



Master's Update

Professor Gerald P. Noone, MBE

Approaching the mid point of my year, I'd like to update everyone on a few of our recent achievements and describe some plans for the future.

Increasing contact with and engagement of as many members of the Company as possible remains our number one goal. This is essential to deliver the Company's basic role, namely providing fellowship whilst promoting our positive purpose in an atmosphere of fun. Achieving this is all about holding suitable social and topic related activities to provide a platform where we can collectively best support and deliver those elements.

As the majority of us have an engineering background, and as such often find diagrammatic representations more useful, the figure below attempts to simply represent how these aspects of our role mutually reinforce.

The overarching purpose of the above Company activities self reinforce this choice allowing members to engage in whichever way they wish and most value.

This update uses this 'structure' to illustrate where recent and future activities fit.

Court & Company Networking

Michaelmas and Myddleton lunches principal guests were the President of CIWEM and the Senior Alderman below the Chair, Robert Finch.

Master's Dinner at the Liberal Club and Annual Banquet at the new Haberdashers Hall with principal guest, the Commander of HMS Scott.

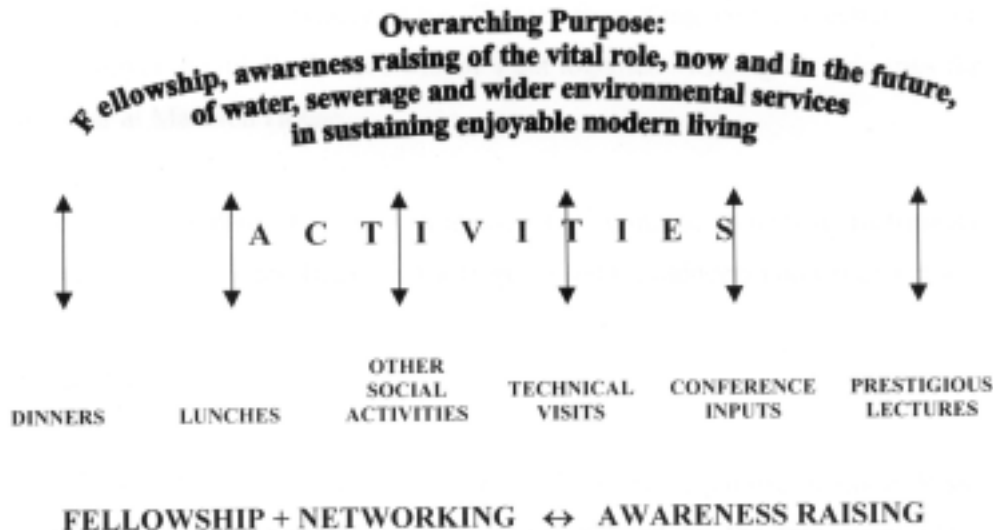
City Profile and Awareness Activities

Presentation of a Company water jug to the Lord Mayor to celebrate the purchase of the Conservancy of the Thames from King Richard; election of the Lord Mayor at Guildhall; Lord Mayor's get together outlining his priorities for the year at Mansion House.

Attendance to date at other Companies key dinners; Scientific Instrument Makers', Tax Advisers', Hackney Carriage Drivers', Engineers and Constructors' and Management Consultants'.

Social Events

The Cropston visit and presentation, Great River Race, House of Lords Visit, Carol Service and Supper are to be supplemented by the two event ideas deemed most popular by the Company from the recent questionnaire.



Company Member Awareness - Technical Visit

A visit to the Thames Barrier and two lectures, one on future flooding, the other on the Barrier have been announced for 27 March 2003. Another to a modern Landfill and a presentation, will follow in June 2003

Wider Awareness Raising

On 30th October the Company accepted its first conference invitation to speak, the event being "Water 2003 - What can be done?" before over 200 people at the Royal Geographical Society. The post conference dinner, hosted by ourselves, had the Water Minister as principal guest, with other key guests such as Lord Hunt, previously in charge of the Met. Office. A Lords Reception followed a month later with the conference outputs forming part of the Government's inputs to Kyoto this March.

This activity heralds us entering a further new area of wider awareness raising through three upcoming prestigious lectures. These are aimed at Livery, City and Business/Politician audiences to show that as a Company we are both forward thinking and very relevant to the 'City'.

Insurance Hall will be the venue for a business/community consequence lecture on the Barrier re: Increasing future flooding challenges, a City venue for a lecture on managing the escalating pressures of refuse/solid waste from London as a major conurbation and thirdly, closing the loop back to "the great stink" of over a century ago (at the House of Commons) showing how clean rivers are vital to a major prestigious capital.

Recognising the need for wider scope, but always differentiated

and special social events, two of the four most supported ideas will be offered for later in the year May to August. Depending on firm responses, a further more geographically distant event using our Company connections will be offered.

As I've said previously, having gained the Livery, the Wardens and myself have to ensure we move forwards on a sound basis delivering our agreed goals of fellowship and with the purpose of positive awareness raising, all in a fun context. Whilst direction and consistency are more important than pace, demonstrable progress is however vital if we're to secure the Company desire to be viewed as relevant, important, professional and, above all, pleasant to engage with.

I will strive to ensure that the second half of my year as Master continues to move us forwards, both externally and internally, reflecting also the new Lord Mayor's desire of ensuring relevance of the Livery with a clarity of good governance.

The Master



A Jubilant conclusion

.....

With 2002 being Golden Jubilee year it was both a privilege and an honour to meet the Queen at one of Her Majesty's special commemorative events on 25 June. Indeed, it was twice as special for me personally as I was representing the Water Conservators as Master for the last time. It was a warm Summer's day in West London's Bushey Park, and there were a number of lively public celebrations taking place which attracted a crowd of over 50,000 people.

Courtesy of the Queen's Watermen, my wife Angela and I joined the clerk Ralph Riley and the deputy bargemaster, David Cowie, in a private enclosure with around fifty other livery company guests. The delightfully named Swan-Uppers who mark the Queen's swans on the Thames were also present.

The Queen's Watermen - the majority of whom are also members of the Company of Watermen and Lightermen - had organised a special event to present the Queen with a model of her beautiful new Thames barge, aptly named Jubilant.

Fresh from success in the Admiral's Cup, our Company's cutter, the Water Forget-Me-Not, on this occasion served its purpose out of the water alongside the barges of other Livery Companies as part of a colourful procession. Together with the Masters of the Founders', Tallow Chandlers', Master Mariners' and Shipwrights' Companies amongst others, we all stood dressed in our robes and regalia to form an avenue to receive the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh as they visited our enclosure.

Despite being on a whirlwind tour of the day's events, Her Majesty duly spoke to a few of the guests before being presented with the model of the Jubilant. It truly was a hugely memorable day and a wonderful high on which to finish my term as Master.

The Company congratulates, with pleasure, the Queen's Bargemaster Bob Crouch - a good friend of the Company - being honoured in the New Year's Honours List and is now a Member of the Royal Victorian Order.

**Peter English, MBE
Deputy Master**



The Journeyman Cometh

At its meeting in December 2002, and after deliberation for a year or more, the Court agreed to launch an initiative to attract younger qualified members to join the Company.

They felt the need to lower the average age of membership, and to ensure that we have a healthy succession. These new, younger members are to be known as Journeymen, the Livery's traditional name for its up and coming Freemen.

In order to make the proposition attractive, it was agreed that the cost for Journeymen should be kept to a minimum.

The Court therefore agreed that the conditions for membership of the Company as a Journeyman will be as follows:-

- The class of Journeyman shall be open to professionally qualified individuals from the age of 25 years, to the age of 40 years.
- Membership as a Journeyman shall be by invitation (in line with a Freeman).
- A Journeyman shall be qualified, either by dint of corporate membership of an appropriate professional body, or possession of a relevant higher degree.
- A Journeyman shall not be admitted to the Freedom of the Company, but be "a member" of it.
- A Journeyman shall pay an entrance fine equal to that of a Freeman.
- The Journeyman's entrance fine

shall include the cost of the provision of a Tear badge with an identifying ribbon (also in line with a Freeman).

- A Journeyman shall pay the same quarterage as a Freeman.

- A Journeyman shall be entitled to attend the Michaelmas Lunch, Election Court Lunch and Installation Lunch/Dinner as a Company guest, and without further payment.

- A Journeyman shall be entitled to attend all other Company events and to invite guests to all Company functions, provided that the Journeyman does so at his / her own expense.

- A Journeyman may remain as such for a maximum period of five years, or until reaching the age of 40 years, which ever occurs the sooner.

- After five years of membership, or having reached the age of 40 years, a Journeyman shall: either apply for the Freedom of the Company; or apply to join the Livery of the Company, (subject to payment of the livery fine and quarterage); or revert to non-active status.

All existing Freemen and Liverymen of the Company are now encouraged to consider proposing suitable younger members either from their own organisations, or those with whom they are associated through business and whom they know well, to become Journeymen Water Conservators.

In the first instance, all enquiries should be addressed to the Clerk (tel: 020 8421 0305, or email: clerk@waterconservators.org)

Another First



At the Michaelmas Court held on 19th September 2002 at Pewterers' Hall, Stephen Goodwin was admitted as a Freeman of the Company. His father Brian Goodwin was admitted when the Company was a Guild and is currently a Liveryman and Court Assistant.

Stephen is Managing Director of Aquabio Ltd a multi disciplinary Company based in Worcester. It works closely with the U.K. water industry in the design and application of advanced effluent treatment and recycling technology throughout the industrial and municipal sectors for which there has been various acknowledgement awards.

This is the very first occasion that father and son will be enjoying membership of the Company and we can be certain that it will not be the last

Stephen was clothed in the Livery at the Court meeting on 27th January 2003.



City titbits

Patrimony plea

Past Master McDowell is offering a free bottle of Champagne to the first Freeman of the Company to have a child - if the child was born after the date you became a Freeman. At the age of 21 your child is entitled to become a Freeman of the Company by the patrimony tradition. Get cracking!

Lunch in the City

All members of the company are entitled to have lunch at the City Livery Club at the Insurers' Hall, Aldermanbury, behind the Guildhall. The Club has a bar, provides a hot lunch or sandwiches and as those who attend the Past Masters' lunch will verify, the food is excellent. It is also a good spot if you are in the city at lunchtime or are looking for a venue for a family party following the award of Freeman of the City, for example.

City Livery Club

Members of the Company are entitled to join the City Livery Club to benefit from their dining facilities, coffee lounge and join in a number of functions including an annual banquet and holiday. It is possible to join any or all of the different sections which include aero, golf, music and boating. Each has its own separate functions and weekends away.

United Wards Club

The United Wards Club is open to membership for anybody interested in the City - whether or not they are a Freeman, Liveryman or ward club member. A number of functions and holidays are arranged including a trip this year to Slovenia and Venice.

Guild of Freeman

Open to all Freeman and Liverymen, the Guild of Freeman

is a purely social organisation which has numerous functions in the City during the year. These include a visit with a reception and lunch and an annual banquet which attracts over 1,000 to the Guildhall.

Society of Young Freeman

Any Freeman under the age of 36 are entitled to join this society which provides a number of social events such as City brewery visits.

Royal Society of St George, City of London branch

A number of events including an annual banquet at the Mansion House and functions including a Trafalgar Night Dinner and Beating, Retreat make this the organisation to belong to if you are particularly patriotic.

Please contact the Clerk for details.

Admiral's Cup success for Water Forget-Me-Not

The Water Conservator's cutter, the Water Forget-Me-Not, was the first to cross the finish line and win the Admiral's Cup on 17th June 2002, thanks to our excellent crew.

Traditional Thames cutters belonging to Livery Companies are raced every year on the Thames from the Houses of Parliament to Nine Elms, each bearing a Master and liveryman in full regalia.

Aboard the Water Forget-Me-Not, the deputy bargemaster, David Cowie and myself were the passengers lucky enough to enjoy our victory.

On a warm and sunny day with just a little choppiness on the river, the win was a tribute to the superb skill, strength and stamina of our crew

of three oarsmen and cox led by the tenacious John Dwan.

To honour their contribution, it was unanimously resolved at a Court meeting held on 11th December 2002, that the present and future crews of the Water Conservators' cutter will be accredited the title of Freeman Oarsmen.

Peter English, MBE
Deputy Master

School prizes



The governors, staff, parents and pupils, of Bower Park School, in the London Borough of Havering, welcomed the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators to their annual celebration of success, at the end of last November. Children at the school had taken part in the Company's pilot "Pupils' Prizes" initiative, and the prizes were awarded to the successful children, during a most enjoyable evening.

Fifteen children were awarded prizes for their projects on water conservation, which they undertook as part of their national curriculum studies of the topic. The four children who were presented with a first prize, from each of the classes that took part, were not only



Water Conservator's Goblets.

When the pilot study is completed, it is intended to launch it Company and country wide, and invite members of the livery to become a School Water Conservators, and for them to develop a link with a school in their locality, or a school with which they or their family are associated.



Court Assistant Jeff Rasbash with Mrs Glenna Joint, Head of Science

pleased to received their certificates and cheques, but were also presented with one of the new, limited edition, Water Conservator's Goblets. The children were clearly thrilled to receive them, and many of their friends wanted to know how they could win one too.

After much discussion within the Court, and also with the trustees of our charity, The Water Conservation Trust, it was decided follow the path of the majority of the City livery companies, and establish develop links with schools. We have therefore initiated this pilot scheme with a few selected schools across the UK, and we look forward to being involved with more events like this.

If you want any further information on the scheme, please contact Court Assistant Jeff Rasbash.

(email :- j.b.rasbash@uel.ac.uk)

Having is not alone in welcoming the Company. Children at Stowe School have, for the second year, taken part in a "Water Conservator's Challenge". It was organized as a competition, to see which team could get the cleanest water, given some dirty water, fundamental materials, and limited time in with which to make and utilize a sand filter. The prizes, certificates and goblets have been a great success here too. A tremendous start!

The Company is now focused on developing its role to follow the best traditions of the Livery. A large part of that role has historically been to support education and training, and our new livery company is keen to play its part, whilst at the same time promoting water conservation in its widest sense.



Bower Park School Prize Winners

Company *events*

THE ANNUAL DINNER

"..... honest talk and wholesome wine."

The Annual Dinner was held at Haberdashers' Hall on Tuesday 5 November 2002 and was attended by 105 liverymen and their guests.

Haberdashers' Hall is a superb new hall, only officially opened by the Queen in October, and formed a magnificent setting for the event. The ladies provided colour and sparkle and players from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama some delightful background accompaniment.

Before the meal the atmosphere in the reception area was most convivial, clearly everyone derived great pleasure from renewing acquaintances and admiring the building.



Commander Jamie MacMichael

The principal guest and speaker was Commander Jamie MacMichael, a former Captain of HMS Scott. Other contributions were made by Dr Kevin Bond (Thames Warden) and Professor Gerald Noone, MBE (Master).

The Master presented "Annual Water Conservators Prizes" to Petty Officer Cadet Mark Philips serving with T. S. Scott, to Chief Petty Officer Marine Engineer Artificer John Pritchard with HMS Scott.



Petty Officer John Pritchard

He also presented a Prize to Major Mark Ropel RE, Officer Commanding 521 Specialist Team Royal Engineers (Water Development).



Major Mark Ropel

Lieutenant (SCC) Peter Lewis RNVR made a presentation to Past Master Bruce Hewett for all his help whilst he was Liaison Officer

for the Company. The Master accepted the plaque on his behalf.



Lieutenant (SCC) Peter Lewis RNVR

At the conclusion of the dinner the assembled throng were required to sing the Grace, Laudi Spirituali, accompanied by the musicians. Our excellent Beadle thankfully took it upon himself to be our conductor. If this procedure is to be continued then the Company must consider providing the Beadle with a conductor's baton, his mace is a little unwieldy for this purpose. Clearly no-one had thought of carrying out a risk assessment on behalf of the top table. We must also try to improve the quality of the singing.



Master replying on behalf of the Company

For those with the necessary stamina or thirst a stirrup-cup brought a memorable evening to an end.



EVENTS 2003

United Guild Service/Joint Lunch

St Paul's/I.T. Hall
28th March 2003

Election Court/Lunch

HQS Wellington
17th April 2003

Tudor Pull

River Thames
25th May 2003

Golf Day

Ellesborough
24th June 2003

Election of Sheriffs

Guildhall
18th June 2003

Port of London Challenge

River Thames
26th June 2003

Cricket Day

The Oval
TBA

Installation Court/Lunch

Barber Surgeons' Hall
2nd July 2003

Conservancy Day

Mansion House
15th July 2003

Great River Race

River Thames
6th September 2003

Michaelmas Court/Lunch

TBA
24th September 2003

Election of Lord Mayor

Guildhall
29th September 2003

Annual Dinner

TBA
6th November 2003

Joint carol service

The joint carol service of the Worshipful Company of Fuellers and the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators was held at St Michael's Church Cornhill (the Water Conservators church) on Thursday, 5th Dec 2002 at 6pm. This year the event was organized by the Fuellers

The service was conducted by the Rector of St Michaels the Rev Dr Peter Mullen who is Hon. Chaplain to the Fuellers' and Rev Adrian Hopwood Hon. Chaplain to the Water Conservators.

This was the second joint service and attendance was good, but the Fuellers were better represented than the Water Conservators.

The music was directed by Jonathan Rennert, the organist was Duncan Ferguson. As usual both the choir and the music were magnificent, and the congregation sang well. Lessons were read by both of the Masters, and by some of the wardens of the twocompanies.

Following the service, supper was shared at the nearby City Flogger wine bar. The whole evening was a very enjoyable and uplifting beginning to the Christmas season.

Service of dedication and Myddleton Lunch

It was fitting that the momentous dedication of our Livery Company was celebrated in honour of an historic water pioneer.

In the early 1600s, Sir Hugh Myddleton ran the New River Company and built a watercourse bringing life-saving, fresh water from Hertfordshire into the City of London.

In recognition of his achievement, the Company chose to mark its third anniversary of gaining Livery status- and celebrate the official dedication - by holding the Myddleton Lunch on January 27th 2003. The event began with the historic dedication of the livery in St Michael's Cornhill church. This traditional ceremony was modelled on the ancient traditions of the many other livery Companies.

Fortunately the winter weather was mild and the Court was able to process from the Tallow Chandlers' Hall to the church and back. Over 90 members gathered for a sumptuous meal.

The principal guest was also present was Mr Alderman Robert Finch, Senoir Alderman before the Chair. Deputy Pauline Halliday was also able to attend. Both were present when the Company received its Letters Patent, in fact they were the Lay and the Aldermanic Sheriffs at the time.

Other guests included the Masters and Clerks of the Hackney Carriage Drivers', the Management Consultants' and the Tax Advisors'. These are three of the four Companies awaiting Livery status.



Contact: Mr R.A. Riley, Clerk,
The Worshipful Company of
Water Conservators,
22 Broadfields,
Headstone Lane, Hatch End,
Middlesex, HA2 6NH

Tel/Fax: 020 8421 0305
Email:
clerk@waterconservators.org
Website:
www.waterconservators.org



Court procession passing the Mansion House



Court procession passing down Walbrook