



The Company applies for Royal Charter

In the Ordinances of the Company one of the objectives is to apply when the time shall seem meet to Her Majesty in Council for a Charter of Incorporation.

At a meeting of the Court on Thursday 27th January 2005 it was agreed that a Petition be presented to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for the Grant of a Charter of Incorporation to the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators. The petition has been submitted to the Clerk to the Privy Council and we await the outcome.

Currently the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators is an unincorporated association which means essentially that we do not have to produce annual reports and accounts for external publication. Essentially we have the status of a private club. If we obtain a Charter we shall become an incorporated body the main consequence being that we change from being a 'private' association to a 'public' organisation. We shall be public only in so far as publishing accounts that are open to the membership. We shall not have to register with Companies House because we shall not be a Limited Company or a Company Limited by Guarantee. We shall be expected to conduct our affairs in accordance with modern guidance on corporate governance. Because our Ordinances in accordance with which the Company is governed were written recently we have had to make no changes prior to submitting the Petition.

The main benefit of the Charter is the status that this will confer on our Company particularly the increase in our credibility when dealing with government or other Chartered Bodies. We shall become a legal entity which will help us in expanding the activities of the Company. No substantial costs have been incurred in the preparation of the Charter and no legal costs have been incurred. Much help was received from the Worshipful Company of Engineers in preparing the Petition and the Charter. The Engineers recently received their Royal Charter and provided invaluable assistance on the wording and the process.

Progress on the process will be reported in future editions of the Conservator

Dr. Marion Carter
Master



Master's Events 2004/2005

July 2004

- * Installation Court Lunch
- * Conservancy Day, Mansion House, Jug Ceremony Presentation
- * Constructors' Lunch
- * Buckingham Palace Garden Party

September 2004

- * Globe Theatre Romeo and Juliet.
- * Battle of Britain Cocktail party at Royal Air Force Northolt
- * Michaelmas Court and Lunch at Pewterers' Hall.
- * Insurers' Dinner, Guildhall
- * Election of Lord Mayor, Guildhall

October 2004

- * Modern Companies Dinner, HQS Wellington
- * Trafalgar Day Parade preceded by Mayor's Reception at Town Hall, Maidstone
- * Admission Court Dinner, Scientific Instrument Makers' Hall

November 2004

- * The Worshipful Company of Launderers Annual Dinner
- * Annual Banquet, Haberdashers' Hall
- * The Silent Ceremony, Guildhall
- * Dining Out, RAF Northolt

December 2004

- * Christmas Court Lunch
- * Carol Service
- * Walbrook Ward Club Dinner
- * Lunch with the Past Masters

January 2005

- * Plumbers' lecture and Plumbers' Dinner

- * Service of Dedication and Myddleton Lunch
- * Constructors' Dinner

February 2005

World Traders' Tacitus lecture, Guildhall



New Honorary Liveryman

The Court is delighted to report that Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley has agreed to become the second Honorary Liveryman of our Company. He was installed as a Liveryman in a ceremony at the Draper's Hall just before the Myddleton Lunch in January this year.

Alderman Dr Parmley is a Musician, Scholar and Schoolmaster not necessarily in that order. He describes himself as a freelance examiner, adjudicator, composer broadcaster, conductor, editor and writer. He became an Alderman in 2001 having previously served as a Common Councilman for Vintry Ward since 1992. Among other things he is currently Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

He is currently Under Warden to the Parish Clerks' and a Court Assistant of the Musicians' Company. He is a Liveryman of the Glass Sellers', Joiners and Ceilers' and Vintners' Companies and a Freeman of the Horners' Company. In addition to these other qualifications he is extremely good company, a first class speaker and will be a great asset to the Company. He also has a lifelong interest in Water and can play Handel's Water Music superbly on the Organ.

We are indeed greatly honoured that he has found the time to join us and we warmly welcome him to our Company



Membership Targets

Any lively organisation needs to think about membership and growth if it is to maximise its impact. The Company of Water Conservators is no different from others in this. We discussed this at Court in December and wanted to share the key points with our whole membership.

Company Ordinances allow for 300 Liverymen. Other Livery Companies have between 100 and 500 Liverymen and 300 is a fairly typical number. In due course we could if we wished apply to the Court of Aldermen of the City of London to have this total increased but at this stage we are not yet at our full currently authorised complement. At end 2004 we had 164 Liverymen and 49 other members (including those who had yet to take Livery) giving a total membership of 213. We have recently been gaining about 10 new Members per annum and losing about 6 giving a net annual increase of about 4. At this rate it will take us some time to reach our current maximum limit!

The Court agreed that we should consciously target to get to our full complement of Liverymen. On the above numbers this would imply a total net increase of 136 Liverymen. To achieve this in 5 years would amount to 27 net new Liverymen per annum. This would equate to gross 33 new Liverymen per annum (or 8 per quarter) assuming that we continue to lose 6 per annum.

Members will be aware that election to the Livery is a two-stage process comprising Nomination and Application. Any two Liverymen can nominate a potential new member (forms available from the Clerk). If the Court approves the Nomination then a formal Application is submitted.

By its very nature this process brings in people from a variety of areas within the water and environmental field. Our membership includes representatives from the water, waste management, contracting, consultancy, legal and financial industries as well as academics and retired people. Its very breadth is one of the strengths of the Company and is one of the ways in which we differ from any specific trade association and is something we wish to build on. Within the broad water and environmental field, key criteria are suitability to the Company and ability/will to contribute to its objectives.

To date personal recommendation has proved to be the most effective way of recruiting suitable new Liverymen. The message to all is do not feel shy of nominating someone whom you feel is suitable. If in doubt feel free to speak to an officer or member of Court.

Colin Drummond
Walbrook Warden



TANTALISING TANKARDS

When first I came across that word - Tankards - during the early researches into Water-bearers for "Sweet and Wholesome Water" I never imagined what a tantalising topic they would eventually become. Nor did I realise that today, months after the publication

and distribution of the book, I should find myself engaged in further researches into that one subject - Tankards.

The first, and most obvious, unanswered question is "Why on earth did the Water-bearers in the City of London use them"? If I was employed to carry 6 gallons (60 lbs) of water day after day in order to earn a living I cannot imagine that I would use a Tankard out of choice. The unbalanced load on one shoulder, even if partially relieved with a stave, would seem much more uncomfortable and tiring than two 3-gallon buckets suspended from a yoke.



The Cooper at work

And yet it is clear that for many centuries Tankards were the standard vessels used by Water-bearers in the City. The earliest record yet found to such a Water-bearer - the unfortunate Henry Grene who contrived to drown himself in the Thames at St Pauls steps in 1276 - shows that he was certainly using a Tankard. And when the City Corporation, in both 1569 and 1680, laid down minimum volumes for the Water-bearers'

vessels these referred to Tankards, not to buckets or pails.

The way in which these sizeable vessels were made is clearly shown by the reference in 1298 to a cooper known as "John le Tanckard maker". Enquiry to the Archivist of the Worshipful Company of Coopers failed to throw any light on why Tankards were used in the City. But produced the interesting comment that a skilled cooper would have no difficulty making a Tankard to a specified volume - the shape being very simple, compared to that of a barrel.

Further enquiry of the Coopers' Company revealed that although the number of working coopers in this country has diminished from more than 500 after the Second World War to only a handful today, there is one - Jonathan Manby at Theakstons Brewery - who is willing to carry out specialised commissions of ancient artefacts. A couple of telephone calls to Jonathan set in motion the creation of what may well have been the first water Tankard made in this country for several hundred years.

When my wife Joan and I drove up to Yorkshire to collect the finished Tankard during the summer of 2003 we were half-expecting to find Jonathan a wizened little relic of the past - instead we found a strapping and enthusiastic young man with an alarmingly powerful handshake. The picture shows him putting the finishing touches to the Tankard, tightening the middle strap, in Theakstons' original workshop where the walls are festooned with the tools of the Cooper's trade.

That was not the only expectation to be dashed. I had been delighted to handle this beautifully-made reminder of the past, and had more or less made up my mind that the most appropriate thing to do would

be to present it to the Company. On the long drive back to Oxfordshire however, an alternative idea surfaced which would never have occurred to a mere man - Joan remarking "that Tankard would look nice on the landing with flowers in it"! So that is where it has finished up - and I must say it looks splendid!



The spout and handle

However, that was not the end of the matter. We are fortunate in having near our home a forge at Culworth where the smith, Martin Rowling, has previously taken on a specialist assignment for us. When I took a copy of the book to him, showed him some of the pictures, and asked whether he could make an iron spout and handle for a second Tankard he at once accepted the challenge. He has now completed his part of the task - as shown on the second picture - and when these are fitted on a second Tankard that Jonathan is making we shall have an even more authentic version, which will definitely not be for flower arrangements!

Having got myself thoroughly "hooked" on Tankards now, I currently have two further enquiries in hand. First with Steven Sanson - the silversmith who makes the Company's tear drops and has also produced the beadle's staff, the Company's Cross and the Master's chain. He is quoting for silver tankards of various sizes from a 9" high water jug downwards - watch this space.....

My other current line of enquiry - with the help of Tony Milburn - is to water engineers in various major cities in Europe to ascertain whether Water-bearers anywhere else used Tankards in times past.



The finished tankard

At all events it does seem that these heavy vessels - my first version made by Jonathan Manby weighs 17 lbs empty, the second with ironwork will weigh more - were a characteristic feature of the City's water distribution system. They provide the modern Company with an unusually distinctive link with the distant past.

Ted Flaxman
Past Master



Presentation College Preparatory School's Science Project

To develop its educational activities, one of the newest livery companies, The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators promotes an awareness and understanding of the role of water in the environment

through its Pupil Prizes initiative.

Presentation College Preparatory School's Year 5 registered for the scheme and Mrs Paula Wild, Presentation College Preparatory School's Year 5 science teacher took the class to visit Fobney Water Treatment Works, Thames Water's new works for treating water in Reading. Following their visit the Year 5 pupils decided to set up their own investigation into the best method of cleansing water.

Each group planned and recorded the results of their investigation using filtration and distillation processes. To confirm the best method of cleaning water the 'clean water' samples were tested for purity by checking for the presence of bacteria using agar. The prizes were awarded on the standard of scientific methods used as well as the purity of the water produced.



Court Asssistant Ian Staniforth discussing the project with the pupils

Each group achieved a very high standard of scientific enquiry and the prizes were awarded by Mr Ian Staniforth a Court Assistant of the Worshipful Company of Water

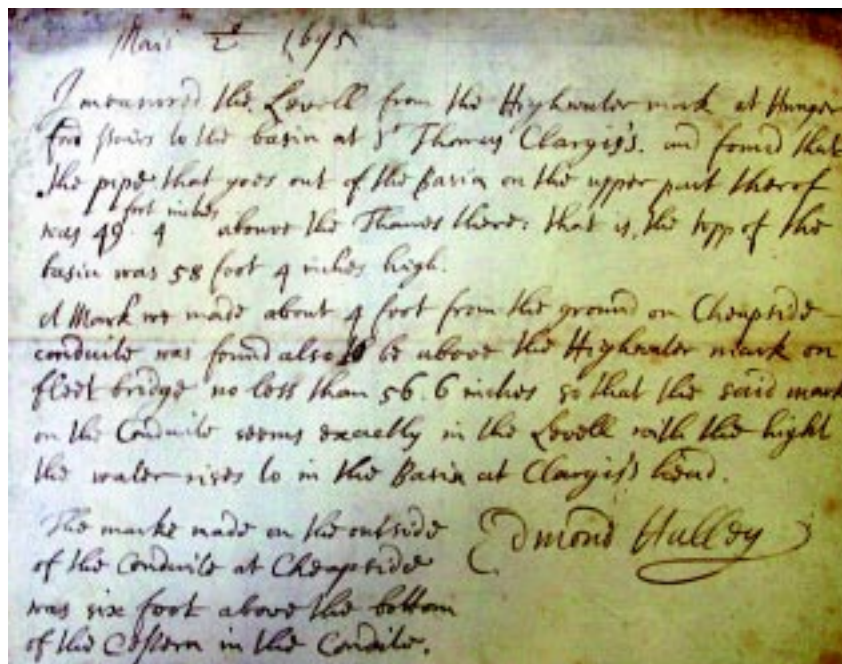
Conservators and a Senior Engineer with Thames Water. First prize of a limited edition goblet and a £15.00 book token each was awarded Peter Robinson, Jack Husbands and Isaac Richardson. Second prize of a £10.00 book token each was awarded to Harvey Packham, Thomas Webster and James Brooks. Third prize of a £5.00 book token each was awarded to Vijay Gida, Joshua Shahrum-Smith, Elliot Kirby and Henry Roberts



The prize winners

Mrs Georgina Hall, Headmistress of Presentation College Preparatory School said, "I am delighted with the awards from the Worshipful Company of Water Conservators. Our pupils enjoyed working on the project and learnt a great deal about the importance and processes involved in cleansing water. We are fortunate in the Preparatory School to be able to use the facilities of Presentation College Senior School, which meant that Year 5 could explore the project fully. Being able to scientifically test the water for bacteria is a facility that is not normally available to primary school pupils, the boys were able to work to the best of their ability, not limited by school resources."

Ian Staniforth
Court Assistant



Edmond Halley's levelling report

A glimpse of some REAL history

Shortly after our book about the Water-bearers - "Sweet and Wholesome Water" - had been published it occurred to me that the Master might be interested to see some of the early original records upon which the findings in the book had been based. The Master welcomed the suggestion, and on 16th December came with me to the Corporation of London Record Office (CLRO) where she was able to see just five examples of these manuscript documents.

The first was in the City's Cash Book for 1638 - a massive volume with every transaction meticulously recorded on parchment and still in excellent condition. The receipt of a payment from the Rulers of the Waterbearers showed that no fewer than 36 new members were admitted into their Fraternity that year. The second was in the Repertories (Minutes of the Court of Aldermen) for 1553 - also a massive volume - ordering the

dissolution of the "Fraternity or Brotherhood of the Water-bearers", a step which was fortunately reversed a few years later. The third was another Cash Book entry, this time in 1732, showing the last payment by the Water-bearers, after which no further trace of their Fraternity has been found.

The remaining two items examined by the Master were very different. One was a 17th Century 1/1440 plan of a twin 3" dia. lead pipeline from springs at Paddington augmenting the water supply to the City. The other was Edmond Halley's manuscript report in March 1695 on some levelling he had carried out in connection with the long-running and acrimonious dispute over the flow capacity of the new 5" dia. lead pipe from Tyburn to the City.

These five items were only a tiny cross-section of the extraordinary wealth of the City's original records which have survived fire and flood over the Centuries and which can be seen at CLRO. The Master

was so impressed that she immediately asked whether a similar display might be provided for Liverymen of the Company.

We then learnt for the first time that the rear wing of the Guildhall, in which CLRO has been located for many years, was shortly to be refurbished.

This meant that the search room, the staff and the archive were all being moved (for several years) into temporary accommodation in the existing London Metropolitan Archives at Clerkenwell and that this move was imminent: their final day in the Guildhall was to be 28th January 2005

Despite this impending upheaval, the staff kindly agreed to arrange for us to make another visit. Immediately after the Myddelton Lunch on 27th January a party of ten Liverymen and partners was accordingly able to see the same five original manuscript records. Once again, all those present were greatly impressed.

Our thanks are due to all the CLRO staff for providing this unique opportunity for us to see a fascinating selection of documents.

We wish them well in their migrations, and trust that their very distinctive element of the Corporation's huge archive will be well provided for when they eventually return to the Guildhall in 2008.

Ted Flaxman
Past Master



Company Accounts 2003/4

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 30th June 2004

	2004 Actual £	2004 Budget £	2003 Actual £
Income	50,869	49,780	50,461
Administrative Expenses	(56,786)	(44,000)	(46,503)
Operating Surplus/(Shortfall)	<u>(5,917)</u>	<u>5,780</u>	<u>3,958</u>
Other Income and Expenses			
Bank Deposit Interest Earned	984	600	766
	<u>(4,933)</u>	<u>6,380</u>	<u>4,724</u>
Taxation	0		0
Net Surplus/(Shortfall) for the year	<u><u>(4,933)</u></u>	<u><u>6,380</u></u>	<u><u>4,724</u></u>

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2004

	2004		2003	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Assets		21,857		24,933
Current Assets				
Stocks	31,735		30,936	
Cash at Bank and in hand	22,575		25,464	
Debtors	233		0	
	<u>54,543</u>		<u>56,400</u>	
Current Liabilities				
Amounts falling due within one year	(850)		(850)	
Bank overdrawn		(850)		(850)
	<u>(850)</u>		<u>(850)</u>	
Current Assets less Liabilities		53,693		55,550
Net Assets		<u>75,550</u>		<u>80,483</u>
Surplus b/f from previous year		80,483		75,759
Current Surplus/(Shortfall)		(4,933)		4,724
Surplus to c/f		<u>75,550</u>		<u>80,483</u>

Water Conservation Trust - Master's Appeal.

The excellent response to the Charity Appeal sent out by the Master last September has enabled the Trustees to fund what is hoped will be the first of many Worshipful Company of Water

Conservators Bursaries. The Charity and Grants Committee are now dealing with the details regarding this project and should shortly be able to report on progress.

Jeff Rasbash
Water Conservation Trust



Company *events*

EVENTS 2005

Election Court Lunch

Armourers' Hall
21st April 2005

Tudor Pull

River Thames
2nd May 2005

Golf Day

Ellesborough
15th June 2005

Joint Social Event with Engineers' Company

Thames Barrier
22nd June 2005

Election of Sheriffs

Guildhall
24th June 2005

Admirals Challenge Cup

River Thames
June 2005

Installation Court Lunch

Barbers' Hall
6th July 2005

Michaelmas Court/Lunch

HQS Wellington
28th September 2005

Election of Lord Mayor

Guildhall
29th September 2005

Annual Banquet

Mercers' Hall
3rd November 2005

Silent Ceremony

Guildhall
11th November 2005

Joint Carol Service

St Michaels Church, Cornhill
7th December 2005

The Annual Banquet

The 2004 Annual Banquet was held on 4th November at the Haberdashers' Hall and was attended by 96 Liverymen, Freemen and their guests. It was nice to see so many familiar faces such as our Honorary Freemen and Members from our various affiliations and associations including representatives from the Maidstone Sea Cadets and the Military Works Force.

The meal consisting of Gravadlax, Roast Sirloin of English Beef and followed by a Citrus Terrine was enjoyed by all. The Guest Speaker was Baroness Ros Scott who gave an amusing speech on the progression into the House of Lords.

The 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 Wednesday 1st December 2004 at 6 pm.

The service was conducted by the Revd Dr Peter Mullen the Rector of St Michael's and Hon. Chaplain to the Fuellers, and the Revd Adrian Hopwood Hon. Chaplain to the Water Conservators.

The music was conducted by Jonathan Rennert, and the Choir gave their usual outstanding performance. The lessons were read by the Masters and Wardens of the two companies.

Following the service a shared supper was enjoyed at the Little Ship Club. The evening was both a reflective and enjoyable beginning to the Christmas festivities.

**Revd. Adrian Hopwood
Hon. Chaplain**



Myddleton Lunch

The Myddleton Service for the re-dedication of the Livery took place on 27th January at St Michael's Church, Cornhill. This service was conducted by the Reverend Dr Peter Mullen, Rector of St Michael's and commemorated the life of Sir Hugh Myddleton, who constructed the New River to bring fresh water to the City in the 17th Century. After the service had concluded, the Master, Wardens, Past Masters and Court processed in their robes to the Drapers' Hall.

Liverymen and Freemen, together with their partners, colleagues and friends attended the lunch to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the granting of livery to our Company.

The Drapers' Hall is one of the largest and most impressive Livery Halls in the City of London, and all



St Michael's Church, Cornhill

members of the Company and their guests enjoyed a convivial lunch. Our Principal guest was Mr Deputy Michael Snyder, Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee at the Corporation of London.

The Livery Hall is dominated by the Drapers Company's collection of royal portraits and is adorned from above by magnificent ceiling paintings by Herbert Draper depicting scenes from Shakespearean plays. The Livery Hall was enlarged to its present size by Herbert Williams in the 1860s.

The ceiling was modified in the 1890's, then filled with paintings by Herbert Draper, painted between 1903 and 1910. The centre painting is a scene from *The Tempest*, the

north and south panels contain scenes from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and the four spandrels represent History, Science, Ethics and Literature. Between the marble columns hang a collection of royal portraits.

A special court meeting was held in the Drawing Room prior to the lunch where the Clerk Emeritus clothed Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley as an Honorary Liveryman of the Company.

The Drawing Room was designed, decorated and furnished by Herbert Williams and John G. Crace between 1866 and 1870 and remains much as they left it. Later additions to the room include the carpet, in the Aubusson style, which was commissioned in 1925 from the Morris & Co. factory and a painting by Herbert Draper, *The Gates of Dawn*, which was painted in 1900 to celebrate the turn of the century.

The lunch concluded with the traditional Stirrup Cup.

**Sue Owen
Fleet Warden**



The Drapers' Livery Hall



NEW MEMBERS

Mr David Evans
Associate, Water Group Leader
Ove Arup & Partners

Mr Martin Lunn
Scientific & Water Resources
Manager
Northumbrian Water Ltd

Mr Graham Neave
Operations Director
Northumbrian Water Ltd

Mr Michael Shepard
Senior Consultant, Networks
Thames Water Utilities Ltd



The Drawing Room

Contact: Mr R.A. Riley, Clerk,
The Worshipful Company of
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