so members of the Livery. Additionally the operations room at New Scotland Yard has now re-opened to visitors. As some will know from earlier Newsletters the Committee has long wished to arrange a visit and hope that this will finally take place in September to be followed by refreshments at Westminster Catering College. It is also

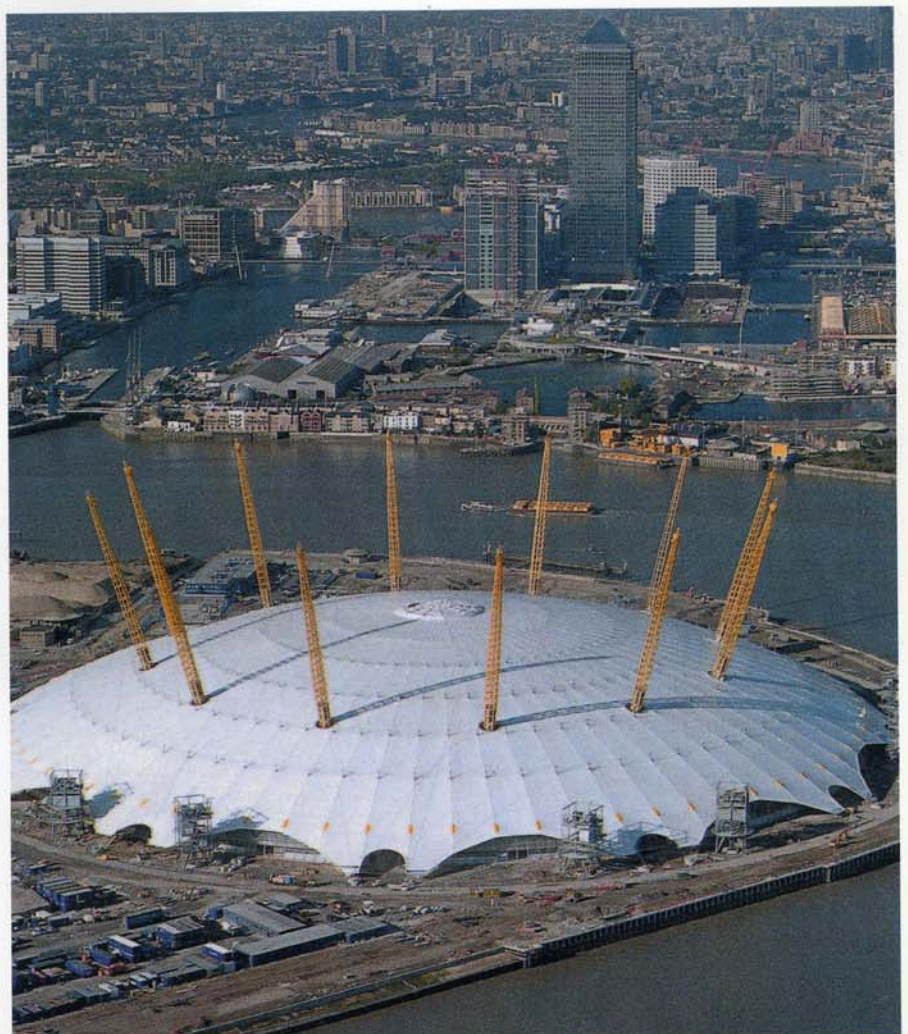
hoped to arrange an informal evening gathering in the summer at London Zoo or a similar venue.

If you have any ideas for events which you would like the Committee to consider or with which you are able to assist please feel free to contact the Committee at my address and telephone number within the Livery List.

Finally my thanks and appreciation to all the Committee members for their hard work throughout the year

and to all those who have supported our events.

**Jeff Fuller**  
*Chairman*



# The Tyler's & Bricklayers Triennial Awards

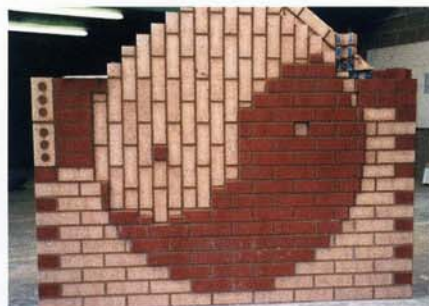
The Company commenced making annual Awards for recognised excellence in brickwork within the London area in 1935 and presented the Architect of the successful building with a gold medal and a silver medal to the foreman bricklayers. The first award was for the brickwork on Battersea Power Station where the Architect was Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, the father of our Liveryman.

The awards were discontinued during the Second World War and did not recommence until 1953 where the brickwork at Birkbeck College was adjudged the winner. Another major link with the Company was the final gold medal annual awards that were presented in 1961 to the Architect, Past Master Sir Edward Maufe and also Past Master Col. W.W. Dove of the well known London building contractors, Dove Bros. Ltd., for their outstanding work on Guildford Cathedral. The Awards were then discontinued until 1972 when, by Resolution of the Court, the awards were extended to include all our Livery crafts of brickwork, slating or tiling and floor and wall tiling in their various forms. They also became triennial for work within the then GLC area.

Today the Triennial Awards are a highly prized recognition of outstanding design and craftsmanship on buildings within the M25. The awards are circulated through the Trade Press, Local Authorities and over 2000 companies are invited to submit applications for consideration.

Company teams will be allocated to inspect the various projects to enable a short list to be produced for final adjudication by an expert committee. Awards will be made to the Architect, Builder or Specialist Contractor and the Foreman Tiler/Bricklayer who each receive an inscribed silver medal with our Coat of Arms on the reverse side. The buildings are marked by affixing a circular coloured lead plaque of our Company.

**The presentation to the winners will be at our ceremony in the Plaisterers Hall on the 1st July this year. Try to attend this important Livery function.**



*A Bricklaying Competition and Award at the East Berkshire College*



*Presentation to Student Stan Stenhouse of the Building Crafts College of the Fuller Award by the Master Newlyn Mason-Elliott in his year of office*

# Reforms

The Company Court voted on 1st July 1998 to consider applications from Ladies to join the Livery. Ladies have been able to become Freeman (New Category) for some time but not until a vote of the whole Livery accepted the fact could they progress and apply to be elected to the Livery.

This position was reached on 1st July 1998. Freeman (New Category), men and women, are now subject to the same terms. After five years as Freeman (New Category) they may apply to be considered for election to the Livery. All Candidates in this Category must be interviewed again and their record of support at Livery Functions, Charities and Events will be taken into consideration by the interviewing panel before they are recommended for election to the Livery.

The Candidates must either be Freeman of the City of London or apply and gain this Freedom before they can be recommended to the Court for election to the Livery. Once they have been granted the Freedom of the City of London they may be recommended for election to the Livery at the next Court Meeting. There are two Lady Freeman (New Category), Dr A MV Ward & Miss NV Ward who have been Freeman for the five years and have applied for election to the Livery. They have been interviewed again and are at present obtaining the Freedom of the City of London before they can be recommended for election to the Livery.

*The Worshipful Company of Tylers & Bricklayers logo on a London Taxi in support of the Hackney Carriage Drivers Company Taxi Tour to Disneyland 1998 for sick children.*



## The Company's Investment Portfolio taken In-House

The objective of the Company's investment portfolio should be the long term growth of both capital and income. The Company has been in existence for over 400 years and there is no apparent reason why it should not continue for another 400 years at least! The Company is therefore in the unusual position of being able to hold investments for a very long time - through good times and bad. It follows that preference should be given to the shares of companies with the strongest franchise, companies that will be around in 10, 20 or 30 years' time. Shell, Glaxo, Wellcome, Unilever, British Telecom are possible examples of what I mean.

With substantial unrealised gains on the portfolio, the incidence of capital gains tax is a clear disadvantage to the Company. This could be overcome to a large extent by investing in Investment or Unit Trusts, where the objectives are similar to our own, and where dealings in the underlying securities of such funds are exempt from CGT.

Recently, it became increasingly apparent that the investment advisers to the Company did not appreciate sufficiently the objectives of the portfolio or the long term nature of its investments. On the recommendation of the Executive, the Court approved the setting up of an Investment Committee in July last year, taking the management of the Company's investments in house.

**Peter V Dickins**  
Chairman

## Swimathon 1998



From left to right:

Our Clerk TONY NORRIS, PIERS SHERLOCK and IAN GRIMSHAW  
Front: NICK MUNNERY (aged 10).

## Roofing - a new pilot scheme for Quality in Construction

I joined the Construction Industry nearly 50 years ago after spending a brief period in my fathers' Stockbroking Company and remember his parting remark 'have you also considered a career as a dustman, my boy'!

As a young indentured surveyor to the London Master Builders, I entered an industry consisting of trained craftsmen, improvers and labourers using tried and tested building materials in traditional methods. Young craft apprentices received 5 years of training before becoming craftsmen and the improvers had the long haul over many years of moving up from labourers until their employers eventually awarded them full craftsman status.

It was still the same structure when I decided to specialise in roofing. Then it was not unusual to meet craft families of grandfather, father and apprenticed son intensely proud of their finished workmanship and quality was the expected industry standard.

Today's picture is almost the reverse. Roofs are not formed from an extensive lists of products available to anyone with a van and a ladder from local roofing stockists. Due to the progressive recessions over the last 15 years, roofing craft training has declined so drastically that current trainees are less than 10% of the market requirement. The VAT free 'cowboy' has been able to prosper to the detriment of domestic customer confidence in workmanship.

The state of the Industry has been recognised by Government who are now taking steps to redress the problem before it becomes terminal.

An embryo scheme was commenced two years ago, funded by the D.T.I., administered by the D.E.T.R. and called the Roofing Industry Alliance. The aim was to begin the regeneration of the Roofing Industry back to quality and customer confidence. Standards are being developed for Companies to have office procedures and from managers to craftsmen to all be of 'assessed competence'. This 'Hallmark' scheme is due to be launched in Spring 1999 with considerable support from the Insurance

industry, who have been badly effected by poor workmanship and it is hoped, the customer through their need for quality roofing.

But how do you measure 'assessed competence' in an industry with few professionally qualified managers or trained craftsmen? The phrase 'grandfather rights' is often used to kick-start a scheme such as the H.G.V. lorry drivers licences when there was only one vehicle license available; the employers confirmed their driver's competence prior to compulsory tests being introduced later.

The 'Hallmark' scheme will use the same principles for those professionally qualified by the institute of Roofing to be acceptable to manage approved companies and craftsmen endorsed by their employers to receive a Construction Skills Certification Scheme identity card with photograph. This C.S.C.S. scheme has already issued over 100,000 identity cards to those within the Construction Industry, but in future this 'grandfather rights' route has been closed.

This will leave the majority of the roofing industry without any form of assessment but there is an alternative.

In 1986 the U.K. began to develop National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) to compete against the high level of qualifications in parts of Europe, notably Germany. They are designed to measure 'what you know and can do' in the workplace against approved standards of ability. These N.V.Q. qualifications are being adopted throughout U.K. industry and also in many European, Middle and Far Eastern countries.

This will be the standards for management, estimating surveying and site supervision. The craftsmen will be NVQ skill tested so that within a year or so time the standards will be raised in the Roofing Industry to enable both large and even small highly skilled companies to become registered.

The Government has made it quite clear that the Hallmark scheme will be introduced voluntarily or, if necessary, by legislation.

**Graham Bateman**  
Renter Warden

# A Master's Year

One of the outstanding events during my year of office which will affect the future of the Company more than anything was the vote by the Livery in favour of electing Ladies to the Livery. We are delighted to welcome Ladies into the Livery and look forward to their participating in the affairs of the Company and to help us to take the Company into the next century.

The Installation church service was held in our mother church, St Margaret Lothbury, when the honorary Chaplain George Cassidy gave an inspiring address. This was followed by luncheon at Carpenters Hall when the Guest Speaker was Mr Kit Power, Commodore of the Royal Cruising Club who kept us interested and amused during his address.

The tale of the three parrots will remain in my memory for a long time.

On a cold day in November I represented the Company in planting a cross at the War Memorial in the grounds of St Pauls Cathedral.

The Father of the Company Commander David Bird R.N. presented to the Company a beautiful embroidered scarf to be worn by the Honorary Chaplain when officiating at a Company religious ceremony. This was in memory of his brother Canon Leyland Bird. The first time it was worn by our Chaplain George Cassidy was the prayers offered at the Court Installation Meeting and subsequently at the service held in our Mother Church, St Margaret Lothbury.

During my year in office I was entertained by the Constructors, the Plumbers, the Plaisterers, the Masons, the Carpenters, the Joiners and Ceilers, and finally the Paviers, all members of the Construction Livery Company Group. I was also a guest at my other Livery Company, the Company of Builders Merchants.

The outstanding dinner was at the invitation of the Lord Mayor when his guests were all the Masters and their Ladies at the Mansion House. This gave us all an insight into the new thinking of the City in relation to the influence created by the E.E.C. and the current Government.

Having attending the Bricklaying Competition organised by the Guild of Bricklayers in the East Berkshire College at Langley, I was delighted to have the opportunity to support the presentation of the Fuller Prize following the July Court Meeting at Carpenters Hall. Having presented prizes for roof tiling at the NEC in Birmingham in November I was able to present prizes for tiling and bricklaying at the Skillbuild Competition held in Leeds College of Building in early July. The involvement by the Company in craft training by presenting prizes to the winners of various competitions bodes well for the future.

The Ladies Banquet was held in the Long Room in Armoury House, the home of the Honourable Artillery Company. The reason that I chose Armoury House as venue of the Ladies Banquet was for personal nostalgic reasons as my Father, an Officer of the Royal Artillery, was seconded and commanded "B"

Battery of the H.A.C. in Palestine in the First World War. The occasion was a great success, particularly the participation of Richard Townend, the Music master of St. Margaret Lothbury, accompanied by his singers who gave a wonderful recital.

Having been an amateur sailor for most of my life, HQS Wellington seemed a natural choice for our Summer Reception.

The end of my year in office marks a new era in the history of the Company as Tony Rider hands over the reigns of office as Treasurer of the Company to Tony Norris who has been our Clerk only during the last 12 months. Tony always had the Company as his number one priority and has served it outstandingly by



combining the position of Treasurer with that of Clerk. The whole Company owes him a deep debt of gratitude for his many years of stewardship, carried out in such a pleasant unassuming and efficient manner. Fortunately he will not disappear into the oblivion of a Past Master but will remain a Member of the Court Executive Committee and the Treasurer of all the Charitable Trusts where his advice and participation will be of great value.

I cannot close this report without thanking the Clerk in his first year in office; to Tony Rider who has been a tower of strength; to Denis Munnery for his help; to the whole Court for their support and moreover to my wife Mary for her unreserved forbearance and loyalty during my year in office.

## Newlyn Mason-Elliott



Wooden Livery Plaque can be bought from The Clerk £25 each.

# Tylers and Bricklayers Golf Day

**Held Thursday 10th July 1998 for The Paul Harris Trophy at The Royal Mill, Surrey Golf Club, Richmond-on-Thames**

The full Livery of 130 Liverymen were informed of the meeting of which only 50 replied.

On the day, 6 members met for a sandwich lunch for the Paul Harris Trophy to be played in the afternoon as a Stableford Competition.

The weather was perfect and the fairways were lush with short grass and the greens perfect for those who could strike the ball in the middle of the Club. There was a testing wind that made the golf more interesting. This wind kept the rain off - except for the first hole - when the



heavens opened. Suddenly the sun shone and we had perfect conditions to finish the round. A great score of thirty-three (33) stableford points were scored by the Donor of the Trophy - Paul Harris - a very popular win.

Our members were delighted to welcome Michael Ash, a new member of the Livery, and a worthy runner up with a score of 20 stableford points.

We missed all those who were unable to attend what was a most enjoyable day.

**Dan Matthews**

The Worshipful Company of  
Tylers and Bricklayers Newsletter  
is sponsored by

**Richard Ellis  
St. Quintin**