

Tylers and Bricklayers



Number 15
Summer
2004

The Newsletter of the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers



The Master's Report

Master John Wilson-Wright

How time flies when one is having fun! An eminent Past Master of this Company said to me before the start of my year – 'If you enjoy it, we will as well.'

I am certainly enjoying the great honour and privilege of representing this Company at the many functions in the City and I cannot quite believe that I am already more than three quarters of the way through my year as Master. For those Masters of Livery Companies who are installed in the Autumn, it is very much a matter of being thrown in at the deep end as this is the busiest time in the City's Livery calendar, and much has happened in the time since my installation. One of the most memorable occasions occurred shortly after my installation. The Clerk and I were invited by the Government to represent the Company at the Iraq Memorial Service held at St Paul's Cathedral in the presence of the Queen, senior members of the Royal Family, the Prime Minister, and the Lord Mayor.

At the Lord Mayor's Show in November, I was invited to join the guard of honour to receive the Lord Mayor on his return to the Mansion House after the procession. This is a singular honour as the guard is

rotated between the Livery Companies and the invitation is given every eight years. Maureen had a reserved seat at Mansion House to watch the procession and afterwards we were both invited to lunch with the Lord Mayor and other City dignitaries. Later we went to the Millennium Bridge to watch the fireworks (still wearing morning dress!) followed by a reception at Tate Modern as guests of the Master Pavior. An exhausting but exhilarating day!

I have been privileged to attend many receptions at the Guildhall and at the Mansion House and as the Masters of the Livery Companies are often wearing full regalia, we are known somewhat cheekily as the 'chain gang'. Hospitality from the Livery Companies is extremely generous and together with my wife Maureen, and the Clerk, I have been the guest at many memorable lunches, dinners and receptions. I have also attended prize giving ceremonies at the two City of London Schools and the Building Crafts College, where the Company gives prizes, and the degree award ceremony for the City University. It is very satisfying to witness the high academic standards achieved by so many of the young students. As I write I am finalising the arrangements for the remaining events in my year. In June we will be visiting St Paul's Cathedral for our Summer Reception and Hever Castle for the family afternoon. Later in the year we return to the Armourer's and Brasier's Hall for our second Livery Dinner in September followed shortly afterwards by the Company's golf day at Knole Park.

I have received tremendous support from my Wardens, The Court of Assistants, and the Livery, and I am very honoured that the Company chose me as their 424th Master.

I am very much enjoying my year and it certainly is true that time flies when you are having fun. I hope that you are too.



My first time exhibiting at the Chelsea Flower Show

Piers Nicholson

Many will know of my interest in sundials, and of the innovative Spot-On Sundial which I have designed and am having made in brass in India and in stainless steel in the UK. This year, I was fortunate enough to be allocated a stand at the Chelsea Flower Show.

I have been working on many exhibition stands in the past, but this was the first one which I had built entirely by myself. It was an enormous amount of work, and complicated by the fact that my very small stand (only 2 x 2 metres) had a rise of 60 cm. from front to back.

So I first had to construct three terraces. Fortunately, a large building site near my home had discarded some large sheets of plywood painted blue, which had been used for perimeter fencing. These, combined with some large roof joists discarded by a neighbour made sufficiently secure staging.

In the week before the Show, there is a kind of carnival atmosphere. Everyone working on the nearby stands was very friendly, and very generous in lending or giving tools or equipment which one had not brought from base.



The stand was finally ready on Saturday, and is shown in the picture. In the foreground is the new 42 cm. square stainless steel sundial. This particular one is now in the garden of the Horniman Museum in south London, and another is being delivered shortly to the London Wetlands Centre in Barnes. To the left is the 15 cm. stainless steel sundial on a stand of the same material, and then a 30 cm. square version on the blue stand. Behind is one of the large sundials forming part of a water feature on a marble column. To the right, on the yellow stand, and three of the small brass sundials, together with our new acrylic version designed for schools and conservatories. Last (but by no means least because visitors found it very interesting) is the brass polar sundial which echoes the design of the Tylers and Bricklayers Millennium Sundial on the Blackfriars riverside walk.

The tension builds up over the weekend before the show opens. Even on the Sunday night, it seems impossible that everything will be ready in time, but somehow it all comes together by Monday morning, all ready for the Royal Visit later in the day.

One big advantage of being an exhibitor is that you can get a very good view of the show. The gardens look very much better without the crowds around them! So I used to get in before 7 so that I could have nearly an hour to look round before the show opened at 8. And then there was a 12-hour day with only very brief respites. I am glad I did it, and I would do it again, even though it seems a curious activity for someone nearing his 70th birthday! Quite apart from making enough sales to cover all costs and a bit over, there were many unexpected benefits, such as having two minutes with Alan Titchmarsh who was most interested in the sundials. And, strangest of all, one of the sundials was bought for the garden of the television show "Big Brother".

Brick A world history

By James W P Campbell and Will Pryce

The Ancient City of Babylon, the Great Wall of China, the medieval Cathedral of Albi, the Chrysler Building ... there are more brick masterpieces than most of us realise. This totally original architecture book – the first ever comprehensive study of brick – follows the story of brick from 5,000BC to its use in building today, from the vast baths and basilicas of ancient Rome, through the wonders of Gothic brick in Germany, the majestic temples of Pagan and Mughal mosques in Iran, to its modern revival.

James Campbell and Will Pryce have applied their expert visual and technical knowledge to more than one hundred themes, from bricks in ancient Egypt to their distinctive use by such modern masters as Louis Kahn, Alvar Aalto and Renzo Piano. Great works of engineering – viaducts, tunnels and bridges – are given prominence alongside great cathedrals and country houses, temples and mosques, testifying to the incredible versatility and importance of bricks and brickwork.

Marvellously illustrated with spectacular, specially taken photographs, *Brick* is at once an historical account of how bricks have been employed by architects of every period, a technical survey of brickmaking and bricklaying, and an essay in architectural and cultural history. An illustrated glossary detailing all the technical terms and various construction and bonding methods completes the book.

About the Authors

James W P Campbell is Director of Studies in Architecture, Queens' College, Cambridge, and Director of Conservation with Finch Forman Chartered Architects, London.

Will Pryce is one of the leading architectural photographers of our time. His images have appeared in *The Observer* and *The Financial Times* as well as in numerous journals throughout the world.

Brick: A World History

By James W P Campbell and Will Pryce
ISBN 0 500 341958 320pp Over 600 illustrations
Price: £39.95 (hardback)
Printed by kind permission of Thames & Hudson



Tylers' & Bricklayers' Company Master Craftsmen Awards



compulsory for a candidate to answer. Further tests will be available from a list of 15 typical craft tasks representing either ancient heritage or modern craftsmanship from which they will have to choose to complete any 8 tasks, assessed to a high skill standard. The ability to be taught these skills will be provided by retired Master Craftsmen acting as training Mentors and paid to visit candidates on site during three stages of construction. Namely setting out and commencing the task, half way through and at the final completion. A typical example would be a decorative chimney on an English Heritage renovation.

to be made available throughout the U.K. Our Committee also intends to attempt to raise a fund from the industry to allow us to recruit trained Assessors to maintain a high level of supervision to oversee standards being maintained and not allowed to 'slip'. This will provide a uniformity of the highest skills across our crafts.

Without the support of all the interested parties, this progress would not have been possible. In particular the influence of English Heritage demanding the need for a Master Craftsman to be on site from each trade of renovation contracts within (hopefully) 5 years, has concentrated everyone's mind. There is still much to do to 'sell' to the construction industry the benefits of reviving craft standards to this highest level. In recent years qualified craftsmen and operatives have been receiving Construction Skills Certification Scheme identity cards with their photograph, and recording their skills level. When our scheme is available and craftsman become qualified, these cards will also be endorsed 'Master Craftsman - bricklaying' etc.

It will be a great occasion when we have our first presentation to qualified craftsman from the Pilot Scheme being awarded as Freemen of our Company. The wheel will have gone full circle and back to our original roots when Queen Elizabeth I granted our first Charter, in 1568!

Graham Bateman
Chairman of the Tylers' & Bricklayers' Craft Committee

During the last year there has been a number of joint development meetings with English Heritage, National Trust, Construction Industry Training Board, City & Guilds and the National Heritage Training Group. The C.I.T.B. have recently produced a document for the Training Scheme and an Action Plan to enable the Pilot Scheme to commence from the 1st May 2004.

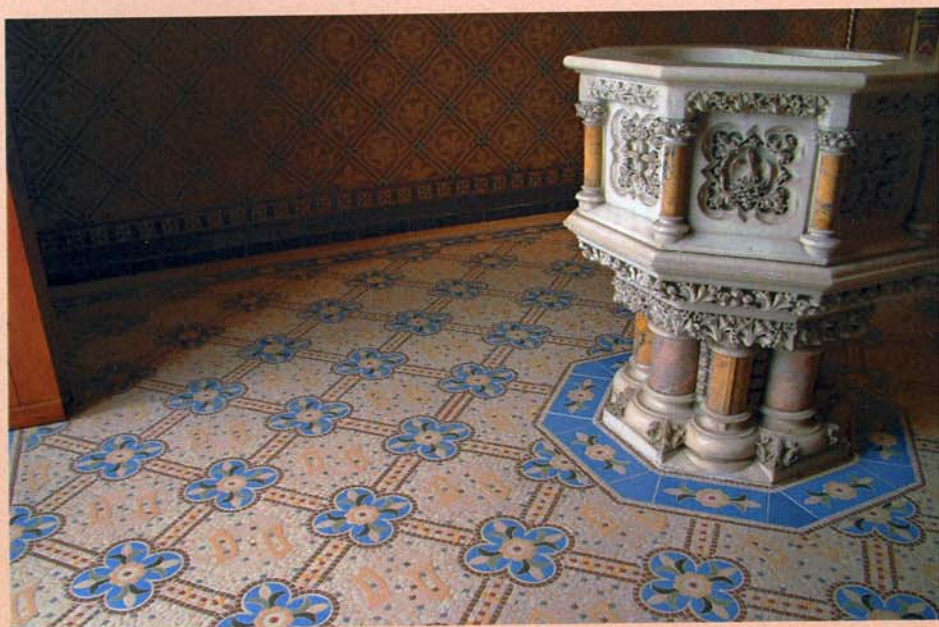
The two craft trade groups involved in the scheme are The Tile Association for ceramic tiling and jointly The Guild of Bricklayers, Association of Brickwork Contractors and the Brick Development Association for bricklaying. Both groups have agreed to take part in the scheme in an attempt for the candidates to become qualified in a target time of 1½ years. This will enable the details of the scheme to be tested and assessed to ensure that the competencies meet the standards and that the programme is viable. The C.I.T.B. are providing funds to enable the Mentors



The article on the initial progress of developing the Master Craftsman standards for the Company to award was reported in last year's Newsletter. The objective is to set out the criteria to make these awards available to the craftsmen in our Livery trades of bricklaying and ceramic tiling and will eventually enable them to achieve the highest level of skill in their craft.

I must admit that at that time I had thought that if this project succeeded in amending the Construction Industries skills structure, it was tantamount to the Company winning the Lottery! Currently the only method for assessing building craftsmanship is against National Vocational Standards, which are managed by the Construction Industry Training Board. At present these Standards do not recognise this ancient level of competence, as Leading Craftsman is the highest available award. The current youngest Master Craftsmen were originally assessed against the old City & Guilds skills test and will now be in their mid thirties. Consequentially, those reaching retirement age are currently not being replaced and this will leave an enormous gap in the craft structure for constructing and maintaining our finest buildings.

Briefly, our Master Craftsman scheme is initially for the younger Level 3 NVQ Leading Craftsmen so as they can continue to develop their skills on site to a higher standard. The maturer craftsman award will be developed after this Pilot Scheme trial. The craft associations of bricklaying and ceramic tiling have each chosen two young leading craftsmen who will be funded by the C.I.T.B. for 2 years. These associations have also developed a series of 3 or 4 technical knowledge questions on their craft, which are



Obituaries

Frank Antony Gilligan Rider 1925-2004

Joined the Company in 1946

Master of the Company 1971-72

Clerk to the Company 1985-1996

Tony was educated at Westminster School and Oxford University followed by service in the Royal Air Force in 1944.



T. Rider & Sons the family building firm was founded in 1796 and Tony joined in 1945 thus beginning his lifelong keenness for high quality craftsmanship. He became Managing Director from 1950 to 1975.

A man of kindness and generosity Tony was involved in Charity work for many years including Marshalls Charity and John Collett Foundation, also his interest in the Tylers' & Bricklayers' Company included sterling work for many years as Honorary Treasurer of our Charitable Fund and Craft Fund.

Cricket was Tony's abiding interest, having, in his time played for Beckenham, Old Westminsters, Butterflies and Hurlingham. His service to Surrey County Cricket Club included membership of the main committee for around 30 years and he was elected Vice-President in 1980. His family connection with England cricket was a source of pride to him as he was a nephew of Arthur Gilligan the Sussex bowler who captained the England team to the test series in Australia in 1924-25. Tony was a member of the MCC for 50 years being honoured with a life membership shortly before his death.

Tony's wife, Hope, died in 1985 and he is survived by his three children, Tom, Catherine and Neil and a number of grandchildren of whom he was very proud.

Tony's life was one that was lived to the full and a real pleasure to his family and also to his many friends who were privileged to know him and by whom he will truly be missed.

Tom Rider, Tony's son, is a Liveryman of Tylers & Bricklayers following in the steps of his father, grandfather and two uncles who were all Past Masters of the Company.

Commander David George Fraser Bird RN 1910-2004

Father of the Company 1992-2004

Joined the Company 1933

Master of the Company 1957-58

David Bird was born in January 1910 at the Rectory, Great Bookham, where his father, who was also Master of the Company in his time, was Rector. In 1919 David passed from Prep School at Eastbourne into Dartmouth Naval College to begin a long and



distinguished career in the Royal Navy. He passed out in 1927 and served in the "four corners of the world" in a variety of ships including coal-burners such as The Iron Duke which had been Admiral Jellicoe's flagship at the Battle of Jutland. His wartime career was also very varied and ended up with his being present at the Japanese surrender. A truly historic moment.

A great occasion during his Mastership was the consecration of Guildford Cathedral. Sir Edward Maufe RA, the Architect for the award winning building was Upper Warden and the Builder was Colonel Dove, a Past Master and member of the Court.

David was a friendly and highly respected man and contributed generously to the village life of South Harting where he spent his later years. David's family kindly donated his Past Master's badge to the Company for inclusion in our treasured memorabilia to be available to be seen on future occasions.

Lt Col Fraser Stephen Bird TD MA 1915-2003

Joined the Company in 1936

Master of the Company 1966-67

Fraser's life was a wonderful mixture of duty and fun. His robust, no nonsense approach made him one of the least politically correct people one could think of – something of which he was rather proud.



His loyalty, kindness, generosity and sense of duty to those people and institutions that "passed the test" was absolutely unconditional. In particular the deserving young were of special interest to him.

His leadership qualities emerged early and he became head boy at his Prep School and won the King's medal at Wellington. Then on to Clare College, Cambridge, where his keen interest in sport began to develop leading to a lifelong association with Kent County Cricket Club. The war came along and interrupted his legal career, but after distinguished and hectic service in the desert campaigns he returned to resume his life's work in the family legal firm. He eventually became Senior Partner until his retirement in 1984. He became a Consultant and finally retired in 1995 at the grand old age of 80.

Fraser took pride and pleasure in his Livery connections joining in 1936 the Tylers and Bricklayers and the Haberdashers and he rose to Master in both Companies.

Fraser has demonstrated his loyalty to the Tylers' and Bricklayers' Company by bequeathing his Past Master's badge to the Company and his widow, Jinny, is very pleased that this symbol of Fraser's dedication will be available for future generations of Liverymen to see.

Dennis Marsden Williams 1921-2003

Joined the Company in 1952

Master of the Company 1979-80

Dennis Williams was born at Putney, London, in 1921 and educated at St Paul's School. He volunteered for the Royal Navy Reserve and served in the war from the Med to Singapore culminating in convoys to Russia. Post-war he attended Liverpool University gaining MSc degree in Chemical Engineering and a PhD in Glass Technology.



The Williams family were traditionally in slate, but Dennis started his own business in tile and mosaic, working in design and cladding with well known Architects John Piper and Graham Sutherland.

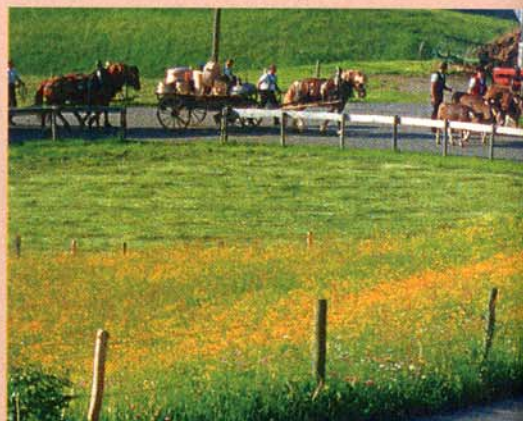
Dennis retired to his farmhouse in Perthshire which he loved but never lost his keen interest in ceramics although ill health made him increasingly frail.

Isobel, Dennis's widow has kindly donated his Past Master's badge to the Company.

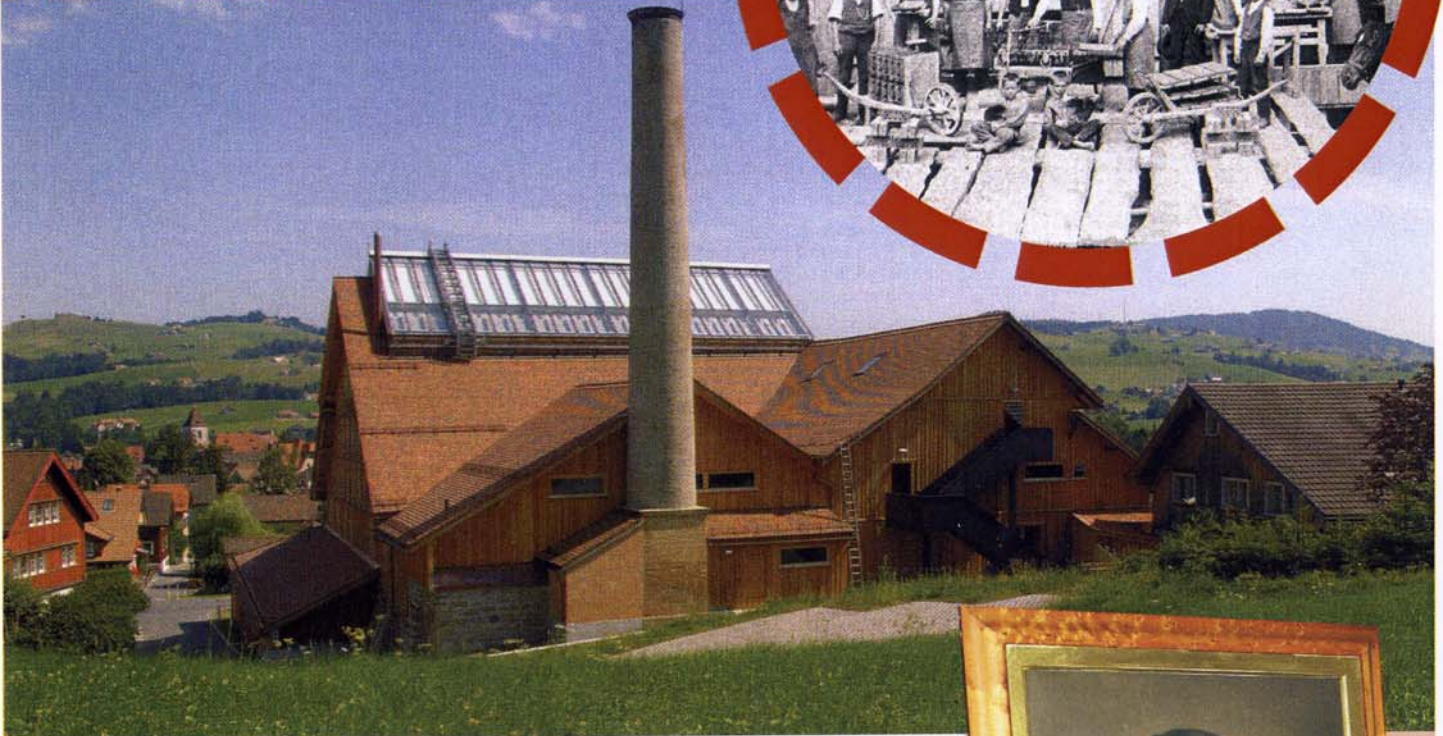
In a year when 2 members of the Bird family have died, it is worth reflecting on the impact they have had on the Livery

"In 1820 three brothers, George, Stephen and William Bird, were elected to the Livery of the Company. As at 1980 these three brothers and their descendants have provided the Company with forty five Liverymen, twenty Masters (holding office between them 27 times) and three Clerks. The unique contribution of the family to the Company in this period is illustrated by the fact that during the one hundred years between 1867 and 1966 the family found the Master in 27 years and the Clerk every year."

Extract from An Exhibition of the History of Bricks and Tiles and the Possessions of the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers. 1980



Modern art and tile making in Switzerland



Past Master John Martin

My wife and I went to the tiny, historic town of Appenzell in Switzerland to look at some modern art and found a tile works! Appenzell is set in rolling green countryside and renowned for its cows, milk and cheese. On the 18th March 1560 a fire destroyed the village and the local authorities decided that tiles should be used in the rebuilding. A local source was needed and in 1566 a kiln was built which still stands today.

Over the years the factory buildings were developed and production expanded. It was initially owned by the local community but later sold and run privately. In 1873 a mason named Valentin Gschwend acquired the business and it stayed in his family until it ceased production in September 1957.

The building stood empty and without purpose until it was acquired in 2001 and converted into an art gallery and cultural centre.

The ovens, mixing rollers, lifting gear and other tools are still in place and there is a small exhibition of Appenzell tiles.

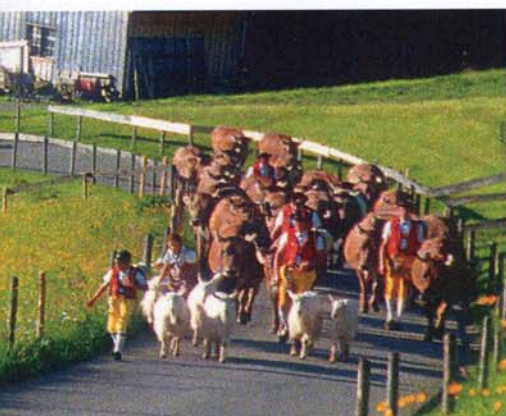
We must be almost unique amongst its visitors, showing less interest in the works of such artists as Carl Walter Liner or Nicola de Maria than the works of the artisans who worked there over the centuries.



Ben Jonson

Ben Jonson (1572-1637) one of England's greatest Dramatists after Shakespeare, and first Poet Laureate, became a Freeman of the Company about 1593. The print of Ben Jonson was presented to the Company by Mr F A G Rider to mark the fourth centenary of the birth of the Company's most famous freeman. Ben Jonson was apprenticed to his step-father, as bricklayer, after leaving Westminster School, and worked as a bricklayer for a time before turning to acting and literature. The character of "John Clay the tilemaker of Kilburn" in Jonson's play "A Tale of the Tub" is perhaps an echo of his early years.

Ben Jonson was no stranger to the Civil and Criminal Courts: it is because he was sued for a debt by fellow Actor Robert Browne in 1599 that we know from the Court Records that he was a Freeman of the Company. A year earlier he had killed another fellow actor Gabriel Spenser in a duel in "Hogsden Fields" (the very same Hoxton Fields in which another Tyler and Bricklayer, William Rhodes was to make his tiles and bricks 200 years later) and was found guilty of murder at the Old Bailey, escaping death only by pleading Benefit of Clergy. An extract from An Exhibition of the History of Bricks and Tiles and the Possessions of the Worshipful Company of Tylers and Bricklayers: July 1980



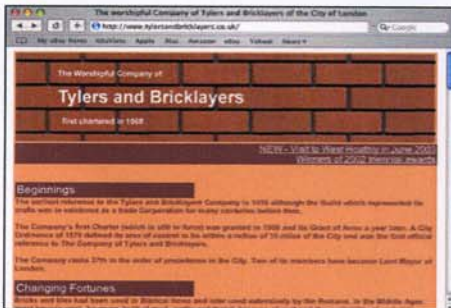
The Ladies Lunch

The Members of the City Club did not know what had hit them when 28 ladies turned up at their exclusive club on 17 March. However, they behaved immaculately and thoroughly enjoyed their delicious lunch. The Mansion House was an eye opener.

The most overheard comment was "how on earth do they clean all that silver". It was a beautifully organised event and everyone would like to thank Maureen Wilson Wright for her marvellously entertaining day.



www.tylersandbricklayers.co.uk - the first year



It is now a full year since the Company's website was started, and it is encouraging to report that we have had 3,393 pages accessed up to the end of May.

The site at present consists of 3 pages:

- the home page, which contains a brief history of the Company and a description of its activities
- the triennial awards page, which lists all the 17 schemes in the short list (with links to their owner's websites where appropriate). It also includes detailed descriptions and a photograph of the schemes which obtained the award
- the West Hoathly page, describing with 30 pictures the company's visit to this interesting brickworks in June 2003

All of this is useful to reinforce our efforts to develop closer contacts with our historic trades. The home page has been accessed 1,970 times, and serves to give a good general introduction to the Company. The triennial awards page has been accessed 973 times; it is hoped that this will serve to make the awards scheme more widely known, and to encourage

organisations to enter for the next awards. The West Hoathly page has been accessed 437 times – it provides a good record of a type of brick production, which few people have actually seen, and thus acts as a general information resource for people interested in this subject on the Web.

How should the website be expanded in the future. I believe that we have made a good start, but there is plenty more that can be done. One avenue is that, wherever possible, company functions in interesting locations should be recorded both in words and pictures. For example, someone could write a few paragraphs about the brickwork at Hever Castle, and illustrate it with a few photographs. This would be a useful opportunity to put in a link to the castle's own website, which in turn would mean that our website would get more noticed by the search engines.

We might perhaps also publish some information about the winners of our Craft Prizes with pictures of projects they have completed. And when we have events with formal talks, it would be very useful to put the talk on our website as well – this would make the information available to a much wider audience, and in turn get the work of the Company more widely known.

And if any members of the Company have written interesting articles on particular aspects of bricks or tiles in the past, it would be useful to add this material to the website too.

All of this would bring closer my vision for our Company's website – that it should be a storehouse of information about bricks and tiles, how they have been used down the centuries and are being used in the present day.

Don't forget...

Friday 1 October 2004 at 9.30:

Paul Harris Golf Trophy Day at Knole Park Golf Club, Sevenoaks

Stevie Wonder and Tiger Woods are in a bar.

Woods turns to Wonder and says, "How's the singing career going?"

Stevie Wonder replies, "Not too bad. How's the golf?" Woods replies,

"Not too bad, I've had some problems with my swing, but I think I've got that going right now." Stevie says, "I always find that when my swing goes wrong, I need to stop playing for a while and not think about it. Then, the next time I play, it seems to be all right."

Tiger asks, "You play golf?"

Wonder says, "Oh, yes, I've been playing for years."

Woods says, "But you're blind! How can you play golf if you can't see?" Wonder replies, "I get my caddy to stand in the middle of the fairway and call to me. I listen for the sound of his voice and play the ball toward him. Then, when I get to where the ball lands, the caddy moves to the green or farther down the fairway and again I play the ball toward his voice."

"But how do you putt?" asks Woods.

"Well," says Stevie, "I get my caddy to lean down in front of the hole and call to me with his head on the ground, and I just play the ball toward his voice."

Woods asks, "What's your handicap?"

Stevie says, "Well, I'm a scratch golfer."

Woods, incredulous, says to Stevie, "We've got to play a round sometime."

Wonder replies, "Well, people don't take me seriously, so I only play for money, and never play for less than \$10,000 a hole." Woods thinks about it and says, "OK, I'm game for that, when would you like to play?"

Stevie says, "Pick a night."

The Renter Warden - Philip Parris

Philip was born in Croydon in 1944 to the sound of exploding V1 flying bombs and remained in Croydon for more than 20 years.

His formative years he spent at a school in the very centre of Croydon which almost immediately afterwards was developed as a major shopping centre. Perhaps it was sitting in a classroom gazing out at the construction of early multi-storey office buildings (they looked like skyscrapers) all around that first interested him in buildings. On leaving school he joined a major London firm of chartered surveyors where he qualified and specialised in the valuation of commercial property and the acquisition of investment properties. Many years before the gap year became popular Philip, then in his mid 20's, took more than a year and a half off to travel the world combining the experience of backpack style travelling with being royally entertained in many countries by important and sometimes wealthy local residents, contacts with whom had been scrounged from anyone willing to give him a name and address! Then at the height of the Vietnam war, South East Asia was an interesting place but Philip was able to explore the ancient ruins of Angkor Wat in the jungles of Cambodia shortly before the war affected that country and closed it to tourists for many years.

His travels included a spell working for a major firm of chartered surveyors in Melbourne, Australia advising on major office developments in the City. On his return to the UK he increasingly focussed on property development, first through arranging the funding and then as principal through his own small commercial property development company.

From the late 1980's onwards, Philip became increasingly interested in the serviced office or office business centre industry. In this industry he has helped found an international marketing network, chaired the UK trade association for the industry and was the first non-American to be on the board of and President of the US based international trade association for the industry. Today his companies operate a centre in London and are developing an international marketing group with more than 150 centres around the world.

Like his immediate contemporaries within the livery, Philip was introduced as a liveryman by Past Master John Dove. Many years of enthusiastic attendance at livery functions was followed by a "fallow" period and it came as some surprise when he was invited to join the Court back in 1999. He is currently Chairman of the Finance Committee.



Philip is married with two children. Aside from work and family his interests include travel (not surprisingly), good food and wine which he tries to balance by more physical activities such as swimming etc.

The Father of the Company

A L H Carter

When I arrived at 6 Bedford Row in 1932 as an articulated clerk I knew nothing about livery companies but I soon discovered that Mr Horace Bird, one of my father's partners, was clerk to the Tylers and Bricklayers Company. Shortly afterwards Mr Bird asked me if I would be willing to become a member

of the company and, in one of my most sensible decisions, I accepted his offer and in 1933 was elected to the livery of the company at the same time as my old friend Bob Fuller.

In those days liverymen knew little about the affairs of the Company and in fact the only contacts were an invitation, at the expense of the Company, to the annual livery dinner (white tie and tails) at Carpenters' Hall and a request for payment of the annual quarterage which, if my memory serves me right, was 14/6p a year (enough in those days to buy 150 cigarettes). The running of the Company was in those days very much a Bedford Row affair as the Beadle was by tradition the firm's chief cashier and Mr Bird's secretary. Miss Gardiner, was an unofficial assistant clerk, and I seem to remember in Mr Bird's office a large leather-covered armchair which was said to be the Master's chair. I wonder what has happened to it.

I continued to eat my way up the livery until the outbreak of war in 1939 and saw nothing of the company until after my demobilization in 1946, apart from a Christmas present to me as a private soldier in 1940 from the Company – and very welcome it was.

After the war I continued my way up the livery until 1953 when I was elected to the Court. At that time the Company was closely concerned with the building of Guildford Cathedral as the architect, Sir Edward

Maufe, the quantity surveyor (I've forgotten his name) and the builder Col. Dove were all members of the Company, and the Company donated a stained glass window to the Cathedral.

In 1963 I succeeded Sir Edward Maufe as Master of the Company, I enjoyed my Mastership very much although it involved a lot of meetings, dinners and speechmaking and I always remember being invited by Mrs Montgomery to lunch at Olympia, followed by a tour of the Building Exhibition with a handsome red glass paperweight which sits on my desk as I write.

I retired from Peake & Co in 1971 and went to live abroad so I missed a lot of the company's activities but I was kept in touch by my son Nicholas who was elected to the Livery in 1964 and became Master in 1992.

I never thought that I would end up as Father of the Company but it has happened and I am very proud of my Father's medal.

The changes that have taken place in the Company in my time are enormous and very much for the better – much greater participation of the Livery in events such as the annual carol service, the golf meetings, the summer reception and the annual service at St Paul's Cathedral, and a very satisfactory number of applications to join the Livery.

Long may the Company continue to prosper.



Recently welcomed Freeman and Members elected to the Livery

	Company Freeman	Liveryman	Background
Edward William Baker		18 September 2003	Owns and runs a plumbing and hardware business
David Alan Armstrong	20 March 2003	4 December 2003	Retired Senior Commercial Marketing Manager for John Laing Construction Ltd
Geoffrey Sterling Ian Irvine	2 October 2003		Managing Director of Irvine-Whitlock Ltd – brickwork contractors
David John Szymanski	4 December 2003	17 June 2004	Managing Director of Hanson Brick and Building Products
Colin Douglas Livingstone Menzies	11 March 2004	17 June 2004	Secretary to the Corporation of the Church House (Headquarters of the Church of England)
John Robert Mansfield	11 March 2004	17 June 2004	Principal Safety Engineer for the London Borough of Haringey

City of London Briefings

City of London Briefings are particularly aimed at new Freeman and Liverymen, but wives/husbands/partners are also very welcome, as well as those that have been admitted to a Livery, but for a variety of reasons have not yet attended. The Briefings provide a short introduction to the work of the Corporation, especially the relationship with the Livery Companies. There is the opportunity to ask questions of the speakers and the Briefing is followed by a light finger buffet providing the chance to mix with other Freeman and Liverymen. The proceedings conclude at 8pm.

The format for the evening will be:

- 5.00pm Registration (tea and coffee will be served)
- 5.30pm Welcome and introduction
- 5.40pm Video presentation
- 5.55pm Interval – glass of wine
- 6.10pm Second part of video presentation
- 6.25pm Question and answer session
- 7.00pm Light finger buffet
- 8.00pm Departure

Application for places on the Briefing should be made to the:

Public Relations Office
 Corporation of London Livery Courses
 Wax Chandlers Hall, Gresham Street
 London EC2V 7AD
 T: 020 7606 3591/2
 F: 020 7600 5462
 E: liverycourses@waxchandlershall.co.uk

or by post to the Course Administrator at the above address. Confirmation, or otherwise, of bookings will be sent out within ten working days and should this not be received please contact the Course Administrator. All places are allocated on a "first come, first served" basis.

The dates for the next year are:

Tuesday 19 October 2004, Old Library, Guildhall
 Tuesday 9 November 2004, Old Library, Guildhall
 Tuesday 15 February 2005, Old Library, Guildhall.

Some Provisional Diary Dates

Friday 1 October 2004 at 9.30:

Paul Harris Golf Trophy Day at Knole Park Golf Club, Sevenoaks

Thursday 7 October 2004, 10.45:

Installation Day at the Carpenters' Hall

Thursday 16 December 2004, 6.00pm:

Carol Service at St Margaret Lothbury

Thursday 10 February 2005, 7.15pm:

Court & Livery Dinner

Friday 18 March, 11.30:

United Guilds' Service at St Paul's Cathedral

Wednesday 20 April:

Ladies Lunch and Tour (provisional date)

Thursday 12 May 2005, 7.15pm:

Livery Dinner